



Guidelines for Applying for Use of Public Streets and Sidewalks

In an effort to kick-start the process to re-open City businesses while respecting COVID 19-related health guidelines, the Portsmouth City Council formed the Citizen's Response Task Force. The group was charged with making recommendations to city management and the City Council on plans that allow businesses to use public streets, sidewalks, and parking areas. The Task Force and the city staff have reviewed proposals for partial closure of downtown streets and have developed a streamlined implementation process. This flyer was created to inform businesses of the plans being considered to open the City streets for commerce and the process businesses should follow for City approval to move operations into the public realm.

Which streets are the City considering for outdoor use by businesses?

The Task Force is initially focusing on core streets within the downtown where there is a concentration of restaurants and limited private spaces available for outdoor use. These include Pleasant Street, Congress Street, Daniel Street, Penhallow Street, and Market Street. In addition, the Task Force will consider requests from businesses located on other streets for use of on-street parking spaces on an individual basis.

Who can participate?

Initially, the Task Force will be focusing on providing space for restaurants that front on the streets listed above.

Where do businesses apply for approval?

Businesses will need to be approved for a license to use City property. Businesses should apply online through the City's online permitting portal

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For questions contact: City Manager's Office (603) 610-7202