

City of Santa Barbara PARKLET GUIDELINES

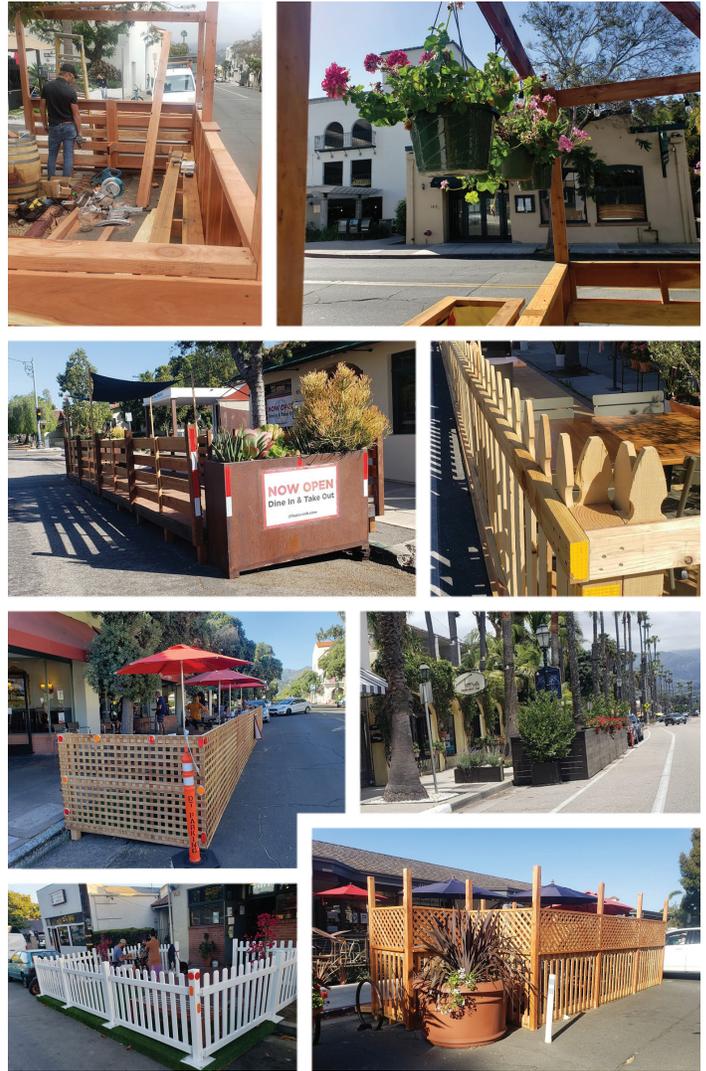
What is a parklet?

A parklet is an innovative way to add (physically distant!) temporary gathering space to public streets. Built and maintained by neighboring businesses, parklets are located in the parking lane adjacent to the curb and designed as an extension to the sidewalk.

Site selection

Any food service or personal care business permitted to operate under State and local public health directives may create a parklet, provided the location meets the following criteria:

	ALLOWED	CONTACT CITY FOR GUIDANCE	PROHIBITED
Parking lane at least 7 feet wide	X		
Unrestricted (gray) parking zones	X		
Red (no parking) zones			X
Blue (disabled parking) zones		X	
Yellow (loading) zones		X	
White (passenger loading) zones		X	
Green (time-limited parking) zones	X		
Bike lanes			X
Travel lanes			X
Roadways with more than one travel lane per direction		X	
Roadway with speed limit ≤ 25 mph	X		
Roadway with speed limit > 25 mph		X	
Public parking lots		X	
Within 40 feet of a bus stop			X



The novel coronavirus pandemic has caused unprecedented disruption in our community and created significant challenges for businesses required to close for indoor dining and reduce their services to take out and delivery. The City invites businesses who wish to operate safely under public health restrictions to create temporary outdoor dining areas, known as parklets, in curbside, on-street parking spaces. Parklets provide food service businesses with additional outdoor seating capacity while maintaining physical distancing requirements.

