



**CITY OF BOULDER  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

**MEETING DATE: April 19, 2022**

**AGENDA TITLE**

Update on Outdoor Dining and the West End Closure to Vehicle Traffic

**PRESENTER(S)**

Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, City Manager  
Chris Meschuk, Deputy City Manager  
Yvette Bowden, Assistant City Manager  
Teresa Tate, City Attorney  
Sandra Llanes, Deputy City Attorney  
Cris Jones, Interim Director of Community Vitality  
Erika Vandenbrande, Director of Transportation & Mobility  
David Gehr, Interim Director of Planning and Development Services  
Natalie Stiffler, Deputy Director of Transportation & Mobility  
Devin Joslin, Civil Engineering Senior Manager  
Edward Stafford, Civil Engineering Senior Manager  
Mishawn Cook, Licensing Manager  
Laurel Witt, Assistant City Attorney  
Teresa Pinkal, Community Vitality Senior Manager  
Jennifer Pinsonneault, Community Vitality Senior Program Manager  
Reegan Brown, Community Vitality Senior Project Manager  
Chelsea Sullivan, Community Vitality Project Analyst

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This memo provides information for council's Apr. 19, 2022 discussion concerning actions to be taken in anticipation of the expiration of COVID-19 emergency orders related to

outdoor dining. The city manager extended these orders through Aug. 31, 2022. Items for consideration include:

- outdoor dining extensions in the public right of way (ROW) and on private property;
- the creation of an Outdoor Dining Pilot Program (Pilot Program);
- proposed initial pilot subsidies through financial resources including American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding approved during the Mar. 15, 2022 council meeting; and
- considerations around the future state of the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic.

Council will be asked the following questions during the Apr. 19, 2022 meeting which will aid staff in addressing city processes and developing a draft Pilot Program ahead of an anticipated end to the COVID-19 emergency orders.

### **Questions for Council**

- Does council wish to direct staff to expand the working scope beyond downtown and continue developing guidelines and requirements to allow for a Pilot Program citywide in both the public ROW and on private property after the COVID-19 emergency orders end?
- Do the staff proposed draft Pilot Program guidelines and requirements adequately balance considerations around key issues including safety, accessibility, equity, and operations?
- Does council wish to direct staff to create an ordinance to waive or modify certain land use regulations such as use review requirements for businesses that wish to participate in outdoor dining in both the public ROW and on private property as part of a proposed 5-year Pilot Program?
- Does council wish to direct staff to pursue funding options to partially subsidize the capital costs associated with bringing existing outdoor dining extensions into compliance with the Boulder Revised Code and the proposed draft Pilot Program guidelines and requirements?
- Does council wish to direct staff to take steps necessary to continue or discontinue the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic as it contemplates the possible addition of a future work plan item to develop a long-term downtown vision that includes shared street concepts?
- What additional community engagement does council desire moving forward regarding the Pilot Program and the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic?

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

### **1. Continuation of Outdoor Dining Beyond Emergency Orders**

If council desires that outdoor dining extensions associated with the Boulder Business Recovery Program (BBRP) be allowed to continue beyond the end of the COVID-19 emergency orders, staff recommends the creation of a 5-year Pilot Program that allows participating restaurants to extend their operations in the public ROW, as well as on private property, in accordance with the draft Pilot Program guidelines and requirements being developed by staff. These draft preliminary guidelines are provided in **Attachment A**.

### **2. Ordinance Change to Relax Certain Land Use Regulations**

The COVID-19 emergency orders allow outdoor dining to waive or modify several land use regulations such as use review on a temporary basis due to the unique challenges that businesses face during the pandemic. If council supports the creation of a Pilot Program and desires that participating restaurants not be required to undergo a standard use review process associated with the expansion of their operating footprint, staff recommends developing an ordinance that relaxes certain land use regulations including use review requirements for the duration of the Pilot Program.

### **3. Provision of Pilot Program Subsidy for Infrastructure Purchase**

If council wishes to utilize ARPA and/or other funds to partially subsidize capital costs associated with bringing existing outdoor dining extensions into compliance with the Boulder Revised Code and the proposed draft Pilot Program guidelines and requirements, staff recommends further drafting of funding options for eligible restaurants as outlined in **Analysis Section 1** and set forth below in **Table 1**.

TABLE 1: DRAFT FINANCING OPTIONS

<b><i>DRAFT Option A: Individual Program (Public ROW)</i></b>	
Infrastructure	• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased individually by restaurant
Pilot Cost (Annual)	• On Brick: \$18.75/sf, Off Brick \$13.13/sf (Annual Revocable Permit)
Subsidy	• Eligible restaurants reimbursed for a portion of infrastructure costs (TBD)
Install/Storage	• Restaurant obligation
<b><i>DRAFT Option B: Bulk Program (Public ROW)</i></b>	
Infrastructure	• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased in bulk by city and leased to restaurants for 5 years
Pilot Cost (Annual)	• Not to exceed \$35/sf (inclusive of Annual Revocable Permit)
Subsidy	• Restaurant lease reflects up to 50% discount on infrastructure cost
Install/Storage	• City obligation
<b><i>DRAFT Option C: Individual Program (Private Property)</i></b>	
Infrastructure	• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased individually by restaurant
Pilot Cost (Annual)	• None
Subsidy	• Eligible restaurants reimbursed for a portion of infrastructure costs (TBD)
Install/Storage	• Restaurant obligation

#### **4. Future State of the Temporary West End Closure to Vehicle Traffic Beyond the Emergency Orders**

If council desires to continue the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic beyond the end of the emergency orders, staff recommends the establishment of a revocable license agreement with the Downtown Boulder Partnership (DBP) or other similar entity that can effectively manage and operate the space until such time that a work plan item is added to allow staff to pursue a holistic, broad, and intentional vision for downtown Boulder that would include the consideration of a permanent “shared street” condition on the West End or, possibly, other streets in the downtown area.

If council desires to discontinue the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic beyond the end of emergency orders, staff recommends pursuing full implementation of the Pilot Program among participating West End businesses to ensure their outdoor dining extensions can safely and effectively operate in mixed traffic before the West End is re-opened to vehicle traffic. Regardless, staff still recommends pursuit of a holistic, broad, and intentional vision for downtown Boulder that would include the consideration of a permanent “shared street” condition on the West End or, possibly, other streets in the downtown area.

#### **COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND IMPACTS**

- **Economic** – The continuation of outdoor dining extensions may contribute to a positive economic impact by allowing businesses to increase their sales through expanded outdoor seating. The increased economic activity may allow businesses to retain and hire additional staff. This post-pandemic model for reimagining how we utilize our streets also promotes a diverse and vibrant economy that supports businesses and residents alike. Preliminary sales tax data suggests the closure of the West End may not have resulted in an economic advantage. However, several restaurants have closed on the West End through the pandemic which may have resulted in lower sales tax performance. Public perception, as captured in a survey of the West End, suggests improved performance and vibrancy through the closure. Reopening of the West End to vehicle traffic while still allowing for a proposed Pilot Program could increase the economic vibrancy of the West End through increased accessibility particularly during inclement weather and winter months.
- **Environmental** – While no specific environmental impact assessment has been completed related to this work, staff appreciates that additional energy consumption has resulted from heating, air conditioning, and lighting of some outdoor dining extensions.
- **Social** – Based on feedback received in various surveys, input from the Downtown Management Commission (DMC), and the Center for People with Disabilities, staff appreciates that outdoor dining extensions and the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic has some social impacts as a result of restricted access to the public ROW for people with disabilities, cyclists, transit users, and people from diverse

socioeconomic backgrounds who have experienced access challenges to patronize businesses.

### **OTHER IMPACTS**

- **Fiscal** – Council approved recommendations for city-wide ARPA funding including \$250,000 for a Pilot Program. The Central Area General Improvement District (CAGID) has also allocated \$50,000 of funding for infrastructure purchase. Additionally, the Community Vitality and Transportation and Mobility Departments are currently pursuing a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Revitalizing Main Streets grant to further offset possible capital costs. Furthermore, staff has not yet been able to estimate the significant resources that will be required to adequately address safety, accessibility, equity, and operational challenges associated with the Pilot Program and possible continued closure of the West End to vehicle traffic.
- **Staff time** – The proposed Pilot Program will require significant staff resources from a variety of departments to fully develop, effectively implement, and manage. Specifically, Planning and Development Services, Regulatory Licensing, Public Safety, Transportation & Mobility, and Community Vitality staff will coordinate to ensure the Pilot Program operations are running smoothly, assist with any potential troubleshooting, and provide general oversight and support.

Regardless of the future state of the temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic, staff appreciates that a comprehensive and inclusive planning process is required to establish a holistic, broad, and intentional vision for downtown Boulder that would include the consideration of a permanent “shared street” condition on the West End or, possibly, other streets in the downtown area. This process will require significant staff time and resources to effectively execute and implement over the duration of many years.

### **RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL AGENDA COMMITTEE**

None

### **BOARD AND COMMISSION FEEDBACK**

Given that the originally proposed Pilot Program was geographically focused on downtown, staff solicited feedback from the Downtown Management Commission (DMC) during meetings on Nov. 9, 2021 and Mar. 8, 2022. During the DMC meeting on Mar. 8, members of the commission agreed that the city’s responsibility is to serve the community and restaurants that have been affected by COVID-19 disproportionality, pointing to other communities that have leased the public ROW for outdoor dining purposes. Concerns around equity were raised, pointing to successful restaurants that have benefited greatly from outdoor dining programs, omitting smaller and less profitable restaurants from being able to utilize public space. It was clarified that ARPA dollars could be allocated to this

program and state grant dollars, if received, could be used to reduce the cost burden to restaurants for the infrastructure cost. Lastly, one member of the DMC raised concerns around the continued closure of the West End, stating that it poses challenges in the long run and proposed opening West Pearl to vehicle traffic with expanded outdoor dining. The concept of a temporary modification Pilot Program was also discussed with the Beverage Licensing Authority at their hearing on Jan. 19, 2022.

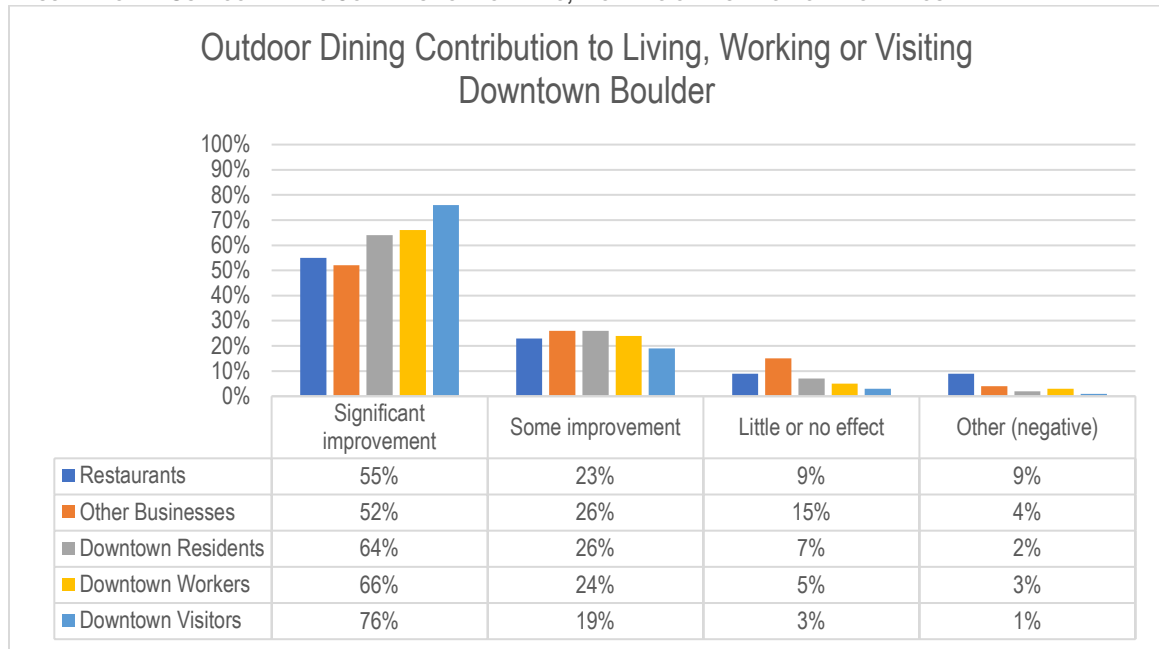
## **PUBLIC FEEDBACK**

### **Outdoor Dining Survey**

City staff and DBP issued a survey targeting responses from the downtown community (residents, businesses, workers, and visitors) on Jan. 27, 2022 to gain a better understanding of the impacts of the temporary expanded outdoor dining expansion and help gauge restaurants' interest in the proposed Pilot Program. The survey, now closed, was received by 1,454 e-mail addresses and generated 836 responses. Of the 836 respondents, 54 identified as restaurant owners/representatives. A description of the survey methodology, reach, and results can be found in **Attachment B**. Key findings from the survey include:

- Most of those surveyed indicated they felt expanded outdoor dining had a very positive impact on the vibrancy of downtown Boulder, and many participants reported it significantly improved their experience living, working, or visiting downtown Boulder as referenced in **Illustration 1**.
- Most restaurants and many other businesses indicated expanded outdoor dining had a positive impact on their business as shown in **Illustration 2**.
- While most of those surveyed provided positive feedback, there were concerns about several aspects of expanded outdoor dining. Respondents varied greatly in their opinion of modifications in current outdoor dining practices and in their opinions related to how the Pilot Program should consider utilized infrastructure, area aesthetics, and applied costs.
- When presented with the concept for a downtown outdoor dining pilot program without fee information, 49% of all restaurants and 60% of current program participants indicated they were “very likely” to participate. Interest in participation appears to be influenced by the cost to participate in the program. At a cost of \$50/square foot to lease a parklet for outdoor seating (including leasing the public right-of-way, installation, maintenance, and storage), 23% of all restaurants surveyed were at least somewhat likely to participate. That figure rose to 36% if the annual cost were \$35/square foot. Among restaurants that were interested in outdoor dining prior to having cost information, 43% were likely to participate in the program if the cost were \$50/square foot and 61% were likely to participate if the cost were \$35/square foot as displayed in **Illustration 3**.
- Nearly 700 written comments were provided by survey participants and are included in the survey report.

**ILLUSTRATION 1: OUTDOOR DINING CONTRIBUTION TO LIVING, WORKING OR VISITING DOWNTOWN BOULDER**



**ILLUSTRATION 2: OUTDOOR DINING IMPACT ON BUSINESS**

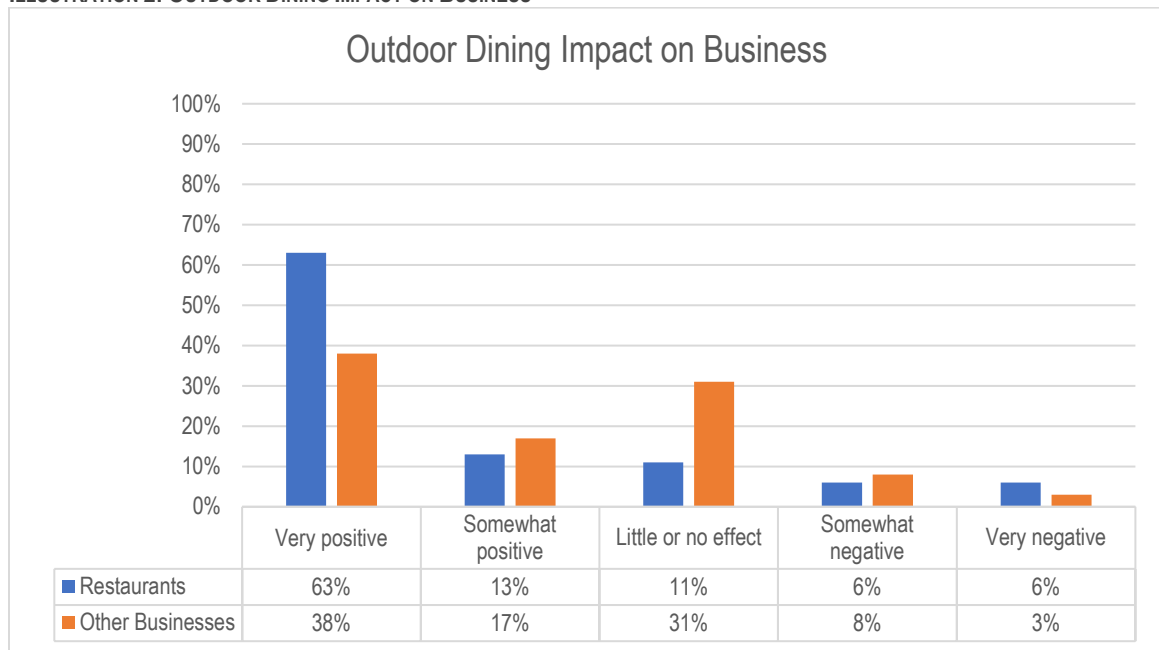
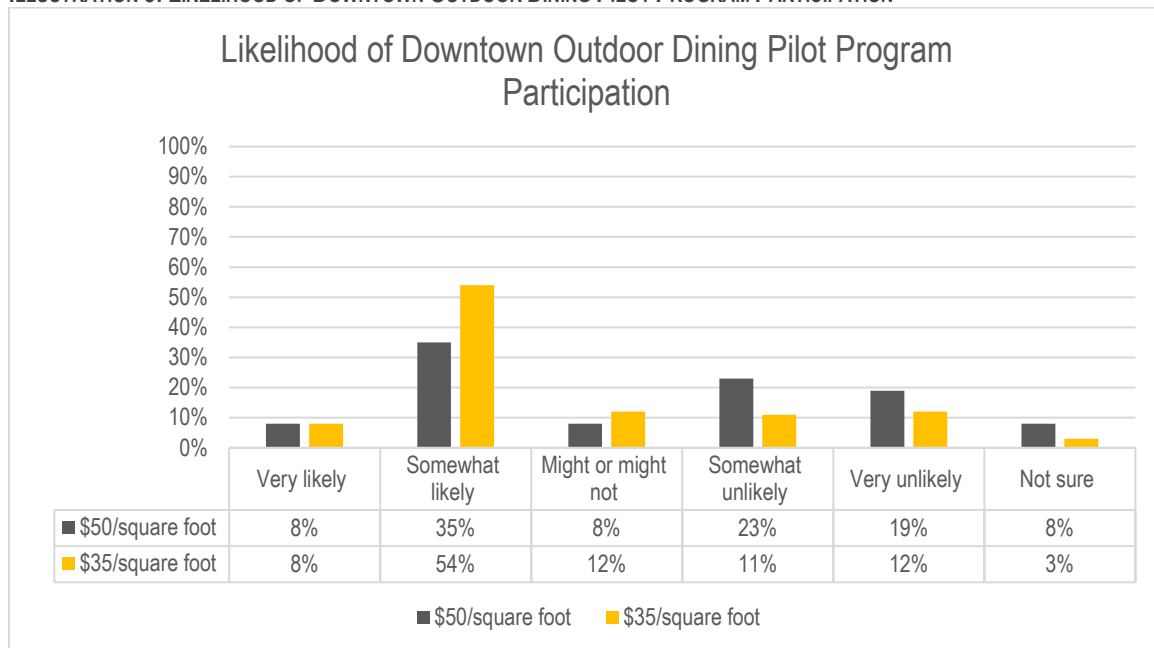


ILLUSTRATION 3: LIKELIHOOD OF DOWNTOWN OUTDOOR DINING PILOT PROGRAM PARTICIPATION



### West End Survey

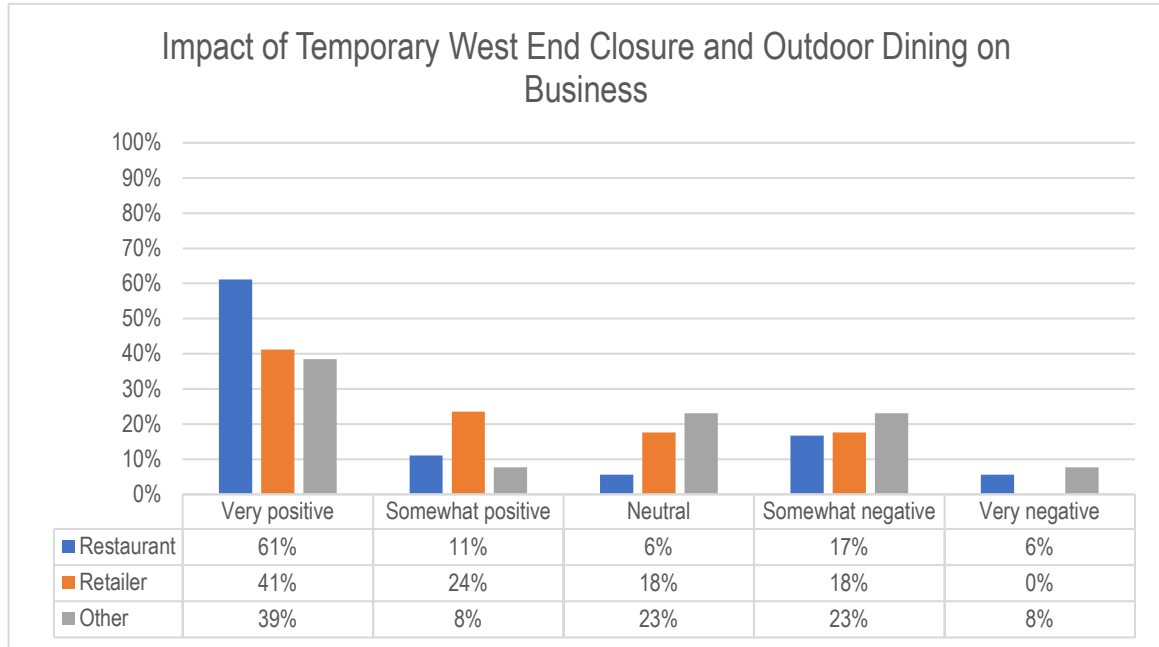
City staff issued a survey solely targeting businesses that fall within the boundaries of the West End closure area (9<sup>th</sup> St. to 11<sup>th</sup> St.) to gain feedback on their preferences of the closure and outdoor dining after the emergency order ends on Aug. 31, 2022. The survey was conducted between Mar. 24, 2022 and Apr. 4, 2022 both in-person and online. It was distributed to 35 businesses in person and emailed to an additional 49 businesses located on upper floors that were more difficult to access through in-person outreach. In total, the survey generated a total of 47 responses. Of the respondents, 18 identified as a restaurant, coffee shop, bar or tavern, 17 identified as a retail store, and 14 identified as other (which includes technology, professional or personal services, finance, insurance, real estate, and others). A recap of survey responses, including comments and tables, can be found in **Attachment C**. Key findings from the survey include the following:

- Most businesses, especially restaurants, indicated the temporary street closure and expanded outdoor dining on West Pearl Street has had either a very positive or somewhat positive impact on their business as shown in **Illustration 4**.
- Nearly half of all businesses indicated they prefer West Pearl remain closed to vehicle traffic after the emergency orders end in August as displayed in **Illustration 5**.
- While most businesses on West Pearl indicated the West End closure had a positive impact, some respondents indicated that their business has experienced increased parking challenges from the temporary closure as shown in **Illustration 6**.
- Businesses provided some thoughtful comments around a seasonal West End closure, preferring that it remain closed during the summer months and reopened



to vehicle traffic in the winter. All comments can be found in the survey recap in **Attachment C**.

**ILLUSTRATION 4: IMPACT OF TEMPORARY WEST END CLOSURE AND OUTDOOR DINING ON BUSINESS**



**ILLUSTRATION 5: PREFERRED ACTION AFTER AUGUST 31, 2022**

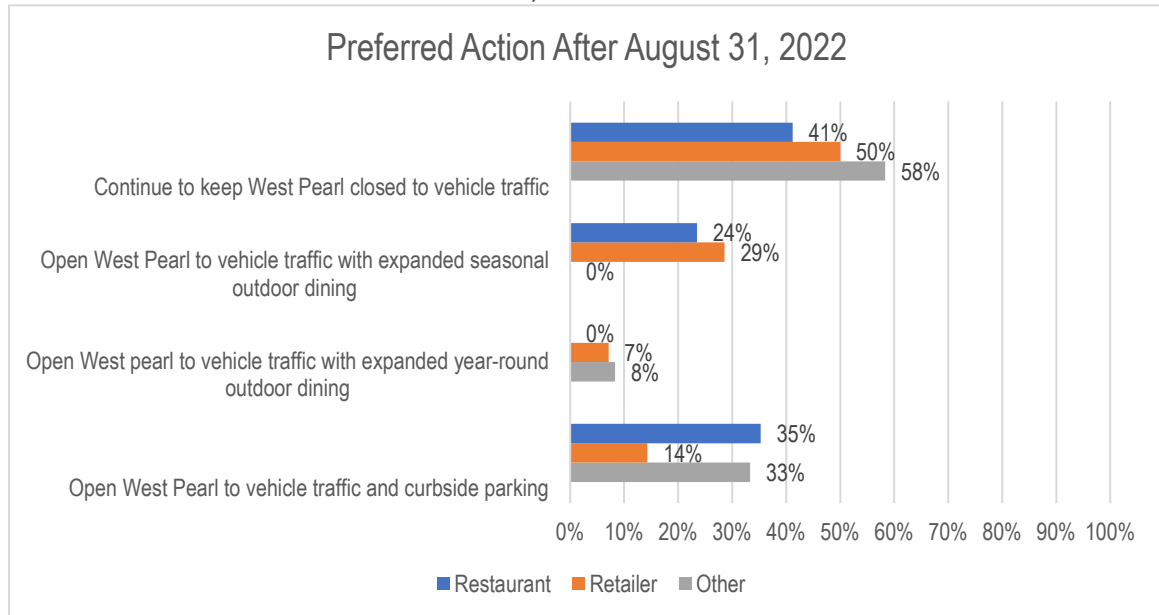
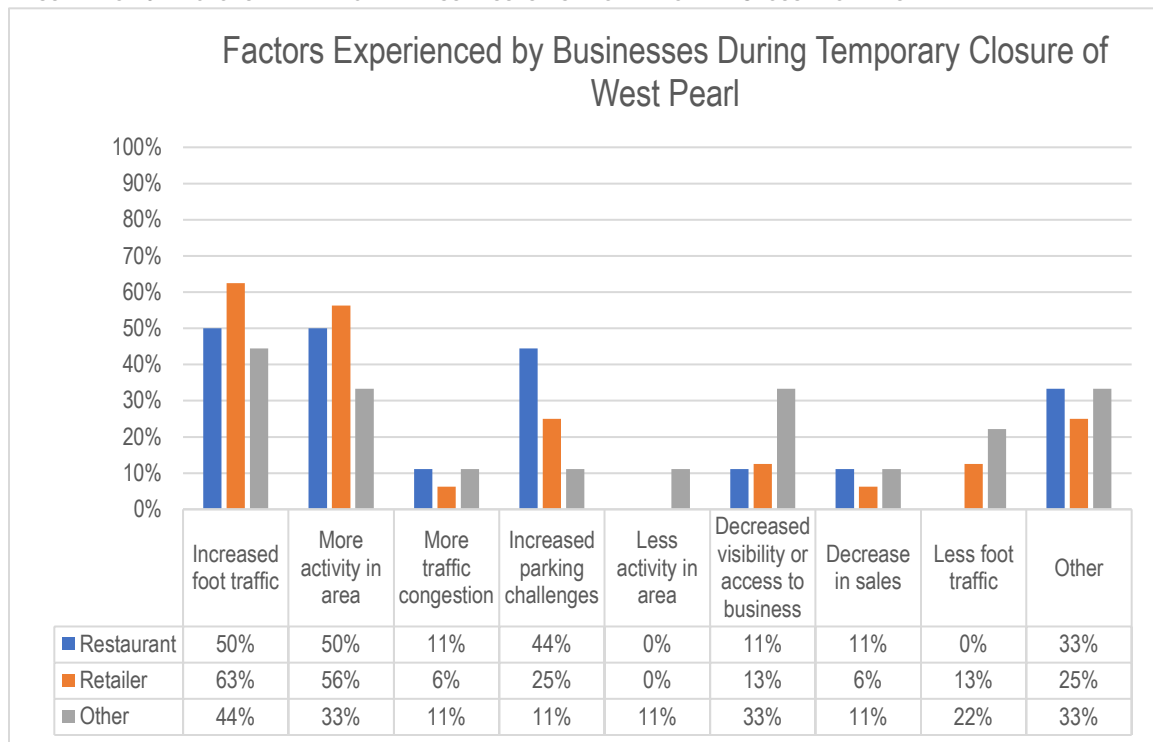


ILLUSTRATION 6: FACTORS EXPERIENCED BY BUSINESSES DURING TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF WEST PEARL



## **BACKGROUND**

Prioritizing public safety concerns arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, City of Boulder emergency orders 2020-16 and 2020-18 (as amended) were passed in alignment with guidance from federal, state and county public health agencies. Those emergency orders, and therefore the Boulder Business Recovery Program, have been extended and will now expire on Aug. 31, 2022. Through national research and public outreach, city staff are proposing a Pilot Program for outdoor dining extensions in the public ROW, as well as consideration for outdoor dining extensions on private property after the expiration of the emergency orders. The Pilot Program, originally geographically focused on downtown Boulder, has been met with general council support. Staff subsequently provided updates for council on the topic of the Pilot Program on Sept. 9, 2021, via an information packet item on Feb. 1, 2022, and through a HOTLINE post on Feb. 13, 2022. In consideration of additional community and stakeholder feedback, staff is considering the expansion of the Pilot Program beyond downtown Boulder. Meanwhile, in connection with emergency orders, the West End of Pearl Street, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> streets, has and will continue to remain closed to vehicle traffic at least until emergency orders end.

## **ANALYSIS**

### **Section 1: Outdoor Dining Pilot Program**

A Pilot Program is being designed and proposed by a staff stakeholder group represented by Community Vitality, Transportation & Mobility, Planning and Development Services, Regulatory Licensing, and the City Attorney's Office. The intent of the Pilot Program is to

consider several influencing factors that emerged during the rapid expansion of outdoor dining during the COVID-19 pandemic. These factors were identified by key stakeholders including participating business owners, the Downtown Management Commission (DMC), the Center for People with Disabilities, and city staff. The proposal is further informed by public feedback and from peer community benchmarks (see **Attachment D**). Through an evaluation and planning process, staff identified four primary Pilot Program considerations including safety, accessibility, equity, and operations which were provided to council in an information item in the Feb. 1, 2022, meeting packet. These considerations are guiding the creation of the draft Pilot Program guidelines and requirements (see **Attachment A**). The following sections outline the considerations for the draft Pilot Program guidelines and requirements.

### **Safety**

The Pilot Program includes safety considerations for the design and durability of infrastructure. Key safety elements identified by staff include durability against vehicle traffic, as well as weather elements. Metal planter boxes and reflective markers are required for infrastructure placed adjacent to active traffic for safety purposes. Building code requirements will be enforced and restaurants would be required to maintain a certificate of insurance listing the City of Boulder as additionally insured. Designated service areas and hard fencing will also improve alcohol control and should be compliant with the state liquor code requirements.

### **Accessibility**

Infrastructure utilized in the Pilot Program must be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to include a flush transition from the sidewalk and curb into the dining area, as well as a level and slip resistant surface in the dining area. Further, road access, defined as a minimum 20-foot-wide unobstructed fire apparatus access road with an unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet for emergency vehicles must be maintained. Additional accessibility consideration include infrastructure that does not obstruct the visibility of storefronts or impact traditional loading zones.

