



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Matthew R. Walsh, Deputy City Manager - Development

DATE: March 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Concrete Barriers for Outdoor Dining in Parking Spaces  
Supplemental Report

### **Recommendation:**

Accept this report.

### **Background:**

Outdoor dining in parking spaces was initially enacted to support restaurants during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Pandemic officially ended in summer 2021; however, the City has permitted the practice to continue. Historically, four restaurants have participated in the program. The season begins on April 15<sup>th</sup> and ends on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

On February 13, 2023, the City Council set a resolution appropriating the sum of \$34,000 to purchase concrete barricades for outdoor dining located in on-street parking spaces for public hearing on March 13, 2023.

Of the \$34,000 requested:

- \$18,000 was allocated to purchase approximately 30 pieces of 10' barrier. This quantity will be sufficient to support the four restaurants which have historically participated in the program.
- \$6,000 was programmed to install and remove the concrete barriers for the upcoming 2023 dining season.
- \$10,000 was allocated for potential beautification of the barriers.

As noted in the February staff report, unless otherwise directed by the City Council, the barrier would be provided and installed free of charge. However, participating restaurants will still be required to pay the \$1,000 / space parking encumbrance fee, as well as other programmatic outdoor dining fees.

Concrete barriers were recommended improve safety at outdoor dining areas following a motor vehicle accident involving the Barley House's parking space dining area in July 2022. Please see the attached presentation for more information about the accident.

The concept of purchasing and installing concrete barrier was reviewed by the Ad-Hoc Outdoor Dining Committee during its January 10, 2023 meeting.

**Discussion:**

The Engineering Division of the Community Development Department recently developed concrete barrier layout plans for the four restaurants which have historically had outdoor dining within on-street parking spaces (i.e. the Barley House, the Draft, Siam Orchid, and Revival). The plans were prepared confirm quantities of barrier required, as well as prepare for potential implementation by the City's vendor subject to City Council's action regarding this appropriation.

The layout plans and proposed barrier configurations are based upon NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) guidelines for portable concrete barriers. Said layout plans are attached to this report.

With layout plans now available, staff wanted to make the City Council aware of the following:

- 1) Additional Parking Space Encumbrances and Abutter Permissions: The Barley House, Siam Orchid, and Revival will be required to encumber additional parking spaces to facilitate installation of concrete barriers, as detailed below.

Barley House: Increase from 3 to 5 parking spaces.

Siam Orchid: Increase from 3 to 5 parking spaces.

Revival: Increase from 1 to 2 parking spaces.

There is no anticipated change relative to number of parking spaces required by the Draft due to use of concrete barricades. Presently the Draft occupies 3 spaces for outdoor dining.

Please see the attached layout plans for more information.

In accordance with the City's Outdoor Dining Regulations, restaurants must secure written permission from their neighbors to encumber additional parking spaces that are not directly along the frontage of the restaurant, as well as pay the required \$1,000 encumbrance fee for the additional parking spaces required.

Subject to City Council action on this proposed appropriation, the City's Health and Licensing Office of the Code Division will communicate this information with the affected restaurants.

- 2) Crash Barrels Required: NHDOT guidelines recommend that sand filled crash barrels accompany concrete barricades located at the Barley House, Siam Orchid, and Revival, as shown on the attached plans. In the event of an accident, the crash barrels help protect motorists from the "blunt ends" of concrete barricades.

The Engineering Division estimates that 18 crash barrels will be required for these three dining locations, combined. Said barrels will be filled with sand at an additional cost.

Please see the attached layout plans for more information. Photographs of sample barrels are below.



The General Services Department has secured a quote from a local vendor to rent said barrels for a dining season. The projected cost is approximately \$4,000 / year. Cost includes delivery, installation, and removal.

Costs associate with barrels was not originally included within the \$34,000 appropriation request.

- 3) Budget Adjustments: Given additional cost of crash barrels, the \$34,000 budget will be adjusted as follows. This will result in a reduction for beautification of barricades.
  - a. \$18,000 to purchase concrete barrier;
  - b. \$6,000 to install / remove barrier (this will be a reoccurring annual cost);
  - c. \$4,000 to rent / install crash barrels (this will be a reoccurring annual cost); and,
  - d. \$6,000 for potential beautification of barricades and crash barrels.