

Fact Sheet

Suspension of Enforcement – On site Parking Requirements and Temporary Sign Regulations

On May 8, 2020, the City Council suspended the enforcement of requirements for onsite parking and temporary sign regulations. The final Council resolution can be found online here: https://opengov.slocity.org/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=116499&dbid=0&repo=CityClerk. The action was taken to provide maximum flexibility for local businesses to serve customers while adhering to physical distancing requirements. The Council's action will suspend the requirement to provide onsite parking and suspend enforcement of temporary sign regulations for as long as there are continuing requirements for social distancing via the County Health Officer.

Temporary Sign Regulations

The suspension of Temporary Sign Regulations applies to Sandwich Board Signs (A-Frame Signs), Window Signs, and Banner Signs, and is intended to provide businesses with flexibility to communicate opening status, service offered, and any other instructions or needed information for the public to comply with physical distancing requirements

On-site Parking Requirements

The suspension of parking requirements will enable businesses, as may be authorized by the property owner, to expand operations (such as table service) into private parking lots without violating City parking requirements. While the City will not be enforcing violations of parking requirements during this time, coordination with property owners and neighboring businesses – particularly in shopping centers – is strongly encouraged. Please note that all ADA parking must remain open and accessible and only temporary furniture which does not require a building permit may be allowed in parking areas.

Permitting and Approvals needed: There is no requirement for City permits or approvals to expand business operations into parking/common areas. Please keep in mind that there may be other permits, approvals, or requirements from other agencies that must be adhered to such as Alcohol and Beverage Control and County Environmental Health. Alcoholic Beverage Control has temporarily suspended enforcement of various prohibitions including Licensed Footprint regulations. More information on this topic can be found here: https://www.abc.ca.gov/fourth-notice-of-regulatory-relief/

Responsibility for expansion plans and City role: The City has not established a permit requirement or direct regulatory role and will not be involved in designating spaces or locations for business expansion on private property. It is wholly the responsibility of property owners, tenants, and property managers to work out arrangements of final locations and modification of parking layouts (see below, City Staff Assistance and Health and Safety).



City Staff Assistance: City staff is available to provide guidance and advice on considerations of safety for pedestrians and protection of employees and customers in the newly designated areas. While the City can provide guidance and information, the City is not responsible for any liability incurred through activities that take place on private property.

For assistance, please contact Luke Schwartz, Transportation Manager, at 805-781-7190, or by e-mail: lschwartz@slocity.org

Health, Safety, and Welfare: Permits may be required for electrical, plumbing, or structural work and the City will continue to enforce against conditions or activities which could pose a threat to the Public Health, Safety, or Welfare. Nothing in the suspensions described above relieve any person from the obligation to obtain necessary permits required under state law, the San Luis Obispo Municipal Code, or Building and Safety Codes.

For General questions please contact the Planning Department at 805-781-7170 or by e-mail: planning@slocity.org