

Decision Note

Title:	Notices Published - Parklets within St. John's Downtown and Churchill Square Areas
Date Prepared:	April 13, 2026
Report To:	Regular Meeting of Council
Councillor and Role:	Councillor Nikita Ryall, Development
Ward:	N/A

Decision/Direction Required:

A Discretionary Use application has been submitted by the City of St. John's for areas within St. John's Downtown and Churchill Square.

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

The proposed application is to allow parklets for outdoor eating areas associated with Restaurants and Lounges, on City owned land within the Downtown and Churchill Square areas. These parklets will be located along applicable parking spaces, sidewalks, and laneways in the Downtown Neighbourhood Planning Area, along with a small section of Water Street, which extends west of Leslie Street and Churchill Square. Businesses within the defined area that are zoned appropriately may be permitted to use City land for a parklet.

Parklets will be permitted to operate on City land starting Friday of the May long weekend (Victoria Day) until the last day in October for 2026, 2027 and 2028. Hours of operation will be from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily. Construction will be allowed to begin one week prior to the opening day. The use of these spaces will be subject to a lease agreement with the City, which will outline the size of the space and other applicable requirements. Businesses wishing to avail of space for a parklet must make an application to the City.

No submissions were received.

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: Not applicable.
2. Partners or Interested Parties: Not applicable.
3. Is this a New Plan, Master Plan, Strategy, Report, or Framework: No
4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

A Sustainable City: Plan for land use and preserve and enhance the natural and built environment where we live.

Choose an item.

5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: **St. John's Municipal Plan and Development Regulations.**
6. Accessibility and Inclusion: Not applicable.
7. Legal or Policy Implications: St. John's Development Regulations Section 6.26 "Lounge," Section 6.34 "Restaurants" and Section 10.5 "Discretionary Uses."
8. Privacy Implications: Not applicable.
9. Engagement and Communications Considerations: Public advertisement in accordance with Section 4.8 Public Consultation of the St. John's Envision Development Regulations. The application has been advertised in The Telegram newspaper at least twice and is posted on the City's website.
10. Human Resource Implications: Not applicable.
11. Procurement Implications: Not applicable.
12. Information Technology Implications: Not applicable.
13. Information Management Implications: Not applicable.
14. Other Implications: Not applicable.

Recommendation:

That Council approve the Discretionary Use application to allow parklets for outdoor eating areas associated with Restaurants and Lounges on city owned land within the Downtown and Churchill Square Areas starting Friday of the May long weekend (Victoria Day) until the last day in October for 2026, 2027 and 2028, with hours of operation from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily.

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

Jason Sinyard, P. Eng., MBA, Deputy City Manager
Planning, Engineering & Regulatory Services

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Parklets within St. John's Downtown and Churchill Square Areas.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 14, 2026

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Lindsay Lyghtle Brushett - Apr 14, 2026 - 3:12 PM

Jason Sinyard - Apr 14, 2026 - 4:38 PM