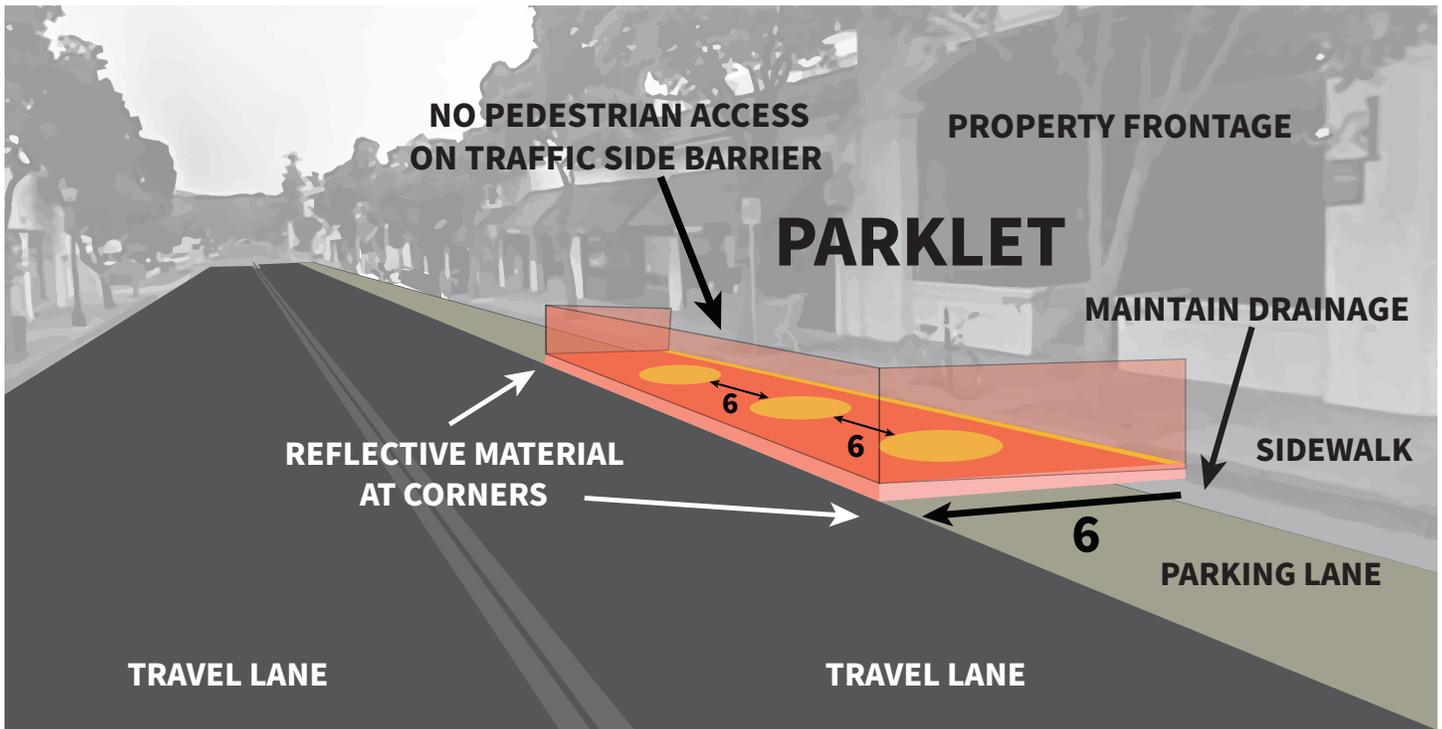
Under later phases of reopening, parklets may no longer be necessary and may be discontinued.

For more information about public health directives for reopening businesses, please review the County's **Reopening in a Safe Environment (RISE) Guide: recovery.sbc.org/the-rise-guide** and the State's **COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Dine-In Restaurants** at covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-dine-in-restaurants.pdf.

Note: Additional steps are required prior to reopening. 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.

If you have questions or need additional guidance, please send an email to OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.





Parklet specifications

SIZE

Parklets are a maximum of 6 feet wide and may extend the length of a business's property frontage. Please work closely with your neighbors if you plan to construct a parklet. Adjacent businesses may collaborate to create joint parklets!

CONFIGURATION

Each parklet must be surrounded on the three street-adjacent sides with a barrier to establish the boundaries of the parklet. The **barrier on the traffic side** should not allow pedestrians to pass through directly into traffic. Contact the City if your parklet is near a driveway or intersection so critical sight lines can be maintained. Tables and seating in the parklet must be spaced at least 6 feet apart to maintain physical distance. If a neighboring business also has a parklet, please coordinate your layouts to ensure proper distancing between customer seating. Parklets must have **reflective materials** at each corner, at a minimum, to ensure nighttime visibility.

