

CITY OF TAMPA'S

LIFT UP

LOCAL

ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

**A Guide for Expanded
Restaurant, Bar + Retail
Space
Final Phase**

Revised 05/14/2021

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1. PREFACE

In concert with numerous Executive Orders issued by Governor DeSantis addressing the COVID-19 emergency and the reopening of the State, and to continue to support the recovery of local businesses, the City of Tampa has created the following guidelines to temporarily allow restaurants, bars and retail businesses to expand their business footprint onto the public rights-of-way or in privately owned parking facilities without meeting certain City code and permit requirements.

The City of Tampa offers guidance and recommendation for businesses to provide the following accommodations:

- ▶ Businesses should thoroughly clean and disinfect all surfaces after each use.
- ▶ On-site sale and retail businesses will be allowed to operate at full capacity and should abide by the safety guidelines issued by the CDC and OSHA.
- ▶ **Facial coverings are strongly encouraged.** City of Tampa Executive Order 2021-26 is now in effect. The Executive Order strongly encourages that individuals wear face coverings indoors when unable to social distance, with limited exceptions, such as while eating and drinking. Face coverings are strongly encouraged to be worn for all those in face-to-face interaction roles (e.g., servers, retail workers) at businesses that are participating in the City of Tampa Restaurant, Bar + Retail Recovery Program



"We want to lift up our local businesses through this recovery and empower them to re-open responsibly, by giving our local business owners as many tools and as much space as possible to safely serve guests, we can work together to protect our workforce, our customers, and our community. Our small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and we need their help to safely and successfully re-open our city and get back to all the things we love--one step at a time."

Jane Castor, City of Tampa Mayor



"The safety of the public is our top priority as the City moves forward to reopen. Law enforcement has properly planned strategies and logistical needs to aide and educate consumers and business owners with guideline restrictions. Our efforts will ensure all comply with social distancing standards and sanctions."

Brian Dugan, City of Tampa Police Chief



"Tampa Fire Rescue, including the Fire Marshal's Office and the Emergency Management Division, stand ready to implement this measured approach to balance the health and safety of our community with the economic revival we need. Our mission is service to the public and our commitment has not wavered."

Barbara Tripp, City of Tampa Fire Chief

City of Tampa COVID-19 Requirements

In the interest of public safety, the following requirements will be applicable to all bars, restaurants, and retail businesses in the City of Tampa that utilize any City rights-of-way for outdoor seating, and are a condition of the discretionary permission granted under the Lift Up Local Economic Recovery Plan:

- ▶ It is strongly encouraged to **test your workforce for COVID-19**. Call (813) 272-5900 for free testing. No symptoms necessary, and insurance is not required. As new vaccines have been released over the past few months, it is strongly encouraged to get your workforce vaccinated as soon as possible.
- ▶ Encourage the use of disposable paper **menus or electronic on-line menus**.
- ▶ Provide easily accessible sanitizer for patrons and employees.
- ▶ **No seat, No Service**. All outdoor patrons must be **SEATED** at a table. If tables are filled, the patrons **must leave the outdoor area**.
- ▶ Public or private sidewalks which are utilized under this program **may be used for outdoor seating only, at both restaurants and bars**.
- ▶ Linger and loitering at the entrance of an establishment is **prohibited**.
- ▶ **Patrons may not stand around** in a 'Lift Up Local' approved area. Patrons must be seated at a table or **leave the area**.
- ▶ Outdoor seating on sidewalks or City rights-of-way may only be tables/chairs intended for dining purposes. **Lounge seating or bars are prohibited** in these spaces.
- ▶ Outdoor music and/or amplified sound in a 'Lift Up Local' space is **prohibited after 10pm**.
- ▶ It is strongly encouraged to implement **contactless ordering and payment processes**.

- ▶ All restaurants are encouraged to use **a reservation process** to prevent capacity issues. Restaurants using Parklets or participating in the 'Café and Retail' zones are **REQUIRED** to use a reservation process to prevent patrons from congregating while waiting for service.
- ▶ **Facial coverings** are strongly encouraged to be worn by "front of house" staff members who interact with customers. Likewise, all patrons are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings when indoors at restaurants, bars and retail businesses, except while eating and drinking.
- ▶ **Limit contact with bar and dining guests** by reducing the number of visits wait staff make to each table.

