



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** May 28, 2020

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### **City of Burlington Releases Process for Burlington Businesses to extend Outdoor Dining and Fitness activities**

BURLINGTON, NC— During the May 19, 2020 City Council Meeting city staff was directed by council to implement a process that allowed for restaurants to extend outdoor dining offer addition capacity while in compliance with the Executive Order 141. Opportunities for fitness activities to occur on publicly owned greenspaces and parks has also been addressed through the process development.

Existing tools have been modified to provide staff-level review of proposed outdoor seating and outdoor fitness activities at no charge. These applications are available now online at [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/COVID19](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/COVID19)

“We’re poised to work closely with restaurants and fitness studios to permit additional capacity quickly – we all want to get businesses back on solid ground,” stated Peter Bishop, City of Burlington Economic Developer.

1) **A Temporary Use Permit** allows restaurants to apply to use a portion of their parking lot to provide additional seating. Fitness studios could use the same tool to apply to use a portion of their parking lot for classes instead of parking.

**CONTACT:** Senior Planner Conrad Olmedo, 336-513-5415 or by email at [colmedo@burlingtonnc.gov](mailto:colmedo@burlingtonnc.gov).

2) **An Outdoor Dining Permit** allows applicants to request seating opportunities on public property (excluding streets). Once approved, outdoor dining is allowed until 30 days after the governor ceases restaurant capacity restrictions.

**CONTACT:** Senior Planner Conrad Olmedo, 336-513-5415 or by email at [colmedo@burlingtonnc.gov](mailto:colmedo@burlingtonnc.gov).

3) **Outdoor Fitness Use Permit** available to facilitate the request of fitness classes on publicly owned green spaces and parks.

**CONTACT:** Supervisor of Special Events Emily Crowley, 336-229-3149 or by email [ecrowley@burlingtonnc.gov](mailto:ecrowley@burlingtonnc.gov).

These applications, including proof of property owner approval, certificate of liability insurance, and a sketch plan, are reviewed and approved at a staff level which can be done expeditiously.

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Our Mission:

“The City of Burlington is dedicated to providing high quality municipal services within our diverse community in a friendly, professional and efficient manner in order to promote the safety, health, and quality of life of residents and employees.”

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