

Karen Chafe

From: CityClerk
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:13 AM
To: [REDACTED]; CityClerk
Cc: CouncilGroup; Andrea Roberts; Ann-Marie Cashin; Ashley Murray; Dave Wadden; Jason Sinyard; Karen Chafe; Ken O'Brien; Lindsay Lyghtle Brushett; Planning
Subject: RE: (EXT) Downtown Outdoor Eating Areas and Lounges

Good Morning:

We thank you for your feedback and advise that all submissions will be presented to Council for consideration.

Elaine Henley

Elaine Henley
City Clerk
t. 576-8202
c. 691-0451

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 3:54 PM
To: CityClerk <cityclerk@stjohns.ca>
Subject: (EXT) Downtown Outdoor Eating Areas and Lounges

Good Day,

Responding with regard to the Discretionary Use application that has been submitted by the City of St. John's for Outdoor Eating Areas and Lounges in various locations Downtown during 2020.

Though I am in complete support of the venture to generate and enhance business in the downtown core, I do have one issue that would make me reconsider any downtown visits to stores or restaurants, especially any that have outdoor areas for patrons.

I, and often friends and family, enjoy walking the downtown streets simply for exercise and regularly frequent several businesses. I've enjoyed supporting them during the public health emergency with curbside pickups, delivery and now, once again, with walk-in socially distanced business.

Over the past few months, however, I've noticed an increase in panhandling throughout the downtown area, truly every time I'm downtown (usually in the Water and Duckworth Street areas). So much so, that I've reconsidered going downtown on a few occasions, for this very reason.

On one occasion, for example, myself and 2 coworkers truly lost count of just how many times we were approached, often very closely, by panhandlers asking for money.

On another trek downtown, the individual panhandling, stood immediately outside a store (Home on Water), out of obvious sight, and leaned in as people were leaving, catching us off guard and making us quite nervous as to his close proximity, given all the new healthcare requirements and recommendations.

A friend shared with me that she was recently leaving a restaurant downtown alone (Exile in the JAG Hotel) one night, and a man quickly approached her car as she was getting in, asking for money. She was quite upset due to his close proximity and aggressive manner in doing so (knocking on her car window and continuing to speak quite loudly to her, after she had politely told him that she didn't have any cash).

I am not personally familiar with any panhandling laws within the city, or if we actually have any. However, the increased frequency and more aggressive manner of panhandling in the downtown area needs to be considered with regard to encouraging outside areas for businesses.

Thanks so much for your attention and I wish you every success with this,



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Karen Chafe

From: CityClerk
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]; CityClerk
Cc: CouncilGroup; Andrea Roberts; Ann-Marie Cashin; Ashley Murray; Dave Wadden; Jason Sinyard; Karen Chafe; Ken O'Brien; Lindsay Lyghtle Brushett; Planning
Subject: RE: (EXT) Re: Application - Eating Establishments and Lounges in the Downtown

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

We thank you for your feedback and advise that your comments have been forwarded to Council for consideration.

Elaine Henley

Elaine Henley
City Clerk
t. 576-8202
c. 691-0451

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 6:04 PM
To: CityClerk <cityclerk@stjohns.ca>
Subject: (EXT) Re: Application - Eating Establishments and Lounges in the Downtown

These businesses should not have to pay to lease these spaces at this time. They need help getting their businesses jump-started because of the impact of COVID-19. Also providing picnic tables may not be the best option since they are extremely uncomfortable to sit at (were businesses consulted on that?).
[REDACTED]

On Jun 16, 2020, at 3:33 PM, St. John's e-Updates <eupdates@stjohns.ca> wrote:

City of St. John's Media Relations has issued the following:

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Public Notice

Thu, 2020/07/02 - 9:30am

Application - Eating Establishments and Lounges in the Downtown

Application

A Discretionary Use application has been submitted by the City of St. John's for Outdoor Eating Areas and Lounges in various locations Downtown during 2020.