

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Luke Watson, Director of Community Development

DATE: June 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution Extending the Temporary Expanded Dining/Retail Program in Old Town Until June 30, 2022

PREPARED BY: Peter Thorson, City Attorney

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council adopt a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TEMECULA CONTINUING THE TEMPORARY EXTENDED
DINING PROGRAM THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

BACKGROUND: Since March of 2020, business and restaurants in Old Town have been subject to State regulations closing their businesses and limiting their operating capacity in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

At the June 9, 2020 City Council meeting, the Council heard a presentation, considered and ultimately approved the Temporary Expanded Dining/Retail Program in Old Town to temporarily close certain streets in Old Town to allow for expanded dining and retail-shopping opportunities in an effort to offset the limitations brought about by the COVID-19 social distancing guidelines.

The City Council considered the program again on June 23, 2020 and reaffirmed Council direction to move forward with the program. Old Town Front Street between 2nd Street and 4th Street were closed to vehicular traffic on Wednesday June 24, 2020.

After a transition in state regulations, and feedback from various businesses, the City Council amended the program to re-open streets, while still allowing for expanded dining on July 14, 2020. The program was initially extended from December 31, 2020, until July 1, 2021.

On June 15, 2021, the State lifted its restrictions on closing restaurants and businesses because of the reductions in the rate of the COVID-19 virus.

Despite the improvements in the rate and extent of the COVID-19 virus, businesses and restaurants are still recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic and will take some time to recover.

The continuation of the Temporary Expanded Dining/Retail Program in Old Town will not only aid in the economic recovery of restaurants and other businesses in Old Town from the COVID-19 Pandemic but will substantially contribute to the economic development of these Old Town businesses.

Based on these facts, it is recommended that the City Council extend the Temporary Expanded Dining/Retail Program in Old Town until July 1, 2022 subject to modification at any time. It is also recommended that the City Manager be authorized to enter into License Agreements with restaurants and business to use portions of certain streets in Old Town for dining or sales, subject to reasonable conditions necessary to protect the City and the surrounding areas.

FISCAL IMPACT: The cost to extend the program is \$3,000 per month for street barricade rentals, which are included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Operating Budget.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution