



Administration Division  
Coleman A. Young Municipal Center  
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 611  
Detroit, MI 48226

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**March 1, 2024**

**HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL**

**Re: Resolution to Continue the Issuance of Outdoor Dining Permits on a Street, Alley, or Public Easement, until December 31, 2024 – Street Closures Extension**

Throughout the progression of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the outdoor dining program supported businesses by providing additional opportunities to maximize customer capacity while meeting public health guidelines. The program has since become a popular and successful means for the City of Detroit to support local businesses. The Department of Public Works (DPW) now seeks to continue supporting this effort by extending the streamlined process for eating and drinking establishments to obtain permits for outdoor dining spaces on streets, alleys, or public easements, to help ensure that these areas remain active and bustling. Previous resolutions allow for the current streamlined process to continue through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

To continue this program, DPW is submitting the attached resolution, which if approved by City Council, shall serve as legislative authorization to extend the expedited issuance of outdoor dining café permits and for the temporary closures of a street, alley, or public place by DPW during until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

During the seasonal extension through November 15, 2023, a working group was convened in partnership with City Council, to determine the feasibility of a permanent program and develop any procedures and legislation necessary to implement a permanent program beyond the extension period. DPW is currently working with the Law Department and Council Member Santiago-Romero's office to draft an ordinance that will establish that objective. The requested extension will provide additional time to develop the ordinance, prior to the 2025 Outdoor Dining program that is scheduled to begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. This resolution acknowledge that businesses will still be required to request permits for individual outdoor cafés, and that these requests will still be subject to approvals by all applicable city agencies, including DPW, DPD, BSEED, Health, Housing & Revitalization, as well as the Michigan Liquor Commission, if alcohol is to be consumed in the seating area, and Health's Food & Safety Division, if outdoor grilling of food is desired. This resolution, if approved by City Council, will eliminate steps that will have to be repeated for multiple businesses, helping to ensure that all businesses that desire to have outdoor cafes have approved permits in place in time for the upcoming season.

Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:  
**Ron Brundidge**  
213AF2B3C7EE448  
Ron Brundidge, Director  
Department of Public Works

CC: Malik Washington, Mayor's Office  
Oladayo Akinyemi, DPW  
James Hannig, DPW Complete Streets  
Richard Doherty, DPW CED  
Prasad Nannapaneni, DPW TED

MICHAEL DUGGAN, MAYOR

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## RESOLUTION

**BY COUNCIL MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_:**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 43, *Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places*, Article 8, *Encroachments and Obstructions*, Section 43-3-2, *Determination of rights of City and public utilities*, of the 2019 Detroit City Code, City Council may provide by resolution for the temporary closure of a street, alley, or public place based upon a recommendation by the Department of Public Works; and

**WHEREAS**, the food service establishments in the City of Detroit operate on increasingly thin margins as the local, state, and national economies continue to rebound in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the City established an expedited process in response to the COVID-19 crisis for the temporary closure of streets, alleys, and public places, and has continued such program which allows businesses to utilize the space provided by such temporary closures to maximize customer capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Detroit is in the process of developing a more permanent and streamlined process for the evaluation and approval of temporary closures of streets, alleys, and public places; and

**WHEREAS**, the coordination of overlapping local, county, and state jurisdictions necessitates additional time and consideration in the development process; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Detroit is eager to continue supporting the active operation of businesses in a safe manner that protects the patrons and employees of food service establishments and other businesses within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Works has attached a report to this resolution identifying the criteria which must be met as determined by the Department of Public Works for the temporary closure of a street, alley, or public place, and

**WHEREAS**, This Honorable Body acknowledges the City's goals of supporting local businesses and allow for such businesses to maximize their use of available outdoor space; and  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

MICHAEL DUGGAN, MAYOR

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**RESOLVED**, that the Detroit City Council approves an expedited process and grants approval to the temporary closure of a street, alley, or public place as outlined in this resolution and in the attached report; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if the temporary closure of the street, alley, or public place will pose a significant impact on the surrounding neighborhood by altering or restricting vehicular or pedestrian traffic, the details of the closure shall be posted on the City website and emailed to all residents within the impacted area that are registered with the Department of Neighborhoods and to all City Council Members that represent the impacted area; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Department of Public Works shall provide a report to the Detroit City Council commencing thirty (30) days from the adoption of this resolution, and every thirty (30) days thereafter, identifying any temporary closure of a street, alley, or public place for the preceding thirty (30) days; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the grant of authority by this Honorable Body to the Director of the Department of Public Works for the automated process authorized by this resolution shall expire on December 31, 2024.

MICHAEL DUGGAN, MAYOR