



General Public Comment Received

Name of Sender	Distributed prior to hearing	Distributed after the hearing
Karen Tyrrell		x
Joseph Wenger		x
Ed Lenvik	x	
John Casey	x	
Bob Stout	x	

From: [karen tyrrell](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: Public Comments
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 9:13:36 PM

EXTERNAL

City Council public comments may also be submitted via email to Clerk@SantaBarbaraCA.gov prior to the beginning of the Council Meeting:

I am originally from Massachusetts.
And I loved visiting Boston --it is such a vibrant easy to walk/get around by the T city!

It has an amazing mix of colleges, history walks (freedom trail), museums, parks, shopping, and so much more--Two of my favorite memories however is the **AMAZING BUSKING and the food court which is somewhat like SB Public Market but on a much bigger scale.**

I would hope SB would consider offering an incentive for the next couple of years to bring street performers to State street during 1st Thursdays, Weekends, and holidays. I am including a blog that describes how busking is "regulated/unregulated"

In Boston/ Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall *"Performance slots are so exclusive and highly sought after that auditions are held every spring to determine the lineup."*

<https://blog.sonicbids.com/bostons-biggest-stage-why-you-should-start-busking>

Best,
Karen Tyrrell

Direct line: 805-895-6022
LifeWorx
629 State Street, Suite 247
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist MFC#53705
Psychology Today: <https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/92699>

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From: [Joseph Wenger](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: State Street Malls
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 6:12:25 PM

EXTERNAL

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am originally from the Chicago area. Back in the late '70's Chicago converted its own State Street to a mall, just like you all have done. It did not work out so well. Please read the article describing the situation: [https://chicagohistorytoday.com/2021/11/15/chicago-state-street-mall-end Return of that Great Street \(11-15-1996\)](https://chicagohistorytoday.com/2021/11/15/chicago-state-street-mall-end-Return-of-that-Great-Street-(11-15-1996)).

The key was to have a great place to go and have cars as well. I believe that to bring people back to State Street, Santa Barbara is to consistently have a clean safe pleasant place to go. The homeless situation does not allow that. I have heard a number of stories where people were at one of the outside restaurants and/or shopping and a homeless person disrupted their meal, shopping, etc. No one did anything about these episodes. People don't want that. Why bother to go?

I know we have a homeless problem. It is not going away. But, if somehow the homeless situation is ameliorated on State Street, and it stays that way for a good long time (consistently), then people will return and businesses will thrive. Hopefully SB doesn't take almost a couple of decades like Chicago to learn what they did. Maybe a little perspective will help. Just sayin'.

Sincerely,

Joseph Wenger

From: [SSAC Secretary](#)
To: [SSAC Member Distribution List](#)
Subject: FW: Suggestions for continuing Parklets after March 2022
Date: Thursday, January 6, 2022 5:11:00 PM
Attachments: [Emergency Economic Recovery Ordinance after March 8.pdf](#)

Hello, SSAC Members—

Please see the message below from Ed Lenvik.

Thank you!

Greta



Greta Walters

Administrative Assistant
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA, Community Development
(805) 564-5502 | gwalters@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
SantaBarbaraCA.gov

As part of the City's recent response to COVID-19, the Community Development and Public Works offices at 630 Garden Street have temporarily suspended in-person services. Online [application submittal and permitting](#) and [virtual counter services](#) continue to be available. The self-service lobby area is also open daily for your various pick up and drop off needs. Please visit our websites for additional information.

Community Development: SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CommunityDevelopment | **Public Works:** SantaBarbaraCA.gov/PublicWorks
Public Counter Apt. Scheduling Tool: SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CounterCheckIn

From: lenvik2@aol.com <lenvik2@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 13, 2021 5:27 PM
To: Tess Harris <THarris@SantaBarbaraCA.gov>
Cc: Dave Davis <daviddonaldadavis@gmail.com>
Subject: Suggestions for continuing Parklets after March 2022

EXTERNAL

Tess,

If it is appropriate would you distribute my suggestions for what the Council might want to do when the current emergency ord expires in March. I realize this is coming to you late but better late than never.