Economic Recovery Call Center

The City of Tampa has established a Call Center to communicate with local businesses during economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Call: 1-833-TPA-INFO (1-833-872-4636)

Visit: www.tampagov.net/emergency-management/step-by-step

2. RESTAURANT, BAR + RETAIL RECOVERY PROGRAM

Restaurant + Retail Recovery Program Overview



The City of Tampa's Restaurant, Bar + Retail Recovery Program has been established to ensure businesses have the greatest ability to operate successfully during the COVID-19 economic recovery. To enable business owners a better plan and optimize this program, the City has committed to extend this program through **September 7, 2021**. This provides a certainty for business owners to make investments for outdoor seating and the like.

The program entails leveraging available private and public space to be used as expanded areas for bars, restaurants, and retail activity while maintaining public safety requirements.

The City of Tampa is taking steps to ensure businesses have the ability to operate safely and successfully during the COVID-19 economic recovery using available private and public right-of-way.

Upon termination of the Executive Order that effectuates this program, establishments participating in the Lift Up Local Program must, within thirty (30) days, restore to normal conditions all public and private sidewalks, right-of-way and parking spaces into which they expanded their operations.

Temporary Outdoor Dining, Bar seating + Retail Activity in Public Rights-of-Way

The City of Tampa is temporarily suspending City Code and permit application and approval requirements for restaurants, bars and retail businesses to expand operating space in designated portions of the public rights-of-way. These areas are limited to all sidewalk areas and adjacent on-street parking spaces (if available) on City and County roadways. State roads are excluded from this program as the City does not regulate State rights-of-way.

To participate in the program, minimum life safety requirements and Americans with Disability Acts (ADA) must still be met as described in this Section. It shall be the responsibility of the business to ensure that these requirements are maintained at all times the business is operating within the public right-of-way.

Types of public spaces used for this purpose:

Sidewalks

Private use of sidewalk space has typically required Sidewalk Café Permits (per Chapter 22, Subdivision IX, of the City of Tampa Code of Ordinances). The City of Tampa is temporarily suspending City Code and the requirement to apply for a permit and now allowing businesses to temporarily use sidewalks for additional restaurant or bar seating or for retail purposes.

Parklets

Parklets are on-street parking spaces that have been temporarily converted for other uses, such as expanded outdoor dining or bar seating areas.

See specific requirement later in this section.



Temporary Outdoor Dining, Bar seating + Retail Activity on Private Property

In accordance with City of Tampa Executive Order in which this Plan Guide is adopted, businesses may expand dining, bar seating and retail areas to certain areas of private property not typically permitted for business activity, such as private sidewalks and private parking lots.

In addition, and also in accordance with said City of Tampa Executive Order, the City of Tampa is temporarily authorizing restaurants, bars and retail businesses to expand dining, bar seating and retail operations onto public sidewalk within the City, provided the applicable requirements described below can be met.

Use of Private Parking Lots

Up to 600 square feet of off-site private parking spaces counted for required parking may be converted to outdoor dining, bar seating or retail space, when the lot is immediately adjacent to the parent property. The converted use must be in conformance with all Tampa Fire Rescue requirements for building accessibility, and social distancing requirements that provide at least six feet spacing between tables and pathways, and limit tables to parties of 10 or less. Additionally, no parking for disabled persons may be repurposed for restaurant, bar or retail use.

The required landscape and buffer areas for the off-site private parking spaces (Vehicular Use Areas), shall not be used as an expanded converted use for restaurants, bars or retail operations. There shall not be parking, outside seating, or retail activities in these areas.

Use of Parking Spaces on Private Property

Up to 600 square feet of required on-site parking spaces may be converted to outdoor dining areas, bar seating or retail space to expand the footprint of the business operation. The converted use must be in conformance with all Tampa Fire Rescue requirements for building accessibility. Additionally, no parking for disabled persons may be repurposed for restaurant or retail use.

The required landscape and buffer areas for the on-site parking spaces (Vehicular Use Areas), shall not be used as an expanded converted use for restaurants, bars or retail operations. There shall not be parking, outside seating, or retail activities in these areas.

Erection of Tents and Other Shade Structures on Private Property

Tents that are 600 square feet or smaller may be erected in parking spaces to provide shade for the dining or bar area. The Fire Marshal requirements listed under “General Requirements for Restaurants, Use of Tents or Shade Structure” must be met.

Tents or shade structures must comply with I.F.I.A. tent handbook requirements.

