



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**City of Chico**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 22, 2020

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**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\***

## **CITY OF CHICO TEMPORARILY EXPANDS OUTDOOR DINING IN PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY (PARKLETS)**

(Chico, CA – July 22, 2020 –) Due to COVID-19 and the recent closure of indoor dining at restaurants statewide, the City of Chico has issued an Emergency Order temporarily expanding outdoor dining in the public right of way by converting existing on-street parking space(s).

To accommodate additional seating capacity due to indoor seating closures, the use of *parklets* will now be permitted temporarily. A *parklet* is defined as a small seating area or green space created and managed by the food establishment as a public amenity on or alongside a sidewalk within the area of a former roadside parking space or right of way temporarily approved for such use. Parking spaces directly adjacent to the business, as well as neighboring spaces, will be allowed to be used as parklets; however, no ADA-accessible facilities may be eliminated. Both parallel and diagonal parking spaces may be utilized.

On July 15, 2020, the City of Chico issued an Emergency Order temporarily expanding outdoor dining at existing food establishments, allowing them to utilize private common areas as well as public space/sidewalks. This new order expands temporary outdoor dining to include parking spaces. These parklets may not exceed 100% of normal capacity, and safety measures will be required to ensure protection of the public and businesses using these parklets.

“The City of Chico is working expeditiously to assist our local businesses and continues to explore both creative and helpful ways for them to adapt during these challenging times, in order to distribute goods and services to our community,” said Mark Orme, City of Chico City Manager.

To apply for use of a parklet, businesses may contact the City of Chico Public Works – Engineering Department at (530) 879-6900

For more information, please contact Lynda Gizzi, Public Information Officer, at (530) 896-7204.

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