



Moorhead Restaurants & Bars

Designating Temporary Outdoor Service Area

Starting June 1, 2020, Minnesota restaurants and bars can begin serving food and drinks in outdoor service areas that are connected to their business. (Executive Order: 20-56). [Download this PDF](#) for industrial specific guidance to safely reopening restaurants and bars.

Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Service - Private Property: **No City approval is required.** If you are only serving food and non-alcoholic beverages on property you own or lease, no additional license or review by the city is needed for existing outdoor seating. If you are thinking of constructing a deck or patio, please contact Building Codes regarding permitting – 218.299.5424

Food and Alcoholic Beverage Service – Private Property: **City approval is required.** Businesses with an alcoholic beverage license must continue to comply with [state law](#) by serving alcoholic beverages in an outdoor area that is “compact and contiguous” to their current business. We have put together this guidance to help you understand how this could work for your Moorhead business.

Outdoor Service Area Defined:

- ✓ Permanent Structures – Patios, decks, or pavilions connected to the main building which are owned or leased by the business that are delineated by a fence or other barricade.
- ✓ Temporary Structures – Patios or seating areas created on a sidewalk or parking lot owned or leased by the business and delineated by a fence or other barricade.

To obtain approval of a temporary outdoor service area, the owner of the business issued the alcoholic beverage license must submit the following items to the City Clerk (cityclerk@cityofmoorhead.com):

- ✓ Description of the temporary outdoor service area including the size, barrier used, number and spacing of seating, location to business, and any other available plan details.
- ✓ Photos(s) of the outdoor service area.
- ✓ Statement acknowledging this temporary use ends on December 31, 2020.

Some restaurants and bars may already have permanent outdoor seating designated on their alcoholic beverage license. You should check your license to be sure the outdoor space is adequately described in the document.

Food and/or Alcohol Beverage Service - City Sidewalk or Other Public Property: **City approval is required.** Public spaces not normally used for expanded seating could be reviewed and considered if it is contiguous to the property. (Resolution 2020-0526-3)

- ✓ Sign a temporary use agreement describing the outdoor service area, how it will be delineated, and other details, as necessary.
- ✓ Provide a copy of your Certificate of Liability Insurance listing the City of Moorhead as additionally insured in the amount of \$1 million.

Alcohol Catering Permit: Another option for businesses it to apply for an [alcohol catering permit](#). This would allow food and beverage service in spaces that are not “compact or contiguous” additions to your business but food service *by your business* is a requirement. It is also an additional state license which would add time for state review and approval.

Contacts: Derrick LaPoint, DMI/Economic Development
Email: dlapoint@dtmoorhead.org
Phone: 218.443.1361

Christina Rust, City Clerk
Email: cityclerk@cityofmoorhead.com
Phone: 218.299.5304