



WALNUT CREEK OUTDOOR DINING PROGRAM

The City of Walnut Creek is pleased to make available our new and expanded outdoor dining options through our new Outdoor Dining Program. Borne from the temporary outdoor dining options through the Rebound Program, Walnut Creek's new policy focuses on downtown restaurants and bars, streamlining the process and making previously temporary options into a permanent program.

THE OUTDOOR DINING PROGRAM CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING OUTDOOR DINING OPTIONS, AND MAY INCLUDE AN OPERATOR PERMIT AND LICENSE AGREEMENT.



1. Permitted Outdoor Dining Structures

Outdoor dining can now take place in the city's street parking spaces through building pre-approved Mix & Match Permitted Outdoor Dining Structures (PODS). Restaurants and bars can also build a Custom PODS through a more extensive approval process. A fee will be charged for use of public, city street.



2. City-Owned Patios*

Outdoor dining can operate in patios located on city-owned property, with a fenced barrier. A fee is charged for use of city property.



3. Privately-Owned Patios*

Some outdoor dining takes place on privately-owned property, also with a fenced barrier.



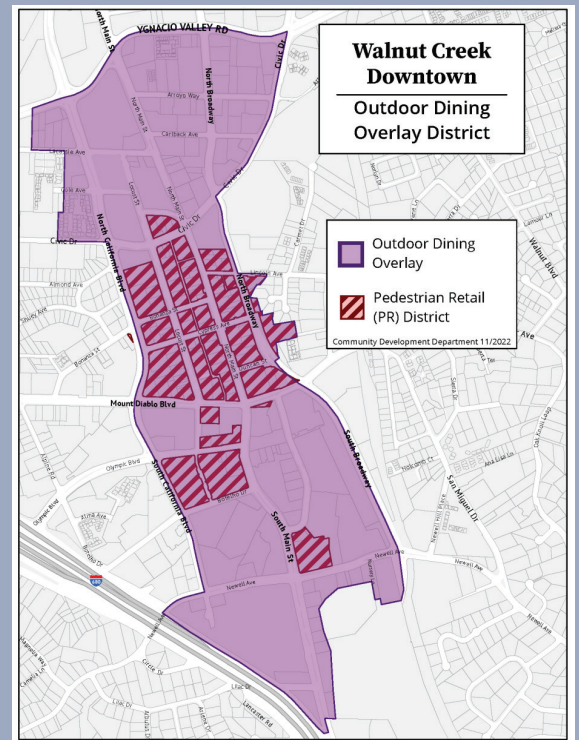
4. Private Parking Lots

Dining may be eligible in private parking lots, adjacent to the restaurant or bar. Fees & additional review may be required to convert.*



5. Sidewalk Dining

Outdoor dining on city sidewalk, without a fenced barrier. No alcohol service is allowed within Sidewalk Dining. A fee will be charged for use of the city sidewalk.



The new Outdoor Dining Program applies to a new downtown Outdoor Dining Overlay District. If you are in this area, this Program applies to your business. If you are not located in this area, please contact the Community Development Department to explore your outdoor dining options

**City staff will determine the location and property type of the restaurant or bar once an application is submitted.*



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Getting Started

- **TO START** with your outdoor dining, complete the online application at

www.walnut-creek.org/outdoordining.

- **YOUR APPLICATION** will be reviewed by City staff, and if approved you are required to pay the application fee. *Do not begin any dining installation or construction until approved in writing by City staff.*

- **AFTER THE FEE IS PAID AND APPLICATION IS APPROVED**, you will follow the process for setting up your type of outdoor dining and pay any additional permit fees.

- **CITY STAFF WILL CONDUCT A FINAL INSPECTION** after installation or construction of your outdoor dining space. Upon passing inspection, you will be issued your Operator Permit and can begin operating.



Contact Us

Feel free to reach out with any questions at outdoordining@walnut-creek.org

Operator Permit

All outdoor dining activities in the Overlay District must obtain an Operator Permit. This is required for most outdoor dining activities, *including* the outdoor dining activities which were previously temporarily allowed under Rebound. It is good for one year and must be renewed annually. There is a one-time payment of \$1,000 for the Operator Permit.

License Agreement

Any outdoor dining operation on city-owned property or within the public right-of-way requires a License Agreement. The Agreement is between the City of Walnut Creek and the business owner and defines the terms for use of city property and public space. The Agreement is good for five years, with annual payments required for use of public space. (Rates for each dining type where a License Agreement is required are outlined in the ODP application and the Outdoor Dining Fee Structure.) Insurance per City guidelines is also required.

FAQs

Q I currently have outdoor dining in place. Do I need to go through this process and submit an application?

A Yes. All existing and new outdoor dining spaces need to submit an application. Staff will help you assess your unique situation.

Q I have a Rebound pop-up or outdoor dining through Rebound. Can that continue?

A Only until June 30, 2023, and your application must be submitted by May 30, 2023. A separate deadline will apply for those in downtown construction zone or outside the Overlay District.

Q I want to do a Permitted Outdoor Dining Structure (PODS). Can I create my own PODS design?

A Yes, you can under the Custom PODS process. These will be reviewed by City staff and have to be approved by the Design Review Commission. A Mix & Match option is also available, with pre-approved design options available that streamlines and expedites the process.

Review the PODS Design Guidelines at www.walnut-creek.org/outdoordining for details.