

## **PARKLET DESIGN GUIDELINES**

The Parklet Design Guidelines are used to evaluate the location and design of parklets in Downtown Pleasanton. There are several parameters for parklet location to account for emergency access, utilities, sight distance/visibility, fire safety, and traffic operations and safety. Design standards will promote a cohesive downtown streetscape aesthetic and account for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), safety, and proper maintenance.

The following design parameters are required for all parklets:

### Size

- Parklets may not occupy more than two parking spaces and/or 400 square feet (whichever is less)
- Parklets may not be wider than the “tick mark” of the parking space and/or 8-feet wide (whichever is less).
- Parklets and related elements (e.g., planters) must be contained completely within their subject parking spaces, with exception for only the wheel stops and flexible posts.

### Location

- Located a minimum five-feet from driveways, stop signs, and crosswalks.
- Located a minimum 16-feet from an intersection where a car may turn onto the same side of the street (i.e., out of the turn radius) and reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- May only be located on streets with a minimum traffic lane width of 20-feet.
- Cannot be located in a red zone or adjacent to fire hydrants
- Must provide a minimum five-foot gap between every two parking spaces with a parklet structure (see Figure 1 below). Parklets can be back-to-back with an adjacent business parklet if both parklets occupy only parking space.
- Parklets must generally be located in front of subject business, although may extend in front of an immediately adjacent business with both business and property owner sign-off.
- Parklets must incorporate flexible visibility posts at parklet corners adjacent to the street and incorporate wheel stops at outer edges of the parklet with a minimum of three-feet from the edge of the wheel stop to the barrier. Wheel stops can be located in adjacent parking spaces/parking space gaps. Wheel stops and posts will be installed by the City.
- Parklets cannot conflict with or obstruct utility access points (e.g., manhole covers, vaults, storm drain inlets, well covers, etc.).

- Parklets shall not block the view of traffic from vehicles/road users, including pedestrian traffic, nor block the view of traffic control devices such as traffic signs, traffic signals, and other traffic devices as assessed by the City Traffic Engineer.
- The City's Transportation Engineering Division, Engineering Division, and Operations Services Department will review and verify all proposed parklet locations, and may request modification or adjustment of a proposed location based on conditions

### Platform Design

- Parklets must be provided on a platform. Parklets must be designed by a California licensed professional engineer and/or architect and it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure structural integrity of the platform.
- Platform must be free-standing; no permanent alterations can be made to the street (e.g., no poured concrete directly onto street, no bolting of platforms into the street, etc.).
- Platform structure and accessibility must comply with the California Building Code; this includes but is not limited to maximum cross slope and load-bearing weight.
- Platform must be flush to sidewalk ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " maximum horizontal gap to curb and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " vertical gap from the curb).
- Platform cannot inhibit drainage/stormwater. A minimum five-inch (5") gap must be provided underneath the platform in the drainage channel.
- Platform should allow maintenance underneath parklet (e.g., leaf removal). This can be achieved through a modular design, by using removable screws to affix the platform decking, or another method deemed appropriate by the City.

### Barrier Design

- Parklets must incorporate a continuous rigid barrier from the platform to the street (e.g., guardrails or another barrier such as planters and railings). Ropes and other non-ridged parklet delineation is not permitted. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure structural integrity and safety of the barrier/guardrail.
- The barrier must comply with the California Building Code for guardrails, this includes but is not limited to guardrail minimum force, guardrail gaps, and height.
- Barrier maximum height is 48".
- Barrier should not be one solid piece of wood/metal. It must include some visibility to the street (e.g., railings with gaps).

### Colors/Materials

- Materials must be high quality, durable, and non-reflective.
- The predominant material/cladding on the street facing side of the parklet must be wood or other natural material.

- Street facing colors used on the exterior of barriers must be earth toned, matte-finish paint or opaque stain, and cannot incorporate “brand” colors of the adjacent business.

### Amenities

- If lighting is provided, lighting shall be solar or battery operated (i.e. not connected to main power). Extension cords across the sidewalk or overhead are prohibited.
- Flood lights and other bright up-lighting is not permitted.
- If heating is provided, it shall be battery powered or small propane (i.e., no piping, plug-in, or large propane tank heating). All heating will be reviewed for approval by LPFD.
- Furnishings should match existing outdoor dining areas of the subject business. If no outdoor dining exists for the subject business, furniture will be reviewed during the Parklet Permit process.
- Furnishing layout must meet accessibility standards in the California Building Code.
- Temporary pop-up tents/canopies and temporary or permanent roof structures are not permitted. However, umbrellas are allowed. Umbrellas must be properly secured. Umbrella colors are limited to a solid neutral color (i.e., no stripes, dots, bright or fluorescent colors, etc.), cannot include branding. Umbrella colors are subject to review by the Planning Division.

### Other Regulations

- Existing buildings, features (e.g., benches, trash cans, etc.), fences, walls, artwork, utilities, lighting, landscape, etc., shall not be altered.
- Advertising and signage is not permitted to be mounted or displayed on the parklet.
- Flashing elements are not permitted.
- Parklets that serve alcoholic beverages shall include appropriate fencing or other barriers to delineate the space and adhere to Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) regulations. All physical requirements of ABC should be reflected in the design submitted for review.
- Parklets may only be used between the hours of 7am-10pm.
- Music is permitted, however would need to follow noise regulations in PMC Section 9.04.
- The business shall install trash guards on nearby storm drains. Below grate protection is not permitted.