

OUTDOOR DINING

Zoning & Planning Committee 02-28-22 Meeting

TEMPORARY OUTDOOR DINING ACCOMMODATION

Proposed Zoning Amendment

- ▶ *Insert a new Sec. 5.1.3.G:*

From April 1, 2022 until and including January 1, 2023, a restaurant shall be allowed to place outdoor seating on its off-street parking stalls without any impact on any applicable parking and seating capacity requirements set forth elsewhere in this Chapter 30 or any applicable special permit. All such seating shall require prior approval from the Director of Inspectional Services and Director of Planning to ensure the proposed seating will operate appropriately and safely, and all applicable licensing requirements shall still apply.

- ▶ Necessitated by the expiration of Governor Baker's Emergency Order which was extended only to April 1, 2022 for outside dining.
- ▶ Private property outdoor dining proved a lifeline during COVID for several restaurants and their need continues for this amenity.
- ▶ This extension would permit restaurants to continue to offer outdoor dining to their customers during the upcoming uncertain period.
- ▶ Even with this extension, restaurants seeking to use private parking lots or patios adjacent to their restaurants would still need to obtain local and state licensing approvals and abide by their conditions.