



EX17.7

John Tory
Mayor

October 21, 2020

Re: Winter Patio permissions

Dear Executive Committee members,

As you know, the pandemic has forced us to think of ways to adapt to our new realities. We have had the difficult job of balancing the needs of health and safety with those of our business community.

Last month, I moved a motion that we jointly approved to ask our City Staff to report back on the various successful programs implemented this summer, including CaféTO. That work is underway and will come back before the spring.

But we know winter is coming and we need to support winter patios as much as possible now.

As we move into the winter months, we want to find ways to help give our businesses as much adaptability as possible. We need to give businesses the flexibility to operate where safe and possible through the winter months. While we have some limitations with respect to patios in curb lanes and ensuring we can safely clear our roads from the snow, there are opportunities that allow us continue the success of winter patios in areas, such as sidewalks and private property including parking lots. In addition to the below recommendations, I have asked City Staff to continue working with BIAs on ideas or issues come forward this winter.

Through recommendations at the Planning and Housing committee, City Council will be able to extend the zoning bylaw amendments we put in place earlier this year. These will continue to ease restrictions on private property for outdoor patios through the winter months and into the spring. This will also increase the maximum size of outdoor patios and remove restrictions that might prevent an outdoor patio located in front of buildings.

In addition to those recommendations, I am proposing additional recommendations below that will ensure we allow for winter patios on our sidewalks.

At the Executive Committee meeting on October 21st, I will walk on the following motions:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, in consultation with Municipal Licensing and Standards, to extend the CafeTO program (including the authority with respect to liquor sales) to allow for the review, approval and installation of curbside cafés (sidewalk cafes adjacent to curblane) and frontage cafés from November 16, 2020 to April 14, 2021, inclusive, in accordance with the CafeTO program set out in section 742-2.1D of Chapter 742, Sidewalk Cafes, Parklets and Marketing Displays.

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2. City Council waive fees required under Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 742, Sidewalk Cafés, Parklets and Marketing Displays, Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, and Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, for any curbside café or frontage café approved by the General Manager, Transportation Services under the program described in Part 1 above.

3. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to introduce the necessary bills to give effect to City Council's decision and City Council authorize the City Solicitor to make any necessary clarifications, refinements, minor modifications, technical amendments, or by-law amendments as may be identified by the City Solicitor in order to give effect to the reasonable operation of the extension of the CafeTO program as described in Part 1 above.

4. City Council authorize the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to work with Destination Toronto and all business improvement areas including TABIA and businesses in non-BIA areas to support safe winter economy initiatives and promote the winter economy including BYOB – Bring Your Own Blanket campaigns promoting winter patios.

These recommendations will allow us to continue the success of CaféTO through the winter and do our part to help these businesses through this difficult time.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to continue working together to help our residents and businesses through this pandemic.

Sincerely,

 John Tory
Mayor of Toronto