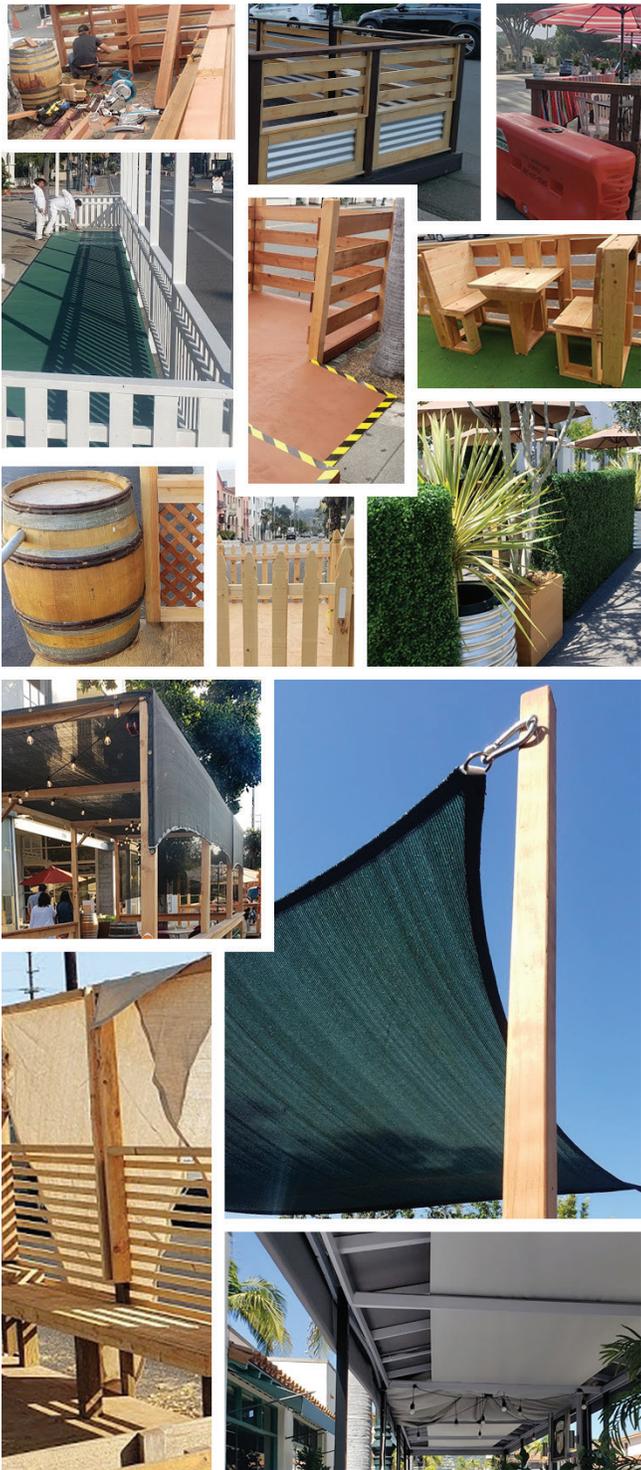
A **yellow reflective strip** should be placed along the edge of the parklet, where it meets the sidewalk, for conspicuity. Businesses are responsible for ensuring their parklets are accessible to disabled customers. **Please refer to the Parklet Accessibility Guidelines for additional details.** Parklets cannot obstruct public utilities or interfere with drainage or storm drains. All parklets must be designed to accommodate storm flows.

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 in the sidewalk. Parklets must be easily removed and may not cause any permanent changes or damage to the right-of-way; all fixtures must be temporary

DRAINAGE

Large volumes of water may flow down some streets during rain events. These guidelines require businesses to maintain drainage along the street and gutter lines at all times. Business owners are fully responsible for assuring that their platforms and other outdoor features are constructed and maintained in a manner that allows the free flow of water and does not result in flooding.





MATERIALS

Be creative! A variety of materials may be used to construct parklets. Here are some examples:

EXAMPLE BARRIER MATERIALS	EXAMPLE SURFACE MATERIALS
Wood	Wood
Planters	Artificial turf
Railings	Temporary cornstarch paint
K-rail/Jersey barriers	Chalk
Hay bales	
Fencing	

WINTERIZATION

During colder months, businesses may wish to modify parklets for the comfort of their guests. Any parklet area that is covered with a tent, canopy, shade structure, or roof **must remain open on 3 sides**.

Tents and canopies must be adequately roped, braced, and anchored to withstand the elements and avoid collapsing. Businesses must maintain required clearance from any heating equipment, candles, or flames to combustible materials.

Tents and heaters are subject to Fire Department inspection and approval. Any tent exceeding 700 square feet requires a permit before it is erected. Call 805-965-5254 to arrange for inspection or permitting. Please refer to the **Guidelines for the Use of Tents, Canopies, or Shade Structures and Heating Elements in Temporary Parklets** for additional details.

INSURANCE

All businesses that establish parklets in the public right-of-way must provide a Certificate of Insurance from their business insurance carrier naming the City as Additionally Insured. Insurance certificates must be emailed to OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

PARKLETS ARE TEMPORARY

The City of Santa Barbara reserves the right to remove parklets and clear the right-of-way at its sole discretion.

No pre-approval of a parklet is necessary, but once the parklet following the above guidelines is completed, take photos from different angles and send to OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov with the business address in the subject.



