

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Treatment of Seating Area at Taraval Street and 46th Avenue as Sidewalk for Shared Spaces Program]

Ordinance waiving specified requirements in the Administrative Code to allow seating area designated as a curbside traffic island on Taraval Street at 46th Avenue to be defined as two sidewalk shared spaces, subject to certain requirements; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act

Existing Law

Restaurants, bars, and other establishments may place outdoor seating on public sidewalks and streets under the Shared Spaces Program, regulated by Chapter 94A of the Administrative Code. Tables and chairs placed on sidewalks must be brought indoors overnight. For curbside lanes, usually in parking spots, more substantial “parklets” may be constructed.

An existing business on Taraval Street at 46th Avenue has tables and chairs outside in an area that looks and functions more like a sidewalk than a curbside lane. The area is directly next to and flush with the sidewalk, and contains two seating areas and landscaping. This area was designated as a “Traffic Island (Curbside)” and therefore it is not clear whether it qualifies as either a sidewalk or curbside lane under the Shared Spaces program.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would waive provisions of the Administrative Code to allow treatment of the seating areas on Taraval Street at 46th Avenue as “sidewalk” areas for purposes of the Shared Spaces Program. This would allow the nearby businesses to apply for Shared Spaces permits to place tables and chairs outside of their businesses. It would not allow the businesses to build “parklets.”

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