

Ordinance 2020-30

Consider approval of Ordinance 2020-30, amending Chapter 74 of the San Marcos City Code by adding an addendum to Article 6 that establishes procedures and criteria for the granting of a temporary, revocable, licenses for parklets as a means to reactivate downtown following the COVID-19 stay at home orders of 2020; providing a savings clause; including procedural provisions; providing for adoption of this Ordinance as an emergency measure on only one reading; and providing an effective date.

Temporary Parklet Program Overview

- Direction to explore options for a temporary parklet program in downtown San Marcos.
- Allow businesses to temporarily convert on-street parking spaces adjacent to their shop into outdoor seating.
- **Purpose:** provide an aesthetic enhancement to the downtown streetscape and provide businesses with additional visible service area to activate downtown following COVID-19 procedures.



Blue Dahlia Bistro Temporary Parklet Installation: Park(ing) Day 2019



218 Studio Co-Op Temporary Parklet Installation: Park(ing) Day 2019

Current Parklet Ordinance

- **Adopted in 2015:** Sidewalk Cafés, Parklets, and Similar Special Uses of Public Rights-of-Way Ordinance
- **Streetscape Manual / Ordinance:** photos, examples, guidance, and resources; technical information
- **Participation:** Several sidewalk café and other miscellaneous streetscape enhancements implemented. No parklets implemented.
- **Park(ing) Day:** Lots of participation in “National Park(ing) Day” which allows temporary parklets in the downtown for one day.



City of San Marcos Pilot Program

STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS MANUAL

A how-to on pedestrian-oriented public space



Temporary Program Recommendations

- **Administrative Review of parklets** – parklets currently require City Council Approval. Administrative approval would expedite review.
- **Allowances for food service and/or retail space** – current ordinance does not allow the parklet to be used for commercial use and must function like a public park. No alcohol or smoking allowed.
- **Temporary Parklet Manual** – same as previous manual with some modifications to assist businesses with a more temporary design (furniture material, locking/storing furniture, trash/recycling, etc.)
- **Time duration / number of parklets** – all parklets removed by August 15, 2020, no more than 2 parklets per block, each parklet shall be no greater than 2 parking spaces.
- **Insurance and License Agreements** – requirement remains the same.

Future Opportunities

- May spur interest in future creation of parklets using the existing program
- Re-evaluation of program
- Proposed Main Street Grant: assist business owners with parklet creation, technical assistance, and business advice.



Move SM (in front of Showdown) Temporary Parklet Installation:
Park(ing) Day 2019