Thanks.... Ed Lenvik

From: Ed Lenvik
To: State Street Advisory Committee & staff
Date: 11/13/2021

Emergency Economic Recovery Ordinance after March 8, 2022

Suggestions for the continuance of the EERO after March 8, 2022.
Council has imposed current requirements that will continue.....

1. Overhead and enclosing structures shall not be allowed to continue. Single pole umbrellas are allowed for overhead protection.
2. Enclosing fences, railings, landscaping and such shall not exceed 40" above the adjoining curb height.
3. Parklet floor shall be at curb height and if not, shall comply with accessibility requirements.
4. Parklet enclosing fences when constructed of wood or metal shall be painted an approved color and not left "raw".
5. Parklet boundaries shall not exceed the width of the business frontage at the street.
6. Exterior Parklet seating shall not exceed an additional 25% of the permitted interior seating. *Some other number may be more appropriate but some current appear to well exceed that amount to the point of 100% additional seating.*
7. The additional Parklet seating will require the current business restroom facilities to meet current code standards for count and accessibility.
8. No outdoor dining is currently allowed on sidewalks. Host stations, and wait stations shall not occupy sidewalk. Adjoining retail business frontages shall not be obstructed by restaurant/bar operations in Parklet.

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From: [john casey](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: State Street Advisory Committee Comment for Jan 25th
Date: Thursday, January 6, 2022 12:23:25 PM

EXTERNAL

Happy New Year,

Glad to see that things are beginning to ramp up once again. In anticipation of the upcoming meeting on Jan 25th, and the upcoming vote on the items as listed in the email that was distributed, I would like to provide some commentary from a Downtown/Non-State Street Business.

We survived, so far. We actually were surviving the pandemic better, before State Street was closed and the main people conveyance was taken away and the primary cultural draws to our area were closed. Couple that with over excessive, and inequitable, expansion of Promenade businesses this ordinance all but destroyed everything we had built and were able to sustain prior to the Promenade.

It is with great relief that I see the notion of widening the "fire lane" on the promenade by 5.5 feet. However, how can we even take faith that the changes will actually be implemented, let alone managed and enforced? Since day one of the ordinance creation, there have been many that have over stepped the allowable parameters clearly set forth by the ordinance, and the City has taken no action to remedy these violations. These inactions have created far more harm to more businesses than the promenade even helped. As one business over stepped their bounds, another soon followed due to inaction and lack of consequences. Then the pressure was applied by a side street (whom at the time was openly against the promenade due to lack of inclusion for their businesses) that the City created an exclusion for while leaving all others (including the other side of Victoria Street nonetheless only exemplifying the inequity) with the crumbs of parklets or less.

It took push back from a cultural destination (The Vic) and threat of litigation for lack of access per ADA laws for the mobility challenged, yet even then the City has not been able to enforce the ordinance as written (no wider than the storefront, no less than 6' from the yellow line). On the contrary, the City modified the ordinances, to allow these businesses to continue their disregard for the needs of their community members and/or business neighbors.

Patio spaces were to be charged fee's that so many other businesses have paid year after year...and along with that free extension of property, the fee's were waived to avoid pushback or negative publicity. In fact, one business who has lawsuits pending and has defied all rules of the ordinance is instead...honored by our local press and the world famous John Palmintieri for the Holiday Decor.

The precedent has been set. The city cannot and will not enforce any ordinance that affects the Promenade. If it does, all you need to do is buy a few blow up dolls, hang them from the balcony with all the extra profit you earned by violating our people's rights to public space..and all will be forgiven.

If you want a community to follow the rules, they must be enforced as written. The city has already picked and chosen who gets to profit from their decisions and who gets to fail. So many businesses were damaged more by the city's inability to implement and enforce their laws, and at the same time has created many levels of hypocrisy along the way, it will take a lot of effective action to regain the trust of your downtown business community that was harmed or closed due to the inequity that was created.

