

City of Minneapolis

Request for Committee Action

To: Transportation & Public Works
Date: 9/13/2016
Referral: Community Development & Regulatory Services
From: Public Works & Community Planning and Economic Development Departments
Lead Staff: Lacy Shelby, Principal Urban Designer, Long-Range Planning
Presented by: Lacy Shelby, Principal Urban Designer, Long-Range Planning
Jon Wertjes, Director, Traffic & Parking Services
File Type: Action
Subcategory: City Policies

Subject:
Street Café Pilot Program

Description:

- a) Receiving and filing 2017-2018 Street Café Pilot Program and Street Café Supplement to the Parklet Application Manual, and;
- b) Approving the waiver of parking meter hooding fees for the first year of street cafés that start in the 2017 and 2018 pilot program.

Previous Actions:

[16-00749](#) – Received and filed the 2016-2017 Street Café Pilot Program and Street Café Supplement to the Parklet Application Manual.
[15-00187](#) – Received and filed the Parklet Application Manual (15-00187).
[July 2006](#) – Approved process and criteria for sidewalk café licenses.

Ward/Address:

All Wards

Background/Analysis:

This past June a street café pilot program was received and filed. Further efforts were needed at the time which CPED and Public Works have accomplished.

What is a street café?

A street café is a structure placed in the roadway that serves as seating for ground floor serving businesses while maintaining a comfortable pedestrian environment. Street cafés are placed adjacent to the curb in an unrestricted parking lane along the frontage of the serving business. Street cafés must be positioned at the same grade as the sidewalk and be ADA accessible, meeting all Parklet siting and design guidelines.

Street cafés are different from Parklets. Parklets are public spaces, open to all individuals in the public realm. Street cafés are permitted areas that function as seating for an adjacent restaurant or business. Street cafés are permitted to allow seating for restaurant and café customers. These are not open to the public but function as an extension of the restaurant or café.

The City of Minneapolis Street Café Pilot Program Supplement is intended to be used in conjunction with the Parklet Application Manual and Sidewalk Café License Process and Criteria to guide applicants through the process and procedures for applying for a street café.

Pilot Program changes since June 2016

In addition to the Sidewalk Café and Parklet process and procedures that will apply, the following updates and changes were made since June:

- The Street Café Pilot Program was delayed in starting in 2016 and will begin accepting applications for both 2017 and 2018.
- No limit on number of street cafés during the pilot.
- City will charge for lost meter revenue which is accomplished through the meter hooding fee. The fee today to hood a meter ranges from \$1,000 to \$15,000 annually. If a street café is allowed 6 months (April 15 to Oct 15) then the meter hooding would be \$500 to \$7,500 depending on the location. This hooding fee will be determined with each application, so applicant will know their amount.
- For the pilot years of 2017 and 2018, staff is proposing the meter hooding fees for the first year will be waived to help encourage street cafés. This means that cafés started in 2017 waive the 2017 hooding fee and that cafés started in 2018 waive 2018 hooding fee. The second and each subsequent year's parking meter hooding fee will be charged for the time the street café is implement (e.g. Five summer months).

CPED and Public Works are ready to accept applications for both 2017 and 2018.

In addition, the Loon Café may pursue a street café for the last couple months of 2016.

CPED and Public Works recommend these actions for the Street Café Pilot Program.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

Attachments:

1. Street Café Pilot Program Supplement.