

From: George Kotarides gkotarides@yahoo.com 

Subject: Atlantic Avenue Association Board support of and thoughts about expanding outdoor dining opportunities for restaurants

Date: May 11, 2020 at 5:32 PM

To: Ronald H. Williams Jr. rwilliams@vbgov.com

Cc: Kathy M. Warren kmwarren@vbgov.com, BJ Baumann bj@rockafellers.com, Stephan Gordon shg225@hotmail.com, Stephan Michaels oceansidellc@gmail.com, bill gambrell rightcoastconsulting@cox.net, Bill Dillon bill@abbeyroadpub.com, Billy Almond billy@wplsite.com, Lynn Hightower director@atwildfowl.org, deepak patel ramcorp84@yahoo.com, Michael Mauch mikemauch@yahoo.com, Chris Neikirk shechris@smartmouthbrewing.com, Chris Kyriakides sfkyriakides@gmail.com, Clark Winslow clark@sunnydayguide.com, Jaketa Clark jaketa86@omniaunlimited.com, Jaketa Clark jaketa@omniaunlimited.com

GK

Dear Ron,

To follow is a summary of ideas/thoughts from AAA Board of Directors about expanding outdoor dining at the resort quickly, safely and at little expense to all.

Suffice it to say we are very supportive of loosening outdoor dining restrictions in Virginia Beach.

Keeping in mind social distancing and other COVID guidelines, AAA identified 3 ways we think restaurants along Atlantic Avenue and side streets can participate in this unique pilot program:

1. Allow businesses to put out tables and chairs on side street sidewalks, with a pathway for pedestrians.
2. Allow restaurants on Atlantic Avenue to put chairs and tables on the sidewalk close to their building, with an 8ft pathway for pedestrians
3. Allow restaurants to put tables and chairs in parking spaces in front of their business in what was the trolley lane. The city will need to provide planters, protective barricades (maybe could have artists paint these) and signage.

*Keep all parking spaces in the trolley lane throughout the summer not taken up by "dining parklets."

*Food must be purchased - not just sit and drink alcohol.

*Patrons must be seated.

*Tables and chairs must be secured or brought in nightly.

*No selling of other items from cafes besides prepared food and bev.

*Definitely need heavy planters and barricades as borders for trolley lane "dining parklets."

*Allow "fast casual dining," since that is not permitted now in cafes?

*What is a reasonable and safe closure time - maybe 11PM?

*AAA would like to be involved in implementing this project.

*One idea: In the future (post-COVID), parking spaces along Atlantic Avenue could be metered May 1 til October 1. Use this new money stream for ongoing maintenance and beautification of the sidewalks and infrastructure along Atlantic Avenue and side streets

beautification of the sidewalk and infrastructure along Atlantic Avenue and side streets. Parking meter inspectors could also help monitor cafes and report to management staff any issues.

This is a PERFECT opportunity to launch a "better block experiment" to activate Atlantic Avenue and side streets! We are ready to do this with renewed energy and optimism, and we hope the city will advertise that we are open for business and outdoor dining along Atlantic Avenue and the entire resort!

United we stand!



*Helping To Build
A Great Community*

George Kotarides
President, Atlantic Avenue Association
757-469-0031