As we are all still in a pandemic, and airborne viruses are a concern...of course the promenade

attracts people to dine outside. however, our city has one of (if not, thee) highest volume of restaurant seats per capita in the country. We had more patio seats than necessary for the demand, even during peak visitor volume without the addition of the promenade patio seats, you just used the emergency order as the means to move that demand to the chosen location of the promenade with no regard for all the businesses who lost business due to the decision. This city has been capped on full liquor licenses for years. Yet, under emergency order and the creation of the promenade...you created thousands of additional seats with full liquor capabilities, widening the income gap of those businesses without a full liquor license or access to gain one.

We can't have natural gas appliances in new homes to address climate change, yet we allow 10,000lbs of propane tanks to line a public corridor with thousands of pedestrians on a given weekend. Left unattended at night for anyone to tinker with. Our back alley's filled with thousands of pounds of propane tanks next to public pathways, designated smoking areas, children...codes being broken everywhere, and the city has taken NO action. How many BTU's burn in the air from a home with a gas powered stove? How many burn at night on State Street?

Someone is going to be hurt, disfigured or killed. Businesses will be forced closed, by the inequities. All of these problems have been openly communicated and documented to/with the City leaders, and no action., The liability, should a problem occur, will lie fully on the City of Santa Barbara and could have prevented...if only they actually made an effort to enforce our City's laws. Last I checked, that was their job, no a Committee's job

From: [Bob Stout](#)
To: [Tess Harris](#); [Greta Walters](#); [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: TODAY'S SSAC MEETING - CONCERNS
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:33:09 PM

EXTERNAL

Good Morning, SSAC:

After looking over the proposed DRAFT that staff will present to the SSAC this afternoon many businesses have concerns. Although I'm not personally affected I feel it's important for you and the committee to be aware of those concerns that so many in our hospitality (restaurants, bars, coffee shops, etc) have:

The good news is that it sounds like you will be extending the temporary ordinance for outdoor dining until the end of 2023, thus allowing many of us to try and recover from the economic disaster that Covid has brought. Please know that even with PPPs, ERTCs and RRFs, most of us who worked all-nighters to apply and receive government help are now seeing those funds come to end. Truly, I feel you will see a great many restaurants close very soon. My own restaurant, Little Kitchen, barring a minor miracle, will be one of those.

Especially with this new round of Omicron, business has really taken a hit so for those with outdoor facilities to try and somehow reconstruct their footprint to meet the expanded fire safety lane BY MARCH 8th is preposterous in my opinion. I am trying to just get an electrician to fix a circuit in my Mesa home and THAT'S a challenge. So please extend whatever deadline you are proposing.

You are doing good work to move rapidly toward finding help developing a State Street Master Plan. We all know it will take some time and great effort and laud everyone involved not in that but by having the foresight in April 2020 to listen to our pleas to expand outdoor dining. Many of us are proud that we worked with the City to become one of the first coastal California towns to take such proactive measures to help businesses survive what few of us thought would be a crisis soon to enter Year 3.

Please be assured I encourage everyone to remember the good that we all have done and without city staff and council support that would NOT have happened, so thank you.

Please:

1) Extend the deadline past March 8th for anyone affected to have to make changes required by the proposed new public safety lane.

2) If, in fact, State Street outdoor dining facilities get reduced, PLEASE go back to the previously existing Sidewalk Dining guidelines requiring 8' of straight line and unobstructed pedestrian path on the sidewalks in the Promenade. (I believe it was a 6' path on side streets). An 8' path of unobstructed travel is consistent with many other cities' regulations and now, by proposing to reduce available street seating... it would ease the pain and remain safe to also remove the rule restricting all sidewalk seating.

3) With regard to concerns about stormwater and street cleaning, with due respect to Public Works, many of us were pleasantly surprised by the lack of drainage problems that the structures presented. As for street cleaning, I see most businesses need to not sweep their napkins into the street; rather, into their own trash bins. I think this can be remedied with increased awareness; or fines for those who abuse.

4) Parades. I love a parade. I want to see Randy Rowse on a horse. Just not on State Street. As great as a parade on State has been historically, how can one day of fun and extra business (for some) be compared to 365 days of operation for those with Promenade seating.

Thank you for reading and sorry for the short notice. Please contact me if I can be of any further help and keep up the very important work you are doing!

Best,
Bob Stout
Wildcat Lounge
Little Kitchen