Guidelines for the Use of Tents, Canopies or Shade Structures and Heating Elements in Temporary Parklets

The following requirements shall apply to the use of tents, canopies or any form of overhead shade structures (herein referred as tents) within temporary parklets:

- The operation of temporary parklets under tents or other membrane structures is subject to the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1 and Chapters 3 and 31 of the California Fire Code. Subject to inspection by the Fire Department.
- All heaters and tents are subject to Fire Department inspection.
- Tents require a Fire Department permit if they exceed 700 square feet or greater (call 805-965-5254 for permit).
- Any temporary parklet that is covered with a tent, canopy, shade structure or roof **may only enclose one side. A temporary parklet with a roof structure must remain open on at least three sides.**
- Tents may only install one side covering. No tent shall be enclosed while open to the public, tents must allow open air flow and meet public health guidelines.
- All tent material must be treated for flame resistance in accordance with an approved State Fire Marshal method or be of a fabric that is inherently flame resistant, regardless of whether a permit is needed.
- Tents must be adequately roped, braced and anchored to withstand the elements and avoid collapsing.
- Staking of tents is prohibited in the public rights-of-way. Tethering or securing tents to trees is prohibited.
- Generally, a tent is required to have two means of egress if the occupant load exceeds 10.
- Seating arrangements in tents is subject to Covid-19 restrictions and the requirements of Chapter 10 of the Fire and Building Codes.
- Tents may need to be smaller to fit within the available flat area i.e. it is not recommended to have a single tent cover both the sidewalk and lower street elevation.
- Smoking is prohibited under tents at all times. Santa Barbara is a **Smoke-Free City**.

Heating Elements

- Heating equipment subject to Section 3104 of the Fire Code and requires Fire Department approval.
- Gas Heaters must adhere to the California Mechanical Code; heating equipment may not be located within 10 feet of the tent exit.
- Gas equipment shall be vented to the exterior. If such venting requires a flue, the pipe shall not be installed within 12 inches of the tent fabric.
- Electrical heaters shall be installed pursuant to the California Electrical Code.
- Clearance from any ignition source to any combustible material must be maintained in an approved manner.
- Candles may only be used in approved and stable candle holders on individual tables in dining establishments. Under no circumstances shall hand held candles be permitted.
- Open flame and charcoal cooking devices shall not be operated within 10 feet of a combustible surface.
- Portable or fixed outdoor fireplaces shall not be operated within 15 feet of a combustible surface.
- In the event strict compliance is not achievable, alternate means of compliance must be approved by the Fire Department and equal in effectiveness.

Securing Requirements

- All tents supports or legs must be weighted.
- Each tent leg must have a minimum of 40 lbs.
- Weights must be securely attached to tent roof and tent leg separately.
 - ▲ Ropes and straps should be high quality.
 - ▲ Bungee or rubber straps are prohibited.
- Weights must be on the ground and not dangling.
- Weights and lines must not pose a hazard and be clearly visible.
- For maximum safety, tents should be secured as soon as they are put up, and brought down as soon as weight is removed. Do not leave unsecured tents at any time.

Items that make acceptable weights:

- 5 gallon bucket full of sand or concrete
- Large commercially available tent weights
- Sandbags 40 lbs or heavier



SANTA BARBARA PARKLET ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

At least one (1) accessible table for wheelchair users must be provided in each parklet. The accessible table must meet the following requirements:

- ☑ Table surface between 28 to 34 inches high.
- ☑ At least 27 inches of space from the floor to the bottom of the table.
- ☑ Knee clearance extends at least 19 inches under the table.
- ☑ Total clear floor area of 30 inches by 48 inches per seat.
- ☑ Minimum distance of 4 feet to the nearest obstruction.
- ☑ International Symbol of Accessibility displayed at the table.
- ☑ Maintain an accessible path of travel to the table.

Parklets that do not meet the grade of the existing curb must provide a ramp for access. Parklet ramps and temporary ramps in the right-of-way must comply with California Building Code Chapter 11B, summarized as follows:

- ☑ Ramps must be at least 4 feet wide.
- ☑ 8.3% (1:12) maximum running slope (parallel to the direction of travel).
- ☑ A level landing at the top of the ramp measuring at least 4 feet by 4 feet.
- ☑ Accessible, unobstructed path of travel from the sidewalk pedestrian path to the ramp.
- ☑ Edge protection is required on each side of the ramp. A curb or barrier that prevents the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere must be provided along both edges of the ramp. To prevent wheel entrapment, the edge protection must provide a continuous, uninterrupted barrier along the edge of the ramp
- ☑ Ramp material must be firm, stable, and slip-resistant.
- ☑ Ramp must be securely attached to the parklet and/or curb so that it does not move or shift during use.

Business operations, including customer seating, umbrellas, lighting, heaters, and other materials, must not encroach upon a single, continuous, straight, clear pedestrian path of travel of no less than 6 feet wide on the sidewalk. All accessibility requirements are subject to inspection and enforcement.

Violations of these Guidelines are subject to enforcement under Ordinance No. 5944

If you have questions or need additional guidance, please send an email to OutdoorDining@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

