



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Dana Point Launches Temporary Outdoor Operating Permit

Dana Point, CA (May 22, 2020) – The City of Dana Point has announced a new temporary permit for local restaurants to help them establish a safe, clean environment for workers and customers in compliance with the State’s COVID-19 guidance for business. The intent of this temporary permit is to enable businesses to reopen with the ability to modify operations but to also ensure compatibility with the community. Specifically, the temporary outdoor operating permit allows for outdoor seating on private property, in a private parking area, and/or in public right-of-way.

“This health crisis has been devastating to so many of our local businesses, especially our restaurants. Many of them are anxious to reopen and want to comply with statewide guidance to effectively reduce health risks. Our intent is to do what we can to help our businesses to comply with the guidelines and open in a way that ensures a safe environment for the community,” said Brenda Wisneski, Community Development Director.

For Jack Loconsolo, owner of Jack’s Restaurant & Bar in Dana Point, the permit is a welcome modification. “We immediately converted to curbside service in mid-March to serve customers and keep our staff employed. Since that time, the support from the local Dana Point community has been tremendous. While we are anxious to bring customers back to the restaurant, we know that they will be much more comfortable in an outdoor environment that allows for fresh air and greater social distancing. This type of setting is what we’ve done with our beer gardens and special events in the past, and I think that it will really bring the Lantern District to life,” Loconsolo said. He added that the permit also helps to offset the reduction in seating to meet the new guidelines. “I really appreciate the City’s leadership in doing all it can to support local business.”

“We value the commitment and involvement of our small business owners throughout the City. The City Council will continue to support ways to help our local businesses and restaurants to reopen safely and successfully through these unprecedented times,” said Mayor Richard Viczorek.

Businesses that are approved must continue to be a good neighbor, noting that the City will evaluate any impacts that arise to the surrounding community. Once outdoor service is completed, furniture will be brought indoors and/or secured on the property. The outdoor area must also be kept tidy from blowing trash. The City will continue to monitor operations and provide modifications, if needed.

[Applications](#) are available on the City website, as well as, through the Dana Point Chamber of Commerce.

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