Setbacks on Private Property

Any permanent structures being proposed to expand the seating area for outdoor seating must meet required yard setbacks. Temporary placement of equipment such as wash stations and hand sanitizing stations or stations for staff set up and service do not need to meet required yard setbacks.

Temporary Outdoor Dining, Bar seating + Retail Activity in Public Rights-of-Way (Sidewalks + Parklets)

In accordance with City of Tampa Executive Order, the City of Tampa is temporarily authorizing bars, restaurants, and retail businesses to expand dining, bar seating and retail operations onto all sidewalks and on-street parking spaces (parklets) on City and County Roads within the City, provided the applicable requirements described below can be met.

Sidewalks

Sidewalk activation for restaurants, bars and retail businesses have typically required Sidewalk Café Permits (per Chapter 22, Subdivision IX, of the City of Tampa Code of Ordinances). The City of Tampa is suspending the requirement to apply for a permit unless a tent is being erected. The City of Tampa is now allowing businesses to temporarily use sidewalks, subject to the conditions in this Guidebook, for additional restaurant seating or retail purposes.

Expanded Sidewalk Requirements for Restaurant, Bars & Retail

For the duration of the City of Tampa Restaurant, Bar & Retail Recovery program, City Code requirements regarding certain permitting of sidewalk cafes shall be temporarily suspended. However, any bar, restaurant, or retail business erecting a tent will be required to get a permit. Businesses utilizing City rights-of-way shall

comply with the following requirements during this time period. Operational Requirements for Sidewalk Cafes per Sec. 22-227 shall remain in effect as described below and shall generally apply to all private business operations including retail establishments.

General Requirements

Outdoor café seating, bar seating and retail operations within sidewalks and public rights of way shall maintain:

- ▶ Adequate pedestrian flow of at least 6 feet; A graphic depicting outdoor seating parameters is attached to this guidebook.
- ▶ Access to public utilities, building entrances, crosswalks, bus stops and transient entrances;
- ▶ Pedestrian and traffic safety; and
- ▶ Aesthetic compatibility with the surrounding area.

Location Requirements

1. The width of the sidewalk café, bar seating or retail space is restricted as follows:
 - a. The width shall not exceed the width of the sidewalk frontage of the subject property. However, the area of the permit may be extended up to a maximum of fifty (50) feet on one (1) side of the subject location, subject to the provisions of subsection b. of this section.
 - b. The sidewalk café, bar seating or retail area may extend by a maximum of fifty (50) contiguous feet in the public right-of-way on one (1) side and/or the other side of the private property so long as the property directly abuts the public right-of-way. The use of any portion or percentage of adjacent private sidewalk frontage for restaurant, bar seating or retail use shall require the adjacent property owner's written approval.
2. A clearly marked, unobstructed, and durable pedestrian right-of-way, also known as the "pedestrian path", that meets required accessibility standards, of no less than **six (6) feet** shall be maintained for each sidewalk café, bar seating or retail area and shall adhere to the following standards:
 - a. The minimum distance of said path shall be measured from the portion of the sidewalk café, bar or retail space boundary which is nearest either the curb line or the nearest obstruction.
 - b. In no event may recesses in the sidewalk café, bar seating or retail space boundary be used to satisfy this unobstructed width

requirement for said path, except that the corners of the sidewalk café, bar seating or retail space may be rounded or mitered.

- c. Sidewalk cafés, bar seating or retail spaces shall maintain a clearance of **six (6)** feet around the corners of other sidewalk cafés or outdoor bar seating measured in radius.
3. The pedestrian path shall maintain a minimum of six (6) feet from large obstructions. No tables, or chairs, umbrellas or other fixtures shall be permitted within six (6) feet of a pedestrian crosswalk or corner curb cut. For the purposes of this section, large obstructions shall be bus stops shelters, newsstands, existing planters or any other object greater than fifteen (15) square feet in area.
4. Access to fire hydrants, fire hose connections for sprinkler systems, and entrances and exits of all buildings shall not be obstructed at any time by barriers or seating. The twenty (20) feet fire lane shall not be obstructed at any time. There shall be a minimum of forty (40) inches in distance separating the edge of a table or chair to a fire department connection.
5. No object shall be permitted around the perimeter of an area occupied by tables and chairs which would have the effect of forming a physical or visual barrier discouraging the free use of the tables and chairs by the general public or which would have the effect of obstructing the pedestrian path.
6. The operational hours of the space shall be restricted to the adjacent business operating hours.

