

## **City Announces Additional Support For Restaurants and Bars Looking to Reopen**

*Fast-track permitting and street closures to encourage social distancing, safe reopening*

**INDIANAPOLIS** – Today the Department of Business and Neighborhood Services (BNS) announced the expansion of the Dine Out Indy initiative, allowing bars to utilize the department's fast-tracked permitting process in order to creatively use outdoor space as they plan to reopen. [Marion County Public Health Department orders](#) taking effect on Friday, June 19 allow bars to open at 50% capacity and restaurants at 75% total capacity for both indoor and outdoor spaces.

“As more of Indianapolis begins to reopen, the safety of employees, business owners, and patrons continues to be a top priority,” said Brian Madison, Director of BNS. “We are committed to clearing as many obstacles as we can to ensure that these businesses remain an integral part of our economy.”

Since May 22, temporary seating permits have been issued to 101 restaurants and businesses looking to expand or add outdoor options as part of the city's safe reopening plan. Businesses can learn more and get connected to the Dine Out initiative at [indy.gov/dineout](#). A permit **must** be issued for businesses interested in adding or expanding outdoor seating.

Limited street closures also continue as part of the initiative along Mass Ave., Georgia Street, and Broad Ripple Avenue. More information, including maps of street closures, is attached. Closures are expected to last through July 4 weekend in conjunction with the city's Safe Summer reopening plan and Marion County Public Health Department orders.

The Dine Out initiative is the result of extensive engagement with local restaurants and businesses, and includes staff and resources from multiple city departments. As the Indianapolis economy begins to reemerge from COVID-related closures, the city has worked with local establishments to put them in a position to recover and thrive upon reopening, while remaining safe for employees and customers alike.

Residents and businesses wanting to learn more about the Dine Out initiative can view the attached materials or go to [indy.gov/dineout](#).

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Residents and affected workers impacted by COVID-19 restrictions should visit the city's resource guide, which can be viewed at <http://www.indy.gov/covid>. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource Guide [here](#). Individuals who are unable to navigate the city's website can call 317-327-4MAC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative.