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Oshkosh Restaurants and Bars Allowed to Temporarily Expand Outdoor Seating

OSHKOSH, Wis., May 19, 2020 – Given the need for eating and drinking establishments and businesses with liquor licenses to comply with guidelines for reducing the spread of COVID-19, the Oshkosh Common Council has approved a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) to allow these businesses to expand their seating areas outside of their current building, decks and patios. All COVID-19 related TUPs would expire on October 1, 2020.

Temporary outdoor patios, picnic tables, tables and chairs with umbrellas, tents or temporary bars could be set-up in their side, front and rear yards, parking lots, or even neighbor's property (with permission). The establishments' goal would be to keep at their current seating capacity, but reduce the customer density by expanding their seating areas outside.

The TUP application form details the minimum requirements for Zoning, County Health, Police, Fire, Clerk, Public Works and Inspections for the proposed TUPs. Staff has based these standards for approval on protecting public health and safety for the establishments' customers and employees, and the establishments' neighbors. The planned review time for these applications would be in 2-3 days.

The TUP application is available online on the city's COVID-19 page on the city's website at: <https://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/covid19.aspx>. Any questions regarding these permits may be directed to the Planning Services Division, at (920) 236-5059 or planning@ci.oshkosh.wi.us.

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