



August 23, 2021

Mayor Suzanne Hadley  
Members of City Council  
City Manager Bruce Moe

Dear Mayor Hadley, City Council, and City Manager Moe,

The DBPA Board of Directors expresses their gratitude to Director Tai and City Staff for recommending to Council outdoor dining be continued through January 3, 2022. This provides our restaurants the certainty they will be able to operate through the Delta variant even if we should experience future indoor dining restrictions.

To minimize the parking constraints created by outdoor dining, our DBPA Board of Directors recommends if no indoor dining restrictions or distancing guidelines are in place as of November 1, 2021, all restaurants reduce their outdoor dining decks to a footprint no larger than the front of their own businesses. There will likely be practical considerations causing some decks to not be located directly in front of their business, such as handicapped ramps, but as much as possible, we encourage City Staff to begin the logistical exercise of reducing the overall size and impact of the dining decks. In addition, we ask that any dining decks not in use by September 1, 2021, be removed to open all available parking.

This is an important step forward to acknowledge and amend the sacrifices our retailers and service businesses have made over the last 18 months. Decreasing deck sizes will begin addressing our organization's concerns about blocking the visual sight line to a business from the street or sidewalk, and also provide some of the much needed parking to return in time for our busy holiday season.

We respectfully thank you for your consideration.

Mike Simms  
President, DBPA

Jill Lamkin  
Executive Director, DBPA