



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

**Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 201 West Gray, Norman,
OK 73069**

Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

A Meeting of the City Council Business and Community Affairs Committee was held at the Municipal Building Executive Conference Room, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma on the 4th day of November, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. and notice of the agenda of the meeting were posted at the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Hall called the meeting to order.

PRESENT:

Councilmember Ward 4 Lee Hall

OTHERS PRESENT:

Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen T. Holman

Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney

Ms. Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney

Ms. Jane Hudson, Planning and Community Development Director

Ms. Sara Kaplan, Business and Community Relations

Ms. Jamie Meyer, Administrative Assistant IV

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING STREETERIES IN DOWNTOWN

Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney led a detailed presentation on the concept of 'streeteries'—outdoor dining expansions into parking spaces or public ways—as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and a potential permanent initiative to support restaurants and improve urban vibrancy.

Key points of the presentation included:

- History of Norman's temporary outdoor expansion permits during COVID-19.
- Example programs from other cities including Colorado Springs, Boulder, Edmond, Tampa, and New York City.
- Benefits of streeteries such as increasing capacity, improving public safety via outdoor seating, and supporting small businesses.
- Requirements from the temporary program: ADA compliance, physical barriers, general liability insurance, clear pedestrian access.

Item 1, continued:

- The Edmond, OK permanent program was highlighted as a strong model for design standards and streamlined application processes.
- Suggestions for utilizing removable barriers, planters, decking, public art, and lighting to enhance the appearance and safety of streeteries.
- Considerations for maintaining access to utilities, ADA compliance, alcohol licensing (ABLE rules), and pedestrian safety.
- Discussion of startup costs for businesses and the idea of city-provided kits to reduce financial burden (estimated between \$5,000–\$25,000).
- Potential use of ARPA funding to help incentivize participation.
- Feedback that business owners are more likely to participate if the program becomes permanent.

Committee members expressed strong support for exploring a permanent streeteries program. There was discussion about expanding beyond bars and restaurants in the future and ensuring design flexibility across business districts such as Campus Corner, Porter Corridor, and newer developments.

Action Items:

- Staff will gather additional feedback from business owners across multiple parts of town to understand their needs and concerns.
- City staff will explore further information from Edmond and other cities, especially concerning alcohol service rules.
- The committee will revisit the program draft before bringing a proposal to a full City Council Study Session.
- Planning staff to consider implementation in upcoming redevelopment projects (e.g., Gray Street)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:44pm