

Bethlehem's plan for outdoor dining

The Bethlehem Gadfly City government, coronavirus June 1, 2020

 Latest in a series of posts on the coronavirus 

City Of Bethlehem's Outdoor Plan For The Business Community, Saturday, May 30, 2020

After the brutal events of this past weekend, if it weren't for the masks on protestors, it would be easy to forget that there is a pandemic going on. The most important communicate out of City Hall this weekend was the **Mayor's powerful statement** about community after the shocking image of George Floyd's treatment and the consequent uproar in the streets of so many cities in America.

But back to the pandemic — we are opening up.

Many will be heartened by Bethlehem's **“Plan for Outdoor Dining and Other Business Uses”** for restaurants and retailers who wish to expand their operational footprint to help meet social distancing requirements and to provide additional accommodations to the business districts.

The plan proposes three models for consideration by the business community:

- 1) street closure: the City will allow closures of downtown sections of Walnut, Adams, New, and 1st street Thursday through Sunday, 4-7pm. Businesses not located in the downtowns can also make requests.
- 2) parklets: the City will install parklets on Main, Broad, 4th, Vine, and additional parklets can be requested by the Downtown Business Associations and by individual businesses.
- 3) the City will review requests for use of public spaces, on sidewalks, and on surface parking lots.

Application information and a list of regulations are part of the plan. Educational material on social distancing will be provided. *Howz your appetite?*