### **Equity**

The equity considerations address infrastructure footprints, participation requirements for restaurants (including eligibility requirements for subsidies), special events, and participation in a competitive marketplace. All participating restaurants must have available space within 150 feet of their entrances, either within space previously allocated for parking or other unencumbered open spaces. The size limit for outdoor extensions associated with the Pilot Program for any eligible business is proposed to be 500 square feet (sf). For Pilot Program extensions in the public ROW, no more than a total of 1,000 sf would be permitted for all combined extensions along any typical block face or any full block of the Pearl Street Mall. Outdoor dining extensions on private property would also be restricted to 500 sf per restaurant; however, there would be no cap on the number of restaurants allowed to expand or the cumulative amount of private property permitted for expansion. Height restrictions of three feet and prohibition of closed in structures and roofs is recommended out of safety, consideration for other businesses, as well as wind and snow load requirements. In order to be eligible for a subsidy, restaurants must demonstrate they

have spent funds on permitted outdoor dining extensions prior to the Pilot Program launch. This eligibility requirement acknowledges the efforts of restaurants to adapt through the most difficult times of the pandemic. While special events will be prohibited from utilizing space allocated to outdoor dining in existing on-street parking spaces, restaurants on the Pearl Street Mall will be required to temporarily remove and store parklet infrastructure on private property if/when any city permitted special events seek to utilize those spaces for no more than 10 days during any given month.

## Operations

The Pilot Program is contemplated to run for five years and include a standard revocable permit and city and state alcohol licensing requirements. City staff recommend consideration for an ordinance to address land use regulations, including use review requirements specific to the Pilot Program. The Pilot Program requires that infrastructure consist of modular pieces that can accommodate emergency, maintenance, repair, and utility access needs. To ensure a smooth and safe transition out of pandemic-driven practices toward a more scalable and sustainable operation, the Pilot Program proposes two financing options to achieve compliance for outdoor dining extensions in the public ROW, as well as an option for outdoor extensions on private property as outlined in **Table 2**.

TABLE 2: DRAFT FINANCING OPTIONS

<i>DRAFT Option A: Individual Program (Public ROW)</i>	
Infrastructure	• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased individually by restaurant
Pilot Cost (Annual)	• On Brick: \$18.75/sf, Off Brick \$13.13/sf (Annual Revocable Permit)
Subsidy	• Eligible restaurants reimbursed for a portion of infrastructure costs (TBD)
Install/Storage	• Restaurant obligation
<i>DRAFT Option B: Bulk Program (Public ROW)</i>	
Infrastructure	• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased in bulk by city and leased to restaurants for 5 years
Pilot Cost (Annual)	• Not to exceed \$35/sf (inclusive of Annual Revocable Permit)
Subsidy	• Restaurant lease reflects up to 50% discount on infrastructure cost
Install/Storage	• City obligation
<i>DRAFT Option C: Individual Program (Private Property)</i>	
Infrastructure	• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased individually by restaurant
Pilot Cost (Annual)	• None
Subsidy	• Eligible restaurants reimbursed for a portion of infrastructure costs (TBD)
Install/Storage	• Restaurant obligation

**DRAFT Option A** seeks to support restaurants to become compliant with the Pilot Program requirements while allowing flexibility for coordinating personal purchase of infrastructure. Under Option A, restaurants would go through the standard revocable permit evaluation process and be responsible for standard fees. Restaurants would be eligible for a partial infrastructure reimbursement in recognition of the capital expense used to become compliant with the Pilot Program. Option A places the responsibility for temporary removal and storage for maintenance and special events on the restaurants.

**DRAFT Option B** provides an opportunity to realize bulk purchase discounts for city approved infrastructure. This option spreads the cost over five years through a lease back to the restaurant. Operational savings are further realized under Option B as the infrastructure has already been vetted by city staff which will streamline the revocable permit process. Under Option B, restaurants will pay a program fee not to exceed \$35/sf, inclusive of the revocable permit fee. Program fees will be general fund revenue and may be used to recoup capital costs, pay for storage and set up associated with special events and maintenance, and aid ongoing program operations.

**DRAFT Option C** is only applicable to outdoor dining extensions on private property. Through the Pilot Program, outdoor dining extensions on private property are allowable for eligible restaurants. Under this option, no revocable permit will be required but businesses would still need to apply to participate in the Pilot Program. A subsidy will be available for eligible restaurants.

### **Section 2: Outdoor Dining Pilot Program Subsidy**

Subsidies associated with the Pilot Program may be funded through a variety of sources including ARPA funds, district budget funding, grant funding and general fund appropriation. The council approved recommendations for city-wide ARPA funding include \$250,000 for an outdoor dining pilot. The Central Area General Improvement District (CAGID) has also allocated \$50,000 of funding for infrastructure purchase. The Community Vitality and Transportation and Mobility Departments are further interested in pursuing a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Revitalizing Main Streets Grant. The restaurant community has to-date, utilized their own resources to address pandemic emergency orders. Staff recommends subsidies as outlined in Section 1 of the analysis to encourage compliance and uniformity to the Pilot Program.

### **Section 3: Temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic**

The West End has remained closed to vehicle traffic throughout the duration of emergency orders. To effectively analyze the impact of the West End closure, staff completed a survey to specifically target West End businesses to understand their experience and evaluate support of a continued closure. Staff also evaluated the closure against the four primary considerations, including safety, accessibility, equity, and operations. In summary, several concerns arose when evaluating the closure against these important considerations, outlined below.

#### **Safety**

Safety considerations related to the West End closure include emergency vehicle access, use of motorcycles and scooters within the boundaries of the closure, and general mobility through the area. Currently, concrete barriers at 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> streets restrict emergency vehicles to one access point on 10<sup>th</sup> Street where barriers are movable. Staff have witnessed motorcycles and motorized scooters being used and parked within the boundaries of the closure. Lastly, it is important to note that traffic flows built around the original vision for Pearl Street Mall that included vehicular access through the West End. The closure has created challenges with directional traffic flow, including drop-offs occurring in inconsistent areas and parked cars frequently located at 9<sup>th</sup> & Pearl streets and 11<sup>th</sup> & Pearl

streets. In short, resources would need to be allocated to evaluate and implement options to address these challenges as activity levels increase in the area post COVID-19.

### **Accessibility**

Accessibility considerations include ADA compliance, access to loading zones, micro-mobility and emergency vehicle access. Those with disabilities who use vehicles and desire curbside parking directly in front of their destination must find alternatives to access preferred destinations within the closure or avoid the area altogether. Furthermore, the closure poses limited access to loading zones and challenges with emergency vehicle access.

### **Equity**

In terms of equity, the West End closure has created an inconsistent playing field for different business types. In particular, restaurants that built their business model around a fast-casual dining experience have struggled to provide the same level of service during the closure period. Those who have created a sit-down dining model have been more successful since the onset of the closure. Furthermore, restaurants with access to more capital resources have been able to expand their footprints significantly with more elaborate structures and required fencing than those with more limited resources.

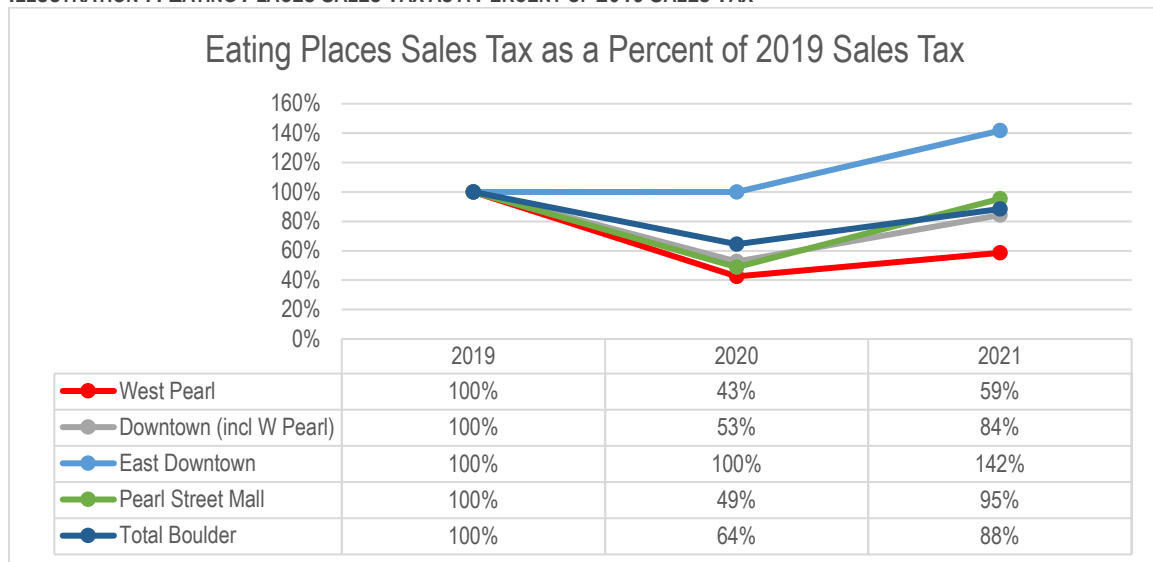
### **Operations**

Key considerations related to city operations include snow removal, street sweeping, access to public and private utilities and other general maintenance that may be needed within the boundaries of the closure. Similar to challenges outlined above under ‘Safety,’ concrete barriers would need to be removed for the city to effectively maintain the area within the closure. This means additional staff resources and time would need to be allocated to these operations.

### **Sales Tax Data**

In addition to public comment, staff analyzed sales tax performance for eating places in the West End as a percent of 2019 sales tax receipts. In 2021, sales tax receipts from eating places on the West End were at 59% of what they had been in 2019 versus 84% for all of downtown and 88% citywide as shown in **Illustration 7**. While preliminary sales tax data suggests the closure of the West End may not have resulted in an economic advantage, several restaurants have closed on the West End through the pandemic which may have resulted in lower sales tax performance. Public perception, as captured in a survey of the West End, suggests improved performance and vibrancy through the closure.

ILLUSTRATION 7: EATING PLACES SALES TAX AS A PERCENT OF 2019 SALES TAX



Based on the survey and sales tax analysis, as well as considerations around safety, accessibility, equity, and operations, staff requests council guidance regarding the desired future state of the temporary closure to vehicle traffic beyond the end of emergency orders. This may include the possible addition of a future work plan item to develop a long-term downtown vision that includes shared street concepts on the West End or, possibly, other streets in the downtown area.

#### Section 4: Matrix Definitions

Staff has completed additional analysis on key considerations and created a decision matrix, presented below, to address various scenarios following the expiration of emergency orders. The decision matrix identifies basic considerations around safety, accessibility, equity, and operations to evaluate options relative to the possible continuation of outdoor dining extensions and the West End closure to vehicle traffic beyond the end of emergency orders. A color rating scale has been developed to indicate the estimated level of staff and financial resources required to mitigate impacts associated with the area of consideration relative to the anticipated outcomes as outlined in **Table 3**. The Matrix is included in **Table 4**.

- **Safety** – The level to which all people can access destinations and enjoy their use of the public ROW and outdoor dining infrastructure without any threat to life or limb.
- **Accessibility** – The level to which all people can easily reach desired destinations with unobstructed access within the public ROW regardless of purpose, transportation mode, or ability.
- **Equity** – The level to which the city can reasonably facilitate an equal playing field among all businesses while balancing other legitimate uses and demands on the public ROW.

- **Operations** – The level to which staff and facility resources are impacted relative to pre-pandemic conditions.

TABLE 3: COLOR RATING SCALE

	<b>Green</b>	Anticipated outcomes will fully achieve standards
	<b>Yellow</b>	Some resources required to fully achieve standards
	<b>Orange</b>	Significant resources required to fully achieve standards
	<b>Red</b>	Outcomes likely unable to achieve standards



## Section 5: Matrix

TABLE 4: DECISION MATRIX

End of Emergency Order Considerations							
Continued Outdoor Dining Expansions	Continued West End Vehicular Closure	Anticipated Post Emergency Condition	Safety	Accessibility	Equity	Operations	Anticipated Outcomes
<b>BASELINE CONDITIONS DURING EMERGENCY ORDERS</b>							Significant planning and resources required to mitigate impacts
NO	NO	Return to Pre-Pandemic Conditions					No changes required, businesses remove extensions and West End reopens to vehicle traffic.
YES	NO	City approved parklets in eligible parking and open spaces (public and private)					Extensive use review process for participating businesses unless ordinance change is approved to relax some requirements. Revocable licenses/permits issued to participating businesses enforced upon end of emergency orders. West End reopens to vehicle traffic.
YES, Seasonally Only	YES, Seasonally Only	City approved parklets in eligible parking and open spaces (public and private) SPRING through FALL as well as larger expansions within the West End closure SPRING through FALL					Extensive use review process for participating businesses unless ordinance change is approved to relax some requirements. Revocable licenses/permits issued to participating businesses enforced upon end of emergency orders. Revocable license issued to DBP for use of the West End ROW during SPRING and FALL. Associated parklet and closure infrastructure removed and stored during winter months. West End reopens to vehicle traffic during winter months only.
YES	YES, Seasonally Only	City approved parklets in eligible parking and open spaces (public and private) YEAR ROUND as well as possibly larger expansions within the West End closure SPRING through FALL					Extensive use review process for participating businesses unless ordinance change is approved to relax some requirements. Revocable licenses issued to participating businesses enforced upon end of emergency orders. Revocable license issued to DBP for West End ROW use during SPRING and FALL. West End reopens to vehicle traffic during winter months only.
YES	YES	City approved parklets in parking and eligible open spaces (public and private) YEAR ROUND as well as possibly larger expansions within the West End closure YEAR ROUND					Extensive use review process for participating businesses unless ordinance change is approved to relax some requirements. Revocable licenses issued to participating businesses enforced upon end of emergency orders. Revocable license issued to DBP for West End ROW use.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Council should expect the following next steps concerning the Pilot Program and temporary West End closure to vehicle traffic contingent on council guidance:

- Finalization of Pilot Program design guidelines and requirements
- Continued staff exploration of grant opportunities to subsidize Pilot Program
- Scheduled legislative ordinance changes for modification of land use regulations
- Staff follow-up on desired additional engagement based on council guidance

## **ATTACHMENT(S)**

ATTACHMENT A – Draft Outdoor Dining Pilot Program Guidelines and Requirements

ATTACHMENT B – Outdoor Dining Pilot Survey – Full Results Including Comments

ATTACHMENT C – West End Closure Survey Results

ATTACHMENT D – Benchmarking Communities

## Draft Outdoor Dining Pilot Program Guidelines and Requirements

<b>Operations</b>	<b>Duration</b>	• 5 years
	<b>Participation</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	Pilot Program Participation	• Restaurants that have available public ROW within 150 feet of their entrances either on the Pearl Street Mall bricks or within space previously allocated for on-street parking
<b>Equity</b>	Eligible Restaurants	• For the purposes of qualifying for an infrastructure subsidy eligible restaurants will be defined as restaurants that can demonstrate the use of private funds to provide outdoor dining extensions prior to the Pilot Program launch
<b>Operations</b>	Hours of Operation	• Temporary outdoor patios are required to close by 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and by 11 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and federal holidays.
<b>Safety</b>	Insurance	• Certificate of insurance required naming the city as additional insured
	<b>Permitting</b>	
<b>Operations</b>	Revocable Permit (inclusive of applicable fees)	• Revocable ROW lease required
<b>Operations</b>	Liquor Permit (inclusive of applicable fees)	• State and City liquor permits apply, as well as demarcation of liquor licenses area with fencing required
<b>Operations</b>	PILOT Use Review	• Pilot Ordinance for Use Review
<b>Equity</b>	Special Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special events prohibited from utilizing space allocated to outdoor dining in existing on-street parking spaces</li> <li>• Outdoor dining extensions on the Pearl Street Mall will be restricted to specific zones that do not interfere with the urban park amenities of the mall</li> <li>• Restaurants will be expected to temporarily remove and store outdoor dining infrastructure onto private property for any city permitted special event that seek to utilize those spaces for no more than 10 days during any given month.</li> </ul>
	<b>Infrastructure Compliance Requirements</b>	

Equity	Physical Dimensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited to 500 SF per restaurant (beyond pre-existing revocable permits)</li> <li>• Not to extend beyond the horizontal property lines of the associated business (unless written permission of adjacent property/business owners is/are obtained)</li> <li>• Vertical obstructions not to exceed three feet above the parklet surface (excluding umbrellas, heat lamps, and hanging posts for lighting/planters)</li> <li>• Closed-in structures, roofs, and walls higher than three feet are prohibited</li> <li>• Space dedicated to outdoor dining within existing on-street parking spaces on any given block face not to exceed 1,000 feet or 1,000 feet on any block of the Pearl Street Mall</li> </ul>
Safety	Durability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Withstand wind, snow, or flooding</li> <li>• Withstand contact from moving vehicles</li> <li>• Metal planter boxes filled with gravel and soil required (may be waived with ASTM P-1 level crash test certification)</li> <li>• Reflectors required marking the approach side</li> <li>• Concrete wheel stops placed 4' from end of infrastructure</li> <li>• Infrastructure enclosures must be weighted, anchored or secured and deck platforms must be anchored</li> </ul>
Safety	Flood & Stormwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any structure located within a 100-year floodplain (including parklets, platforms, tents, etc.) require a floodplain development permit and must comply with BRC 9-3.</li> <li>• No items may be placed such that they block the free flow of stormwater through the city's right-of-way. Any platforms or other structures shall be elevated to allow the free flow of stormwater.</li> </ul>
Safety	Heating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Load demands must not be exceeded for electrical circuits. Example: Only one 16-amp heater could be plugged into a dedicated 20-amp circuit.</li> <li>• All equipment must be used according to UL listings and manufacturer's instructions.</li> <li>• Circuits must be GFCI protected</li> <li>• Heating equipment should be unplugged or disconnected for overnight storage.</li> <li>• Other than cord and plug connected appliances used in accordance with listing, electrical heating devices/appliances must be installed by a licensed electrical contractor under a separate electrical permit.</li> </ul>

<b>Operations</b>	Electrical & Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No fixture may be greater than 50 lumens. Per the city's sign code, lighting may not flash, move, rotate, scintillate, blink, flicker, vary in intensity, vary in color, or use intermittent electrical pulsations</li> <li>• Any extension cords or protective coverings (yellow jackets) must meet the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Extension cords that run over head must be at least 10 feet in height above pedestrian paths and 15 feet above fire lanes.</li> <li>○ Extension cords on are not allowed to be run on the ground across vehicle travel lanes and pedestrian or bicycle paths.</li> <li>○ All cords shall be listed for heavy duty usage, three-pronged and a minimum of 12 gauge and shall be in good condition.</li> <li>○ All electrical use must be GFCI protected and protected from weather.</li> <li>○ Extension cords shall be directly plugged into the outlet and are limited to one cord per outlet. Multiple cords may not be chained together.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A separate electrical permit, which requires a licensed electrical contractor, is required for anything other than a listed extension cord and plug connected circuit/device (AKA plug and go).</li> <li>• Use of public outlets in the public right of way is prohibited.</li> <li>• Heating device load demands must not be exceeded for electrical circuits. All equipment must be used according to UL listings and manufacturer's instructions. Circuits must be GFCI protected.</li> </ul>
<b>Accessibility</b>	Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must not obscure the visibility of store fronts</li> </ul>
<b>Operations</b>	Modularity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must consist of modular pieces that can accommodate emergency, maintenance, repair, and utility access needs</li> </ul>
<b>Accessibility</b>	ADA Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All infrastructure must be ADA accessible including a flush transition from the sidewalk and curb into the dining area, as well as a level and slip resistant surface required in the dining area</li> <li>• No parking spaces allocated for use by people with disabilities shall be repurposed for outdoor dining</li> </ul>
<b>Accessibility</b>	ROW Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows for road access defined as a minimum 20-foot-wide unobstructed fire apparatus access road with an unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet</li> <li>• Existing areas marked for loading/unloading should also be avoided</li> <li>• 3' separation between existing buildings</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary enclosures (including parklets), canopies, domes, chairs, barriers, carpet, and artificial turf may not obstruct access to manholes, valve boxes, drain pans along the curb, fire hydrants, building fire department connections, or storm water inlets. Parklets shall be located to avoid obstructing underground utility access and electrical transformer vaults.</li> </ul>
	<b>Cost</b>	
	<i>Draft Option A: Individual Program (Public ROW)</i>	
<b>Operations</b>	Infrastructure Pilot Cost (Annual) Subsidy Install/Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased individually by restaurant</li> <li>• On Brick: \$18.75/sf, Off Brick \$13.13/sf (Annual Revocable Permit)</li> <li>• Eligible restaurants reimbursed a portion of infrastructure costs (TBD)</li> <li>• Restaurant obligation</li> </ul>
	<i>Draft Option B: Bulk Program (Public ROW)</i>	
<b>Operations</b>	Infrastructure Pilot Cost (Annual) Subsidy Install/Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased in bulk by city and leased to restaurants for 5 years</li> <li>• Not to exceed \$35/sf (inclusive of Annual Revocable Permit)</li> <li>• Restaurant lease reflects up to 50% discount on infrastructure cost</li> <li>• City obligation</li> </ul>
	<i>Draft Option C: Individual Program (Private ROW)</i>	
<b>Operations</b>	Infrastructure Pilot Cost (Annual) Subsidy Install/Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot Program compliant infrastructure purchased individually by restaurant</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Eligible restaurants reimbursed a portion of infrastructure costs (TBD)</li> <li>• Restaurant obligation</li> </ul>



# City of Boulder

Outdoor Dining Pilot Survey Results  
February 2022

## Executive Summary

The City of Boulder and Downtown Boulder Partnership conducted an online survey to help inform an exploration of an outdoor dining pilot in downtown Boulder. The pilot program would tentatively start after the April 30 expiration of the temporary outdoor dining expansion program created by city emergency order to allow restaurants to operate in a safer manner and help offset indoor capacity limits related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The survey received 836 responses from a cross-section of downtown Boulder businesses, residents, workers, and visitors. Key findings from the survey include:

### Temporary Expanded Outdoor Dining Program

- Most participants felt the city’s current temporary outdoor dining expansion had a positive impact on the vibrancy of downtown Boulder.
  - More than 80% of residents, workers, and visitors reported the program had a “very positive” impact on downtown vibrancy while 61% of restaurants and 71% of other businesses indicated the impact was “very positive”.
- Many participants indicated the current program had improved their experience living, working, or visiting downtown Boulder.
  - Over half (55%) of downtown restaurants, 52% of other businesses, 76% of visitors, 66% of workers, and 64% of residents reported a “significant improvement” of their downtown experience.
- Over three-fourths of restaurants and more than half of other businesses reported expanded outdoor dining had a positive impact on their business.
  - 63% of restaurants and 38% of other businesses indicated the impact on their business was “very positive” while only 10% of businesses reported a negative impact from the current expanded outdoor dining program.
- Survey participants generally indicated the most important potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining programs were:
  - Helps keep restaurants in business
  - Increases vibrancy of downtown
  - Positive impact on nearby businesses
  - Brings more people downtown
  - Increases walkability
  - Provides a greater sense of place
- Potential impacts on access, parking, and noise were generally considered less important than potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining.

### Proposed Outdoor Dining Pilot Program

The survey included a concept for a Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program with parklets, comprised of panels and platforms with a consistent design throughout the downtown area to define outdoor dining areas and provide a barrier between diners and vehicle or pedestrian traffic, that would be in place from May 1 to Oct. 31 and removed for storage between Nov. 1 and Apr. 30 and made available to restaurants that would pay a fee to lease the portion of public right-of-way used for their outdoor dining space.



- Potential components of the outdoor dining pilot program considered most important by those surveyed included:
  - Providing equitable access to parklets for people of varied abilities
  - Prohibiting structures that limit visibility or access to nearby businesses
  - Prohibiting amplified sound from 10 p.m. to 11 a.m. daily in parklet areas
  - Allowing parklets in curbside parking spaces
  - Providing information about nearby parking locations
  - Funding to offset a portion of parklet costs for participating restaurants

Restaurants were much more likely than other survey participants to consider funding to offset parklet costs to be the most important program component.

- Over half of restaurants surveyed indicated they were likely to participate in the pilot program based on the description provided (without specific fee information).
  - 60% of restaurants participating in the current temporary expanded outdoor dining program were “very likely” to sign up for the new pilot program compared to 22% of non-participating restaurants.
- Factors most frequently mentioned that would make restaurants more likely to participate in the program included:
  - City helping to subsidize the cost of the pilot program
  - Allowing the use of other outdoor dining infrastructure that met city requirements
  - Downtown Boulder Partnership would own the parklets and take care of installation, maintenance, and storage

The factor most frequently mentioned as making restaurants less likely to participate was an annual fee for using the public right-of-way for outdoor dining.

- At an annual cost of \$50/square foot (\$10,000/year for 10' x 20' parklet to lease the public right-of-way and installation, maintenance, and storage), 23% of all restaurants surveyed were at least somewhat likely to participate in the pilot while 43% of those interested in the pilot before having specific cost information indicated they were likely to participate.
- If the city was able to subsidize the pilot program cost and the annual fee was \$35/square foot (\$7,000/year for 10' x 20' parklet), 36% of all restaurants surveyed indicated they were likely to participate in the pilot while 61% of those who were interested in the pilot without having specific costs were likely to participate in the program.
- While the survey did not include questions about the temporary street closure on West Pearl to accommodate expanded outdoor dining, many participants provided comments related to the temporary closure which reflected a mix of opinions.

## Conclusions

While most survey participants provided positive feedback about the city's temporary outdoor dining expansion, there were a number of participants who expressed concerns about several aspects of the current program. Those surveyed felt there are many important considerations for a potential pilot program including equitable access for people of varied abilities and how area residents and businesses might be impacted. There appears to be interest in participating in the pilot program, especially among participants in the city's current program, and willingness to pay a fee to lease the public right-of-way for outdoor dining areas and the use of parklet infrastructure. Although some restaurants may be willing to pay an annual fee of \$50/square foot, more indicated interest in participating at a cost of \$35/square foot.

## Outdoor Dining Pilot Survey Results

The City of Boulder's temporary outdoor dining expansion program helped local restaurants operate in a safer manner and offset the impact of indoor capacity limits and virus transmission concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the program set to expire on April 30, 2022, the City and Downtown Boulder Partnership (DBP) conducted a survey of downtown businesses, residents, workers, and visitors to help inform an exploration of a more sustainable outdoor dining pilot program that would tentatively start in May 2022.

The survey was designed to help determine perceptions regarding outdoor dining expansion programs, including:

- Impact of existing temporary program on the vibrancy of downtown
- How the existing program affected living, working, or visiting downtown
- Effect of existing program on individual businesses
- Perceived benefits and potential concerns about expanded outdoor dining programs
- Reaction to a proposed Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot program and perceived importance of components being considered
- Restaurant interest in participation in a pilot and factors that might affect their decisions to participate

## Survey Methodology and Participant Characteristics

An email with a link to an online survey (in English and Spanish) was sent to 1,454 business license holders and individual and business parking permit holders in Boulder's central area business improvement district on January 27. In addition, information about the survey and links were featured in the January 27 and February 3 weekly Downtown Boulder Partnership email newsletters.

The survey received 836 responses from downtown Boulder businesses, residents, workers, and visitors including many who represented more than one category. Survey participants reflected a mix of age groups (ranging from under 25 to 75 or older) and length of time in Boulder (ranging from 2 years or less to more than 20 years).

<b><i>Please tell us which of the following apply to you. (Check all that apply.)</i></b>		
Visit downtown to shop or dine	60%	501
Live in downtown Boulder	45%	371
Work in or near downtown Boulder	42%	354
Represent a business in downtown Boulder	25%	208
Other	3%	25
<b><i>Which of the following categories includes your age?</i></b>		
Under 25	4%	32
25 to 34	23%	170
35 to 44	23%	168
45 to 54	22%	162
55 to 64	15%	111
65 to 74	8%	63
75 or older	5%	35

<b><i>How long have you lived or worked in Boulder?</i></b>		
2 years or less	11%	84
3 to 5 years	16%	116
6 to 10 years	15%	109
11 to 20 years	21%	156
More than 20 years	36%	272
Not applicable	1%	8

Businesses that participated in the survey included a mix of restaurants, retail stores, professional or technical services, financial institutions, insurance and real estate firms, and personal services providers. They represented a range of sizes. Nearly 40% represented women-, minority-, or veteran-owned businesses. Nearly all were headquartered in Boulder. Fifty-four restaurants that responded to the survey included many current or former participants in the city's temporary outdoor dining expansion program.

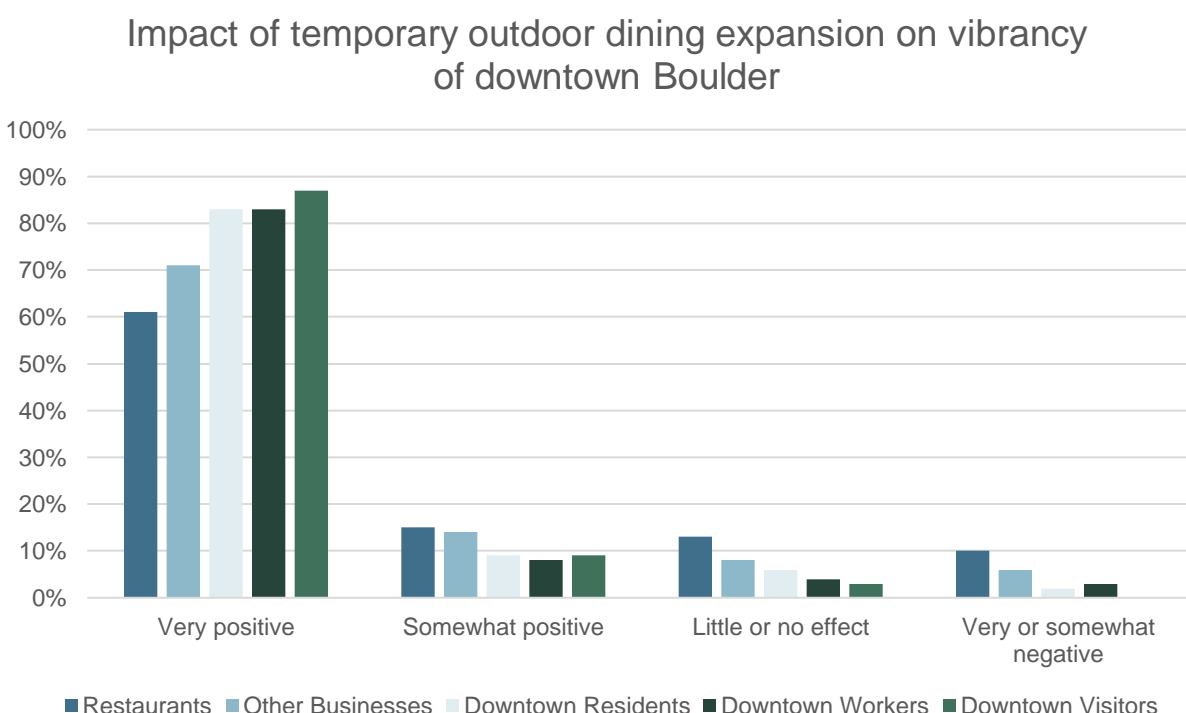
<b><i>What type of business do you represent in downtown Boulder? (Check all that apply.)</i></b>		
Retail store	31%	65
Restaurant	26%	54
Professional or technical services	19%	40
Finance, insurance, or real estate	12%	25
Personal services	9%	19
Other	14%	30
<b><i>Where is your business headquartered?</i></b>		
Boulder	96%	175
Other	4%	8
<b><i>Including yourself, how many employees does your business have in Downtown Boulder?</i></b>		
1 to 4	22%	40
5 to 9	21%	38
10 to 19	23%	41
20 to 49	17%	31
50 to 99	8%	15
100 to 249	6%	11
250 or more	2%	3
<b><i>Which of the following applies to your business in Boulder? (Check all that apply.)</i></b>		
Woman-owned business	34%	61
Minority-owned business	8%	14
Veteran-owned business	4%	7
Affiliated with franchise	4%	8
None of the above	58%	105
<b><i>Is your [restaurant] currently participating in the temporary outdoor dining expansion program in Boulder?</i></b>		
Yes	75%	35
No	19%	9
Other (previously participated)	6%	3

## Temporary Expanded Outdoor Dining Program

Survey participants were asked several questions about the city's temporary expanded outdoor dining program which was allowed by a 2020 city emergency order that enabled businesses to expand outside in order to operate in a safer manner and help offset indoor capacity limits under state and county public health orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Impact of outdoor dining expansion program on downtown vibrancy

Most survey participants rated the overall impact of the city's temporary outdoor dining expansion program as positive. As a group, downtown residents, workers and visitors were more likely to rate the impact as "very positive" than restaurants or other downtown businesses.

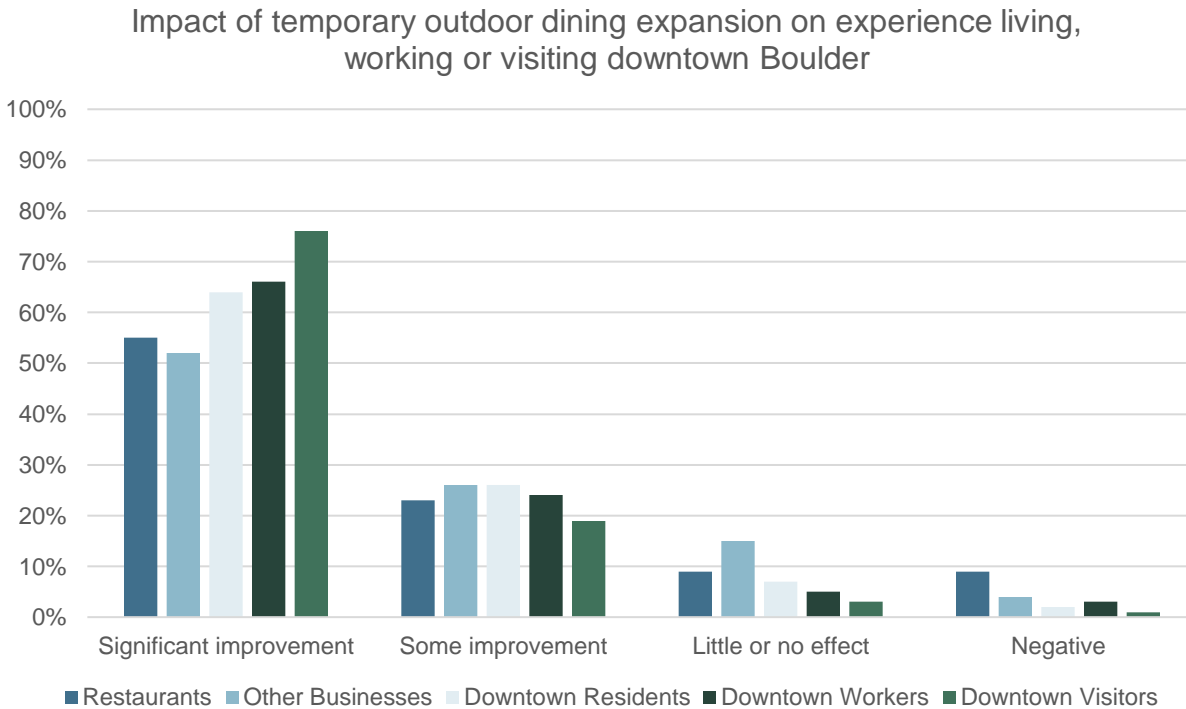


<i>How would you describe the overall impact of the temporary outdoor dining expansion program on the vibrancy of downtown Boulder?</i>					
<b>Impact on Vibrancy</b>	<b>Restaurants</b>	<b>Other Businesses</b>	<b>Downtown Residents*</b>	<b>Downtown Workers**</b>	<b>Downtown Visitors***</b>
Very positive	61%	71%	83%	83%	87%
Somewhat positive	15%	14%	9%	8%	9%
Little or no effect	13%	8%	6%	4%	3%
Somewhat negative	4%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Very negative	6%	3%	1%	2%	--
Don't know	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
BASE	(54)	(154)	(322)	(145)	(146)

\*Live in downtown Boulder and do not represent a downtown business; \*\*Work in or near downtown Boulder and do not live or represent a downtown business; \*\*\*Visit downtown Boulder to shop or dine and do not live, work, or represent a business in downtown Boulder

## Impact of outdoor dining expansion program on downtown experience

Many survey participants indicated they felt the temporary dining expansion program had resulted in a “significant improvement” in their experience living, working, or visiting downtown Boulder in the past year. Visitors were the most likely to indicate the increase in outdoor dining options had significantly improved their experience in downtown Boulder.

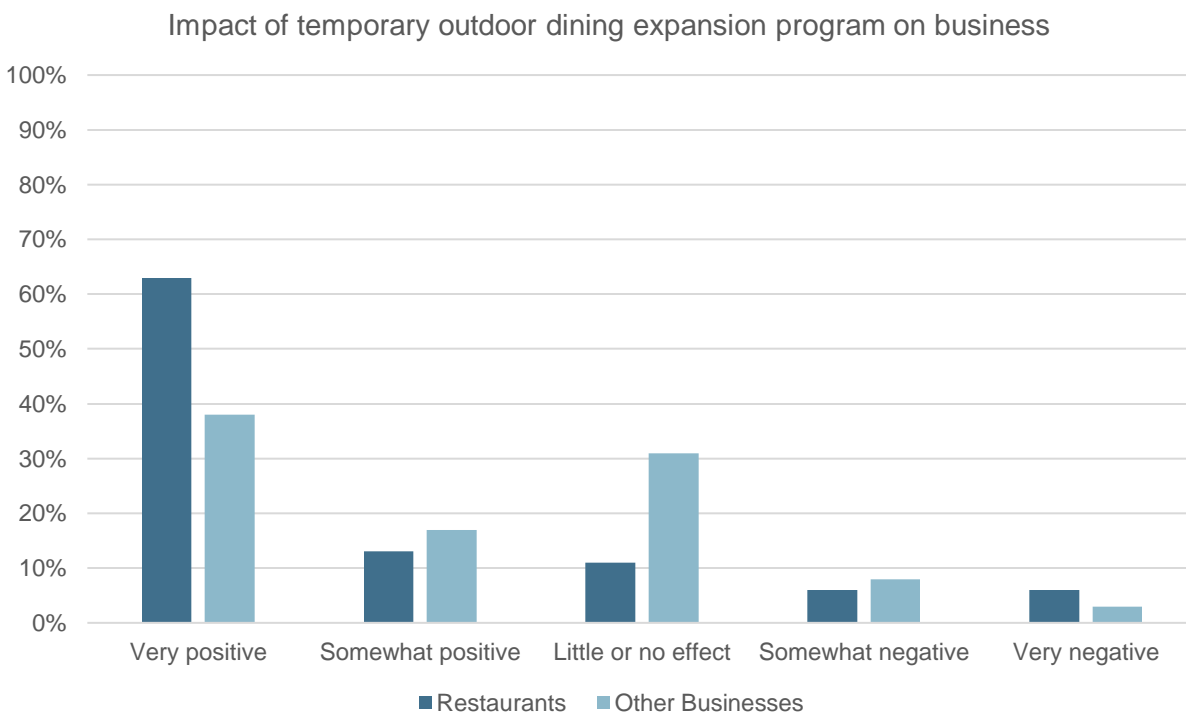


How has the temporary dining expansion program contributed to your experience living, working, or visiting downtown Boulder in the past year?					
Impact on Downtown Boulder Experience	Restaurants	Other Businesses	Downtown Residents*	Downtown Workers**	Downtown Visitors***
Significant improvement	55%	52%	64%	66%	76%
Some improvement	23%	26%	26%	24%	19%
Little or no effect	9%	15%	7%	5%	3%
Other (negative)	9%	4%	2%	3%	1%

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## Impact of outdoor dining expansion program on businesses

When asked about the impact the temporary outdoor dining expansion had on their businesses, 61% indicated the impact was positive, 26% indicated they had experienced little or no impact and 11% reported a negative impact. As expected, restaurants were significantly more likely to report experiencing an impact from the program than other types of businesses.



<i>In general, how would you describe the impact of the temporary outdoor dining expansion program on your business?</i>			
<b>Impact on Business</b>	<b>All Businesses</b>	<b>Restaurants</b>	<b>Other Businesses</b>
Very positive	45%	63%	38%
Somewhat positive	16%	13%	17%
Little or no effect	26%	11%	31%
Somewhat negative	7%	6%	8%
Very negative	3%	6%	3%
<b>BASE</b>	<b>(208)</b>	<b>(54)</b>	<b>(154)</b>

### Perceived benefits of expanded outdoor dining programs

Survey participants were asked to rate the importance of potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining programs. Those benefits that were perceived as most important included:

- helping to keep restaurants in business
- increasing the vibrancy of downtown
- having a positive impact on nearby businesses
- increasing area walkability
- allowing for safer, socially distanced dining
- offsetting the loss of indoor seating

Potential benefits perceived as being somewhat less important included:

- providing a greater sense of place
- bringing more people downtown
- contributing to environmental sustainability
- facilitating connections between neighbors

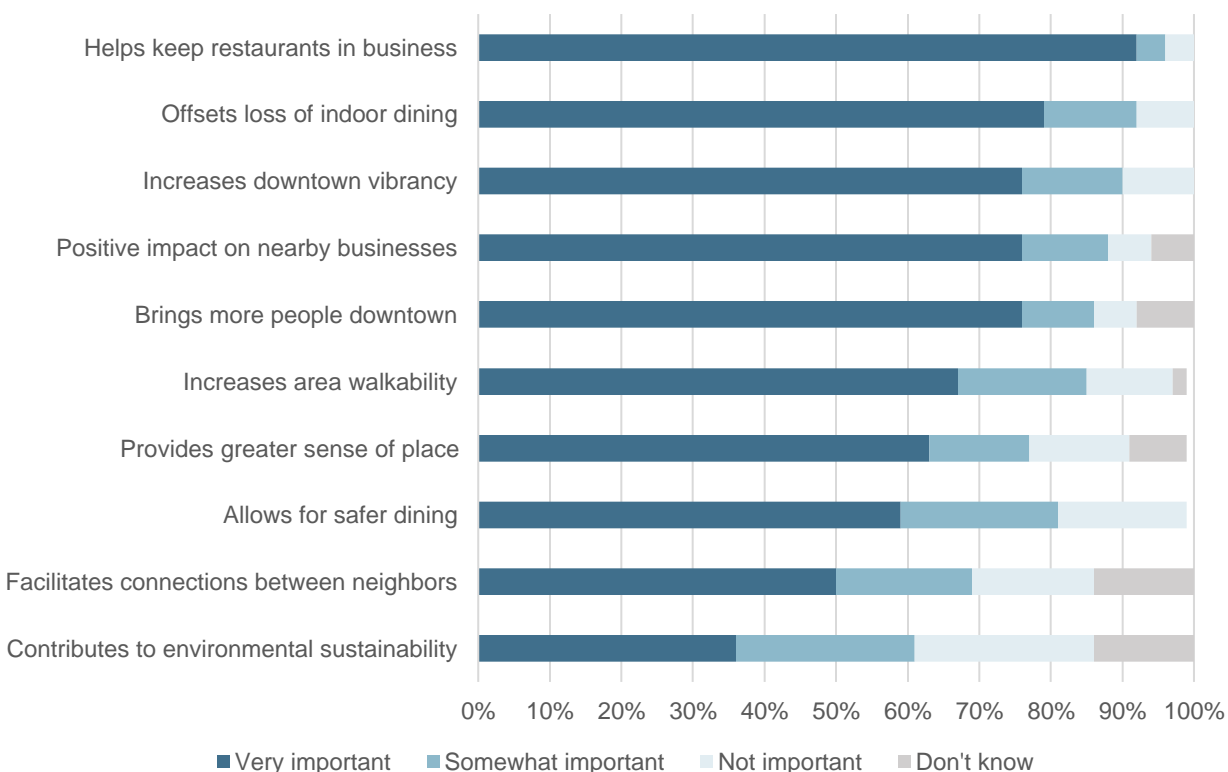
As the table below shows, there were some differences in the potential benefits considered most important by downtown businesses, residents, workers, and visitors.

<i>Please rate the importance of the following potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining</i>					
<b>Rated as “Very important”</b>	Restaurants	Other Businesses	Downtown Residents*	Downtown Workers**	Downtown Visitors***
Helps keep restaurants in business	92%	88%	91%	89%	86%
Increases vibrancy of downtown	76%	78%	82%	82%	85%
Positive impact on nearby businesses	76%	73%	78%	70%	68%
Increases area walkability	67%	66%	76%	71%	82%
Allows safer, socially distanced dining	59%	68%	72%	72%	83%
Offsets loss of indoor seating	79%	74%	73%	68%	72%
Provides greater sense of place	63%	63%	70%	68%	69%
Brings more people downtown	76%	73%	63%	58%	55%
Contributes to environmental sustainability	37%	45%	54%	55%	60%
Facilitates connections between neighbors	50%	56%	53%	45%	43%

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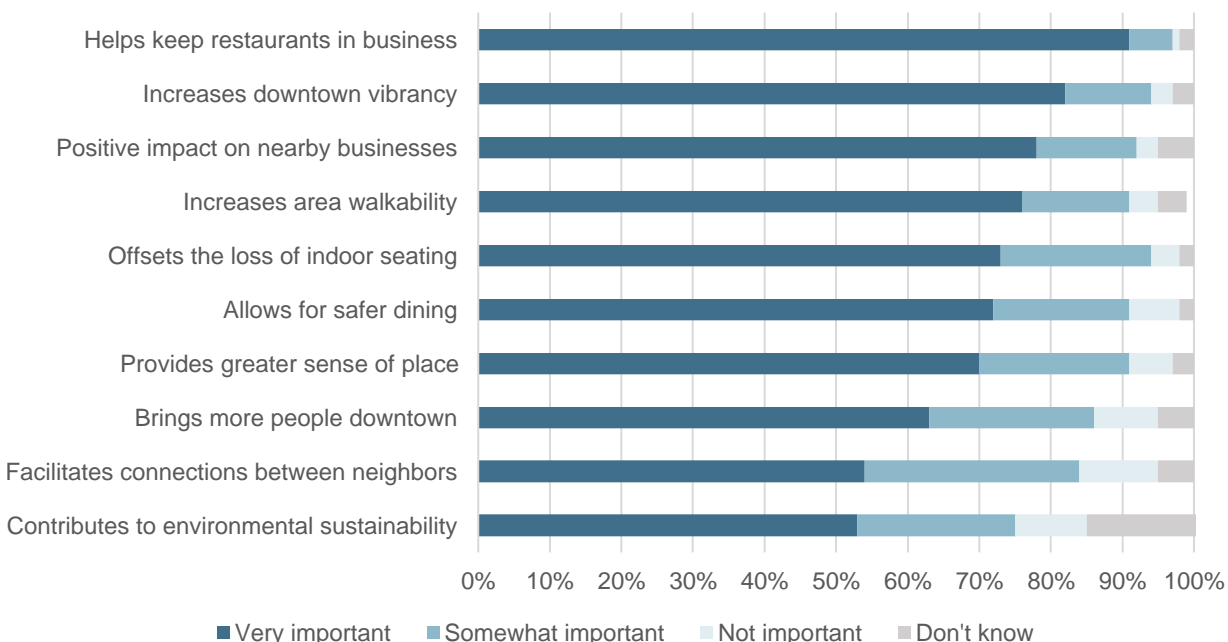
Restaurants indicated the most important benefits of expanded outdoor dining were helping to keep restaurants in business, offsetting the loss of indoor seating, impact on nearby businesses, increasing downtown vibrancy, and bringing more people downtown.

#### Importance of potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining programs (Downtown Restaurants)



Helping to keep restaurants in business, increasing downtown vibrancy, helping nearby businesses, and increasing area walkability were the most important benefits of expanded outdoor dining to downtown residents.

### Importance of potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining programs (Downtown Residents\*)



\*Live in downtown Boulder and do not represent a downtown business

### Other considerations related to expanded outdoor dining programs

Participants were provided a list of factors related to expanded outdoor dining programs and asked to rate their importance. Access, parking, and noise considerations were considered less important by those surveyed than potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining.

As the table below shows, there were differences among downtown businesses, residents, workers, and visitors in which considerations they felt were most important. As might be expected, visitors who didn't live or work in Boulder were generally less concerned with parking, access, or city revenues than residents, workers, or businesses.

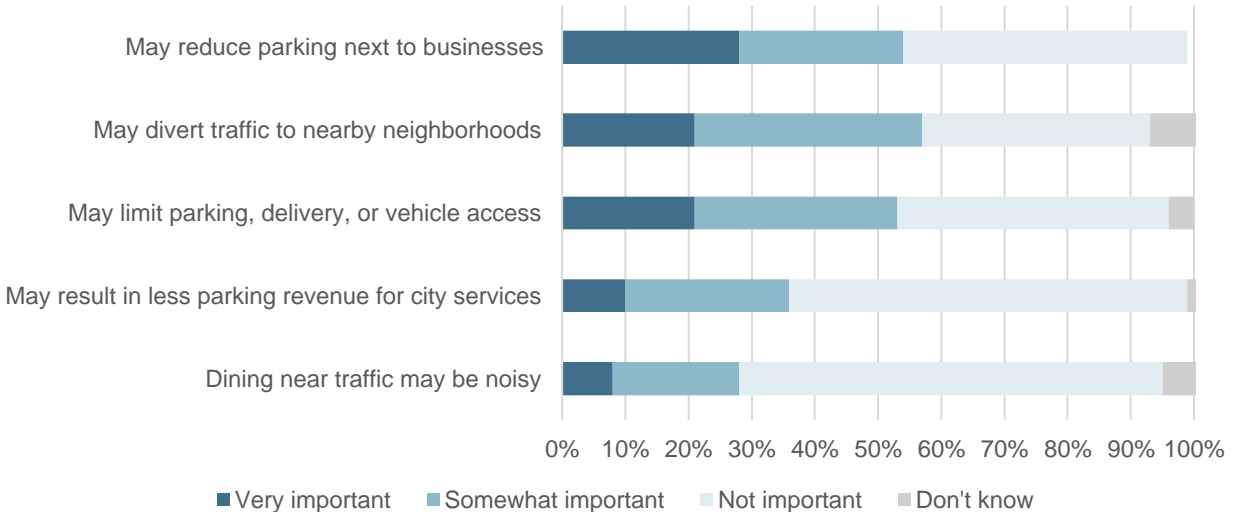
<i>Please rate the importance of the following potential benefits of expanded outdoor dining</i>					
<b>Rated as "Very important"</b>	Restaurants	Other Businesses	Downtown Residents*	Downtown Workers**	Downtown Visitors***
Dining near traffic may be noisy	8%	19%	14%	11%	14%
Limit parking, delivery, or vehicle access	21%	25%	10%	13%	8%
Divert traffic to nearby neighborhoods	21%	21%	13%	10%	7%
Reduce parking next to businesses	28%	25%	7%	10%	5%
Less parking revenue for city services	10%	13%	5%	4%	1%

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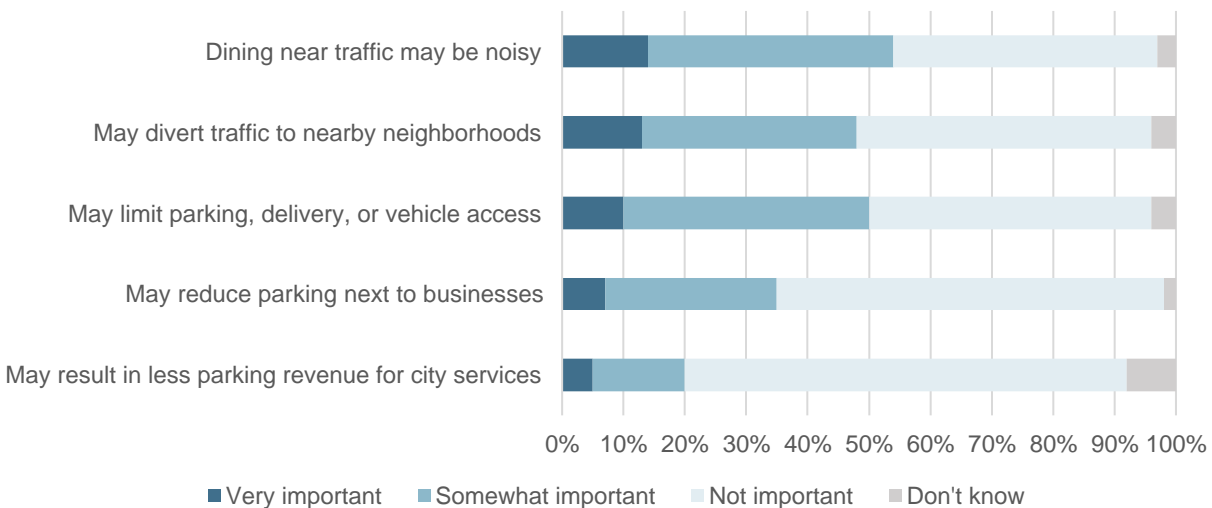
Restaurants indicated considerations related to expanded outdoor dining were the potential for reduced parking next to businesses, diversion of traffic to nearby neighborhoods, and limitations on parking, delivery or vehicle access were more important than the potential for reduced parking revenue or impact of traffic noise on diners.

### Importance of expanded outdoor dining considerations (Downtown Restaurants)



Downtown residents generally felt considerations related to impact of traffic noise on diners, diversion of traffic to nearby neighborhoods, and parking, delivery and vehicle access were more important than reduced parking next to businesses or reduced city parking revenue.

### Importance of expanded outdoor dining considerations (Downtown Residents\*)



*\*Live in downtown Boulder and do not represent a downtown business*

## Proposed Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program

The description below of a proposed downtown outdoor pilot program concept was shared with survey participants to help determine the relative importance of program components being explored and gauge restaurants' interest in participating in the pilot.

*The Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot program being considered by the Downtown Boulder Partnership and the City of Boulder would create parklets to provide outdoor dining areas in some public spaces including pedestrian areas, parking spaces, and alleys adjacent to participating restaurants.*

*Currently, the pilot is envisioned to be a 5-year program with parklets providing expanded outdoor seating from May 1 through October 31. Parklet infrastructure would be removed and stored from November through April.*

*Parklets would consist of platforms and panels that define outdoor dining areas and provide a barrier between diners and vehicle or pedestrian traffic. Parklets would have a consistent design throughout the downtown area and meet all city safety, access, and sustainability standards. Participating restaurants would pay a fee to lease the portion of the public right-of-way used for their outdoor dining space. Examples of parklets used in other communities are pictured below.*



## Importance of potential downtown outdoor dining pilot components

Downtown residents, businesses, workers, and visitors were provided a list of possible components of the pilot program. Those considered to be most important by all survey participants were:

- Providing equitable access to parklets for people of varied abilities
- Prohibiting structures that limit visibility or access to nearby businesses
- Prohibiting amplified sound from 10 p.m. to 11 a.m. daily in parklet areas
- Allowing parklets in curbside parking spaces
- Providing information about nearby parking locations
- Funding to offset a portion of parklet costs for participating restaurants

Other components were considered less important including:

- Offering the program on a seasonal basis (May through October)
- Not allowing non-service animals in outdoor dining locations where restricted
- Limiting the number or size of special events in areas where parklets are located

As the table below shows, there were some differences in how important downtown businesses, residents, workers, and visitors considered potential components of an outdoor dining pilot to be.

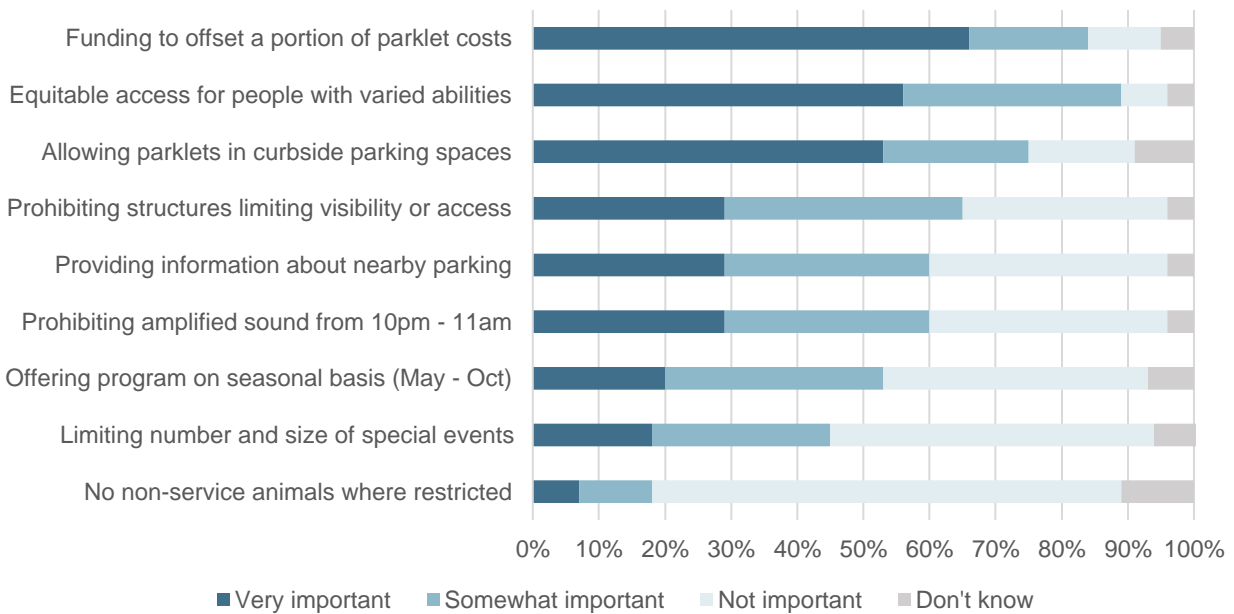
Restaurants rated funding to offset a portion of parklet costs, providing equitable access to parklets for people of varied abilities, and allowing parklets in curbside spaces as the most important components being explored.

Downtown residents rated equitable access for people with varied abilities, prohibiting amplified sound between 10 p.m. and 11 a.m. daily in parklet areas, allowing parklets in curbside spaces, and prohibiting structures that limit visibility or access to nearby businesses to be the most important components being considered for a potential outdoor dining pilot.

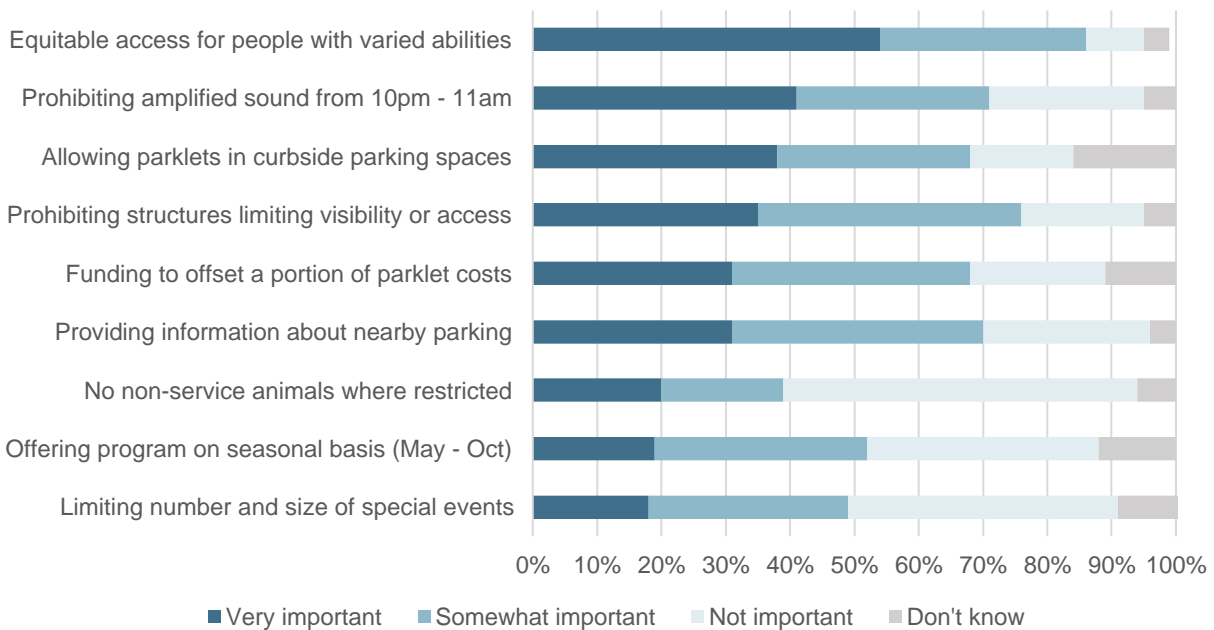
<i>How important are the following components being considered for the Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot program?</i>					
<b>Rated as “Very important”</b>	Restaurants	Other Businesses	Downtown Residents*	Downtown Workers**	Downtown Visitors***
Providing equitable access to parklets for people of varied abilities	56%	59%	54%	60%	64%
Prohibiting structures that limit visibility or access to nearby businesses	29%	53%	35%	35%	25%
Prohibiting amplified sound from 10pm to 11am in parklet areas	29%	39%	41%	28%	34%
Allowing parklets in curbside parking spaces	53%	35%	38%	35%	38%
Providing information about nearby parking locations	29%	41%	31%	38%	38%
Funding to offset a portion of parklet costs for participating restaurants	66%	45%	31%	31%	34%
Offering the program on a seasonal basis (May through October)	20%	31%	19%	20%	18%
Not allowing non-service animals in outdoor dining locations where restricted	7%	19%	20%	24%	16%
Limiting the number or size of special events in areas where parklets are located	18%	17%	18%	12%	12%

*\*Live in downtown Boulder and do not represent a downtown business; \*\*Work in or near downtown Boulder and do not live in or represent a downtown business; \*\*\*Visit downtown Boulder to shop or dine and do not live, work, or represent a business in downtown Boulder*

### Importance of potential outdoor dining pilot components (Downtown Restaurants)



### Importance of potential outdoor dining pilot components (Downtown Residents\*)

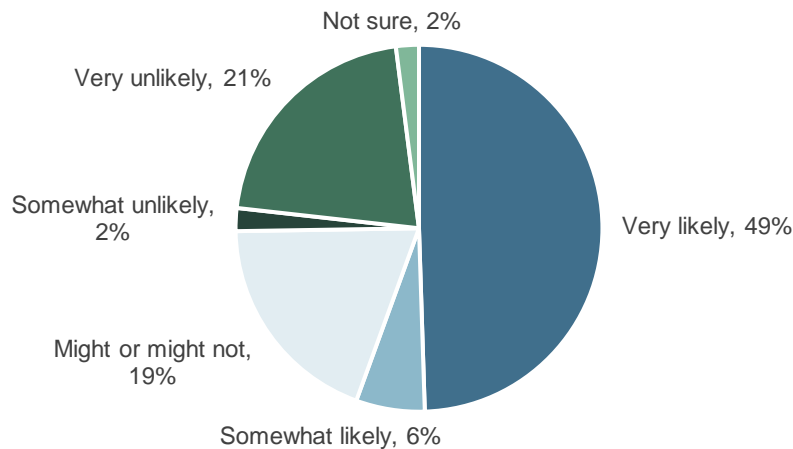


*\*Live in downtown Boulder and do not represent a downtown business*

## Likelihood of participating in potential downtown outdoor dining pilot program

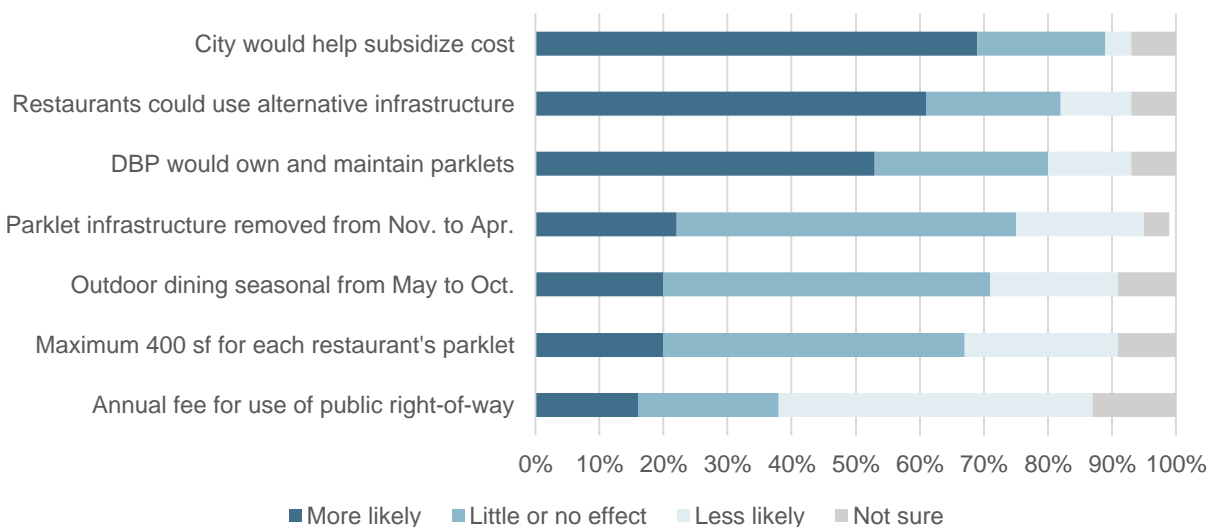
When asked about the likelihood of participating in the Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program based on the description provided, 49% of the restaurants indicated they were “very likely” and 6% were “somewhat likely” to participate while 2% were somewhat unlikely and 21% were “very unlikely” to participate in the program.

Likelihood of participating in Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program  
(Downtown Restaurants)



When asked about potential factors that might affect their decision to participate in the pilot program featuring parklets, over half the restaurants indicated they would be more likely to participate with a potential city subsidy to lower the cost; option to use alternative infrastructure that met city requirements; or ownership, installation, maintenance, and storage of the parklets by Downtown Boulder Partnership. Nearly half indicated the requirement to pay an annual fee to use the public right-of-way would make their restaurant less likely to participate in a pilot.

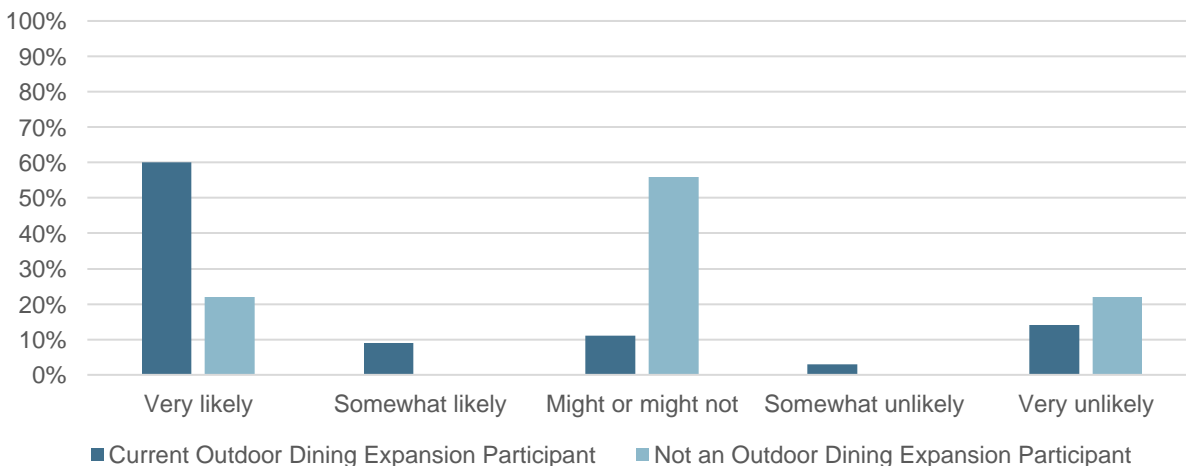
Impact on decision to participate in downtown pilot program  
(Downtown Restaurants)



<i>How would the following factors affect your restaurant's decision to participate in the program?</i>				
<b>Likelihood of participating</b>	<b>More likely</b>	<b>Little or no effect</b>	<b>Less likely</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
City of Boulder would help subsidize the cost of the pilot program	69%	20%	4%	7%
Restaurants could use other outdoor dining infrastructure that complies with city requirements	61%	21%	11%	7%
Downtown Boulder Partnership would own the parklets and take care of installation, maintenance, and storage	53%	27%	13%	7%
Parklet infrastructure would be removed to accommodate seasonal maintenance, parking, curbside pickup, etc. from Nov. 1 to Apr. 30	22%	53%	20%	4%
Parklet outdoor dining would be seasonal from May 1 to Oct. 31	20%	51%	20%	9%
Maximum area for each restaurant's parklet would be 400 square feet	20%	47%	24%	9%
Restaurants using public right-of-way (pedestrian or vehicle) for outdoor dining would pay annual fee based on square footage used	16%	22%	49%	13%

There was a significant difference in pilot program interest among restaurants currently participating in the city's current temporary outdoor dining expansion program and non-participants. Sixty percent (60%) of current program participants indicated they were "very likely" to participate in the proposed new program. By comparison, only 22% of restaurants not in the current program were "very likely" to participate and 56% indicated they "might or might not" participate in a pilot.

Likelihood of Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program participation  
by current program participation



<i>Based on the description above, how likely is your restaurant to participate in a Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program?</i>			
<b>“Very Likely”</b>	All Restaurants	Current Participant	Not a Participant
Very likely	49%	60%	22%
Somewhat likely	6%	9%	--
Might or might not	19%	11%	56%
Somewhat unlikely	23%	3%	--
Very unlikely	21%	14%	22%
Not sure	2%	3%	--

The most frequently mentioned factors that would make restaurants more likely to participate in the pilot program were a city subsidy to reduce the cost of the program for restaurants (69%), ability to use outdoor dining infrastructure other than parklets that met city requirements (61%), and Downtown Boulder Partnership ownership and maintenance of parklets (53%).

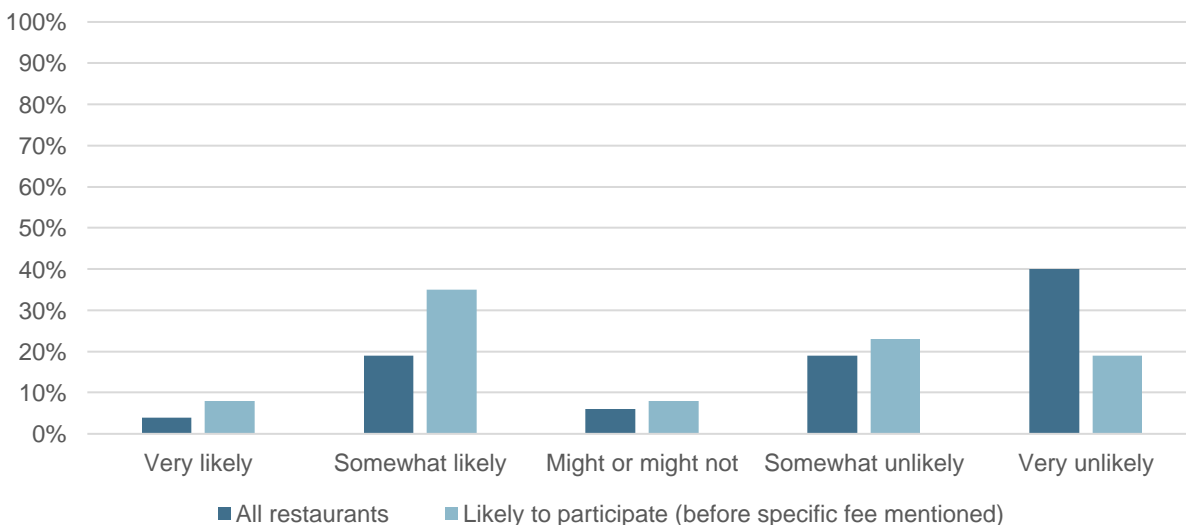
<i>How would the following factors affect your restaurant's decision to participate in the program?</i>			
<b>“More Likely” to Participate</b>	All Restaurants	Participant in Current Program	Not a Participant in Current Program
City of Boulder would help subsidize the cost of the pilot program	69%	74%	63%
Restaurants could use other outdoor dining infrastructure that complies with city requirements	61%	65%	63%
Downtown Boulder Partnership would own the parklets and take care of installation, maintenance, and storage	53%	57%	38%
Parklet infrastructure would be removed to accommodate seasonal maintenance, parking, curbside pickup, etc. from Nov. 1 to Apr. 30	22%	20%	25%
Parklet outdoor dining would be seasonal from May 1 to Oct. 31	20%	17%	25%
Maximum area for each restaurant's parklet would be 400 square feet	20%	20%	25%
Restaurants using public right-of-way (pedestrian or vehicle) for outdoor dining would pay annual fee based on square footage used	16%	17%	13%

Factors most frequently mentioned that would make restaurants less likely to participate in the pilot was an annual fee (based on the square footage used) for restaurants using pedestrian or vehicle public right-of-way for outdoor dining (49%), 400 sq. ft. area maximum allowed for parklets (24%), and seasonal aspect of the pilot (20%).

<i>How would the following factors affect your restaurant's decision to participate in the program?</i>			
<b>"Less Likely" to Participate</b>	All Restaurants	Participant in Current Program	Not a Participant in Current Program
Restaurants using public right-of-way (pedestrian or vehicle) for outdoor dining would pay annual fee based on square footage used	49%	51%	25%
Maximum area for each restaurant's parklet would be 400 square feet	24%	26%	--
Parklet outdoor dining would be seasonal from May 1 to Oct. 31	20%	23%	--
Parklet infrastructure would be removed to accommodate seasonal maintenance, parking, curbside pickup, etc. from Nov. 1 to Apr. 30	20%	26%	--
Downtown Boulder Partnership would own the parklets and take care of installation, maintenance, and storage	13%	17%	--
Restaurants could use other outdoor dining infrastructure that complies with city requirements	11%	9%	--
City of Boulder would help subsidize the cost of the pilot program	4%	6%	--

At an annual cost of \$50/square foot to lease a parklet for outdoor seating, including the lease of the public right-of-way, installation, maintenance, and storage of parklet panels and platforms (\$10,000/year for a 10' x 20' parklet), less than one-fourth of all restaurants surveyed indicated they were likely to participate in the pilot program. That figure increased to 43% for restaurants that indicated they were likely to participate in the pilot prior to having specific cost information.

Likelihood of Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program participation  
at \$50/square foot annually





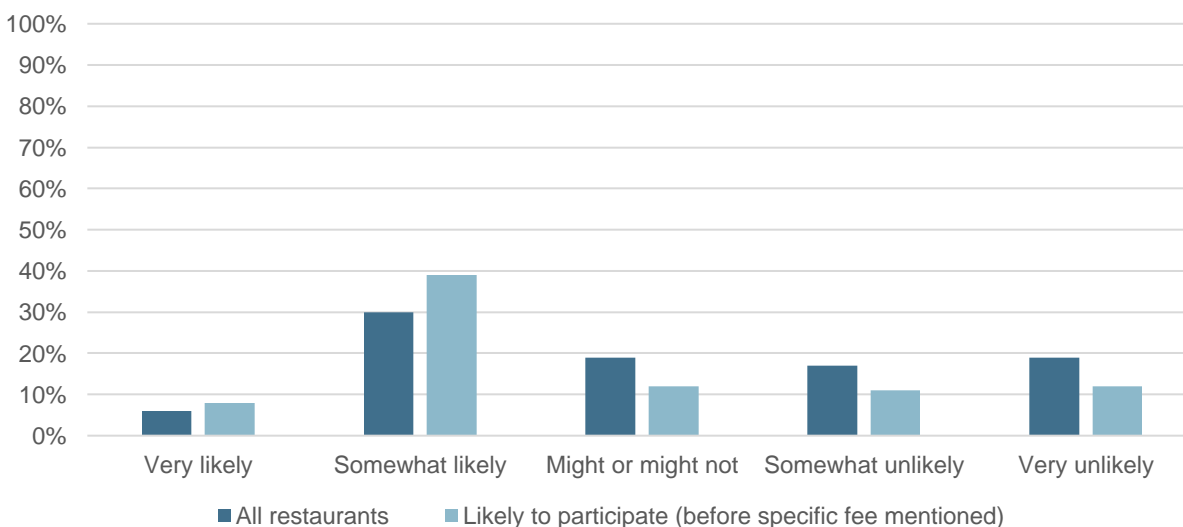
*If the annual cost to lease a parklet for outdoor seating (including lease of public right-of-way, installation, maintenance, and storage of parklet panels and platforms) was \$50 per square foot or \$10,000/year for a 10' x 20' parklet, how likely would your restaurant be to participate in the pilot program?*

<b>Likelihood of participating at \$50/SF</b>	All restaurants	Likely to participate in pilot*
Very likely	4%	8%
Somewhat likely	19%	35%
Might or might not	6%	8%
Somewhat unlikely	19%	23%
Very unlikely	40%	19%
Not sure	11%	8%

\*Restaurants "very likely" or "somewhat likely" to participate in proposed pilot program based on description without specific cost information

If the city was able to subsidize the pilot program and the cost to restaurants was reduced to an annual cost of \$35/sq. ft. (\$7,000/year for a 10' x 20' parklet), 36% of all restaurants were at least somewhat likely to participate in the pilot. Among restaurants expressing interest in the program prior to having specific cost information, 61% indicated they were likely to participate.

Likelihood of Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program participation  
at \$35/square foot annually



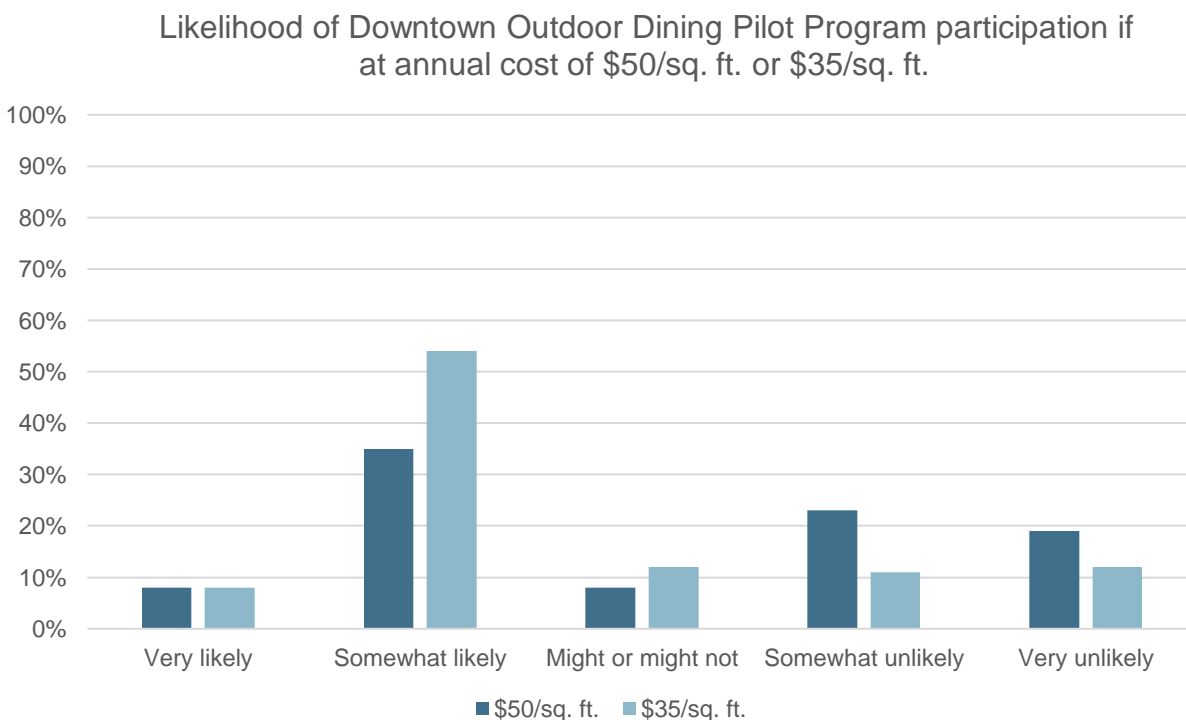
*If the City of Boulder was able to subsidize the cost of the pilot program and the annual cost for a restaurant to lease a parklet was \$35 per square foot or \$7,000/year for a 10' x 20' parklet, how likely would you be to participate in the program? \**

<b>Likelihood of participating at \$35/SF</b>	All restaurants	Likely to participate in pilot**
Very likely	6%	8%
Somewhat likely	30%	54%
Might or might not	19%	12%
Somewhat unlikely	17%	11%
Very unlikely	19%	12%
Not sure	9%	3%

\*Note: Question only asked of restaurants not likely to participate at \$50/sq.ft.; totals were recalculated to include restaurants that would participate in program at annual cost of \$50/sq.ft.

\*\*Restaurants "very likely" or "somewhat likely" to participate in proposed pilot program based on description without specific cost information

The chart below compares the likelihood of participation in the pilot at an annual fee of \$50/sq. ft. and \$35/sq. ft. (43% and 61%, respectively) among restaurants who indicated they were likely to participate prior to having specific cost information.



Restaurants “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to participate in proposed pilot program based on description without specific cost information		
Likelihood of participating	\$50/square foot*	\$35/square foot**
Very likely	8%	8%
Somewhat likely	35%	54%
Might or might not	8%	12%
Somewhat unlikely	23%	11%
Very unlikely	19%	12%
Not sure	8%	3%

\*If the annual cost to lease a parklet for outdoor seating (including lease of public right-of-way, installation, maintenance, and storage of parklet panels and platforms) was \$50 per square foot or \$10,000/year for a 10' x 20' parklet, how likely would your restaurant be to participate in the pilot program?

\*\*[Asked if respondent not likely to participate at \$50/sq. ft.] If the City of Boulder was able to subsidize the cost of the pilot program and the annual cost for a restaurant to lease a parklet was \$35 per square foot or \$7,000/year for a 10' x 20' parklet, how likely would you be to participate in the program?

While the survey questionnaire did not specifically address the temporary closure of West Pearl Street to accommodate temporary expanded outdoor dining, many survey participants provided comments which reflected a mix of opinions on the street closure. Their feedback is included with other verbatim comments received from survey participants in the appendix to this report.

## Conclusions

Responses from the individuals who participated in the City of Boulder and Downtown Boulder Partnership online survey indicate there is interest in outdoor dining and a range of opinions among downtown businesses, residents, workers, and visitors.

Most of those surveyed felt the temporary expansion of outdoor dining in downtown Boulder has been positive, increasing the vibrancy of downtown while helping to keep restaurants in business and having a positive impact on nearby businesses. Many survey participants reported expanded outdoor dining has improved their experience living, working, or visiting downtown and feel it has had a positive impact on walkability and sense of place. Other benefits include providing safer, socially distanced dining and encouraging positive social interactions.

The survey also received negative feedback about the current outdoor dining expansion including concerns about parking and traffic challenges, the aesthetics of current structures and their impact on visibility and access to other businesses, noise issues, and lack of equity for businesses unable to participate in the program.

Many survey participants felt there were many important considerations for a potential Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program including assuring equitable access for people of varied abilities in parklets and the impact on residents and businesses in the area.

Although not a good fit for every restaurant, survey findings indicate some are interested in a downtown outdoor dining pilot, particularly if the city were to subsidize the cost, parklets would be owned and maintained by the Downtown Boulder Partnership, and there was an option to use alternative infrastructure to define outdoor dining areas. Survey findings suggest a willingness to pay a fee to participate in the program, especially among those participating in the city's current expanded outdoor dining program. While there was some interest at an annual cost of \$50/square foot for leasing the public right-of-way and installation, maintenance, and storage of parklet infrastructure, there is likely to be more participation at \$35/square foot.

## Appendix

The following are verbatim comments from survey participants. Each question is listed, along with responses from the following:

- Restaurants in downtown Boulder
- Other Businesses in downtown Boulder
- Residents (who indicated they did not also represent a business in downtown Boulder)
- Workers (who indicated they did not also live in or represent a downtown business)
- Visitors (who indicated they did not live, work, or represent a business in downtown Boulder)

### Question [asked of businesses only]: In general, how would you describe the impact of the temporary outdoor dining expansion program on your business? Comments

Restaurant	<i>West Pearl Should be closed for cars April-November, then opened up for parking November-March.</i>
Restaurant	<i>I feel like it's time to end the outdoor expansion program and go back to a normal means of business, so those that don't have access to the extra expansion space can have a better chance of surviving for the foreseeable future with a more level playing ground!</i>
Restaurant	<i>I think it's important for West Pearl to reopen to through traffic. Our businesses are choked off since the closure.</i>
Restaurant	<i>It's been amazing</i>
Restaurant	<i>The obstruction of traffic, mixed with the amount of construction between Broadway and 11th is deterring guests from visiting the downtown area. Although necessary and helpful while occupancy was restricted it is no longer needed or in most cases used.</i>
Restaurant	<i>You are creating an uneven playing field for restaurants. Restaurants that have signed leases on small spaces, and are paying small space rent, are benefiting from free expanded seating. Business is being driven to certain area of downtown and pulling from other areas. When Covid goes, so should the free ride.</i>
Restaurant	<i>I think it's a great option for places on Pearl street to have an outdoor option as long as they are well-maintained. Outdoor dining is great, but I think the tents and enclosures look like trash. Even the nice ones like My Neighbor Felix. It'd be great for Boulder to return to normal, and it will never feel normal as long as there are tents on the street. Picnic tables and umbrellas look natural, but would be better on a brick patio instead of parking spaces.</i>
Restaurant	<i>This program is not only fun for guests, but brings new life to downtown. It turns "I'm going to restaurant x to eat," to "I'm going to downtown to eat." It's more social and benefits more than just restaurants downtown</i>
Restaurant	<i>I appreciate the additional seating allowed for restaurants in the summer months to make up for lost revenue. Pearl street being closed to traffic adds vibrancy. In colder months, the outdoor dining is an eye sore and never gets used. I think the program should be seasonal and focus only on summer month</i>
Restaurant	<i>Unlike other business, restaurants' gross revenues are limited to menu prices and number of guests dining in the restaurant. The outdoor dining gave our restaurant a surviving chance to make it through the pandemic when indoor capacities were restricted. Furthermore, the outdoor dining space allowed our team to create a unique experience for our guests further showcasing downtown Boulder's creative arts and innovation. Travel to San Diego or San Francisco and you will find vibrant outdoor dining scenes that increase foot traffic to all businesses and create a more community-driven dynamic downtown. Boulder is a community in support of the arts and these unique outdoor dining spaces allow business to be innovative and creative adding to the Boulder scene. There are several public parking garages and parking lots in downtown Boulder. Parking is rarely an issue. Restaurants collect and remit sales tax based on sales. The revenue generated from outdoor dining is providing more sales tax revenue to the state of CO and</i>

	<p>Boulder than the current parking spaces would provide. Parking also comes with increased labor expenses of the city to monitor and collect. Let the restaurants collect the income for you in the form of sales tax. Our restaurant alone generated \$6-7k in Boulder sales tax (not including CO sales tax), from our outdoor dining spaces each month. That's significant revenue to Boulder and I can almost guarantee it's more profitable than the parking revenue. There is concern about the cost of the program and how much additional cost businesses will incur on top of the proposed fees in maintaining and "re-building" the space each year. The proposed fees by the city are more than many leases on Pearl Street on \$/sq. ft. basis. That makes no sense to charge a business more for the parking space out front than they pay for the leased building. Another concern is that one "generic" or "sterile" design for all spaces removes creativity and innovation. Other cities are allowing each business to create a unique space to their business. Businesses (especially restaurants) are built around brands and concepts. Creating a unique outdoor space that matches your brand and concept is critical for success. This seems to be a similar deal as parking... Boulder caring more about turning outdoor dining into a profit center than supporting the businesses that occupy Downtown Boulder. Please consider the additional sales tax revenue generated from outdoor dining. Also, at our restaurant, the outdoor dining spaces require additional employees (it's as if it was a separate dining room). Curbing outdoor dining or making it a profit center for the city is egregious and anti-business. Take away outdoor dining and you're taking away jobs and considerable sales tax revenue to the city and state. The pandemic has shifted human life and what people want out of their cities and towns. Outdoor dining spaces are desirable and if implemented properly can transform a city into a creative environment where indoor and outdoor retail experiences flow naturally and all community members benefit. Businesses like many things in life are not uniform and have varying needs. Boulder has the responsibility to provide equitable restrictions and accessibility guidelines for all businesses participating in outdoor dining but with enough flexibility that businesses can create and innovate a space that's right for them. In fact, it's the collection of businesses in Downtown Boulder that create the culture and dynamic of a desirable downtown, not the sterile parking spaces on the street. Who needs parking if there's no reason to visit Downtown Boulder? I ask that Downtown Boulder prioritize businesses when it comes to outdoor dining rather than look for an opportunity to create their own business of building, storing, and designing outdoor spaces for a profit at the detriment of businesses and their employees.</p>
Restaurant	We paid over \$11,000 in sales tax in the month of December 2021 from outside dining.
Restaurant	Unlike other business, restaurants' gross revenues are limited to menu prices and number of guests dining in the restaurant. The outdoor dining gave our restaurant a surviving chance to make it through the pandemic when indoor capacities were restricted. Furthermore, the outdoor dining space allowed our team to create a unique experience for our guests further showcasing downtown Boulder's creative arts and innovation.
Restaurant	We would not have made it through the pandemic without the outdoor dining. Customers tell us all the time that they come to Boulder specific ally because there is expanded outdoor dining.
Restaurant	Our outdoor dining spaces have been a god sent. Over the past 2 plus years with the varying degree's of the pandemic the outdoor spaces have allowed us to maintain a high standard of service while having multiple dining options for our guests.
Restaurant	Love it in the Summer, but would like the street back for the winter.
Restaurant	The outdoor dining program quite literally saved our business last summer. I also believed it added a vibrancy to the whole downtown area that would be amazing to keep going and expand upon moving forward
Restaurant	Perception that downtown is closed and has no parking, and without offices being occupied, and perception of not being accessible, day time traffic is low and night time traffic is non existent after 8:00 pm.
Restaurant	Unlike other business, restaurants' gross revenues are limited to menu prices and number of guests dining in the restaurant. The outdoor dining gave our restaurant a surviving chance to

	<i>make it through the pandemic when indoor capacities were restricted. Furthermore, the outdoor dining space allowed our team to create a unique experience for our guests further showcasing downtown Boulder's creative arts and innovation.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>When I see a city with lots of well curated outdoor dining it tells me that the priority of the city is the people and culture</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>We ask that if west Pearl is shut to traffic permanently you will provide grants to assist those of us who are not in that area and are required to provide heavy and quite expensive traffic barriers.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>limited accessibility and parking</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>We were kicked in the teeth as a business for quite some time. This program helped provide some sales when we had no indoor options and continued to supplement when indoor dining came available. We are still not at past years' sales numbers, so we are definitely invested in making this a more permanent option.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>The additional outdoor seating has been extremely helpful in maintaining guest visitation during the pandemic.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>We have a small inside dining area and this allowed customers to enjoy the outdoors, dine, and relax. Who doesn't like to sit outside, Stare at Colorado, and enjoy good food and a Beer?</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Driving and parking, or the illusion of parking, makes downtown busier. Restaurants are on the ends of the walking mall for a reason - it's harder for them to survive on the Mall.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I like having the option to eat outside in larger spaces during the week. I've heard on the weekend the area is really buzzing with energy that would not have been there during the pandemic had it not been for outdoor dining.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>It's an eye sore and the parking and natural movement that is available has been hurt</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I just don't see how it's actually helped restaurants, especially in the past year. the tent blocking my business storefront and making it feel like a claustrophobic tunnel is unsightly and annoying. the sun reflects off the tent and glares in my store. however, down on west pearl...I think blocking off for street dining helps foot traffic tremendously. I just despise the tents. it also blocks loading zones and parking spots. I have to park a block away to bring product into my store since we transfer it over from our warehouse. the alley isn't large enough and I need our loading zone back.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Very little of my business is generated by foot traffic.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>At our last location on the hill, we were limited by outdoor seating abilities. If we are able to relocate to Pearl, we would like to utilize outdoor seating, with an energy efficient, comfortable, and ADA compliant approach.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I am on the east end where there are few restaurants, none of which are open in the evening.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Has given life to Boulder and is nice to be able to eat outside</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Daikon had occupied 919 Pearl Street, they vacated because business was so bad. They relied on drive up/pick up/walk up traffic and that could not happen with the street closure. There is no standard for exterior restaurant set up, some of it is very nice while other set ups are pretty terrible. Without the social distancing requirement, the additional capacity means additional customers and in most cases the kitchens were not designed to accommodate this capacity. The street closure makes accessing the roof to repair/replace RTUs impossible. We are unable to maintain the building correctly without this access and it is impacting our ability to lease office space. If this were a permanent condition a lot more thought needs to go into: guidelines on set up/lighting/signage, building repair access from the ROW, City maintenance in the street/landscaping/drainage. There are liabilities with set ups everywhere because businesses don't have standards to comply with. It was a nice effort in the beginning to support the restaurants but long term with the current parameters we are hearing that it is not beneficial for our tenants. One question - how is the fire department able to access if there was an emergency?? Fortunately we haven't had this scenario but that would be a real problem.</i>

Other Business	<i>Our business does not depend upon walk in traffic, unlike restaurants and food services. The street closure does make parking more difficult for our clients.</i>
Other Business	<i>With the economic toll that restaurants have faced, along with a persistent need to mitigate pandemic spread, I'm highly in favor of continuing the outdoor dining allowances - to the point where they are permanent.</i>
Other Business	<i>Before the vaccine, I was for outdoor dining and what it was doing for our community. It now feels like it is time for us to open the streets back up and get all the "trash" (home depot buckets filled with cement, circus tents, flying plastic chairs when it's windy) out of our downtown. We need to wake it up, and let cars flow back through. What I hear from residents who come into the shop, I believe this is the sentiment all around. Enough is enough. It looks like an apocalypse downtown. We are better than this. I am particularly speaking about the West end. I'm even for opening just one lane, and making restrictions for how the outdoor dining can look (so it is at least pretty).</i>
Other Business	<i>We don't have much walk in traffic, and have only been downtown since October 2021.</i>
Other Business	<i>This is a huge improvement to downtown Boulder and we are hoping that making this permanent will allow restaurants to make their outdoor structures nicer and more pleasing to the eye.</i>
Other Business	<i>Overall I like the outdoor dining situation but feel that some restaurants on the west end are causing more clutter and congestion than they need to. I suggest that restaurants on the west end move outdoor seating entirely into the street to free up space on the sidewalk. The sidewalks become impassable at times.</i>
Other Business	<i>The outdoor dining is great! Pearl definitely feels more open and safer without as much traffic</i>
Other Business	<i>I would welcome a more permanent outdoor setup on Pearl Street between 9th and 11th street and also along walnut street. I think outdoor dining is a winner! We are on the corner of 9th and Walnut...</i>
Other Business	<i>We are not impacted revenue wise either way. But my restaurant neighbors on west end feel it is negative. I am concerned about access for fire and p.d., as well as negative for our handicapped patients. Don't want restaurants affected by lack of access for takeout. I would like the west end returned to precovid traffic.</i>
Other Business	<i>The vibrancy created with increased outdoor dining and additional road closures has greatly improved the experience of working in the downtown area.</i>
Other Business	<i>PLEASE keep outdoor dining in the street in downtown Boulder and BAN all cars downtown.</i>
Other Business	<i>I love outdoor dining. It's one of the few positive things that came out of Covid. Please keep/expand it! I also like how 2 additional blocks of Pearl Street are closed to car traffic. Makes the city feel more vibrant and walkable.</i>
Other Business	<i>More crowded, fewer places for buskers, harder to walk down the mall</i>
Other Business	<i>Our business is in personal services but many of our clients frequent Downtown Boulder and appreciate the ability to dine outdoors at their favorite restaurants.</i>
Other Business	<i>No effect on our business, but as a patron of Downtown Boulder, I am more likely to dine when I can sit outdoors.</i>
Other Business	<i>Clients complaining of lack of parking. Umbrellas, chairs, pots, ropes, fences, make shift dividers etc flying around in wind on so many occasions. General look of disarray and lack of cohesion... very flea market feeling...each establishment has their own look (or lack there of) and degree to which they are able to care for their outdoor space. During winter months the vibe is rather bleak with snow and heaps of snow/ piled chairs/sand bags/dead planter pots... very few people sitting in massive empty tents. It does not add to a feeling of vitality and exuberance of high end retail shopping &amp; dining. Dec-March is not a time for outdoor dining in Colorado.</i>
Other Business	<i>I think it's time to clean up all the tables and clutter and go back to the way things were. I pay a lot more rent to be on the pedestrian part of the mall and it doesn't seem fair that some are paying less rent but benefiting from the transition to a pedestrian mall. Perhaps in the summer months we can work something out but during the winter it just looks cluttered and abandoned.</i>

Other Business	<i>Snooze located right by my shop has continued to bring us amazing morning foot traffic due to how many customers they are able to serve everyday. Keep up the expansion for outdoor seating as long as you can. Thanks!</i>
Other Business	<i>Keep it up. We've in a new normal and everyone is rethinking how they live and their priorities</i>
Other Business	<i>No More restrictions please.</i>
Other Business	<i>I have a retail business surrounded by restaurants. The expanded outdoor dining program has allowed many restaurants to remain open and employing people in our community. While some restaurants on the west end of the mall have closed, the outdoor dining program has increased foot traffic to the west end while eliminating less than a dozen parking spots. The increase in foot traffic has resulted in an increase in retail business and therefore an increase in tax revenue for the city.</i>
Other Business	<i>Overall, I think the outdoor dining is great. People are happy when they can eat outdoors and walk around in pedestrianized areas.</i>
Other Business	<i>I view the outdoor dining expansion program as a business driver to our retail store</i>
Other Business	<i>We are on the east end of Pearl, and not effected by the outdoor dining. Regardless, the outdoor dining expansion program appears to be a wonderful asset to Downtown Boulder operations.</i>
Other Business	<i>This has really brought a better feel to downtown. West Pearl has become the place to be.</i>
Other Business	<i>Parking challenges, more homeless people, more crime</i>
Other Business	<i>We discuss this on tours and every single guest, local or visitor, says they love the outdoor cafe-style feel downtown has, especially in the west end.</i>
Other Business	<i>It has taken away parking in front of the stores/restaurants that our customers have commented that has made it harder to come to our store/restaurants on the west end</i>
Other Business	<i>I don't eat indoors, so the option to eat outdoors or in solo bubbles is very helpful.</i>
Other Business	<i>St Julien Hotel &amp; Spa has outside dining with no need to expand our areas.</i>
Other Business	<i>Outdoor dining encourages more community and interaction.</i>
Other Business	<i>Outside dining has been great, except when it is winter. I don't see many folks eating outside when it is cold.</i>
Other Business	<i>The opportunity for businesses to expand and create more "walking" portions of our Downtown, has been effective for health reasons and monetary reasons. I understand there may be some discrepancies and headaches for those who are unable to park in front of a business to deliver, etc., but the overall community impact has "saved" downtown.</i>
Other Business	<i>PLEASE don't take it away--we love the ambiance that the outdoor dining has created and the impact to traffic patterns seems inconsequential! Please make outdoor dining permanent!</i>
Other Business	<i>Please make the temporary dining *permanent*. The dining and outdoor space is far more useful to the community than the street and parking ever were, especially on Pearl between the Mall and 9th Street. The foot traffic and "place to hang" does far more good for the businesses on that section of Pearl than the street and traffic ever did.</i>
Other Business	<i>Keep it open!</i>
Other Business	<i>the lack of parking on the west end during cold winter months when no one is using the outside dining is a negative for many of our clients. Speaking from the West End, I consider outdoor dining unnecessary---an unwanted cost burden to small/local business</i>
Other Business	<i>Reduces the visibility of my store.</i>
Other Business	<i>parking is an issue for my clients</i>
Other Business	<i>I really like the extra space and closure on Pearl. It works very well.</i>
Other Business	<i>It has not changed our business but has been nice to have more outdoor lunch and dining options available to our staff.</i>
Other Business	<i>It's suicide for business to go back to all indoor dining.</i>
Other Business	<i>Parking close in and handicap parking are too far away.</i>
Other Business	<i>Some places (e.g. Hapa, Japango) did a really good job integrating with pearl and their outdoor dining looks intentional, but some of the restaurants further west struggled to do so given they were quite literally building on parking spots and the paved road. I'd suggest looking at Kirkland,</i>



	<i>Washington as inspiration for how roadblocks can be lifted and dropped based on the time of day to create a pedestrian vs. regular road. Maybe by installing something similar and bricking between 10th and 11th we could create a flex use of that road. Basically a road during business hours that's blocked off to be a pedestrian extension to pearl after hours and on weekends.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>no one wants to come downtown to eat because there is no parking on this side of town. who in the heck wants to sit outside in the winter, plus its very inconvenient to get take out or shop when you can't park close to that store or restaurant</i>

**Question: How has the temporary dining expansion program contributed to your experience living, working, or visiting downtown Boulder in the past year? Other**

<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Boulder looks like a mess</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Has negatively contributed to my downtown experience.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Inaccessible, harder to access downtown.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Mixed depending on time of the year</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>effective and helpful until occupancy restrictions were lifted.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>sucks, no access and parking</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>It has diminished my experience slightly but I want the restaurants to thrive so I'm willing to deal with it.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Like I said, at first it was good. I now believe it should be done.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>No choice for anything that isn't positive?</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>We hear from our tenants, it has not been positive for them. Everyone enjoys sitting outside for a meal, but the programing is lacking. If there was a way to program the outdoor seating in a more organized fashion this could be a great quality for restaurants.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Worse - decreased my experience</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>blocking visibility to my retail store - negative impact which is not mentioned (not considered) in your above options.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>it is a constant source of embarrassment to run a high end retail business that looks our over establishments that do not have the staff, energy or resources to manage their outdoor spaces adequately during the winter months. A general flea market vibe that does not reflect our high end rent.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>its fine in the summer but makes no sense in the winter</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>restaurants don't seem to have the staffing to keep up with outdoor dining.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>was necessary during early pandemic, so a positive considering the moment but as the weather has gotten colder it feels unnecessary</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>we frequent restaurants and never want to sit outside to be honest.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>See above. Intensifies stress and difficulty of living near Pearl.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Haven't been downtown much.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Having an immune compromised child who only recently became eligible for the vaccine, meant we have been quarantined for two years. On the rare occasion, when business was slow, we stopped to take advantage of an outdoor dining treat. It was a luxury we have missed and were grateful was available even the little we have been able to indulge.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I wouldn't eat at restaurants without it.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>It's been nice to NOT have cars for an extra couple of blocks downtown.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>It's giving noise makers a constant audience whether they're willing or not</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Just moved here, don't know before</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Parking has increased on our street due to no parking on Pearl. Also delivery trucks on 10th St not great.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>The closure of the street has had negative impact for our family</i>

Resident	We have stopped visiting and shopping downtown because there is no enforcement of Covid masks and vaccinations. Too many visitors for vaccination resistance states and counties.
Resident	in the way. no longer necessary. an eye sore.
Worker	Negative improvement. This is bad survey design by the way since the only possible answers are neutral or positive
Worker	Some negative effect
Worker	my experience has been fairly negative. wind, unpleasant smells, and a lot of noise. Poor service in some locations as well.
Worker	parking is harder to find
Worker	somewhat less positive
Visitor	We only eat outdoors year-round, or we eat at home

**Question: What other benefits, if any, do expanded outdoor dining programs provide to the community?**

Restaurant	None at this time. Going back to normal and even playing ground is more important.
Restaurant	This section of survey seems biased or flawed as the question assumes the program has benefits or no benefits. It neglects to consider or asks for negative impacts.
Restaurant	It helped to offset loss of business due to occupancy restriction however in some areas west of 11th especially the parking, traffic and construction are detrimental to business
Restaurant	Some restaurants do a great job with their set up. Some rely heavily on their outdoor dining to sustain enough business. Those places seem to take great care of their outdoor patios, and shouldn't be stripped of them for the few places that don't care.
Restaurant	Travel to San Diego or San Francisco and you will find vibrant outdoor dining scenes that increase foot traffic to all business and create a more community-driven dynamic downtown. Boulder is a community in support of the arts and these unique outdoor dining spaces allow business to be innovate and creative adding to the Boulder scene.
Restaurant	Keeps our local business community thriving, providing jobs for our employees and sustaining the greater community at large - vendors, suppliers, etc. Our company in boulder has around 100 employees alone and has been open for 18 years. Outdoor dining has been pivotal in our survival. A significant portion of diners are still not ready to return to indoor dining but will opt for outdoor dining options. We must consider this part of our community.
Restaurant	Unlike other business, restaurants' gross revenues are limited to menu prices and number of guests dining in the restaurant. The outdoor dining gave our restaurant a surviving chance to make it through the pandemic when indoor capacities were restricted. Furthermore, the outdoor dining space allowed our team to create a unique experience for our guests further showcasing downtown Boulder's creative arts and innovation.
Restaurant	It creates the vibrancy and intrigue in downtown boulder
Restaurant	Travel to San Diego or San Francisco and you will find vibrant outdoor dining scenes that increase foot traffic to all businesses and create a more community-driven dynamic downtown. Boulder is a community in support of the arts and these unique outdoor dining spaces allow business to be innovative and creative adding to the Boulder scene. In short, outdoor dining spaces are fun! They are interactive, creative outlets for businesses and patrons alike.
Restaurant	Unlike other business, restaurants' gross revenues are limited to menu prices and number of guests dining in the restaurant. The outdoor dining gave our restaurant a surviving chance to make it through the pandemic when indoor capacities were restricted. Furthermore, the outdoor dining space allowed our team to create a unique experience for our guests further showcasing downtown Boulder's creative arts and innovation

Restaurant	<i>You have one summer season of expanded dining with pent up pandemic spending. This is not a model that has proven the validity of the aforementioned questions.</i>
Restaurant	<i>It just feels good, its why boulder has the 'walking mall'</i>
Restaurant	<i>Allows people to feel safer eating at a restaurant</i>
Other Business	<i>Without outdoor dining, I don't think we would get as much business as people feel very comfortable with being able to dine outdoors. Outdoor dining increases business.</i>
Other Business	<i>The majority of the questions asked don't provide any benefits to businesses outside of restaurants - all restaurants have been at full capacity for the better part of a year and the only people struggling are the retail stores and people that would usually drive in and park vs now having to find parking and walk a distance to get something.</i>
Other Business	<i>think it helps with the vibe of downtown boulder but the tents have got to go</i>
Other Business	<i>Bring in people from other areas to see Boulder. While others may also do outdoor seating, the ambiance of Boulder may bring in others.</i>
Other Business	<i>I'd like to see electric outdoor options for seasonal heating, cooling, and air purification for enclosed spaces. Walkways/paths large enough for emergency vehicles, bicycles, or schedules/short term use loading spaces for businesses. Safety, comfort, access to ADA compliant bathrooms, not sanicans.</i>
Other Business	<i>When programed correctly they are a great asset, they improve pedestrian traffic, increase business for retailers and restaurants, bring vibrancy and liveliness, add charm and character, etc. There could be exciting art installations if done correctly. But when it looks like a yard sale and there is no thought to building access, emergency access, safety, parking, bike racks, etc. - its not very beneficial.</i>
Other Business	<i>These survey questions seem stacked in favor of outdoor dining. Outdoor dining is enjoyable, but I'm not sure you are getting an accurate analysis of what local business owners think of having the street closed. The survey assumes expanded outdoor dining and the resulting street closure are beneficial. Many downtown business owners disagree with this premise because the street closure gives the impression that the businesses are also closed.</i>
Other Business	<i>Keeping restaurants in business helps keep people employed.</i>
Other Business	<i>I believe this is no longer relevant.</i>
Other Business	<i>Short term benefits include helping restaurants survive the pandemic. Long term challenges include an significant increase in litter and congestion.</i>
Other Business	<i>The chance to enjoy the outdoors</i>
Other Business	<i>Hard to answer above questions. As a non restaurant business, I believe my restaurant neighbors who have survived, would have survived without closing of street and continuation hurts them.</i>
Other Business	<i>With fewer cars and more space to roam and walk, the downtown space feels incredibly more full and accessible. More people outdoors and bustling in the street creates a vibrant and attractive atmosphere that makes the downtown Boulder area so special, unique, attractive, and wonderful.</i>
Other Business	<i>It's FUN!</i>
Other Business	<i>Decreases walkability &amp; you're again only asking for positives as though there are no negatives. Not a good poll.</i>
Other Business	<i>Gives anyone who is high risk or nervous about indoor dining more confidence to be able to visit the places they love and still enjoy life.</i>
Other Business	<i>These questions would be better suited to summer versus winter, and would be more relevant with a full cost analysis to restaurant owners. "Helps keep restaurants in business?" absurd way to word this on a questionnaire. Additionally, we HAVE a walking part of downtown. The tourists love it. The West End has been the best part of Pearl Street for the last decade... the LOCALS love it. We need the West End restaurants to be uber eats, and grub hub and take-out accessible, which now many are not currently due to</i>

	<i>access. Police and emergency access seriously limited right now. Open the streets. Outdoor dining summer months perhaps if done in a cohesive, cost effective way.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>On nice days they allow everyone to eat where they want to eat. However with staffing shortages how can they even staff these extra tables?</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>It's most beneficial to end all covid restrictions. They do nothing to stop covid transmission. Boulders transmission and case rates have remained as high as counties with no restrictions</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Having worked on Pearl street for over 25 years, I see this outdoor dining expansion as a community effort. The occasional pop up fairs have allowed micro businesses and local artisans to sell their goods and expose their talents. The restaurants have used the barricades and seating areas to allow local artists to paint murals. This adds a lot of color and a modern, hip vibe to the west end of Pearl street.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Outdoor dining invite us all to not only imagine, but to experience an alternate way of using street space to facilitate human activities and interactions, rather than being accustomed to streets as harsh places designed to move vehicles through the area.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>It is a traffic driver to all of Pearl St businesses come early Spring - people are ready to dine outside again regardless of COVID mandates.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Occupancy and mask restrictions must be removed. The data shows they have done nothing to stop the spread. Boulder counties cover numbers have remained as high as neighboring Counties that do not have these restrictions. This should be the focus. Not impractical obtrusive uncomfortable outdoor dining</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I saw it was important at the height of covid, but now that things are more settled, I don't think this should be permanent as it is affecting the businesses around us negatively.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I do have an issue with some of the outside equipment some restaurants use, which is ugly and does not fit with other areas of Boulder. ie, barricades on Walnut Street. I think the expansion should be limited to Pearl.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I believe that outdoor dining creates more longevity, in that people eat and tend to walk and stay Downtown longer. I also believe it creates a safer experience for those who choose to drink alcohol, in that they are walking more, rather than driving right away.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>We live here because we love the outdoors--outdoor dining provides the opportunity to eat in that environment and appreciate all that Boulder has to offer!</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Increased capacity for smaller restaurants. Increases outdoor dining experiences for downtown visitors.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Community feeling/people working together for a greater good.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Beautiful views while dining</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>FUN!</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Speaking from the West End, I consider outdoor dining unnecessary--an unwanted cost burden to small/local business</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>expanded outdoor dining with additional expense or taxes to established businesses is a hardship.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Make it permanent it will pay off in the long run to keep the streets closed to traffic .</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I don't think it helps restaurants during the week. Patrons cannot stop in easily due to parking problems.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I think it modernizes Pearl and brings more life to it. When everyone is behind closed doors, even the busiest places look empty. I also think it promotes this European concept of "cafe culture" where people are more inclined to spend more time as opposed to go and leave with intention.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>provides no benefit because employers don't have enough employees to support it</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Way more enjoyable as there is no car noise pollution!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Gives diners options - are they comfortable being indoors? If not, they can still be a patron and dine outdoors.</i>

Resident	<i>It makes the outdoors feel more vibrant when you see people outside eating and enjoying themselves. I'm not as huge a fan of the larger tents due to the visual obstruction they generate but I understand the need during Covid</i>
Resident	<i>The increase in social interaction by having more people in open public spaces has been great. I run into people I wouldn't see inside of a restaurant, we converse and connect in ways that aren't possible when people are sequestered away inside with hosts acting as gatekeepers to fluid interaction.</i>
Resident	<i>Helps keep a dynamic restaurant base</i>
Resident	<i>Good for the city.</i>
Resident	<i>fewer/no cars on streets that are closed. slower traffic on roads that are not closed</i>
Resident	<i>If it can be permanent, offer up perhaps more street vendors, entertainment, events it will benefit downtown.</i>
Resident	<i>More al fresco dining, like Europe!</i>
Resident	<i>Look at Pearl from 11th to 9th and compare the street life and vibrancy to the other side(east Pearl from 15th to 20th) where a cold shadow is cast from a massive parking facility and businesses have shuttered their doors and gone dark. You do not need to park right next to the shop to go in or the restaurant to eat outside! Get out of your car and live a little!</i>
Resident	<i>Fewer cars on Pearl St.</i>
Resident	<i>next thing should be allowing people to walk with alcoholic beverages from space to space. That would be huge and I would spend even more time on Mall if I wasn't constrained by that.</i>
Resident	<i>curbs noisy bus traffic.</i>
Resident	<i>It helps create more jobs and economic activity and sales tax dollars.</i>
Resident	<i>Outdoor dining saved our sanity during this pandemic.</i>
Resident	<i>Again, if it also decreases the noise level, I'm all in favor of it!</i>
Resident	<i>Keeps our restaurants from going out of business.</i>
Resident	<i>I'd love to see the downtown area use the fairly recent state law permitting "open containers" in shared spaces. Let's make it a fun and easy place to hang out and patronize different establishments in the same groups.</i>
Resident	<i>It's a model of how we can better utilize outdoor space on the Mall. When the Mall was first built, it was landscaped with more grass areas that attracted a lot of people to sit around. Then it was changed to hard surfaces, stone, brick, etc that allow walking but discourage loitering. A bit sterile. A more mixed zoning (micro-zoning?) with seated areas might be nice for 21st century</i>
Resident	<i>Creates a great community atmosphere.</i>
Resident	<i>Wow. You just made a bunch of assumptions about outdoor dining (sustainability, community, etc.) Please " the pedestrian mall is primarily tourists at this point. Most residents avoid it like the plague on the weekends.</i>
Resident	<i>Profits It doesn't encourage walking because there is no parking enforcement. Most people drive and park in neighborhoods.</i>
Resident	<i>Creates a vibrant downtown that we want to walk to and spend time in. A safe place to go for a walk and enjoy the outdoors. Allows restaurants options to serve in outdoor spaces. HOWEVER - I would like to see dogs and bikes not allowed in this space and for that to be enforced! Right now there are still so many dogs and bikes on the bricks.</i>
Resident	<i>Outdoor dining contributes a sense of community that is lost when simply walking down Pearl street. It invites conversations and chance encounters and lingering afternoons and street performers and pauses to simply gaze up at the mountains. Plus, the outdoor seating is not super conducive to laptop work, which helps encourage person-to-person interaction and provides a nice break from the silence and laptops of many coffee shops.</i>

Resident	<i>Less traffic and less pollution in our core downtown. I think that a lot of us have expanded our out-door horizons and realize that we are quite comfortable dining outdoors in various weather conditions, Chrisp is beautiful!</i>
Resident	<i>Brings sales tax to the city!!! Keep the expanded outdoor dining!!!</i>
Resident	<i>It gets people out. It creates community. Choice of dining leads to affordability which helps age and economic diversity</i>
Resident	<i>Effectively extending the walking mall area of Pearl has made the otherwise-useless ugly and dangerous stub of a road that was West Pearl into a good thing.</i>
Resident	<i>I didn't know how to answer some of those... outdoor dining is definitely less environmentally sustainable. Outdoor heaters use a wild amount energy. Not a benefit of outdoor dinning.</i>
Resident	<i>Raises awareness of the homeless problem that we face yet refuse to address in Boulder. We pretend like it is impossible to solve but yet there are no homeless people in Amsterdam. More outdoor seating shines a light on a problem we face in Boulder that is fixable.</i>
Resident	<i>Safe area without cars for children to enjoy dining. I have an unvaccinated aged toddler and we only dine outdoors</i>
Resident	<i>Honestly covid is still raging and its an insult that we are not helping restaurants and workers be safe during this time. It feels like a bad joke we are trying to just have them all outside now purely because of a pandemic. If they want to be outside great. But overall we should be focused on ending the pandemic. Not trying to save the economy</i>
Resident	<i>Gets rid of cars. Gonna happen sooner or later. Use the silver lining of COVID, which will impact us for the foreseeable future, to our advantage....NOW</i>
Resident	<i>A good social vibe.</i>
Resident	<i>It makes the city more walk and bike able. I feel safer walking and am less inclined to use my car to travel to pearl street. Since this has started I have walked to pearl street more frequently.</i>
Resident	<i>it's the culture of our town and we ought to support our restaurant owners</i>
Resident	<i>I can't imagine anyone who doesn't love this. It's great, please keep it or expand it even more!</i>
Resident	<i>Nobody smells my farts in the restaurants.</i>
Resident	<i>We love that restaurants will let some members of our party bring food from another restaurant to our table. It turns the entire Pearl St mall and east end into a luxury outdoor food court!</i>
Resident	<i>It makes dining more accessible to those with disabilities that make eating indoors risky (immunocompromised ++)</i>
Resident	<i>The vibrancy of the west end in particular has been exciting to witness as the extension of Pearl Street has encouraged more folks to come up further into the mixed use areas of the neighborhood like Spruce Confections. Just a big win for all of us who live here and like genuine walkable density driven living.</i>
Resident	<i>It's fun to see all the people out, about, enjoying this lovely town.</i>
Resident	<i>Frees up indoor seating...</i>
Resident	<i>A draw for residents and tourists wanting a safer and fun experience</i>
Resident	<i>Safer streets! Less pollution in the area due to cars. Walkable neighborhoods also are more fun which brings in more business</i>
Resident	<i>Why does this survey only seek to find benefits without balancing real consequences that can be negative?</i>
Resident	<i>Allows me to feel more safe as the pandemic continues to menace us.</i>
Resident	<i>Expansion of walking streets is proven to improve commerce, increase vibrancy, and reduce transportation emissions. The outdoor dinning specifically adds a heightened sense of community and vibrancy to the area.</i>

Resident	<i>Everyone wants to sit outside and enjoy beautiful colorado - current program affords that.</i>
Resident	<i>Frasca only restaurant applying good design to their outdoor setting. Most are ridiculously ugly reflecting the lack of good planning and taste on part of this City. Couldn't you have done better?</i>
Resident	<i>Less cars, makes people more important than cars when you're downtown</i>
Resident	<i>Creates a greater sense of community.</i>
Resident	<i>It just makes downtown more fun and enjoyable in general, making it more competitive across the region.</i>
Resident	<i>THE ABILITY TO GAZE AT MOUNTAINS AND GET FRESH AIR WHILE DINING</i>
Resident	<i>Less traffic congestion and air pollution in the downtown area...</i>
Resident	<i>This program has completely transformed the West End of Pearl Street from a congested block of storefronts into vibrant, communal space. It's created a center where our community can gather, relax, and enjoy the beautiful place where we live. I sincerely hope that the city will recognize what a gift this has space been to our community, one that has helped us through these difficult times. What a beautiful reminder it would be to have these streets-turned-city-center to remind us of how our community came together to support and care for each other. Please preserve this precious outdoor space. For all of hardships of these past few years, the creation of this space has been a true blessing.</i>
Resident	<i>More seating? Less parking</i>
Resident	<i>More walking, browsing, shopping.</i>
Resident	<i>We visit downtown more often and love bringing our dog</i>
Resident	<i>As said above, this has greatly increased the experience of visiting downtown boulder/pearl st. as a pedestrian and a vehicle driver by improving the flow of traffic patterns. So awesome! Also makes downtown boulder feel like more of a community. Only con is that outdoor dining in the main part of pearl st. mall is hard to walk through but this could be easily improved!</i>
Resident	<i>I disagree with several of the above statements. The outdoor dining helps a few restaurants stay in business, but drives others out of business. Some restaurants seem more busy because of their expanded size on Pearl Street, while businesses farther down the mall to the east and west suffer. They also do not offer a greater sense of place. While I believe providing a sense of place is very important, I do not believe that is a potential benefit of outdoor dining.</i>
Resident	<i>Creates a more inclusive dining opportunity for high risk COVID individuals.</i>
Resident	<i>reduces traffic on W Pearl -can we permanently make those blocks pedestrian??</i>
Resident	<i>Just really love it</i>
Resident	<i>West Pearl is so much quieter now. The noise pollution was a big issue before.</i>
Resident	<i>NA. Hit all the right notes!</i>
Resident	<i>The above chart is incredibly misleading - you are making the assumption that the expansion will provide the stated 'benefits' when this is not necessarily the case.</i>
Resident	<i>These thing may have been true before but are no longer necessary. A place like Pasta Jay's is seating every table like before Covid and many extra outdoor tables at very little cost for an area of town with \$50+ sq ft prices. Also the PPP programs and the Restaurant Relief Fund must have given them hundreds of thousands in free money. They wont tell you but they currently they have lots of extra money.</i>
Resident	<i>It makes the area a place you want to be, not a place you simply want to walk past.</i>
Resident	<i>The West End of Pearl feels super relaxed and less stuffy, makes the businesses there feel more approachable, unlike the glass igloos at Frasca which shut people out and make passers by feel watched (seriously, get rid of those damn things, they take up too much space, as does the dining situation outside Snooze and Foolish Craig's). It has also made it feel more like a community center in a way, people meet up to socialize there.</i>

Resident	<i>I'd say people are happier when they spend increased time outside. This includes even simple things, like eating outside.</i>
Resident	<i>The opportunity to sit and drink/dine in a pleasant outdoor environment is hugely beneficial to all businesses in the vicinity. It encourages people to take more time to experience and 'absorb' the area rather than quickly walking from one location to another</i>
Resident	<i>I would be very surprised if outdoor dining was more sustainable More sustainable than what? I'm pretty sure all those outdoor heaters are not good for the environment</i>
Resident	<i>Creates a bigger walking zone which will attract more people and wish we would extend it to more blocks like Barcelona and so many European cities with vibrant large walking zones</i>
Resident	<i>Expands the walking zone and dread in more walkers to enjoy town ... More European vibe like Barcelona, Munich and many cities with amazing walking zones</i>
Resident	<i>Asserts the right of pedestrians to live and enjoy in their city - rather than dedicating space to cars</i>
Resident	<i>By having people outside of their homes or outside of a building, you begin to recognize your neighbors and build more relationships</i>
Resident	<i>makes it so much easier to walk and wander pearl street and decide where to eat — that casual welcoming vibe has been so great for our community!</i>
Resident	<i>Accessibility, a sense of community, and a more unique Pearl st experience.</i>
Resident	<i>Allow passerbys to see what foods are offered without looking at yelp, restaurant website, or through the window.</i>
Resident	<i>Makes people happy.</i>
Resident	<i>It helps move us towards a car-less downtown, which is sustainable, walkable, and pedestrian-friendly.</i>
Resident	<i>We live a beautiful town with incredible all year weather and a view. I prefer to sit outside when it's not freezing just to enjoy being outside.</i>
Resident	<i>Reduced car traffic on west side of Pearl St</i>
Resident	<i>A feeling of openness that I at least applaud.</i>
Resident	<i>It added to the ability to gather, walk, shop and dine while maintaining social distancing.</i>
Resident	<i>Being able to enjoy the outdoors more while dining</i>
Resident	<i>More outdoor dining opportunities (my duh)</i>
Resident	<i>A different flavor of outdoor activity compared to the rest of the mall, which has become too buttoned down and too limiting for outdoor eating and coffee shops.</i>
Resident	<i>The extended outdoor dinning program, while having some positive impact as listed above, has real negative impacts on other businesses being difficult to access. Outdoor dining has had a positive impact on restaurants mostly but there are equally or even more businesses that need to also be considered that are negatively impacted by the road being closed. Not even all of the restaurants in the area would like to see the road closed. The above listed potential benefits do not account for all the negative impacts.</i>
Resident	<i>The light strings look beautiful.</i>
Resident	<i>Outdoor dining is so much more social than indoor dining at the same restaurants. I love seeing the dogs come out and sit under picnic tables. It feels more welcoming, safer with covid to gather with friends, and hopefully it's good for the restaurants.</i>
Resident	<i>I've really liked the expansion of the walking only area on pearl to the west</i>
Resident	<i>Boosts business opportunity for all restaurant owners. The outdoor dining makes me feel good supporting local restaurants.</i>
Resident	<i>Gives the downtown a more European feel.</i>
Resident	<i>It is less noisy and raucous on weekends. The people parking on Spruce and Pine Streets to dine on the Mall on weekends might negatively impact the residents of those streets.</i>



Resident	<i>It was a good idea during the height of the pandemic but once the pandemic becomes endemic this is not needed and would be a deficit to the quality of life downtown. P.S. This survey is so slanted!</i>
Resident	<i>Less car traffic, more pedestrian space</i>
Resident	<i>Makes downtown a nicer and safer place to be.</i>
Worker	<i>More friendly environment downtown</i>
Worker	<i>Except for the Tents, I think it is a good idea to kept going. I'd like the street to open again between 11th and 9th asap.</i>
Worker	<i>Why are all the questions skewed to benefits?</i>
Worker	<i>Less pollution for pedestrians to breathe in, get to enjoy views of the mountains.</i>
Worker	<i>I go downtown more often because there are outdoor dining options.</i>
Worker	<i>I really love the increase to the walking mall and the availability of outdoor dining! It helps create a community feel to downtown and makes it even more appealing to spend time on Pearl. I want to see these changes become permanent, and for the city to explore other changes that would make Boulder more walkable/bikeable while decreasing the amount of car traffic.</i>
Worker	<i>Differentiates our community from any town USA. Gives Boulder more character than other cities that do not have the same planning</i>
Worker	<i>This is stupid.</i>
Worker	<i>Even if restaurants get back to full indoor capacity, it will make it easier to get a table!</i>
Worker	<i>Example for others.</i>
Worker	<i>Enjoyment of outdoor spaces</i>
Worker	<i>Walkability! I believe and hope this COVID situation is temporary. Even after all the social distancing restrictions go away after COVID, it's still important to foster safe and vibrant location for people to gather.</i>
Worker	<i>Less cars!!! It's soooo nice!</i>
Worker	<i>Routing traffic further outside the walking mall has made shopping and dining more enjoyable. It has felt easier to get downtown and park despite the loss of west pearl parking.</i>
Worker	<i>Sense of community</i>
Worker	<i>More reservations available due to increased capacity</i>
Worker	<i>I like the scene better.</i>
Worker	<i>The only reason I'm comfortable dining on pearl is outside dining. It has been the single reason to bring me to this space in the last few years, which has direct benefits to the other shops I got into at the same time. Extending outside dining creates the vibe and space that I'll continue to seek out even after the pandemic. Plus we should do whatever we can to enable restaurants to survive.</i>
Worker	<i>eating outside can be fun</i>
Worker	<i>More people on the street = less safety issues with transients</i>
Worker	<i>Provides more options for diners and businesses.</i>
Worker	<i>Cuts down on cars and "eating in a parking lot". Make boulder downtown car free, easier to bike and added walkability.</i>
Worker	<i>Reduced numbers of confused/frustrated vehicles going through heavily pedestrian areas</i>
Worker	<i>It expands the culture of our city as you have more person-person interaction in a culturally significant manner. Food, dining, and talk are communal keystones to having a vibrant personality and this is a leap forward in extending a space for those.</i>
Worker	<i>I believe your section above only wants to consider the positives. For one example: The notion of Sense of Place is a planning term that seemed to emerge in the 1990's and has been overused in my opinion. I do not believe that outdoor dining contributes to a city or town's identity unless it can be thoughtfully integrated as rooftop dining has. Simply closing a street, placing picnic tables that can be terribly uncomfortable, and umbrellas, does not</i>

