

City of Taunton

Office of the Mayor



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Contact Person: Radka Barter 508-

O’Connell Supports Restaurant Re-Opening

Taunton, MA . . . Today Mayor Shaunna O’Connell embraced the reopening of restaurants on June 8th. Taunton City Hall is working to help these restaurants as smoothly and safely as possible by helping them expand and create outdoor dining opportunities.

“We have been working since the beginning of the pandemic to find ways to support our small business community and will continue to explore new ideas to help our fellow Tauntonians during these uncertain and unprecedented times. We want our local restaurants to be successful in their reopening so we are working with them to create outdoor dining,” said O’Connell.

O’Connell’s Open For Business Task Force has worked hard to expedite the process of providing more outdoor options for restaurants throughout Taunton. The law department, Licensing Commission, City Planner, and Councilor Coute worked in a coordinated effort to quickly create the guidelines and application as allowed by the Baker Administration.

Restaurant owners are encouraged to contact City Hall to receive assistance. City staff members are available and are ready to assist all applicants with reviewing and approving outdoor expansion plans.

“I am excited that we have reached a point in confronting this pandemic where restaurants can reopen. I look forward to dining out once again in Taunton with my family,” said O’Connell. “As I promised when running for Mayor, City Hall is to be a helping hand not a hindrance. We will work hand in hand with restaurants to get the outdoor space they need.”

Questions in advance of completing the application should be directed to the following individuals, depending on the nature of the question:

Liquor licensing: Design of outdoor spaces:
mccaffrey@tauntonpd.com and wrutherford@tauntonpd.com

Use of public parking lots: License Commission svalentino@taunton-ma.gov

Review of site plans on private lots, ADA questions for city sidewalks and streets: Kevin Scanlon, kscanlon@taunton-ma.gov

Questions regarding the use of Tents: Robert Pirozzi, rpirozzi@taunton-ma.gov

COVID 19 requirements: Please refer to the reopening Massachusetts guidance pertaining to outdoor dining at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/safety-standards-and-checklist-restaurants> . If you still have questions or concerns, please contact hgallant@taunton-ma.gov

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