Construction; signage; maintenance and Umbrellas

1. Appropriate lighting of the sidewalk café, bar seating or retail space is required if operating outside of daytime hours.
2. Use of landscaping and planters is permissible, however these materials should not be permanently affixed to any public rights-of-way.
3. All signage must be in compliance with this Code. Signs are prohibited on umbrellas, chairs, tables and other permissible fixtures which are located on the public right-of-way, except that the establishment identified on the permit and/or its logo shall be permitted on umbrellas.
4. Use of removable barriers to define the sidewalk café or bar seating area is permissible.
5. No heating, cooking or open flames are permitted in the sidewalk café or bar seating area. However, space heaters are permitted provided that they are an outdoor approved type, are located in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and are located at least two (2) feet from the edge of any umbrella canvas, any foliage, or any other flammable object or material.

6. No food preparation, plastic food displays, food storage, or refrigeration apparatus shall be allowed on the public right-of-way.
7. Umbrellas and other decorative material shall be fire-retardant, pressure-treated or manufactured of fire-resistant material. No portion of an umbrella shall be less than six (6) feet, eight (8) inches (eighty (80) inches) above the sidewalk.

City of Tampa Right to Clear Right-of-Way

The City reserves the right to remove a sidewalk café, bar seating or retail space that (i) creates an obstruction to, or causes congestion of, pedestrian or vehicular traffic due to existing conditions on the surrounding public right-of-way if it finds the installation represents a danger to the health, safety or general welfare of the public (ii) a business violates the requirements of these Guidelines or Executive Order in which this Plan Guide is adopted.

The City may require the removal, temporary or permanent, of the sidewalk café, bar seating or retail space when redevelopment of the street or sidewalk, or utility repairs necessitates such action, or the permittee fails to comply with the criteria set forth in Sec. 22-226 of the Code of Ordinances. Any costs incurred by the City for removal or storage of sidewalk café or bar tables, chairs and other equipment shall be the responsibility of the business. The city is not responsible for any damages or loss of equipment removed pursuant to this subsection.

Parklets



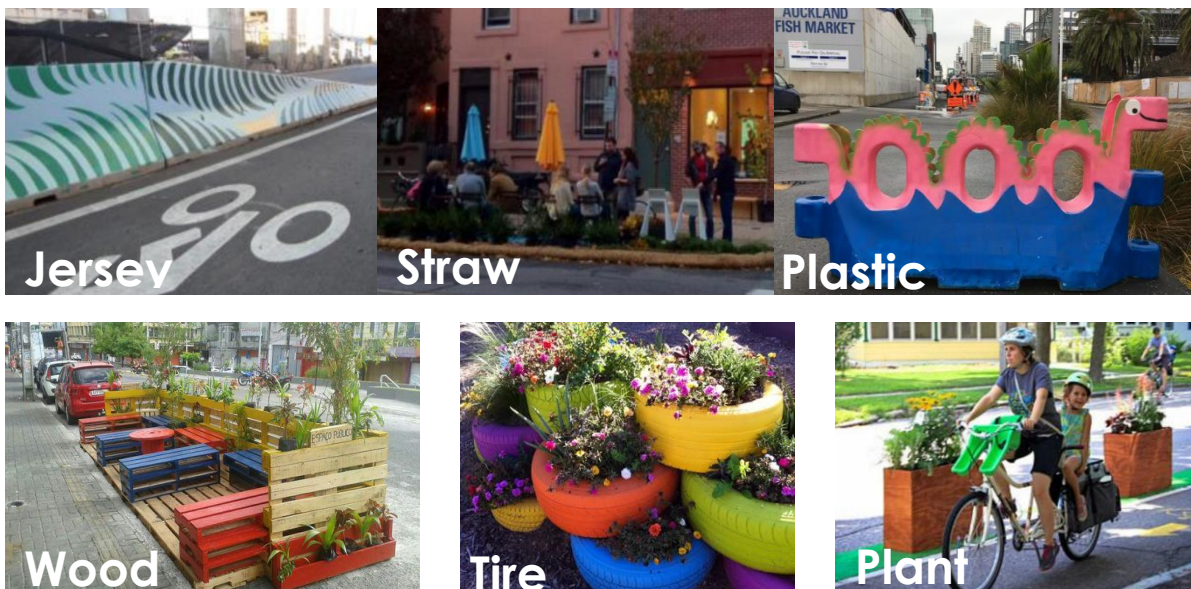
Parklets can be used by one or more businesses, and don't require streets to be closed. The City will be temporarily suspending certain codes for private use of on-street parking spaces within the public right-of-way, for uses consistent with the requirements in this guidebook. Parklets will be allowed at no fee with permission from the Mobility Department on case-by-case basis. To obtain permission for a parklet, contact Danni Jorgenson at (813) 274-3279. Request for parklets will be

responded to within 24 hours of contacting the Mobility Department on regular business days. Inspections for parklet installations will be responded to on same day or next day.