	<i>constitute: Place! now, having said this, keeping businesses open during the pandemic was a good thing. Returning to normal Downtown--Less closed streets and picnic tables would be good!</i>
Worker	<i>Greater Choice.</i>
Worker	<i>Boulder is known for being an outdoor community. Increased outdoor dining options adds to that. With more permanent outdoor dining options, restaurants and the City could greatly improve on the appearance and function. Many restaurants I have seen have very visually appealing outdoor dining areas and others could only improve with more time.</i>
Worker	<i>I do not believe that we can easily claim benefits to environmental sustainability, and something such as increased walkability. In some ways it is more difficult to navigate downtown.</i>
Worker	<i>It's great just to get people outside breathing fresh air more often. It makes for a more communal, European vibe downtown.</i>
Worker	<i>No benefits it is killing the business as there is no parking and how do emergency people get in?</i>
Worker	<i>Killing down town businesses. Killing every single business</i>
Visitor	<i>It enlivens the space and community. It makes Pearl st more alive and vibrant</i>
Visitor	<i>Less car traffic in pedestrian centers is always positive</i>
Visitor	<i>It feels safer to walk in the area and hasn't seemed to make traffic worse. I see no reason NOT to continue doing it.</i>
Visitor	<i>Decrease in pedestrian-vehicle interactions downtown</i>
Visitor	<i>Detailed in above comment. Just a huge net positive to the feel of the mall.</i>
Visitor	<i>These questions are super loaded. How will they be achieved through the outdoor dining program exactly?</i>
Visitor	<i>Very few outside of social distancing during the pandemic. Questions were clearly biased and did not allow for the option to state that a "perceived benefit" is not perceived to be a benefit by this surveyee.</i>
Visitor	<i>potential opportunity for pop up food venues</i>
Visitor	<i>It opens up parts of Pearl street that were harder to access before or felt like they were a separate entity, not apart of the Pearl club. When the closed walkway ends, visitors don't often realize Pearl continues or what is down that way.</i>
Visitor	<i>To me it gives a more small town feel</i>
Visitor	<i>More seating is always a good thing</i>
Visitor	<i>A semi-unique experience</i>
Visitor	<i>Less cars</i>
Visitor	<i>Makes the whole area feel more human and much friendlier</i>
Visitor	<i>General enjoyment of the gorgeous weather - I always choose to sit outside when I can.</i>
Visitor	<i>It's simply a more pleasant experience!</i>
Visitor	<i>Contributes to the uniqueness of Boulder in general.</i>
Visitor	<i>People like eating outdoors, we're an outdoorsy city! It feels more European, with the added benefit that you can scope out people's food before deciding on a restaurant.</i>
Visitor	<i>It helps maintain Boulder's identity from other towns, providing areas that are distinct in how people experience them, not just another street you drive through.</i>
Visitor	<i>A sense of community</i>
Visitor	<i>People who otherwise would avoid dining at a restaurant entirely and move to takeout-only (myself included) can socialize and enjoy full restaurant service.</i>
Visitor	<i>It makes Boulder fun! Everyone who lives here wants to be outside anyway - lean into what makes Boulder unique and amazing</i>
Visitor	<i>Safer streets, less noisy as less cars drive by.</i>
Visitor	<i>Seeing all the people on the street creates a feeling of connection and belonging even if only walking through. Closed in restaurants leave the street feeling empty.</i>

Visitor	<i>I spend more money downtown because of outdoor dining. After dining, I enjoy walking the extended mall and often spend money in shops.</i>
Visitor	<i>mental health! it's great to be outside</i>
Visitor	<i>More foot traffic And encourages window shopping or shopping.</i>
Visitor	<i>Just a more vibrant culture. People &gt; vehicles</i>
Visitor	<i>More third spaces. Better walkability. Make downtown something more than techwear stores and overpriced restaurants again--first step is more space without cars and more space without a commercial requirement to enter.</i>
Visitor	<i>Return to normalcy. Able to eat a meal together again. I won't eat inside a restaurant any time soon, but would gladly eat outdoors</i>
Visitor	<i>A greater sense of community and comraderie.</i>
Visitor	<i>Sound levels from indoor dinning are less since people are outside.</i>
Visitor	<i>Improves character of downtown area. Boulder loves the outdoors, and the outdoor dining program reflects that. Offers businesses unique opportunities to serve customers in a more exciting environment.</i>
Visitor	<i>Better overall experience for all.</i>
Visitor	<i>Reconnects one with the natural beauty of Boulder and the surrounding environment</i>
Visitor	<i>A bigger buffer for car-fueled air and noise pollution around Pearl Street</i>
Visitor	<i>Physical health benefits of walking</i>
Visitor	<i>I feel like W Pearl is now a new and unique kind of place, one that's car-free but more free-form and unscripted than the rest of the mall.</i>
Visitor	<i>Discourages auto travel by removing lanes, connections, and parking that would otherwise induce demand.</i>
Visitor	<i>Seems like the benefits were very specific to the pre-vaccine pandemic and need for social distancing. Would be a negative to continue at this point.</i>
Visitor	<i>I'm much more likely to visit restaurants that have nice outdoor seating that's not next to road traffic.</i>
Visitor	<i>Outdoor dining definitely makes the ambiance feel like things are "happening" - also I'd imagine that restaurants are hurting after 2020 and need every edge possible to make up for lost time and revenue from when there was limited indoor seating.</i>
Visitor	<i>Very important during warmer months. Not very beneficial during colder months.</i>
Visitor	<i>No need to wear a mask</i>

**Question: What other concerns, if any, do you have about expanded outdoor dining programs?**

Restaurant	<i>Not fair to businesses that do not benefit from it!</i>
Restaurant	<i>Worried that the combination of traffic obstruction and construction obstruction is detrimental to business.</i>
Restaurant	<i>There is no control over how businesses look on the outside. Most are not set up professionally or stylishly. It does not reflect well on the City of Boulder. Charge businesses for outdoor space and use the money to remove the screaming homeless.</i>
Restaurant	<i>Some places should have them removed. It seems like the Attic is unused and looks bad, same with some other dumpy places. Most places that have poor upkeep in their dining rooms have guests that don't mind. If you don't want to look at trash, you don't go. However, when restaurants that don't care what it looks like inside spills out to the streets, it's unavoidable for residents and visitors to look past the mess.</i>
Restaurant	<i>There are several public parking garages and parking lots in downtown Boulder. Parking is rarely an issue. Restaurants collect and remit sales tax. The revenue generated from outdoor dining is providing more sales tax revenue to the state of CO and Boulder than the current</i>

	<i>parking spaces would provide. Parking also comes with increased labor expenses of the city to monitor and collect. Let the restaurants collect the income for you in the form of sales tax. Our restaurant alone generated \$6-7k in Boulder sales tax (not including CO sales tax), from our outdoor dining spaces each month. That's significant revenue to Boulder and I can almost guarantee it's more profitable than the parking revenue.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>There are several public parking garages and parking lots in downtown Boulder. Parking is rarely an issue. Restaurants collect and remit sales tax based on sales. The revenue generated from outdoor dining is providing more sales tax revenue to the state of CO and Boulder than the current parking spaces would provide.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Parking revenue is clearly offset by sales tax revenue generated. Its a more efficient way to generate revenue and promote downtown than a parking spot.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>The cost if we all have to use the same parklet structures. The boring look of corporate parklet structures. The homogenization of corporate parklet structures. The loss of diversity, art, and a more European feel of just open tables. The policing we will have to do as some places will not be part of the program, but their customers will sit at our tables.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Especially concerned with cost of barriers and winterization of space. Big expense for us.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>I feel the additional sales tax provided by this dining negates the loss of parking meter revenue (plus you don't have to pay for the meter repair/maintenance).</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>I would argue that the parking revenue will not decrease if more customers are coming downtown to eat . It will simply change where they are parking, ie. in a garage instead of in front of the restaurant.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>The City will make up any loss parking revenue with increase sales tax from increase sales of not only the restaurant but of other sales made by people actually coming to the Mall.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Loss of customers due to limited parking ability.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Not fair to businesses that do not benefit from it!</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Worried that the combination of traffic obstruction and construction obstruction is detrimental to business.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>There is no control over how businesses look on the outside. Most are not set up professionally or stylishly. It does not reflect well on the City of Boulder. Charge businesses for outdoor space and use the money to remove the screaming homeless.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Some places should have them removed. It seems like the Attic is unused and looks bad, same with some other dumpy places. Most places that have poor upkeep in their dining rooms have guests that don't mind. If you don't want to look at trash, you don't go. However, when restaurants that don't care what it looks like inside spills out to the streets, it's unavoidable for residents and visitors to look past the mess.</i>
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<i>Other Business</i>	<i>The City will make up any loss parking revenue with increase sales tax from increase sales of not only the restaurant but of other sales made by people actually coming to the Mall.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Loss of customers due to limited parking ability.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>None! I love it</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>City centers aren't for cars, they're for people. Prioritize human centered planning and consider those who need increased accessibility.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Parking is the big issue. This has clearly had an impact on the residential parking on Spruce, Pine, Pearl, etc.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Making sure there is still good walkability. Currently some eating area on west Pearl block the side walks partially.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I think that the current coupling of parking garages that are free on weekends near these high traffic areas works really well - especially as parking in downtown on the streets in front of restaurants was usually a headache</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I think it's important to enforce parking in the neighborhoods where it's already densely packed but if other modes of transportation become favored over cars then this should be a non-issue in the future. I think more parking garages on the periphery are a good solution, especially where vacant lots or run-down buildings currently exist. I enjoy being outside in all cases where possible so I view this as a positive. Noise isn't an issue because the noise inside of restaurants is often worse, especially when people are watching TV shows, videos, talking on the phone, or listening to music inside of restaurants. Outside is more like white noise and more of a festival-type setting that increases interaction and community engagement.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Just need to make sure the outdoor dining areas are kept in top notch condition and are in keeping with the downtown Boulder brand.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>It is working and why change it? People evidently love it, because they come in droves and promenade up and down the mall in good weather. Make it lovely with removal of the street and curbs and put in some fountains and plantings and call it a win!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>In the areas where traffic is close I would feel a little vulnerable if the designated structure around the seating area was flimsy. Also, Some restaurants do a great job at designing their structures and others look like shanty towns, so a standard of seating and structure would be good. Restaurant Rubish and items laying around such as gas cylinders looks bad too.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>City's parking system is a scam.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>We have lived with all of the above issues and we are all still alive! Please don't let the status quo be the enemy of improvement.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I love going to West Pearl and dining outside (I live on the east side of downtown). As a compromise, I could see a total of one 1-way moving lane and one pull-over drop-off lane. The drop-off lane would be 10 minutes maximum between 9pm and noon (for delivery trucks); 2 minute maximum between noon and 9pm.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>One can't legislate beauty, but there must be some way to make the outdoor sites less ugly. And there is one block (9th to 10th Pearl) where it is almost impossible to walk in between the restaurants on each side of the street.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>It currently looks haphazard.</i>

Resident	<i>1. Please find a way to extend this successful program to East Pearl, from east end of the Mall to, say, around 17th. 2. Other concern is maintaining and sprucing up the actual infrastructure used, perhaps the City should work with restaurants to create a fun, inviting, and sustainable outdoor dining infrastructure.</i>
Resident	<i>None really. While there's obviously some trade offs regarding more cars on side streets and delivery access I think it's a very very small price to pay for helping local business while dramatically increasing the vibrancy and community nature of downtown</i>
Resident	<i>None really on my end. Think it's only a positive thing!</i>
Resident	<i>I believe it is an overall positive experience in the downtown area. The increase in area to allow people to dine and socialize far outweighs the loss of parking. And the impact to increase neighborhood traffic is minimal since the mall on Pearl Street already prevents through traffic.</i>
Resident	<i>Please don't expand its size. Keep it going but with more management of where peds are able to move easily</i>
Resident	<i>The question are not explicit. They can be intrepid any way the city wishes. The question should be yes or no.</i>
Resident	<i>Would like to see dogs and bikes not allowed in the area as well as have it actually enforced on the bricks.</i>
Resident	<i>Also, the Hop is rerouted. A long term change should consider a lane for the Hop only in the eves and afternoons.</i>
Resident	<i>I'm all for it</i>
Resident	<i>My main concern is that it will be overly regulated. Boulder has many many spaces that are highly regulated - how many people can be there, whether there can be music or performers, what hours it can be open, etc. I would absolutely love to see a space, even just a small one, where businesses and community members can access and shape the space as they want to use it - quiet or loud, work or play, day or night. It's been a breath of fresh air to see this vibrancy in Boulder and I would love to see it stay.</i>
Resident	<i>The quality of Life Right now, without undue exposure to Covid, feels more important than any of the above. Plus, there has been a great enhancement of quality of life for those who live close to town. Our city is continually talking about pollution, CO2, etc. aren't cars a major offender? this is a prime opportunity to reduce pollution in town in town!</i>
Resident	<i>City will make more revenue. Parking nazis ticket even more in nearby neighborhoods. Not a plus for us residents but brings in more income for the city</i>
Resident	<i>I do not care about parking or parking revenue. Ideally there would be no parking revenue because everyone would be taking the bus, walking, or otherwise not using a car.</i>
Resident	<i>Outdoor heating (propane and electric) use tons of energy. This survey is too long.</i>
Resident	<i>All the concerns were the same when Boulder bravely created the pedestrian mall decades ago. The pedestrian mall made a better city. Keep going and be brave.</i>
Resident	<i>Less parking makes for much more livable cities</i>
Resident	<i>Given the nearby availability of parking structures, I don't see a problem with giving preference to pedestrians over cars on Pearl St. I would like to see the temporary outdoor dining changes to be made permanent and landscaped accordingly.</i>
Resident	<i>No concerns whatsoever. Grab cars by their fenders and toss em.</i>
Resident	<i>Spaces occupied by the individual business are often not well maintained. Can be harder for pedestrians to navigate.</i>
Resident	<i>Please just make sure the walking paths are kept consistently wide and usable - currently the sidewalk outside the Kitchen and nearby restaurants gets kind of narrow compared to other walkways but overall the outdoor dining is amazing and should be kept</i>
Resident	<i>I haven't had any issues personally. We have parking spaces for our townhouse so have not had any issues. In fact when people come to visit us they generally find parking to be quite easy.</i>
Resident	<i>No concerns, it's been a huge improvement to the area.</i>

Resident	<i>If there is a long-term transition away from vehicle access on Pearl or other downtown areas, I would like to see more bike-friendly regulations and bike paths so that the area is more easily traversible and not restricted to only foot traffic.</i>
Resident	<i>All for it, I do think you should consider extending the Pearl Street Mall west to 9th and invest in trees, plantings, benches to make permanently attractive! Thanks for asking!</i>
Resident	<i>I'm concerned this poll is designed to give the author what they're looking for and not a real representation of how people in the area feel. This is a really crap poll. The author should be ashamed of themselves.</i>
Resident	<i>None</i>
Resident	<i>If the outdoor dining element is to be maintained or expanded, the road of upper pearl street should continue to be fully blocked to traffic.</i>
Resident	<i>parking is tricky downtown and neighborhoods are suffering.</i>
Resident	<i>My family lives downtown. Since moving to Boulder in 1999 we have always lived within blocks of the Pearl St Mall. Why? Because we love to walk to shop and eat. However due to COVID we have not eaten inside a restaurant since March of 2020. But we patronize the restaurants that have outdoor options. Please keep or expand outdoor seating.</i>
Resident	<i>Already too many cars in Boulder. Diverting traffic into nearby neighborhoods must be avoided at all costs. Dining near traffic may also be dangerous if a driver is distracted.</i>
Resident	<i>See previous comments</i>
Resident	<i>Sidewalks still need to be sized appropriately for the amount of foot traffic through an area. If that means 2-3 less tables for a place that is now allowed 10 extra tables, so be it.</i>
Resident	<i>One bummer about the outdoor dining setups is that most of them are broken down wooden picnic tables on sloped roads. It's hard to justify the indoor (nice ambiance, nice finishes) prices with the ugly/uncomfortable outdoor setups most restaurants build. Some restaurants have invested in nice outdoor setups, but most just put cheap tables/chairs out on the street.</i>
Resident	<i>I'm concerned that outdoor dining won't go far enough, because priority is often given to drivers complaining about traffic/parking over the concerns of people willing to walk, bike, take public transit, drive alternate routes, or park further away. Anything that can be done to make downtown less car-centric and more people-friendly is a huge benefit.</i>
Resident	<i>I would encourage more permanent types of dining for year round access..yurts, domes, semi enclosures like at Pizzeria Locale of various sizes that are both attractive and conducive to both dining and lingering conversation.</i>
Resident	<i>It would be a shame for a handful of parking spaces to be prioritized over this incredible community space. Parking is limited downtown, absolutely, but perhaps we can look to ways to encourage ride sharing services, biking, walking, an environmentally-friendly shuttle — anything that might encourage people to make healthier, more sustainable choices. Downtown should feel like a place for people, not a space for cars.</i>
Resident	<i>Less parking, a mish mash of different looks down the street - it does not look good.</i>
Resident	<i>A loss of parking will hopefully encourage more people to take public transportation, bike or walk downtown, helping the city reach climate goals.</i>
Resident	<i>Parking is an issue for our disabled community and easy access for these people needs to be taken into account with extra vigor as this community is increasingly compromised and at a disadvantage during the pandemic.</i>
Resident	<i>On East Pearl, the outdoor dining constricts the sidewalk space in certain spots and could be an accessibility issue. I still like it, but it would be nice if the sidewalks could be expanded, perhaps by taking out the center turn lane on the roadway.</i>
Resident	<i>Again, the above chard is misleading - I do not believe these 'benefits' will necessarily be the outcome of the expansion</i>
Resident	<i>The restaurants that stuck with it have been given lots of money from the federal government, state government and even local government. The city has lost revenue from lost parking and people not going downtown because of the traffic issues west of the pearl street mall. Plus just</i>

	<i>look at the various types of outdoor seating used. Quite an eye sore. Plus the big tents are no better than indoor seating as far as Covid goes. It should all be open air and uniform in looks.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Access for those on bicycles should be planned for.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Spruce Street is bearing the brunt of Pearl Street being closed...congestion, buses, trucks, and parking violations.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>None. Keep it going!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I think Boulder (recently voted the 7th best biking city in the country) is in a great position to move forward with public transportation, walkable spaces, and cycling infrastructure over facilitating cars. I think if traffic was such a concern, then helping make it easier to walk/bike to pearl street would increase the amount of people walking/biking. Which would increase the vibrancy of the area, peoples health, and overall happiness.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>The outdoor dining environment must be properly planned and managed. Makeshift, temporary facilities (tents, heating, benches, ropes, fences etc) must be replaced by more sustainable, thought out arrangements with the city providing guidance and assistance to restaurant owners so an overall 'quality' experience is generated</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I've lived in the downtown area for over 20 years. I never had a problem leaving my car parked on the street (don't have anywhere else to park) and mostly walking taking the bus or riding my bike to get around but a few years ago the city started enforcing the 72 hour ban on leaving a car parked. I got a bunch of tickets and wound up randomly driving around the block every night when I got off the bus from work That's stupid and made me feel like the city is just punishing me for getting in the way of downtown business' revenue It was nice to get a break from that with Covid-19 but I'm afraid you'll start up again especially with outdoor dining Please don't</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>It would be nice to add signs to downtown roundabouts such as the one at Pine and 15th ST, four signs, facing in each direction that read: YIELD to traffic in circle. Many drivers don't seem to understand how to appropriately use roundabouts.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Creates a much more walking and environmentally friendly city</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>People &gt; Cars. Cars are not what make a city. They're just an inefficient and polluting way to facilitate transportation.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I hope the city does not charge exorbitant fees for permits, etc. and make the process difficult for restaurant owners to get approval. The rents are already too high for the majority of restaurants in the downtown area.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>All of it is parking-related.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>As a downtown resident, we want to see our local businesses thrive during the pandemic, however, we do not support expanded outdoor dining once it is safe to eat inside restaurants again. Curbside patio dining is fine but not picnic tables out in the streets. It feels like a street fair all year long and encourages crowds, heavy drinking, and lack of parking.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Less parking but it will help people to walk around instead of driving or they might use alternative transportation which is better</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I definitely wouldn't dine outside next to a busy street. Even some of the outdoor dining that's right on Pearl St. is a little too noisy and fumey. But I would use the enclosed pods outside of Frasca, for example, even if the seating in front of Foolish Craig's is too exposed.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Parking should not be considered nearly as much as incentivizing public transit, walking, and biking.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>More trash, recycling and composting would be good on that street.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>The closing of Pearl from 9th to 11th has DOUBLED the truck, bus and car traffic on Spruce St. And 10th is a mess.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Don't think they are "safer" in terms of COVID, esp. if they are enclosed in tarps.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I am not in favor keeping the entire road closed.</i>



Resident	<i>I suppose all of my responses assumes that walking is easy and accessible and desirable. I love having social space on the mall, but I live downtown and don't deal with parking. I'd like to think that traffic patterns will adjust. I'm not sure how the west pearl neighborhoods feel about the traffic.</i>
Resident	<i>From an accessibility point many encroach on walking zones and handicap parking zones which may make it harder for those with limited mobility to be able to use the down town space. From a driving concern some of the dining areas have jut outs into lanes (such as on pine) which if was more formally reduced to one lane would make the experience better for everyone but now feels kind of unsafe</i>
Resident	<i>It could become challenging if there aren't designated pick up zones</i>
Resident	<i>Only that it seems unfair to the citizens of Boulder that businesses that can afford Pearl street rent get to use additional public space. They should be charged a small fee or tax to compensate for this use (not large enough to discourage them) and the fee should be reinvested into Pearl Street development or possibly central park development. Overall, this is a positive development for the city and the outdoor dining option on Pearl St. should be permanent.</i>
Resident	<i>The aesthetics of the concrete barrier on 9th and Pearl looks ugly. Perhaps more effort could be put into making it look nicer.</i>
Resident	<i>Poor use of space 5 months of the year when it is dark and cold after 5PM.</i>
Resident	<i>I like that outdoor dining takes away parking/car centered vibe of downtown and makes it more person centered. Would also like to see less street parking throughout downtown (e.g. walnut).</i>
Worker	<i>Not sure if we should allow private businesses to 'own' public resources (streets, sidewalks, etc.) for extended periods at no cost. Difficult to walk on those portions during busy hours.</i>
Worker	<i>Make the look and feel consistent yet affordable for the restaurants and consider subsidies for installs for the owners (50-100% of out of pocket costs)</i>
Worker	<i>Impedes pedestrian use, co-opts public space for private use.</i>
Worker	<i>It's less walkable and congested in some areas on the sidewalk</i>
Worker	<i>If I could afford to eat out, I would not frequent a place that was too close to traffic noise and potential auto exhaust pollution.</i>
Worker	<i>Last question was phrased weird, not concerned about limited parking, but limited delivery/ vehicle access is somewhat concerning. Breathing in pollution from cars, easily fixed with having a street or two worth of buffer zone with trees.</i>
Worker	<i>It attracts the homeless. Do not feed the homeless and hopefully they go away.</i>
Worker	<i>My only concern is that it might not ever be expanded to the blocks on the east side, which would be a shame!</i>
Worker	<i>None. There are costs, but they're worth the improvement. A walkable city is a green city.</i>
Worker	<i>There are plenty of parking near Pearl downtown. I visit Pearl from time to time and never felt the effect for loss of parking space.</i>
Worker	<i>Requirements to participate adding costs to restaurant owners. This should be heavily subsidized by the city.</i>
Worker	<i>None - potential impacts some walking areas. But overall a very great addition.</i>
Worker	<i>Sales tax revenue will make up for loss in parking fees.</i>
Worker	<i>Frankly, too many of our outdoor spaces, pedestrian walkways, bikepaths, and courtyards have been whittled away and consumed by roads and motor-based byways. There are many precedents and techniques set on handling deliveries, parking and vehicle access concerns in other parts of the world.</i>
Worker	<i>Outdoor seating is causing tons of propane burning for heat as people choose to sit outside in the middle of winter. I work at Hapa and people choose to sit outside in the cold and have heat blasted on them from propane heaters rather than sit inside even when the restaurant is mostly empty</i>

Worker	<i>They create a false sense of this nonsense that planners refer to as--community. In some cases the outdoor areas are dirty and not well maintained. after a few seasons of less than stellar standards and the rats and mice will have figured it out. The loss of parking and previously planned access to businesses is not positive.</i>
Worker	<i>There are flexible options. Outdoor expanded dining doesn't have to be an "all of nothing" solution. Looking at ways to provide a flexible framework (street+plaza) based on use and time of day for parking, traffic, pedestrian access, and dining is one way to approach it. Utilizing areas like alleyways during off-times is another way to address it. These decisions should be made based on data-driven insights on peak use times for pedestrians, dining occupants, traffic/parking, etc...</i>
Worker	<i>I feel that with a more permanent time frame to allow for outdoor dining, more solutions can be found to divert parking and traffic. Maybe utilizing a parking lot further away with the addition of a low cost trolley-like transport.</i>
Worker	<i>without the appropriate staffing for the restaurants the outdoor experience will not be positive. Keeping these parklets well-maintained and very clean is essential. Restaurants are already challenged in this regard. The lack of staffing at the City of Boulder and Boulder County will also become problematic.</i>
Worker	<i>sidewalk or pedestrian access was very cramped in some areas and did not feel very safe</i>
Worker	<i>We need parking for the businesses</i>
Worker	<i>Parking is challenging as it is, a permanent closure will destroy most businesses.</i>
Worker	<i>I want the 900 and 1000 blocks of Pearl St. to be reopened. The parking is very valuable for people making quick trips into adjacent businesses. Also, as a result of closing off the street, all sorts of delivery people and people running errands are parking in our private alley parking spaces.</i>
Visitor	<i>Amplified sound restrictions should apply 24/7. No busker or restaurant should have the ability to monopolize the entire soundscape of multiple establishments and often the entire block. No amplified sound at all! Also, "emotional support" animals are not service animals, and proof of service animal documentation should be required.</i>
Visitor	<i>How can it be extended year round?</i>
Visitor	<i>This is about improving our quality of life, not just someone's bottom line.</i>
Visitor	<i>These look awesome but I'm concerned about the impact to bicycle traffic. Please make sure bicycles can move efficiently through downtown.</i>
Visitor	<i>Need more data to answer many of these</i>
Visitor	<i>I like having winter outdoor dining options too. It doesn't have to be parklets but let's keep some of those options.</i>
Visitor	<i>I think the benefits to outdoor dining outweigh the downside of less parking and having to park further away. Perhaps where possible, don't block off accessible parking spaces, so people with accessibility needs will still have close access to nearby businesses. Limiting non-service animals in all outdoor dining spaces would be great. Not everyone wants to eat near people's pets/non service animals. Especially on Pearl Street and the surrounding area, where dogs are supposedly not allowed already, though I've noticed more and more people bringing pets to Pearl Street despite that.</i>
Visitor	<i>I didn't understand how to answer the 2 questions where I answered Don't Know, So to explain, I am fine with allowing parklets in curbside parking spaces, and I would be open to a trial of allowing non-service animals in outdoor dining locations, specifically not on the mall proper.</i>
Visitor	<i>If people are eating outside, they want to be able to bring their dog. Nearly all the restaurants with outdoor seating already allow dogs. I don't bring my dog to eat, but I know for a fact you will have problems with this aspect if you don't allow it.</i>
Visitor	<i>Outdoor dining with heaters in the winter in Colorado is nice too!</i>

Visitor	<i>I would consider running this program year round. Boulder's weather allows for outdoor dining in all season, and restaurants could use outdoor space heaters for guests.</i>
Visitor	<i>Pets should be allowed outside</i>
Visitor	<i>I think you should be considered all year as long as heaters are used.</i>
Visitor	<i>Most of these restrictions seem bad and too restrictive. Encourage vibrancy and diversity in the parklets. That means tolerating noise, and people of varied backgrounds using them.</i>
Visitor	<i>If successful for seasonal it'd be nice to have this year round.</i>
Visitor	<i>The exact seasonal dates should be evaluated annually. There may be a benefit to opening the parklets earlier than 1 May each year as to not have a sudden change to downtown parking immediately prior to CU graduation/commencement.</i>
Visitor	<i>May through October timeframe sounds good, but we have nice weather well into November and December. Is there a way to increase the duration here? We dined out on patios regularly in January during the bluebird days and it felt fantastic to be outside looking at the Flatirons and soaking in the sun.</i>
Visitor	<i>Support for general approach. Concern about quality of execution, use of materials, compatibility with design guidelines, maintaining limits on mass and scale of structures in the public ROW, keeping landscaping and enhancing overall pedestrian ambience.</i>

**Question: How important do you consider each of the following in the exploration of a Downtown Outdoor Dining Pilot Program? Comments**

Restaurant	<i>this program limits parking in an already difficult area to park and access restaurants.</i>
Restaurant	<i>Please consider the additional sales tax revenue generated from outdoor dining. Also, at our restaurant, the outdoor dining spaces require additional employees (it's as if it was a separate dining room). Curbing outdoor dining or making it a profit center for the city is egregious and anti-business. Take away outdoor dining and you're taking away jobs and considerable sales tax revenue to the city and state.</i>
Restaurant	<i>There are several public parking garages and parking lots in downtown Boulder. Parking is rarely an issue. Restaurants collect and remit sales tax based on sales. The revenue generated from outdoor dining is providing more sales tax revenue to the state of CO and Boulder than the current parking spaces would provide. Parking also comes with increased labor expenses of the city to monitor and collect. Let the restaurants collect the income for you in the form of sales tax. Our restaurant alone generated \$6-7k in Boulder sales tax (not including CO sales tax), from our outdoor dining spaces each month. That's significant revenue to Boulder and I can almost guarantee it's more profitable than the parking revenue.</i>
Restaurant	<i>From restaurant perspective, please consider the market CPI cost of patio space when renting from a landlord. Patio space is often a no-cost addition to sf rents, but is almost never more than \$10-15/sf. At \$7000, and at 10% margin, restaurants will have to produce 70k in *additional* revenue (about 6k/mo, including winter months) to break even.</i>
Restaurant	<i>parking and accessibility needs to be addressed for West Pearl.</i>
Restaurant	<i>There are several public parking garages and parking lots in downtown Boulder. Parking is rarely an issue. Restaurants collect and remit sales tax based on sales. The revenue generated from outdoor dining is providing more sales tax revenue to the state of CO and Boulder than the current parking spaces would provide. Parking also comes with increased labor expenses of the city to monitor and collect. Let the restaurants collect the income for you in the form of sales tax. Our restaurant alone generated \$6-7k in Boulder sales tax (not including CO sales tax), from our outdoor dining spaces each month. That's significant revenue to Boulder and I can almost guarantee it's more profitable than the parking revenue. There is concern about the cost of the program and how much additional cost businesses will incur on top of the proposed fees in maintaining and "re-building" the space each year. The proposed fees by the city are more than</i>

	<p>many leases on Pearl Street on \$/sq. ft. basis. That makes no sense to charge a business more for the parking space out front than they pay for the leased building. Another concern is that one "generic" or "sterile" design for all spaces removes creativity and innovation. Other cities are allowing each business to create a unique space to their business. Businesses (especially restaurants) are built around brands and concepts. Creating a unique outdoor space that matches your brand and concept is critical for success. This seems to be a similar deal as parking... Boulder caring more about turning outdoor dining into a profit center than supporting the businesses that occupy Downtown Boulder. Please consider the additional sales tax revenue generated from outdoor dining. Also, at our restaurant, the outdoor dining spaces require additional employees (it's as if it was a separate dining room). Curbing outdoor dining or making it a profit center for the city is egregious and anti-business. Take away outdoor dining and you're taking away jobs and considerable sales tax revenue to the city and state. The pandemic has shifted human life and what people want out of their cities and towns. Outdoor dining spaces are desirable and if implemented properly can transform a city into a creative environment where indoor and outdoor retail experiences flow naturally and all community members benefit. Businesses like many things in life are not uniform and have varying needs. Boulder has the responsibility to provide equitable restrictions and accessibility guidelines for all businesses participating in outdoor dining but with enough flexibility that businesses can create and innovate a space that's right for them. In fact, it's the collection of businesses in Downtown Boulder that create the culture and dynamic of a desirable downtown, not the sterile parking spaces on the street. Who needs parking if there's no reason to visit Downtown Boulder? I ask that Downtown Boulder prioritize businesses when it comes to outdoor dining rather than look for an opportunity to create their own business of building, storing, and designing outdoor spaces for a profit at the detriment of businesses and their employees.</p>
Restaurant	<p>Remember, not all restaurants are restaurants. What about cafes? No way can they afford this. We don't turn tables and make \$200 per table per seating. If our average ticket is \$10, we can't churn out that many more lattes to cover these costs. Yet our parklets are used more then almost any restaurant over the course of a full day.</p>
Restaurant	<p>I think restaurants are willing to pay for the materials for the Parklets and storage but there shouldn't be any fees or taxes for them. The City is going to make sales tax from these parklets and the increase sales and that should cover the right of way lease and any other fees.</p>
Restaurant	<p>The cost of leasing is a significant aspect that would be the deciding factor for our restaurant in participating in the outdoor dining program. If there was significant cost involved we would not participate, as we are not a large restaurant; however, the outdoor program has helped our business thus far (especially from May-October), and I hope the city will consider these ideas I have mentioned here.</p>
Other Business	<p>How about the location? This only works in certain areas.</p>
Other Business	<p>I think May thru Oct seems a little short. This year, the weather was nice enough to dine outdoors in Dec. I think amplified sound should not be allowed at all. It can really ruin your dinner if you have to listen to a rock band you didn't sign up for. Wondering why it wouldn't be during lunch and dinner hours? The amplified music is often excessively loud for dinner conversation.</p>
Other Business	<p>This is all about restaurants - they should be footing the bill or these Barrie's should be removed and pearl street reopened for normal traffic and parking.</p>
Other Business	<p>Biggest concern is ensure ALL of the sidewalk is clear of tables/chairs/etc..</p>
Other Business	<p>listen, I just want to mention that retail stores are being hit hard too, maybe even harder than restaurants (no one wants to shop wearing a mask) and no one is making an exception to help us.</p>
Other Business	<p>Again, as much as I love and personally enjoy the outdoor dining expansion and the increased safe dining accessibility that it offers, I also feel that the City should create and enforce a standard of appearance for participating businesses to adhere to in order to participate (esthetically appropriate tables and chairs, no "barnyard" picnic tables, ie, the Kitchen's current outdoor setup which frankly reflects poorly on the kept appearance of our lovely Pearl Street). I would appreciate hearing the City's thoughts and plans (if any) on this.</p>

Other Business	<i>It's not clear if the parklet idea is an alternative to the closure of Pearl Street between 9th and 11th Streets, but further impairment of parking is a problem and I disagree with it.</i>
Other Business	<i>How about year round?</i>
Other Business	<i>It would be nice if there was an option for year-round seating, even if on a more-limited basis than peak months.</i>
Other Business	<i>Please do not eliminate special events. They are a much bigger draw to the downtown area than outdoor seating.</i>
Other Business	<i>The seasonality of the program is silly. Allowing the structures to have a higher degree of permanence will allow them to be more beautiful, resilient, and ultimately more cost effective. Allow the parklets to exist year round!</i>
Other Business	<i>Downtown should be a nonstop outdoor PARTY - 24-7-365! - BAN all cars!</i>
Other Business	<i>I think the program should only be May to October.</i>
Other Business	<i>now we are talking.</i>
Other Business	<i>Not a good idea. Simply remove the occupancy restrictions</i>
Other Business	<i>What is the source of funding to offset? It shouldn't be the restaurants.</i>
Other Business	<i>Restaurants should pay all the costs of the program, and lease the space from the City due to loss of parking revenue, and due to the fact that not all restaurants will be able to participate. Public funds for the benefit for only some private businesses is not appropriate.</i>
Other Business	<i>I feel that if you choose to purchase a home or live in a home this close to Downtown, you enter the deal knowing that there is going to be noise, liveliness, music, etc. -- time limits are fine, but some of the complaints from neighbors towards live music is ridiculous - they chose to live Downtown.</i>
Other Business	<i>Ambient dining music is part of the experience. Breakfast dining would occur before 11. Recommend 8 am - 11 pm to encourage restaurants to be open a little later.</i>
Other Business	<i>This is fine for East Pearl, Walnut, and Spruce, but NOT WEST PEARL. Make the closure on West Pearl PERMANENT.</i>
Other Business	
Other Business	<i>I don't think that the program should only run May through October, I think it should be allowed year round. This is allowing local restaurants who offer heated outdoor seating to increase their revenue in colder months when otherwise they would have less seating available to their patrons.</i>
Other Business	<i>Speaking from the West End, I consider outdoor dining unnecessary---an unwanted cost burden to small/local business</i>
Other Business	<i>Curbside parking is important for access to my business.</i>
Other Business	<i>When done right, these can work but I think it's really easy to look "hacked" together. I think everyone was hacking everything in 2020 (myself included) but now that we have some time to think about the aesthetics, we should try to make these as seamless with the sidewalks as possible. I think 2020 was overrun by more trips to home depot for 2x4's frames and plastic sheeting for windows in these parklets than any of us would like to do long term.</i>
Resident	<i>All dogs should be allowed. Let's make Boulder a more dog friendly city!</i>
Resident	<i>dogs are fine. Most people will eat at someone's house with a dog at their feet. No idea why they are suddenly a health hazard in public. Could be a fine (cleanup fee) for allowing a dog to relieve itself. \$25 if you "substantially remove" the problem or \$100 if you don't.</i>
Resident	<i>Please allow dogs (non-service) in outdoor dining options!</i>
Resident	<i>Year-round outdoor seating.</i>
Resident	<i>Don't know that it needs to be seasonal and if they can figure out how to make it work year round</i>
Resident	<i>We need a city built for people, not cars! I'm all for having this program go year-round, or anytime it's nice out. We have warm days through November and December sometimes. I'd love to be outside as much as possible. Of course, that's not possible when it's snowing or raining but otherwise, we should keep areas open on any sunny day. Get rid of anything that focuses on accommodating cars.</i>
Resident	<i>Hope this idea has been vetted with the restaurants.</i>

Resident	<i>Just do it and figure it out as you go. One of my favorite surprises last summer was an impromptu dance party where a couple DJs just set up quickly on the mall and we had a blast dancing for about an hour and the cops did not even come! They just spun some house music and passersby could not help but dance with the music scene and it was awesome! Then they took it down and slipped away in the night.</i>
Resident	<i>Oh God you have even named it already. "Parklets". These aren't parks. Just let people throw some tables on the sidewalk. Move on. Not everything has to be over regulated to death.</i>
Resident	<i>The previous set of questions were worded poorly. How important is it that my pet can't dine with me? It's important that he can but that could be read as important that you prohibit. It wasn't clear.</i>
Resident	<i>Why not year round?</i>
Resident	<i>Limit vehicular traffic as much as possible (one-lane, one way, and only from 9am-4pm or something?) and maintain time-limits for neighborhood parking (Maybe reduce or subsidize evening/overnight parking in structures since there always seems to be space)</i>
Resident	<i>I think these questions about cover it. The seasonal basis is probably the best compromise. Winter can sometimes be nice and warm but also brutally windy which might damage infrastructure.</i>
Resident	<i>Please continue to allow dogs in outdoor dining settings. It has made Boulder much better and less sterile.</i>
Resident	<i>The needs to be enforcement of providing residents with enough on street parking to mee family need. Neighborhood are not parking lots for bars and restaurants.</i>
Resident	<i>Having some small spaces in Boulder that don't have the same regulations and access as the rest of Boulder is fine. We do not need the city to be absolutely uniform with the same looks, limitations, and access everywhere. Variety is an asset in our town.</i>
Resident	<i>if the parklets are in line and level with the street, it seems to me that the access if beautiful for all commers. Easy Access, no extra expense, it works for Seniors, Wheelchairs, seems likely that it will be more user friendly than the current program. if each restaurant puts up their own enclosures, where does funding come to play?</i>
Resident	<i>Amplification downtown has a very negative effect on the experience everyone has. Acoustic music is great, amps cause many problems for businesses, neighborhoods, and outdoor diners.</i>
Resident	<i>Dog friendly please</i>
Resident	<i>Very confusing phrasing. I want lots of parklets. Full of animals with no outdoor heating. I hope my answers reflect that.</i>
Resident	<i>Let people bring their dogs for outdoor seating. The presence of people increases foot traffic for nearby businesses, not parking or visibility. Foot traffic increases business.</i>
Resident	<i>As a downtown resident, I do not prioritize parking and think more people should walk and/or use public transportation. Boulder needs to encourage this</i>
Resident	<i>I think with the warm winters these could benefit the business year round. Assuming the oarklet and outdoor dinning allows for snow removal.</i>
Resident	<i>I would consider extending the outdoor dining options as we have a great climate for longer than the proposed time frame</i>
Resident	<i>I am concerned with safety in proximity to fast moving vehicles, and would like curb or bollard placement to be considered. I also want to make sure this isn't restricting bike lane access.</i>
Resident	<i>I have very few concerns about any expansion of the program as we've seen how well it has worked during the pandemic.</i>
Resident	<i>None of this is even important until the zoning and public space issue is addressed. This poll is clearly trying to put the horse before the carriage.</i>
Resident	<i>Just expand Pearl street mall and walking area - for businesses not on the mall the pellet thing seems fine, but make them permanent structures (not seasonal)</i>
Resident	<i>Noise and size of crowds must be STRICTLY controlled.</i>
Resident	<i>There appears to be too much interest in mitigating parking issues. Parking in downtown Boulder has been a mess for a solid decade now... losing a hundred street parking places isn't going to</i>

	<i>change anything on the parking front. If you take a car downtown, you've already accepted a disaster trying to find a spot.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Accessibility is very important, though maybe there are some circumstances where it's not practical outdoors and indoor accommodations are made instead. Eg if a proposed parklet cannot be adapted to fit the dimensions needed for wheelchair clearance and the only other option is to scrap the parklet completely, I think it should still proceed (but with guarantees that there's an abundance of accessible space available indoors). However, I don't know why pets would be banned from parklets - provided they aren't disruptive and owners are respectful of others. If a pet is being disruptive, restaurants can enforce their standards on owners just as they would with any other rowdy patron.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Boulder should allow certified service animals to dine with their owner Inside and outside and that parking access for handicapped people should be accessible.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I don't love the suggestion of "seasonal" spaces. If we create places where people can enjoy being outside together, our sunshine makes that a reality year-round.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Less cars. Less cars. Less cars.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Please continue to allow dogs!!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Why not year-round?</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Outdoor dining is feasible here for so much more of the year than just May through October!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Downtown restaurants should not be forced into paying for extra space when they cannot afford it, cannot cope with the extra capacity, and cannot compete with other businesses (I would imagine not locally owned) that are able to participate.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I don't see what the harm is in allowing pets to accompany outdoor diners. If anything, it would increase business and a community feel. Maybe it could be limited to pets that have passed the off-leash program to ensure well behaved animals?</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>The city is coddling the downtown restaurants too much. There are plenty of other restaurants all over town struggling and would like more business. You should be promoting these options instead of giving the downtown ones a free ride.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Why only seasonal? No amplified sound in parklets? Then you just hear the cars rumbling by.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I have no idea what the policy is for non service animals right now. They seem to be allowed everywhere. Whatever policy you have you should enforce it so everyone has the same expectations</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Do it please year end</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I'd like to see the Parklets be year round. There are many days in the winter/spring where it is plenty warm and sunny to enjoy a meal outdoors</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Offering these on a seasonal basis, I suppose makes sense, but we get such nice days during winter, that having an option, would be great. Perhaps the cost/lease could be less during the winter - that way, you could still make some money off it as some business would likely opt out.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Why limit pets to service animals only??? Boulder is already very restrictive to pet owners, and it's in direct conflict with many other wonderful places to live. Well behaved dogs should be permitted to dine outdoors in these same spaces. Make boulder dog friendly please.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Like I mentioned, the cost of this program should not be 100% financed from the restaurants.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Turn every space into a parklet.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>In addition to "parklets," I support maintaining the street closure on the west side of Pearl St (east of 9th St).</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I don't know what a 'parklet' is</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Most residents who reside on either side of Pearl St, (Spruce and Walnut) rely on street parking so it would be important to make sure there is ample parking left for the residents.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Allowing non-service animals is important. Why is AMPLIFIED music necessary? There should be restrictions beyond just the 11 AM to 10PM time limit.</i>

Resident	<i>The outdoor dinning has contributed to excess noise in the surrounding community. The loud noise levels are consistently heard from downtown on a nightly basis which is a great disturbance to the surrounding neighborhoods, starting at sunset and lasting into the early hours of the morning.</i>
Resident	<i>Again, this survey is very slanted. It seems you have already approved parklets.</i>
Worker	<i>The enclosure on the left above looks terrible. Picture on the right much more acceptable</i>
Worker	<i>These are fine if lease prices are equitable to the city/community and adequate comparable parking is available</i>
Worker	<i>The fee would have to be nominal, adding cost to their bottom line expenses, unless they upcharge all food to make it up (which I already can't afford to eat).</i>
Worker	<i>Why wasn't this done decades ago? It will fail if done incorrectly, the first picture provided doesn't look like I'd use it (horrible view, right next to a stop sign so constantly breathing in fumes), the second picture seemed much nicer though. If you just have designated areas where people can eat next to the road it won't do well, but if more effort is put in it will succeed.</i>
Worker	<i>The parklets are a cute temporary solution but I would like to see a permanent option in the future.</i>
Worker	<i>We're living inside-out these days. It's nice to see the life and variety that's normally hidden. I like this. I like that it will help restaurants be more successful by providing more seating and showcasing people eating their foods.</i>
Worker	<i>I like the look, but don't want to feel boxes in</i>
Worker	<i>I don't like sitting on the street unless whe street is blocked or a median, semi-permanent barrier is installed between seating and traffic.</i>
Worker	<i>Don't just limit this to downtown!</i>
Worker	<i>Why only in summer? I have dined outdoors (especially lunch) in the winter on a warm day here plenty.</i>
Worker	<i>Just extend the walking mall of pearl from broadway through 20th</i>
Worker	<i>Seems good, but keep them up through the winter! It's usually still nice enough to eat outside on like half the days.</i>
Worker	<i>Please place them in such a way that passers-by aren't walking through dining areas. Pearl is very congested and thru-walkers should walk down the MIDDLE of the street, *not* the sides.</i>
Worker	<i>For certain areas the parklets seem to be a great solution. Mainly areas where it wouldn't be feasible to shutdown the whole road. The gray thing about taking to whole street is increasing walkablity and safety. The fee for the parklets needs to remain low enough to where a lot of restaurants are utilizing the space.</i>
Worker	<i>Sounds great</i>
Worker	<i>I would like to allow restaurants to design/decorate them however they like so they can keep their personality, everything looking the same is blah - Boulder has great personality because of the variety of businesses!</i>
Worker	<i>Parklets is an interesting concept for the streets which aren't fully closed to traffic, but West Pearl should be converted to fully pedestrian year-round.</i>
Worker	<i>I really enjoy the idea of parklets. Again, I believe the outdoor dining options really help to add to the sense of community in Boulder and its overall appeal. While there may be concerns about losing parking, Boulder has plenty of space and parking garages the should be better utilized rather than street parking. I think this could also help to encourage more use of the buses or biking as alternate modes of transportation.</i>
Worker	<i>Close the street year round</i>
Worker	<i>These examples are great, although maintaining walkways and bikeways is important (much more important than vehicle traffic).</i>
Worker	<i>Seating adjacent to buildings is appropriate and looks intentional. The disconnected pods in the street look horrible and will likely become less well cared for. The opportunities for vermin in these areas will be high. The loss of parking and access is very negative in my opinion. Not all Boulder residents and visitors are able to ride bicycles (even e-bikes/scooters). The idea that non-service animals will be excluded is fantasy and will become a free-for-all.</i>



Worker	<i>I like the appearance of these parklets and think they can be made more "Boulder" with some artistic flare and freedom for the restaurants to make them a usable space. I think solutions can be found to avoid traffic congestion and limited parking.</i>
Worker	<i>seating adjacent to the buildings seems well-planned and in concert with the plan for the city. Parklets that remove parking and reduce access are poorly thought out and may well become dirty, poorly maintained and dangerous.</i>
Worker	<i>looks nice</i>
Worker	<i>Great idea! I think you should consider waiving the pay fee for restaurant or businesses. This industry has been hit SO hard by the pandemic and could really use the help. I feel like the city might be excluding some small businesses that need it the most because they are unable to pay this fee.</i>
Worker	<i>Businesses will have to pay a fee? Your talking to the wrong person about increasing fees. I'm a person who seriously resents having to pay revocable leasing fees for the privilege of hanging an awning over your precious sidewalk. Not too mention outrageous commercial property taxes.</i>
Visitor	<i>Completely shortsighted because social distancing is needed most in the winter months when this program would not operate.</i>
Visitor	<i>Make it affordable, with very few hoops to jump through for the businesses</i>
Visitor	<i>I'd prefer a setup like on pearl street where streets are just closed and the outdoor seating is only separate with ropes. Feels roomier, less traffic = less noise and pollution, nice to stroll around.</i>
Visitor	<i>This seems good to me. I would still try to divert traffic as much as possible away from these areas. Eating outside while cars whiz by is no fun.</i>
Visitor	<i>Keep west pearl pedestrian only!</i>
Visitor	<i>Using already limited pedestrian areas concerns me.</i>
Visitor	<i>Plan is not fully fleshed out enough for me to really give a valid opinion and the survey did not seem objective. Please try again.</i>
Visitor	<i>I like it</i>
Visitor	<i>I like the idea</i>
Visitor	<i>I don't think it's fair to ask restaurants to lease parts of streets, especially if they're only taking up parking spaces, rather than blocking lanes. If they're already having to pay to lease their restaurant space, have limited seating indoors, it may be a large strain to them rent additional outdoor space to compensate for loss of indoor seating.</i>
Visitor	<i>Looks great</i>
Visitor	<i>Parklets should funded by the city &amp; be open to all, not just the restaurant.</i>
Visitor	<i>I'm not sold on the first image, but the second looks more in line with what I would have expected. Perhaps you can find a way to repurpose these areas in winter rather than needing to remove and store them.</i>
Visitor	<i>Sounds good</i>
Visitor	<i>Great! And I'd be fine further limiting driving as we currently see on Pearl up to 9th. (I've been walking to dine, well coffee and/or beer, so much more since that started!)</i>
Visitor	<i>It looks a little ugly and industrial. Some vegetation dividers would go a long way.</i>
Visitor	<i>The parklets are a brilliant idea, Louisville uses them with what I would consider great success in their downtown district. The raised platforms look fantastic, are often adorned with flower boxes, and are great fun to use.</i>
Visitor	<i>Don't make restaurants pay. That's so unnecessary and dumb</i>
Visitor	<i>Nice, it would be even better if we made the roads entirely pedestrian whenever possible</i>
Visitor	<i>Great idea</i>
Visitor	<i>I think outdoor dining should continue and expand.</i>
Visitor	<i>1) Why require a consistent design? Diversity of architecture is a key aspect of a vibrant city, don't make this some cookie cutter suburban hellscape or sterilized commercial district. 2) Add public space, like the rest of the mall, where anyone can sit and hang out without having to be using it for some commercial purpose (such as only being allowed to sit to eat at a restaurant). More benches!</i>

	<i>Someone will complain about homeless, but don't kill the community third spaces for that reason... 3) Why remove the infrastructure in winter? Leave it out for public use, plenty of people use the mall in the winter.</i>
Visitor	<i>Looks nice</i>
Visitor	<i>Would rather see permanent conversion of street surfaces to pedestrian walkways. Expansion of pedestrian mall</i>
Visitor	<i>I think a small fee is acceptable and reevaluation after 5 years is a good idea.</i>
Visitor	<i>How about the city just not try to fix what isn't broken? Just approve the current layout and add more permanent structures.</i>
Visitor	<i>Sounds cool! I liked them in San Fran</i>
Visitor	<i>Sounds like a thoughtful solution.</i>
Visitor	<i>This survey is pretty long</i>
Visitor	<i>Love the idea, but it's going to depend heavily on how much it cost</i>
Visitor	<i>I think it should go year-round. We're in Colorado; there are plenty of nice days from Nov 1 to April 30.</i>
Visitor	<i>Colorado has beautiful weather even in the winter. Perhaps some parklets ahold be year round? Also, please consider in the design that uniformity has virtues but so individuality. Not everyone want Boulder to look like Aspen.</i>
Visitor	<i>Seems like a nice idea for businesses whose location includes a large flat top parking lot. Not ideal for downtown where parking is already sparse and heavier sidewalk foot traffic would be disrupted. Seems like this would only benefit businesses who chose to rent....other businesses would be left with no benefit and only the negative of less parking, no?</i>
Visitor	<i>Love the idea of parklets; should be everywhere downtown. Much more important than on-street parking.</i>
Visitor	<i>The project should be year round. We have excellent weather that allows for outdoor dining year rounds. More permanent solutions should be considered (expanding sidewalk/patio concrete into permanent patios).</i>
Visitor	<i>This sounds good except for the fees for these businesses who are already hurting. With the rise in material goods costs and labor challenges we shouldn't force another expense on them until they are fully recovered. Is there relief money that could cover this cost for the next few years?</i>
Visitor	<i>Conceptually a good idea. Important that program does not overly impact other amenities, pedestrian atmosphere, room for festivals, special events, Historic character, etc.</i>
Visitor	<i>I like this concept a lot.</i>

### Question: Additional comments or suggestions

Restaurant	<i>The program should not be expanded.</i>
Restaurant	<i>The pandemic has altered human life and has drastically impacted what people want out of their cities and towns. Outdoor dining spaces are desirable and if implemented properly can transform a city into a creative environment where indoor and outdoor retail experiences flow naturally and all community members benefit. We see this is Cities thriving across the country. Boulder has the responsibility to provide equitable restrictions and accessibility guidelines for all businesses participating in outdoor dining but with enough flexibility that businesses can create and innovate a space that's right for them and may be unique to each space.</i>
Restaurant	<i>Please consider the additional sales tax revenue generated from outdoor dining. Also, at our restaurant, the outdoor dining spaces require additional employees (it's as if it was a separate dining room). Curbing outdoor dining or making it a profit center for the city is egregious and anti-business. Take away outdoor dining and you're taking away jobs and considerable sales tax revenue to the city and state. The pandemic has shifted human life and what people want out of their cities and towns. Outdoor dining spaces are desirable and if implemented properly can transform a city into a creative environment where indoor and outdoor retail experiences</i>

	<i>flow naturally and all community members benefit. Businesses like many things in life are not uniform and have varying needs. Boulder has the responsibility to provide equitable restrictions and accessibility guidelines for all businesses participating in outdoor dining but with enough flexibility that businesses can create and innovate a space that's right for them. In fact, it's the collection of businesses in Downtown Boulder that create the culture and dynamic of a desirable downtown, not the sterile parking spaces on the street. Who needs parking if there's no reason to visit Downtown Boulder? I ask that Downtown Boulder prioritize businesses when it comes to outdoor dining rather than look for an opportunity to create their own business of building, storing, and designing outdoor spaces for a profit at the detriment of businesses and their employees.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>open up West Pearl, perception of being closed is not good for any business in downtown.</i>
<i>Restaurant</i>	<i>Please consider the impact of the proposed outdoor dining program on smaller businesses.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Please consider closing the additional parts of Pearl permanently.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Building fronts onto Broadway</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I want the restaurants to thrive in Boulder during the pandemic but I do not support any permanent expansion into walkable areas. Any expansion of restaurants into streets, ally's, or sidewalks should be temporary.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>GOOD WORK.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>A general seating area that could have QR codes for several of the restaurants seems like a good use of the space</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>The life and vibrancy that exists downtown boulder is because of people, beautiful settings, and limited vehicle access on pearl and the expanded areas. Lean into what makes this place special!!</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>Please ban all cars in downtown boulder and turn the streets into outdoor PARTY zones!</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I am ready to get things looking a bit more cleaned up!</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>We support our neighbors and our concern for their recovery from COVID is very important to downtown. We tried changing how the West End was run for the past two years and while it helped for the short term, it is now seen as not a favorable change for the future.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>I often bring clients and partners down to the outside street space west of the Mall. They love it. Make it permanent.</i>
<i>Other Business</i>	<i>We need to allow open containers of alcohol in the downtown area. The cages are unreasonable and do not make any sense.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>A city for people, not cars, please!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Please don't ruin a great environment by over-defining or adding too much bureaucracy. Part of the charm of downtown has been the creative and different use of space by various restaurants and west end has a completely different than east end.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Bring back the fun and spontaneity of the mall experience and people will come back again. Give restaurants and bars some leeway to see what works and by creating little places that people can discover and return to, the mall will be vibrant and unique again. In Europe, you just sit at a table in a public square and restaurants will bring you things to eat or drink. That is awesome and fun. Make it happen.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Outdoor dining should be permanent even if it limits traffic.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Outdoor eating is a continued great option for restaurants AND patrons. But you are going in the wrong direction. No one wants Boulder to be about cars - and this whole thing about parklets is to keep people with cars happy and the revenue flowing. Try a different direction. Close down MORE streets. Force people into the many garages we have and keep the cars off the streets from May-October. That would be way better for EVERYONE.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I would love to see the temporary expansion of the Mall from 11TH to 9TH made permanent.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I live and run an Airbnb in downtown Boulder and have received many positive comments about the vibrancy of the West end where Pearl Street has been extended. My guests LOVE</i>

	<i>the vibrancy of the area. Please keep it the way it is and work in extending the East side as well.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>We need vaccination passports for people accessing bars and restaurants indoors or outdoors where 6 feet distance is not maintained between customers and people walking the mall.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>The temporary outdoor is about the only really good thing to come out of the pandemic.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Everything that we can do to make our business core, inviting, easy to use, friendly and with easy access will make our city stronger and more resilient.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Please, just close off the West end of Pearl semi-permanently and maybe open it up for deliveries at night or something. It's possibly the most useless stretch of road in all of Boulder and would be so much better and more pedestrian friendly as an extension of the walking mall.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I want to bring the tradition of German Christmas markets to Vail in December, Boulder's experience with outdoor dining will help build the arguments. Let's watch the tax revenue increase since 2020 and see what happens.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I actually haven't eaten at any downtown restaurants since the beginning of COVID, as I am being extra careful. But I think it's a good idea, even though parking by my [downtown] house has become ever more difficult.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I grew up in North Boulder and Gunbarrel. Now I live in the West End of Pearl Street.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>This poll doesn't seem to want to include WHO the survey is for? Is this for Boulder city council? A private development company? A local speculator? Just some guy on reddit?</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I live near the Pearl at mall and walk there every day The provision of outdoor eating is very important to me.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>While I'm lucky to live within a short walk of downtown, I'm concerned about the parking lost due to the outdoor seating areas. How are folks with mobility challenges affected? How about the businesses that now have significantly restricted access?</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Expand the permanent pedestrian only region of pearl street up to 9th street and provide funding for permanent outdoor seating areas in front of restaurants not currently included in the expanded walking area or pearl street more broadly. Do not allow traffic to return to upper pearl and do not make the "parklets" seasonal.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Extend the mall to 9th steeet!</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Please, please keep these outdoor spaces. They have truly been such a gift to our community.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Raising a family downtown.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Consideration needs to be given to where the outdoor dining is setup. Right now the temporary pedestrian area on Pearl is a bit of a disaster. The sidewalk on the north side of the street is way too small for the number of people passing through there.</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>I believe you are naïve of the restaurant business and just how much money they have. Sales tax revenues are not the only indicator. They wont tell you about all the free money they have but I will. I own a restaurant on 28th St. I have been given so much money and I have until March of 2023 to use it. I am currently running at 80% of pre-covid but should be at 110%. With all the free money I have been given, I will have to find ways to use it all up by March 2023. I have given all my staff a raise and I will NOT raise my prices until at least March 2023. I will replace or repair all my equipment and install new flooring and will still have money left over. WAKE UP</i>
<i>Resident</i>	<i>Boulder doesnt have to re-invent the wheel here. There are many cities across the world taht have highly successful outdoor dining arrangements. Boulder is very fond of using consultants on all projects and topics of change. I suggest that money will be well spent (better spent than the \$m's spent recently on municipalization project) on identifying 'best in class' outdoor dining and the key features and characteristics. After that, it should be easy to shape these elements to fit Boulder</i>

Resident	<i>You should be proactive about solving parking issues in a way that doesn't fob them off on neighborhoods. If more dense housing is allowed the problem is going to get a lot worse.</i>
Resident	<i>additional outdoor dining options have been really wonderful and I'd love to see it continue, and would even be in favor of expanding the pedestrian mall as well.</i>
Resident	<i>More walking zone please</i>
Resident	<i>I support maintaining the street closure on the west side of Pearl St (east of 9th). It has improved the accessibility and vibrancy of that side of the mall.</i>
Resident	<i>I'm all for this change and feel like it makes downtown Boulder even feel more unique.</i>
Resident	<i>I am in support of making this area in question permanently accessible to pedestrians, cyclists and outdoor dining and prohibiting cars.</i>
Resident	<i>Consider having one lane, one way west on the south side of Pearl from 11th to 10th, and then have one lane, one way north on 10th for the traffic to exit. This would help traffic, and have little impact on restaurants.</i>
Resident	<i>Noise has never been a problem in the surrounding neighborhood until the outdoor dining started. In addition, many of the surrounding businesses are suffering the negative impacts and consequences of the street being closed which is not equitable. The "save the restaurants" keeping the road closed while having a negative financial impact on those that are "not restaurants" is not positive impact for our overall community. The road open benefits both.</i>
Resident	<i>I live downtown just blocks from the mall. I understand the balance of supporting business and keeping the neighborhood feel of downtown.</i>
Worker	<i>(none)</i>
Visitor	<i>Extend the pedestrian mall west to 9th Street, streamline restaurant pick-up abilities in alleys, and prohibit amplified music entirely. Also, there is no enforcement of City Manager's emergency decrees for this closed off section of Pearl Street-- none. The BPD takes complaints but takes no action.</i>
Visitor	<i>As someone who wants to be social, but has medical conditions that make me cautious about covid, the outdoor dining options around Boulder have been a lifeline. I really appreciate them.</i>
Visitor	<i>I really like the program overall but it isn't perfect yet.</i>
Visitor	<i>I really can't see a downside to outdoor dining programs including expanded parklets or Downtown mall dining areas. It's a win for businesses (provided that their right-of-way use fees are kept reasonable), it's a win for diners like myself, and it's a great look for the city. One possible thing to keep in mind is the appearance of parklets that intrude into the roadway, i.e. they don't need to look like a pile of orange bollards and barriers like the ones by Snooze/Foolish Craig's on East Pearl, and can instead look visually quite appealing like the raised platforms that Downtown Louisville employs.</i>
Visitor	<i>Just extend the mall through that area and keep outdoor dining! It's not hard, I just feel we are going to make it some area only usable by people who have the money to eat--excluding anyone who isn't eating and not allowing vibrant cultural events for fear of parking issues or noise. Pearl used to be so cool, but between obscene rent and the city pushing out taverns it feels more and more dead each year...</i>
Visitor	<i>The effective expansion of the Pearl Street mall on the west end (between 11th and 9th) has been fantastic. With alley access to the business on Pearl, the city should consider making those two blocks of west Pearl Street a permanent part of the Pearl Street Mall.</i>
Visitor	<i>The closure of the west end of Pearl Street should be made permanent. It's a very nice extension of the mall. If vehicle access is required there a European style pedestrian mall with one vehicle lane that is open to vehicles outside of peak hours would allow delivery access..</i>
Visitor	<i>The outdoor dining option has been great for our family which has little kids that don't always like to sit down and sometimes make us self-conscious about noise levels. With outdoors as an option it makes going out to dinner an easier yes option for us.</i>
Visitor	<i>Ensure that pedestrians have adequate access, circulation. Make sure the parklet materials and design are of high quality and integrate the existing streetscape</i>



# City of Boulder

West Pearl Business Survey Results  
April 2022

## Background

The City of Boulder conducted an in-person and online survey of businesses between March 24 and April 4, 2022. The purpose of the survey was to get feedback on options being explored for expanded outdoor dining after the city emergency order expires on August 31, 2022. The emergency order allowed for temporary outdoor dining expansion program and the temporary closure of West Pearl Street to allow restaurants to operate in a safer manner and help offset indoor capacity limits related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The survey was completed by 47 owners and managers of businesses including restaurants, retailer stores, and other businesses in the immediate vicinity of the temporary closure. These restaurants represent 56% of the 84 businesses located on West Pearl Street between 9<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street invited to participate in the survey.

Of the businesses surveyed, 18 or 40% were restaurants, coffee shops, bars or taverns, 17 or 38% were retailers and the remaining 13 or 29% were a mix of businesses including tech companies, professional services providers, and others. A majority of survey participants (63%) represented businesses with fewer than 20 employees. Half had been operating in downtown Boulder for more than 10 years.

## Respondent Characteristics

<b><i>What type of business do you represent in Downtown Boulder? (Check all that apply.)</i></b>	<b>All Respondents</b>	<b>Restaurant</b>	<b>Retailer</b>	<b>Other</b>
Restaurant, coffee shop, bar or tavern	38%	38%	2%	--
Retail store	36%	2%	35%	--
Technology (software, digital marketing, etc.)	9%	--	--	8%
Professional services (accounting, architecture, engineering, legal, etc.)	6%	--	--	6%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	2%	--	--	2%
Personal services (hair salon, fitness, etc.)	2%	--	--	2%
Other – Photographer, Landlord and Business, Physician, Dispensary, Test	11%	--	--	10%
BASE	47	18	17	13

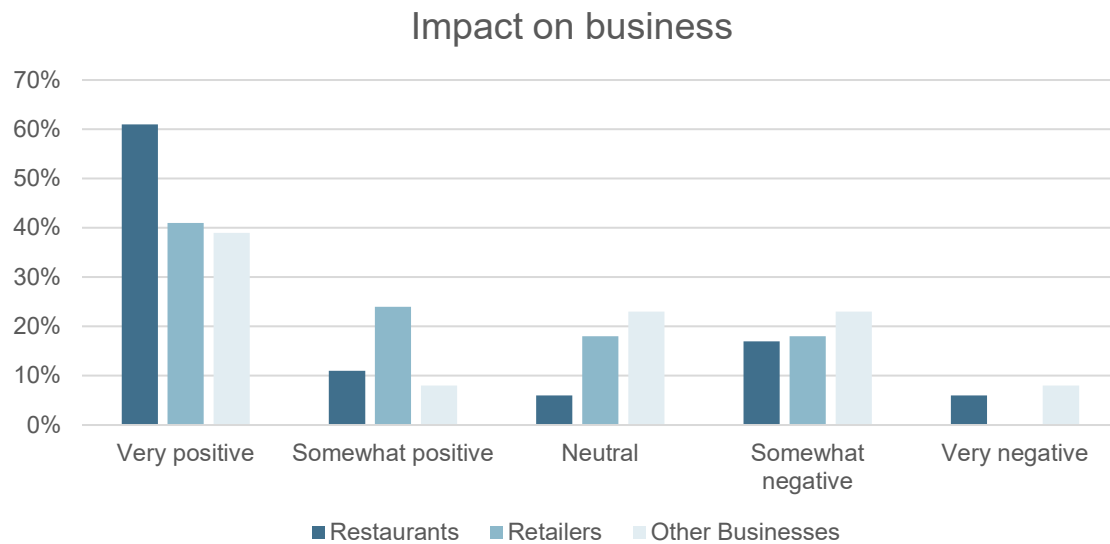
<b><i>Including yourself, how many employees does your business have in Boulder?</i></b>	<b>All Respondents</b>	<b>Restaurant</b>	<b>Retailer</b>	<b>Other</b>
1 to 4	26%	6%	41%	33%
5 to 9	17%	6%	35%	8%
10 to 19	20%	22%	12%	25%
20 to 49	22%	39%	12%	17%
50 to 99	13%	28%	--	8%
100 to 249	--	--	--	--
250 or more	2%	--	--	8%
BASE	46	18	17	12

<b>About how long has your business been located in Downtown Boulder?</b>	All Respondents	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
2 years or less	13%	17%	18%	--
3 to 5 years	13%	11%	18%	8%
6 to 10 years	22%	6%	18%	50%
11 to 20 years	26%	28%	24%	25%
More than 20 years	24%	33%	24%	17%
Not sure	2%	6%	--	--
BASE	46	18	17	12

## Detailed Summary of Findings

### Perceived impact of temporary street closure and expanded outdoor dining on West Pearl Street businesses

Most businesses reported the temporary expanded outdoor dining and closure of West Pearl had a positive impact on their business, with restaurants reporting the most positive impacts.

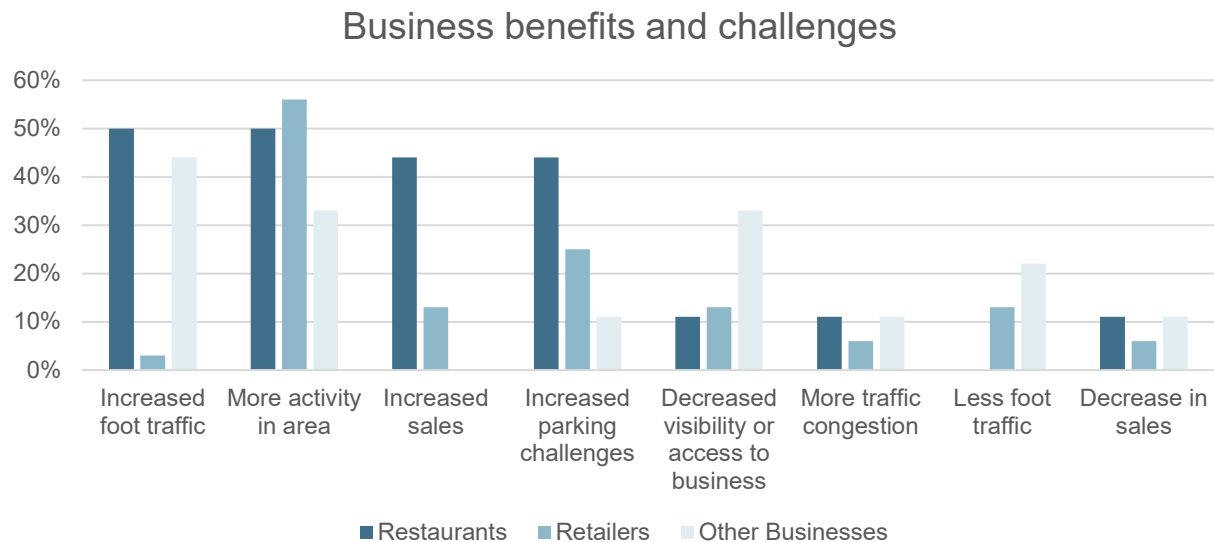


<b>How would you describe the impact the temporary street closure and expanded outdoor dining on West Pearl Street has had on your business?</b>	All Businesses	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
Very positive	49%	61%	41%	39%
Somewhat positive	13%	11%	24%	8%
Neutral	15%	6%	18%	23%
Somewhat negative	19%	17%	18%	23%
Very negative	4%	6%	--	8%
BASE	47	18	17	13



## Benefits and challenges experienced during temporary closure of West Pearl

While many businesses reported benefits from the temporary closure of West Pearl including increased foot traffic and activity in the area, several reported challenges.



<i><b>Which of the following, if any, has your business experienced during the temporary closure of West Pearl Street? (Check all that apply.)</b></i>	All Businesses	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
Increase in sales	21%	44%	13%	--
Increased foot traffic	52%	50%	3%	44%
More activity in area	48%	50%	56%	33%
More traffic congestion	10%	11%	6%	11%
Increased parking challenges	31%	44%	25%	11%
Less activity in area	2%	--	--	11%
Decreased visibility or access to business	17%	11%	13%	33%
Decrease in sales	10%	11%	6%	11%
Less foot traffic	10%	--	13%	22%
Other	31%	33%	25%	33%
BASE	47	18	16	9

Other responses listed below.

### RESTAURANTS

Able to accommodate more customers

Expands space for businesses

Increased safety for pedestrians

Extra infrastructure and staffing needed for outdoor dining, so extra expense

Helped with covid recovery, cultural improvement to street

---

More pedestrian safety, and better dining experience/vibe created

---

#### RETAILERS

---

Increased foot traffic \*COVID adjusted

---

Increase in crime and homeless population

---

Less isolation between businesses

---

Lighting issues in store with reflection from tent, loitering from people waiting for nearby restaurants

---

#### OTHER BUSINESSES

---

Building maintenance issues, additional homeless issues, ROW access challenges.

---

Inconvenient for my patients to access building

---

Not relevant to business

---

### ***What other challenges or benefits related to the street closure has your business experienced?***

---

#### RESTAURANTS

---

Street performers draw in more people for the business

---

No challenges because parking was already limited prior to the closure, so it hasn't negatively affected business at all. Street musicians in the road bring in more foot traffic and business

---

Loss of commuters and ski traffic. Although the closure does create a nice atmosphere and energy

---

The expanded outdoor dining has given us free real estate and allows us to host more events

---

The closure is bad for business in the winter because it is too cold and snowy for customers to dine outside on the south side of Pearl, and the tents are unattractive

---

We've only been open 1 year so we can't tell the difference between no outdoor dining & the current situation. However, having the extra seating outside has enabled us to serve many more customers than we would have been able to without it.

---

Lack of foot traffic

---

#### RETAILERS

---

More interaction between local businesses building a stronger community, traffic was already bad before the closure so opening it up won't help with congestion or access

---

It brings in more activity in the area but this activity is chaotic and disruptive, like a circus. It drives away high value customers. The closure is only good for a few restaurants, but hurts the rest of the businesses

---

Danger with chairs and umbrellas flying in the wind, causes disarray and poor looks

---

Traffic difficulties in the evenings

---

More people are starting on the West End and the tourists prefer to have the road closed off

Challenging to be on corner from bricks because street performers can use noise amplifiers off the mall, so they and SALT receive a lot of loud performances outside their store

store next to My Neighbor Felix and they told the store their tents would not go in front of Flower Wild, however in the winter they expanded their tent to cover the storefront

loss in sales due to parking issues and access

No parking directly in front of our business - but that was always taken/full anyway.

It was fine for a while because everyone understood that's what needed to happen. Now, it needs to shift as everything is changing. So, giving a little to outdoor dining and a little more parking and visibility for us seems like a good compromise. Plus the outdoor dining situation as it is now just looks so awful. It's sad for our town to look so disheveled.

Can't tell if the changes in business have simply been due to the pandemic or if they're related to the West Pearl closure.

The closure is bad for business in the winter because it is too cold and snowy for customers to dine outside on the south side of Pearl, and the tents are unattractive

#### OTHER BUSINESSES

Since there is no vehicle traffic on our block-Google Maps puts all our customers in the alley behind the business, which is not easy.

No challenges or benefits. Really doesn't impact our business

My business has not been impacted, either negatively or positively.

### Opinions on options for West Pearl Street after August 31

When presented with four different options for West Pearl Street after the emergency order expires, businesses were generally supportive of continuing expanded outdoor dining.

*Next, I'd like to ask your opinion about options for West Pearl Street (between 9th and 11th Street) after the emergency order expires on August 31. For each option I read, please tell me whether you Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Disagree, or Strongly Disagree.*

<b><i>Open West Pearl to vehicle traffic and curbside parking with no expanded outdoor dining</i></b>	All Businesses	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
Strongly agree	18%	18%	13%	25%
Agree	11%	18%	6%	8%
Neither agree nor disagree	7%	6%	13%	--
Disagree	27%	24%	25%	33%
Strongly disagree	38%	35%	44%	33%
BASE	45	17	16	12

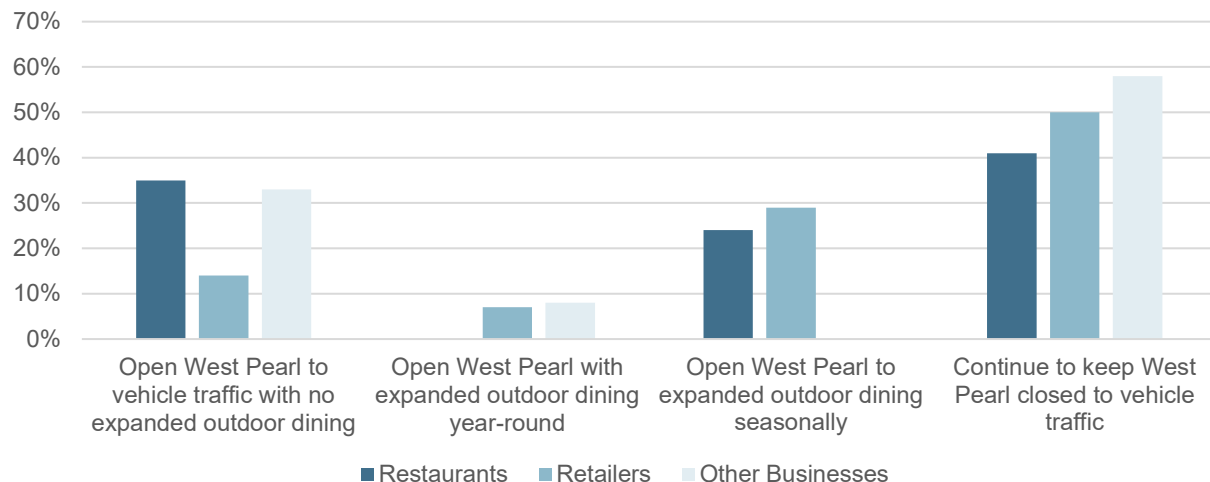
<b><i>Open West Pearl Street to vehicle traffic with year-round outdoor dining in curbside parking spaces</i></b>	All Businesses	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
Strongly agree	--	--	--	--
Agree	24%	24%	31%	17%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	24%	19%	8%
Disagree	36%	29%	44%	33%
Strongly disagree	22%	24%	6%	42%
BASE	45	17	16	12

<b><i>Open West Pearl Street to vehicle traffic with seasonal outdoor dining in curbside parking spaces from May through October</i></b>	All Businesses	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
Strongly agree	11%	6%	13%	17%
Agree	31%	41%	25%	25%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	18%	13%	--
Disagree	27%	24%	44%	8%
Strongly disagree	20%	12%	6%	50%
BASE	45	17	16	12

<b><i>Continue to keep West Pearl Street closed to vehicle traffic while the city explores long term options</i></b>	All Businesses	Restaurant	Retailer	Other
Strongly agree	44%	47%	44%	42%
Agree	18%	12%	19%	25%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	12%	19%	--
Disagree	4%	6%	6%	--
Strongly disagree	22%	24%	13%	33%
BASE	45	17	16	12

When asked which of the four options they preferred, many businesses preferred to keep West Pearl Street closed to vehicle traffic while the city explores long term option while others preferred other options.

### Preferred option for West Pearl after August 31



<b><i>Of the options above, which would you prefer for West Pearl after August?</i></b>	<b>All Businesses</b>	<b>Restaurant</b>	<b>Retailer</b>	<b>Other</b>
Open West Pearl to vehicle traffic and curbside parking	28%	35%	14%	33%
Open West Pearl to vehicle traffic with expanded year-round outdoor dining	5%	--	7%	8%
Open West Pearl to vehicle traffic with expanded seasonal outdoor dining	19%	24%	29%	--
Continue to keep West Pearl closed to vehicle traffic	49%	41%	50%	58%
BASE	43	17	14	12

### ***Why do you prefer that option?***

#### **RESTAURANTS**

Nice to see people walking about, better for safety, definitely want the street closed in the Summer

More seating, more pedestrian traffic coming from East Pearl, family friendly, safer

Customers need access to restaurant front parking. Lack of parking has significantly hurt business

Not that much traffic comes through this area regardless so this is a safer solution for families and kids. It really does not affect residential parking

Outdoor dining creates a good atmosphere but causes a loss of car traffic

The closure has made parking more difficult for customers

The owners bought this store front specifically because it was not a part of the pedestrian mall

Huge increase in sales and foot traffic

helped the restaurants, provides a unique vibes, more revenue and spending money, and pearl is intended to be a walking mall

no night traffic and visitations in evening. the point of our business is to be a grab and go option so the nearby parking is essential. We had next to no revenue in the winter.

parking and vehicle traffic needed for revenue. outdoor dining was helpful at first but now hindering restaurant performance

I do not agree to answering the above questions because the questionnaire is clearly pre-decided due to the limited options. I want a fifth option for the entire street to be open and closed seasonally, not just seasonal outdoor dining. I would prefer for the west end to be closed to vehicular traffic in the summer and reopened in the winter.

Great for business because it extends the pedestrian mall, encouraging people to continue walking past the bricked section and into West Pearl. It also creates stronger community bonds between the shops and restaurants

The public prefers the closure and outdoor dining. It just creates such a communal and welcoming environment. However, the seasonal solution may be best because people don't typically want to dine outdoors in the winter. A seasonal street closure would be the best option (a 5th alternative).

We get so much more revenue from the increased foot traffic.

More sales for the restaurants and more foot traffic for the other retail businesses.

Because it's not a level playing ground, some places don't have the option to have the outdoor dining due to location. Things should go back to normal!

## RETAILERS

Would prefer if the road was tiled over like East Pearl, if you're driving you can't take in all of the storefronts that quickly. Walking leads to more pedestrians coming into the store

Far more people walk over to this part of town now, parking wasn't great before the closure so it hasn't changed parking access that much

Really like how it expands pearl further west. Without it being closed off, most people turn around after 11th and never see our store.

This option would bring in more traffic and fewer homeless people

We want what restaurants want, which is parking. 10th needs to be open for cars

I just want what the downstairs folks want

Driving and parking was annoying and chaotic before the closure, we want what the restaurants want

More visibility for the business with car traffic

Outdoor dining without tents would be preferable. Business visibility and store parking important priorities.

whatever is best for the restaurants. Do what is best and do it well. Commit to an option and invest in making the street nice. The street currently feels half-assed.

I believe that the walking mall should be bricked and permanently extended to West Pearl. It encourages foot traffic to continue beyond the current walking mall that is bricked. The human activity on the street is more valuable to the businesses and community than opening up vehicles routes is. It attracts more walking around - and the feeling is fun and safe compared to when it was car traffic. I've worked on Pearl St since 2002.

It gives everyone a chance to benefit.

---

This allows the city to make more money with parking but still bring people in with the outdoor dining

---

I do not agree to answering the above questions because the questionnaire is clearly pre-decided due to the limited options. I want a fifth option for the entire street to be open and closed seasonally, not just seasonal outdoor dining. I would prefer for the west end to be closed to vehicular traffic in the summer and reopened in the winter.

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### OTHER BUSINESSES

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Difficult for people to park, especially handicap and families. Impacting restaurant business because of lack of parking

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Curbside parking is key since people have gotten into the hang of ordering online. It would be amazing if Boulder wanted to make free parking a thing on West Pearl St. :)

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Nice to walk out of the office and stroll over to the coffee shop and other shops. It's safer for pedestrians and the lack of cars is also less noisy. Our business is not impacted by the lack of parking because we have an alley for vendors to pick up/drop off shipments.

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It's nice to have the additional walking space.

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The outdoor dining seems to provide an extra energy and vibrance to Pearl Street area.

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Great for the vibrance of downtown, minimal disruption to traffic and business.

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More foot traffic. Relieves sidewalk congestion. It creates a pleasant destination.

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The closure makes West pearl much more active and appealing. From our perspective it creates a much more attractive environment for recruiting new employees to our business.

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The street closures do not allow for fire access, this is a life safety issue. The street closures do not allow building owners to maintain their buildings - ROW access for roof equipment replacement. The storm drain specifically on the north side of pearl between 9th and 10th is a huge issue - standing water, ice in the winter - this will be an issue with traffic or not but people wouldn't be dining next to standing water. There is no standard or quality control. It attracts homeless.

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I love the walkability of the area and all the expanded use of outdoor dining year round. It just seems like a natural progression of the Pearl St. mall.

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the sidewalks are very congested, impossible to social distance. tables are even on the sidewalks, obstructing pedestrian traffic. Parking spots are unavailable, impossible to access handicap parking.

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### Other comments and suggestions regarding closure or expanded outdoor dining

***Please share any additional comments or suggestions you have about the temporary closure of West Pearl Street or expanded outdoor dining.***

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## RESTAURANTS

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Would continue expanded outdoor dining if offered for free after August, but may not if it is has a fee per sq ft. Would love to see this end of the street bricked up like East Pearl

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Open the streets!

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Not engaged in expanded outdoor dining because being on a street corner makes it difficult to avoid being in the way of emergency vehicles

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Uncertainty in the future of outdoor dining and street closure prevents us from making investments in our outdoor dining, so it is not set up as nice as we would like it

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Questions about whether the street would be bricked over or not... with the current street it is easy to have outdoor dining, not the winding pathways and obstacles like the bricked area has this closure helps the restaurants tremendously

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parking on 10th needed!

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Willingness to participate in expanded outdoor dining after the emergency order depends on the cost. If it's free, then we are very likely to continue participating. The parklet proposal does not consider how it effects retail. Why can't retailers also get outdoor parklets to sell goods? There MUST be a 5th option - seasonal closure of the West End.

---

We really like having it closed to traffic. Way more kids playing in the streets creating a great atmosphere, and it's a lot safer for pedestrians

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Outdoor seating has had a huge positive impact on our restaurant. Revenue has been high because of the additional seating. Also, some customers still aren't comfortable with indoor seating due to Covid, so it's nice to have that option for them. The city has an obligation to help up continue this revenue stream.

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Things need to go back to normal!

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## RETAILERS

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Concern over sidewalk access due to neighboring restaurants with large expanded outdoor dining. Few employee parking options has caused a lot of problems for employees

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Keep it closed!

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Need better signage in side alleys to keep cars from speeding through them while kids are playing

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Huge influence on walking patterns, ADA access is still available, the owners prefer closed

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Just opened business so not sure how it would impact boutique, but heard negative things from customers about looks and aesthetic of West Pearl

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Desire to extend bricks through 9th street and impose same regulations. Parking issues are minimal and the increased foot traffic far outweighs the parking slots.

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tent expansion in winter not great to nearby businesses- impacts parking and visibility

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Do whatever is best, but do it right! Look at places like Soho or Palm Desert that still have traffic and parking but also outdoor dining.

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It just feels more positive and welcoming with the diners and shoppers in the street. In the view of my business and after interacting with my neighbors over the past couple years- it seems quite high in the benefit category and low in the cost category to keep it permanent.

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brick the whole street and extend the pedestrian mall

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Willingness to participate in expanded outdoor dining after the emergency order depends on the cost. If it's free, then we are very likely to continue participating. The parklet proposal does not consider how it effects retail. Why can't retailers also get outdoor parklets to sell goods? There MUST be a 5th option - seasonal closure of the West End.

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### **OTHER BUSINESSES**

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Thanks for asking us how we feel about the plans. This has been a crazy 2 years and we are hopeful for the future of our downtown Boulder business.

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Close more streets

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It creates a nice mixed use space without the restriction of the pedestrian mall.

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Would love for the closure to be permanent and for flowers and trees to be planted in the street.

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The additional seating capacity is a challenge for restaurants. The kitchens were not sized to accommodate the additional customers. Our restaurant tenants have gone out of business since the street closures. Both businesses noted that the additional seating did nothing to help business instead it really hurt their businesses. Retailers rely on restaurants to have additional foot traffic, with vacant restaurants the retailers also suffer.

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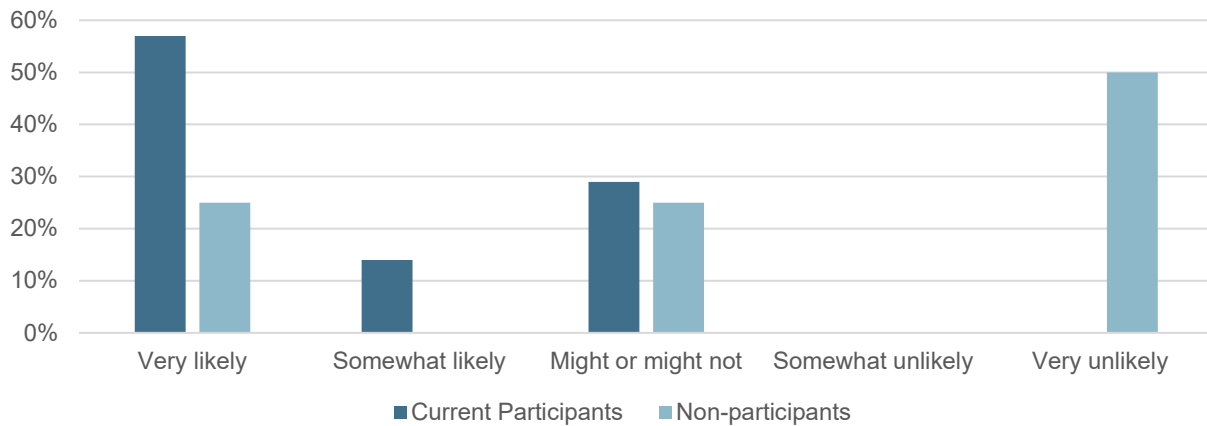
the area is extremely congested, parking unavailable.

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## **Current and Expected Participation in Expanded Outdoor Dining Program**

Nearly 80% of the restaurants surveyed participated in the temporary outdoor dining expansion program. Of those, 57% indicated they were “very likely” to participate if the program were to be offered after August 31.

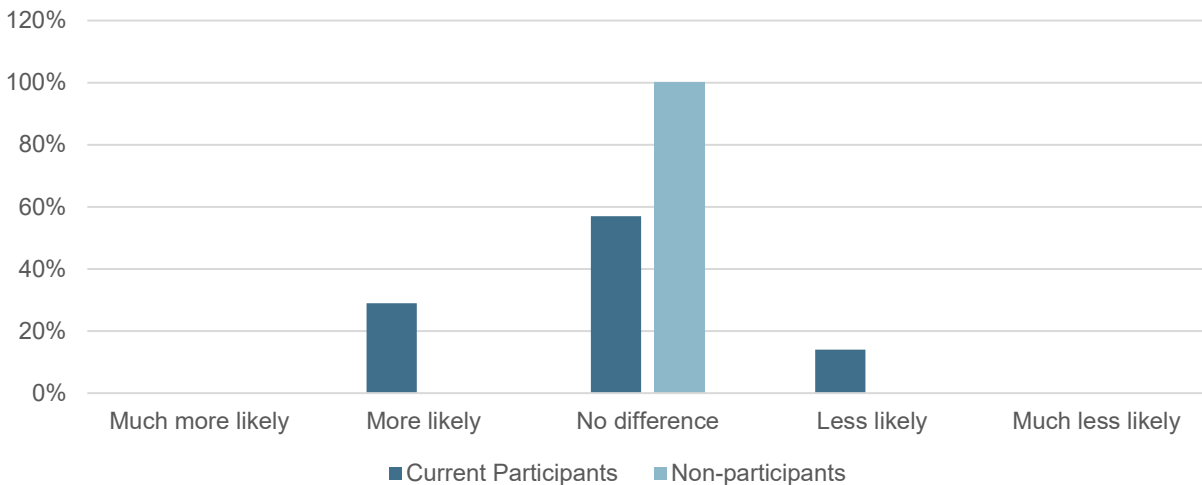
## Likelihood of participating in program after August 31



<b><i>If expanded outdoor dining were to be offered on West Pearl Street after the emergency order expires on August 31, how likely is your business to participate in the program?</i></b>	All Restaurants Surveyed	Current participant	Does not participant
Very likely	50%	57%	25%
Somewhat likely	11%	14%	--
Might or might not	28%	29%	25%
Somewhat unlikely	--	--	--
Very unlikely	11%	--	50%
BASE	18	14	4

If the expanded outdoor dining were to be offered on a seasonal basis, most restaurants indicated it would not make a difference. Over one-fourth (29%) of current participants indicated they would be more likely to participate in the program.

## Impact of seasonal option on participation after August 31



<b><i>If expanded outdoor dining on West Pearl after August 31 was only available on a seasonal basis from May through October, would your business be any more or less likely to participate?</i></b>	<b>All Restaurants Surveyed</b>	<b>Current participant</b>	<b>Does not participant</b>
Much more likely	--	--	--
More likely	22%	29%	--
No difference	67%	57%	100%
Less likely	11%	14%	--
Much less likely	--	--	--
BASE	18	14	4

## Outdoor Dining – Benchmarking Communities

4/4/2022

**Summary**

Several cities across the country have been working to create permanent outdoor dining programs that build off the success of temporary patio and dining space expansions that were allowed through emergency orders during the COVID-19 pandemic. To create a successful permanent program requires a variety of policy changes and ordinance creations. Below are some high-level bullet points of what other communities are doing to move from a temporary to permanent outdoor dining program, including how their programs take operations, equity, accessibility, and safety into consideration.

- i. **Los Angeles, California** – The Los Angeles County City Council voted to begin steps to make its COVID-19 al fresco outdoor dining program permanent
  - a) *Operations:* Department of City Planning to prepare ordinance that would keep current program intact
  - b) *Equity:* \$2 million in grants for restaurants in low-income neighborhoods to set up permanent parklets for outdoor dining
  
- ii. **Portland, Oregon** – The free Healthy Businesses permits that were set to expire June 30 will be extended at no charge through August 31, 2022, allowing more time for the city and businesses to transition to the next phase of the program. Permits starting September 1, 2022 will be good through December 31, 2023. These permits will now have a fee component associated with them to offset administrative costs and to partially recoup the value of the right-of-way that is being privatized
  - a) *Operations:* Applications for 15-month permits that start September 1 will be accepted starting in Summer 2022
  - b) *Equity:* Centering the needs of BIPOC communities -- PBOT has provided over \$85,000 of free traffic control devices and device installation for BIPOC businesses. In 2021, \$40,000 in Cares Act funding was utilized to provide furnishing supplies (pop-up tents, tables, lights, signs, etc.) to over twenty BIPOC businesses, for plaza spaces
  - c) *Accessibility:* Access for pedestrians and people with disabilities must be always maintained; A clear 6-foot pedestrian path is always required throughout the sidewalk and no obstructions may be placed in this zone at any time; Businesses must ensure that there is always access for people to line up and use transit stops
  - d) *Safety:* All streets will require some combination of traffic control equipment to separate people and vehicles; Parking lanes are typically 8ft wide; 7ft may be used for the installation with the remaining foot to be used for traffic control or other approved buffering materials; Streets with higher speed limits (25 mph or higher) will require more

- iii. **San Francisco, California** – The Shared Spaces initiative will transition from a pandemic program to a permanent program. Rules will go into effect gradually over time, including rules and permit application due dates.
  - a) *Operations*: Phased implementation including new design and operating rules; To remain in the codified non-emergency program, some parklets will need to re-size, relocate, or be removed; Permits range from \$1,000 - \$3,000 depending on parklet type with an annual license ranging from \$100 - \$2,000
  - b) *Equity*: Equity grants provided to businesses in neighborhoods hardest hit by COVID-19
  - c) *Accessibility*: Compliance with ADA and emergency access rules
  - d) *Safety*: Visibility at intersections – vision zero (8’ – 20’ setbacks from crosswalks); emergency access gaps as well as setbacks from parklets and parking spots
- iv. **Tucson, Arizona** – The Tucson City Council agreed to an 18-month extension of the “streateries” program and to develop a permanent program for such use of public spaces, including the development of parklets.
  - a) *Operations*: The Department of Transportation & Mobility, in partnership with Planning and Development Services and the Office of Economic Initiatives, is working on how to transition the COVID-19 Temporary Expansion of Restaurant Seating into public spaces from an emergency response into a streamlined ongoing program; Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) is currently developing an amendment to the Unified Development Code that could allow restaurants and bars to reduce the number of parking spaces required on their site in order to expand the outdoor seating area

## Resources

Outdoor Dining - Los Angeles County ([lacounty.gov](https://lacounty.gov))

[Los Angeles City Council seeks to make COVID outdoor dining program permanent - ABC7 Los Angeles](#)  
[pbot-healthy-biz-public-plaza-eval-report.pdf \(portland.gov\)](#)

Healthy Businesses design requirements and permit conditions | Portland.gov

Shared Spaces | San Francisco (sf.gov)

Taking it to the streets: Tucson extends restaurant sidewalk seating | Subscriber | tucson.com

Commercial Parking Amendments | Official website of the City of Tucson (tucsonaz.gov)