



Office of the Town Manager

P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546

(760) 965-3601

www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

DATE: September 22, 2020
TO: Town of Mammoth Lakes – General Community
FROM: Daniel C. Holler, Town Manager/Emergency Services Director 
SUBJECT: Interim Restaurant and Retail Business Operating Rules

In March of this year the Town Council adopted a declaration of emergency for the Town in response to COVID-19, including the economic impacts of the disease. That declaration of emergency gave the Town Manager broad authority to act as the Town’s emergency services director, as set forth in Chapter 2.48 of the Town’s Municipal Code. Pursuant to that authority, and with the intention of allowing businesses to begin reopening with social distancing measures in place, I am ordering the following temporary changes to the Town’s usual standards and requirements regarding outdoor dining, outdoor displays and sales, temporary signage, and outdoor seating areas for retail businesses. Businesses operating under these interim rules must still comply with all applicable public health guidance and requirements from the State of California, Mono County, and the Town. These temporary operating rules will remain in effect until April 30, 2021 unless otherwise determined by the Town.

Outdoor Dining

In order to facilitate additional spacing between restaurant patrons, outdoor parking areas may be used as temporary outdoor dining until this emergency order is rescinded. The outdoor dining shall comply with all provisions of Zoning Code Section 17.52.220 with the exceptions as noted below:

- 17.52.220.C.5. Outdoor dining areas shall not ~~encroach into required parking areas~~, shall not obstruct pedestrian traffic, and shall not create traffic hazards.
- 17.52.220.D.1. Outdoor dining areas may be located in setback areas but shall maintain a minimum five foot setback to property lines ~~or parking lots~~; however, no outdoor dining area shall encroach into a setback abutting a residential zone.

Outdoor dining areas will comply with state and local Public Health Orders and applicable public safety requirements of the Town and Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District.

Outdoor Display and Sales

In order to promote social distancing, the following provisions for outdoor display and sales standards are temporarily waived:

17.52.230.A. 1. An administrative permit shall be required for a temporary outdoor display or sale.

17.52.230.A.4. A business shall be limited to three consecutive days of temporary outdoor displays/sales per calendar year. In addition, businesses are allowed one day for set up of the temporary display or sale and one day to remove the temporary display or sale.

Temporary Signage (Banners)

In response to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town would like to encourage business owners to advertise their businesses. In order to achieve this, Zoning Code Section 17.48.080.N.1. shall be modified as follows:

~~Grand Opening~~ Banners. Grand opening banners for newly established businesses as well as banners intended to advertise existing businesses are allowed and must be kept in good repair.

Outdoor Seating Areas for Retail Businesses

Businesses may establish temporary outdoor seating (waiting) areas provided that they do not interfere with pedestrian or vehicular thoroughfare. It is permitted to convert limited parking spaces to outdoor seating (waiting) areas.

Curbside Pick-Up and Delivery

In order to facilitate curbside pick-up and delivery, those businesses allowed to provide curbside pick-up and delivery of merchandise, goods and related service the temporary use of tents or other shade coverings may be placed to provide protection from weather, to clearly designate areas for pick-up and delivery of merchandises, goods and delivery.

Care and Maintenance of all Temporary Items

The placement of all temporary structures must provide for the safety of pedestrian and vehicle traffic, and all such structures must be secured to withstand wind events. All outdoor structures, signs, banners, seating, or related temporary items must be maintained in good repair and must be promptly removed or replaced upon notice from the Town.