- ▶ Metered parking spaces must be requested and approved in advance by contacting the City Call Center at 1-833-TPA-INFO. The City of Tampa Parking Division will bag spaces at no cost to the business, and the business will then be permitted to temporarily use the additional space for restaurant or retail use.
- ▶ Non-metered spaces may be activated by an adjacent business by contacting the Mobility Department for permission. The business will then be permitted to temporarily use the additional space for restaurant or retail use.

Temporary Removable Barrier Materials

Temporary barrier materials, such as those depicted below, can be utilized to better define boundaries of extended business operations. Any equipment or furniture placed in the parking space cannot be placed closer than 2 feet from the edge of the adjacent travel lane. Safe pedestrian pathways between barrier walls must be provided. For questions relating to barrier wall placement, please call the Tampa Fire Marshal's office at (813) 274-7000.



Temporary Surface Materials

Temporary surface materials, such as those depicted below, are permitted for application on sidewalks and parking spaces.



Business Responsibilities for Sidewalks and Parklets

It shall be the responsibility of the business to activate the spaces described in this section with temporary materials such as tables and chairs, umbrellas, and visual/physical barrier materials as needed per site specific conditions. Maintenance (daily upkeep, litter cleanup, etc.) associated with business operations shall also be the responsibility of the business.

Alcoholic Beverages

Restaurants, bars, and establishments licensed to serve food under Florida Statutes Chapters 500 and 509, will be permitted to sell and allow on-premise consumption of alcoholic beverages within expanded dining and seating areas on private property, on immediately adjacent private and public sidewalks, and within parklets.

Businesses utilizing public rights-of-way for outdoor dining or bar seating shall comply with the following closing times for the outdoor areas:

- ▶ Thursday through Saturday – close at 11:00 PM
- ▶ Sunday through Wednesday – close at 10:00 PM

Use of Tents or Shade Structures on Private and Public Sidewalks, Private Parking Spaces, or Parklets

- ▶ The following requirements shall apply to use of tents or shade structures within public spaces:

- The maximum size tents that may be placed within sidewalks and parking spaces will be 600 square feet.
- No staking of tents is permitted in public rights-of-way, other than on public sidewalks.
- All tent legs must be weighted.
- Each leg must have a minimum of 40lbs.
- Weights must be securely attached to canopy roof and canopy leg separately
 - Ropes and straps should be high quality.
 - Bungee or rubber straps are prohibited.
- Weights must be on the ground and not dangling.
- Weights and lines must not pose a hazard and be clearly visible.
- For maximum safety, tents should be secured as soon as they are put up and brought down as soon as weight is removed. Do not leave unsecured tents at any time.
- Heaters of any kind shall not be used under tents or umbrellas.
- Smoking is prohibited under tents and shade structures.
- Tents must not have closed walls in place while open to the public, and all sides should be open for air flow.
- ▶ Items that make acceptable weights:
 - 5-gallon bucket full of water, sand, or concrete
 - 4" PVC pipe at least 36" long filled with concrete
 - Large commercially available tent weights
 - Sandbags or salt bags 40lbs or heavier
- ▶ Requirements for tents larger than 10-foot by 10-foot
 - Shall only be placed on private property or city parks (not sidewalks or streets)
 - Must comply with IFIA Tent Handbook
- ▶ Fire Marshal Checklist for Operating Tents within City Limits
- ▶ The Fire Marshal's office will have staff available to assist with ensuring life safety needs and can be reached by calling (813) 274-7000.

3. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need a permit or approval to add restaurant or bar tables to the sidewalk in front of my business without a tent?

No. The requirement to obtain a Sidewalk Café Permit has been temporarily suspended for the duration of City of Tampa Executive Order in which this Plan Guide is adopted.

Do I need a permit or approval to add a tent on public or private sidewalks, or private parking lots?

Yes. Tents will require a Fast Pass Permit at no fee.

- The temporary time limit for tents or other shade structures is waived for the duration of City of Tampa Executive Order in which this Plan Guide is adopted.
- Permit submission must pass Fire Marshall requirements for tents or other shade structures.
- Maximum tent size for Fast Pass is 600 square feet. Requests for tents larger than 600 sq. ft. may be reviewed on case-by-case basis.
- Tent permits will be processed within 24 hours. Submittal to include appropriate anchoring, wind load certifications, Fire Marshall's Life Safety requirements, etc.
- Submit permit to Gabrielle Williams via e-mail at Gabrielle.Williams@tampagov.net or contact her at (813) 274-7000.
- Same or next day review for issuance of tent permits.
- Inspections to be completed within 24 hours from notifying City.

Do I need to get approval to take over a public parking space in front of my business?

Yes. Parklets will be allowed on a case-by-case basis and require permission from the Mobility Department by contacting Danni Jorgenson at (813) 274-3279. No tents will be allowed within parklets. On-street parking spaces with parking meters must be approved by the City of Tampa. Businesses may call 1-833-TPA-INFO (1-833-872-4636) to request one or more parking meters be bagged/covered so the parking space may be used by the business for the duration of the pilot.

On-street spaces without parking meters do not require any notification of the City Parking Department. Un-metered spaces are available for business use consistent with the requirements in this guidebook and permission from the Mobility Department.

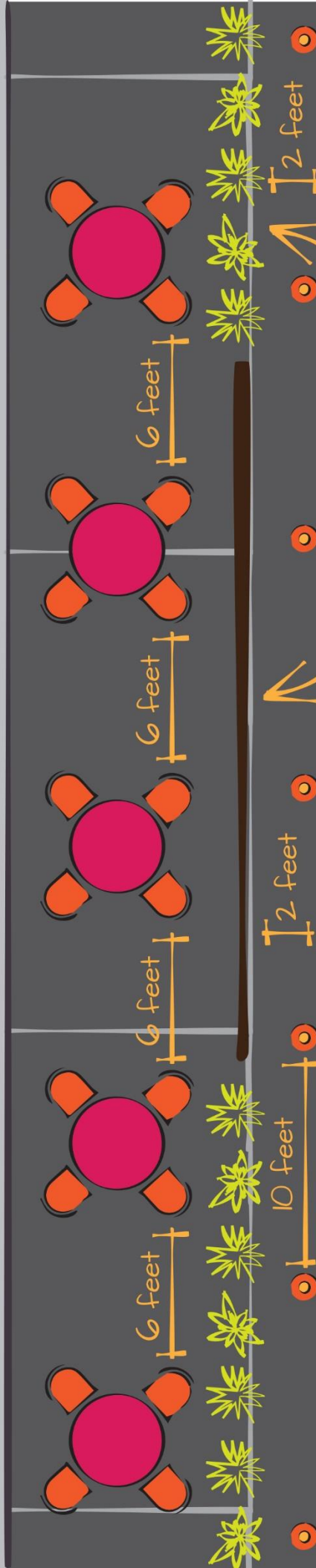
What are the hours of operation allowed on sidewalks and parklets?

The permitted business hours of operation for indoor portions of your business should remain consistent with your business's typical hours of operations. If you are expanding operations outdoors, outdoor seating hours end at 11 pm Sunday through Saturday. Please be mindful of your neighbors and any additional noise that may be generated. Outdoor music and/or amplified sound in a 'Lift Up Local' space is **prohibited after 10pm**.

Will my business be inspected for compliance with the LiftUp Local rules?

Yes. Permission to utilize public and private sidewalks and parking spaces for restaurant, bar, or retail use under the terms, conditions and requirements of the City of Tampa's Executive Order and the 'Lift Up Local' Plan Guide is at the sole and absolute discretion of the City. Such permission may be withdrawn by the City at any time, including upon a finding by the City of a violation of its Executive Order or the Plan Guide. The City's Code compliance does perform compliance inspections on the participating establishments. If the participating establishment receives more than 3 warnings of violations, then the City will send of a letter of revocation and require the establishment to remove the tables, chairs, and tents immediately upon receipt of the letter.

Existing Business



Please note:
Parklets should
not be located
within 15 feet of
a fire hydrant.