



SUBJECT: Future of City of Burlington Outdoor Patio Program - update for Q3 2022

TO: Community Planning, Regulation & Mobility Cttee.

FROM: Community Planning Department

Report Number: PL-67-22

Wards Affected: All

File Numbers: 560-01

Date to Committee: September 13, 2022

Date to Council: September 20, 2022

Recommendation:

Receive and file community planning department report PL-67-22 regarding the future of the City of Burlington Outdoor Patio Program update for Q3 2022.

PURPOSE:

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
 - Improve integrated city mobility
 - Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
 - Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation
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Background and Discussion:

Decision History

On November 23, 2021, City Council carried staff directions SD-31-21, SD-32-21, SD-33-21 and SD-34-21 regarding the Future of City of Burlington Outdoor Patio Program, which directed staff to report to Council outlining a plan and process for moving forward with a permanent city-wide outdoor patio program, amongst other matters. Information on these directions can be found under Item 12.3(h):

<https://burlingtonpublishing.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=81f00a97-875a-47a8-8bdd-78e534f1f725&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English&Item=12&Tab=attachments>

Strategy/process

In November 2021, City Council directed Community Planning, Regulation and Mobility staff to undertake a review of the City's Temporary Patio Program and to report back to Council with options and recommendations for a city-wide outdoor patio program. The direction also included reporting on the future city operating and capital budget requirements to support the outdoor patio program, stakeholder engagement and options for the standardization of patio materials for patios on municipal property.

An updated and comprehensive Outdoor Patio Program requires multi-disciplinary review conducted as an integrated study and includes staff from Community Planning, Zoning, Building and By-law, Legal, Finance, Fire, Engineering, Transportation and Roads, Parks and Forestry. Significant engagement is also required with the Burlington Restaurant Association, Burlington Downtown Business Association (BDBA) and Aldershot Business Improvement Area (ABIA), as well as industry stakeholders and members of the public.

This work is underway and involves the review of the City's current patio related policies, zoning requirements and bylaws; duration of the outdoor patio season; existing patio design; patio installation and safe operation of patios on city sidewalks, parking lots and/or road allowances; funding options; and patio standards in other GTHA municipalities.

Estimated Timelines

The following represents an estimated timeline for the study and preparation of a city-wide Outdoor Patio Program. The timeline will continue to be refined as the study progresses.

August-September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Kick Off.• Formation of interdepartmental Patios Team, to meet every two weeks for the duration of the project.• Set up project website and online questionnaire that engages both businesses and area residents.
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October-November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct research and develop draft city-wide patio guidelines and program structure.• Community engagement to present draft permanent patio guidelines and program structure.
Q4 2022 and Q2 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation of draft city-wide patio guidelines and program structure. Report to Burlington City Council in advance of the 2023 patio season.
Q1 2023-onward	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On going monitoring and refinement of policies, regulations and guidelines.

Engagement Matters:

On July 29, 2022, staff from Community Planning, Transportation and Roads, Parks and Forestry participated in a walking tour of the Burlington Downtown initiated by the BDBA, along with stakeholders from the patio industry who are past participants in the current Temporary Patio Program. The tour focused on design of existing patios, potential areas for improvement, and physical constraints and challenges within the public right-of-way.

It is of note that the tour was limited in scope to the Downtown area only, as the Downtown contains the majority of temporary patios approved on public lands under the City's current Temporary Patio Program. Staff will continue to review the applicability of the program on a City-wide basis and engage with the ABIA and other stakeholders throughout the City.

In addition, updates to the existing Temporary Outdoor Patio program website have been made and are available at the below link:

<https://www.burlington.ca/en/business-in-burlington/temporary-outdoor-patios.aspx>

Staff are in the process of preparing a series of survey questions which will be provided through City of Burlington social media, direct communication to patio operators, the BDBA and ABIA, hospitality industry stakeholder organizations and members of the public.

Financial Matters:

Not applicable

Climate Implications

Not applicable

Conclusion:

The review of the City of Burlington's Outdoor Patio Program, with an aim towards implementing a plan and process for moving forward with a city-wide outdoor patio program is well underway and regular progress reports to City Council will be ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Brander, MCIP, RPP
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Notifications:

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Brian Dean, Burlington Downtown Business Association, brian@burlingtondowntown.ca

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Counsel.