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To: MOU Partners

From: Brandy McMahon, AICP, Local Government Coordinator

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Guidance Memo Regarding Temporarily Expanding Restaurant Outdoor Seating in Response to COVID-19 Social Distancing Requirements

In response to Social Distancing Requirements put in place by the States of Nevada and California to stop the spread of COVID-19, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) staff has prepared this memo to provide guidance when working with restaurant owners/managers seeking to add additional outdoor seating to meet social distancing requirements.

In the Tahoe Region, restaurants may temporarily add additional tables outdoors to meet social distancing requirements and protect public health and safety. Outdoor tables shall first be located on existing hard coverage (patios, decks, parking lots, walkways, etc.) and then if additional area is required placed on lawns. Restaurant owners/managers shall ensure that parking is not negatively impacted if tables are placed in parking lots and shall make sure adequate access remains for ingress/egress and adequate pedestrian and bike/vehicle circulation is maintained. The total number of tables temporarily relocated outside cannot exceed the number of previously permitted tables (the number of tables reasonably accommodated within existing indoor and outdoor dining areas with Commercial Floor Area). Thus, if 10 tables are removed from a dining area to meet social distancing requirements, a maximum of 10 tables may be temporarily relocated outside. Temporary signage that addresses social distancing requirements may also be located at a restaurant. Temporary signage shall be an appropriate size and scale to the restaurant use.

Once social distancing requirements are lifted by the States of California and Nevada, or within two years of the date of this memo (May 27, 2022), whichever occurs first, restaurants in the Tahoe Region must come back into conformance with TRPA regulations.

The Agency shares the community's concerns for the health and safety of the public and staff during this health crisis and appreciates the opportunity to work through the issues.

If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Brandy McMahon, AICP, Local Government Coordinator, at (775) 589-6274 or bmcMahon@trpa.org.