



Department Source: Community Development - BSD

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: January 22, 2019

Re: Amending Chapters 4 and 24 as they relate to Sidewalk Cafes

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance that would revise the existing regulations for sidewalk cafes within the downtown. In July 2018 the Downtown Community Improvement District, in correspondence to the City Council, requested an update of the café approval procedures and standards. The Council subsequently directed staff to produce appropriate amendments for Council review. Staff has worked with the CID on amendments to Chapter 4 (Alcoholic Beverages) and Chapter 24 (Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places).

Discussion

City staff has worked with the Downtown CID to revise the existing sidewalk café provisions in the Code of Ordinances. These provisions are primarily found in Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages with a paragraph in Chapter 24 Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places to provide for sidewalk dining which may or may not involve the serving of alcoholic beverages.

The draft ordinance makes the following changes:

- Requires an annual "sidewalk café license" which must be renewed annually and may be revoked for violations;
- Clarifies that a right of use permit shall be required for any non-portable café installation (i.e., for any permanently fastened or affixed furniture or associated improvements);
- Requires an application, site plan, and annual fee;
- Continues to require barriers if (and only if –otherwise optional) alcoholic beverages are served and provides more flexibility in choice of materials and colors;
- Prohibits advertising within the café area (other than identification of the establishment);
- Continues to provide for an unobstructed 60-inch pathway which is to be both physically and visually unobstructed (i.e., can be perceived from end-to-end) around the café area;
- Cross references Chapter 24 provisions in the Chapter 4 provisions.

The Downtown CID has had an opportunity to review the draft ordinance in its Operations Committee and Board of Directors. Community Improvement District staff have informed restaurant operators of the proposed changes.



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

This ordinance is focused on the physical characteristics of sidewalk café areas. No provisions relating specifically to food or alcoholic beverage service are proposed to be changed at this time.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: No significant impact; fee would offset staff time

Long-Term Impact: No impact anticipated

Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

Vision Impacts:

Primary Impact: Downtown, Secondary Impact: Community Character, Tertiary Impact: Economic Development

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Economy, Secondary Impact: Public Safety, Tertiary Impact: Infrastructure

Legislative History

Date	Action
April 21, 2014	Amendments to Chapter 4 as it relates to sidewalk cafes
March 21, 2005	Amendments to Chapter 4 and Chapter 16 to provide for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on public sidewalks adjacent to restaurant bars
April 19, 2004	Amending Chapter 24 of the City Code as it relates to the obstruction of streets and sidewalks

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the proposed amendments.