

OUTDOOR PERMITTING OPTIONS AT-A-GLANCE

Now that King County has entered Phase 2 of the Governor's Safe Start plan, we know that many business owners are eager to re-open or expand their outdoor operations, so we've created this fact sheet to get you started!

Add to or Expand Your Business Outdoors on the Street or Sidewalk with FREE Temporary Permits

If you're interested in using space on the sidewalk or street in front of your business to add a temporary café or additional retail space, or if you are a food truck or vending cart owner who would like to try out new vending locations, you will need a Street Use permit from the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT). **These temporary permits are free.**

We've created new, flexible temporary permit options for sidewalk cafes, merchandise displays, and food and other vending. These permits are good for up to six months.

- **Temporary Outdoor Café Permit:** Request this permit if you're a restaurant owner who would like seating on the sidewalk or in the curb space parking. An additional permit from Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board will be required to serve alcohol.
- **Temporary Merchandise Display Permit:** Request this permit if you're a retail business owner who would like to expand operations outside into the sidewalk or in the curb space parking (note that this includes the point of sale).
- **Temporary Vending Permits:** Request this permit if you're a vendor who would like more flexibility on your vending location and duration. This includes street and sidewalk locations for food trucks and carts.

Please note that restaurants and retail businesses will need to provide any fencing necessary to meet the permit requirements. We are expediting and prioritizing these types of permit applications, however, additional review time may be necessary depending on the quality of the permit application, site complexity, and volume of requests.

While not all locations are eligible for these permits, we're happy to work with you to identify other opportunities!

Add to or Expand Your Business Outdoors on Private Property

If you are interested in establishing or expanding an outdoor space for business activities on your property, you may need one of the following permits from the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI).

- **Permanent Use Permit:** Request this permit if your outdoor area is located more than 50 feet from a residential zone and will meet all other standards in the City's Land Use Code. This permit will allow you to use your new outdoor space permanently.
- **Temporary Use Permit:** Request this permit if your outdoor area is located less than 50 feet from a residential zone or if you will need flexibility from other Land Use Code standards. This permit will allow you to use your outdoor space for four weeks, but you can continue to reapply.
- **Intermittent Use Permit:** Request this permit if your outdoor area is located less than 50 feet from a residential zone or if you will need flexibility from other Land Use Code standards, and if you only need to use the outdoor space one or two days each week. This permit is good for a full year.

Permit fees are approximately \$350. We are expediting and prioritizing these types of permit applications. Depending on the quality of the permit application, permits can take up to three weeks to obtain.

Need help or have questions about your options?

If you have questions about the different permits available or need help with the application process, call us at 206-684-8090 or e-mail us at oed@seattle.gov for free help and technical assistance.

Additional information about outdoor permits on private property on the SDCI website at www.seattle.gov/sdci/permits/how-do-you-get-a-permit.

For outdoor permits on streets and sidewalks, you can find more information on the SDOT website at www.seattle.gov/transportation/permits-and-services/permits/temporary-permits



City of Seattle