City of Manchester:  
Food Service Industry & Stay at Home 2.0

On May 18, restaurants will be permitted to begin outdoor sit-down food service, in compliance with all guidelines determined by the State of New Hampshire’s modified stay-at-home order.

In order to best support local restaurants, the City of Manchester will allow for the expansion of outdoor dining to their privately-owned outdoor parking lots. Additionally, downtown businesses with existing sidewalk encumbrance permits can extend food service in front of adjacent businesses with the written permission of that property owner.

All restaurants opening for outdoor sit-down service must prepare a diagram of planned table and seating surfaces, including measurements, (see Fig. 1) in order to begin service, including those restaurants with existing patios and sidewalk encumbrance permits.

Please contact the Manchester City Clerk’s Office at cityclerk@manchesternh.gov with any questions or to submit your proposal and documentation.

In order to make this process as smooth as possible, restaurants extending service to private outdoor parking lots should be prepared with a site plan and proposal that details:

- **Layout of tables and seating surfaces**
  - Limit tables to no more than six (6) guests per table
  - Tables spacing should be maintained so people sitting at adjacent tables are at least 6 feet apart (See Fig. 1)
  - Tables spacing must be maintained so people sitting at adjacent tables are more than 6 feet apart, and to allow employees/servers to stand back 6 feet from a group’s table

- **Method and materials of defining area on site (fences, walls or other barriers)**
  - Proper protective barriers (jersey barriers) shall be in place to maintain public safety, not a simple rope or yellow tape

- **Location of and accessible walkway to sanitary facilities (hand sanitizer stations, restrooms, etc.)**

- **Location of and walkway to accessible exits**

- **Location and method of lighting walkways for evening service**

- **Location of waiting area/line (if applicable):**
  - Must have safe areas to stand away from traffic, including a physical barrier
  - Must have designated space that does not interfere with pedestrian traffic flow
  - Must allow for adequate social distancing

- **Location of heating appliances and fuel storage (if applicable)**

- **Additional permitting required for tent use, contact the Manchester City Clerk’s office for more information.**
Fig. 1

Example of seating plan that adheres to social distancing requirements

13 Tables of 4 guests show in a 30’ x 50’ space

Spacing is based on the back of a chair being 18” away from table edge

● Server