

City of Santa Barbara

# GUIDE TO OPERATING A BUSINESS ON STATE STREET

The novel coronavirus pandemic has caused unprecedented disruption in our community and created significant challenges for businesses. The City invites State Street restaurant and retail businesses to temporarily expand their operations onto public sidewalks in order to provide additional outdoor seating capacity for restaurants and safe physical distance for all.

For more information about public health directives for re-opening businesses, please review the County's **Reopening in a Safe Environment (RISE) Guide**: [recoversbc.org/the-rise-guide](http://recoversbc.org/the-rise-guide) and the State's **COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Dine-In Restaurants** at [covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance](http://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance).

**Note:** Additional steps are required prior to re-opening. Please follow the instructions in the RISE Guide and submit the **Business Attestation Form** and the **Industry Checklist**. These forms are required for **all** businesses, even if you have already been open and operating.

**Sidewalk Operations are Temporary:** The City of Santa Barbara reserves the right to remove any materials placed in the right-of-way at its sole discretion. City approval is not required for businesses to expand onto sidewalks or parking lots in accordance with these guidelines, but when your setup is complete, take photos from different angles and send to [OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov) with the restaurant or retail business address in the subject.

**Restaurant and Retail Contact:** For questions and additional guidance, send an email to [OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov).

## Specifications for Business Operations Extending into the Public Right-of-Way

To meet social distancing requirements, businesses, including restaurants and retail shops, may augment existing operations such as indoor dining or retail sales onto the sidewalk adjacent to their store frontage and may further extend into the street area but cannot extend more than **seven feet** from the curb.

Tables and any retail apparatus must be spaced at least **six feet** apart, in accordance with public health guidelines for physical distancing. If an adjacent business also chooses to extend into the public right-of-way, please coordinate your layout to ensure proper distancing.

All seating and other fixtures must be temporary and easily removed. Fixtures must not alter or damage the pavement, landscaping, lighting, or any other City property.

Portable heaters and lighting are permitted, however, please ensure proper clearance to trees, awnings, and umbrellas to avoid fire hazards. Heaters and lighting must be self-contained, with no wires or other trip hazards.

The City strongly recommends storing temporary fixtures indoors while your business is closed. The City is not responsible for loss or damage to private property in the public right-of-way.

## Accessibility

Businesses who choose to establish dining or retail sales must maintain an unrestricted minimum four-foot path of travel through their sidewalk operations, and must continue to provide access for disabled customers, including on sidewalk and curbside tables.

All existing curb ramps, near intersections and mid-block crossings must be free of any obstructions in order to maintain accessibility. See illustration below.

