



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Denise Lucas, Director, Development Services Department *Denise Lucas*

DATE: March 24, 2022

SUBJECT: Staff update on Council Ordinance No. 20200604-047 regarding the Shop the Block program

Background

On June 4, 2020, Council passed [Ordinance No. 20200604-047](#) authorizing specific businesses to use private parking lots and public right-of-way for expanded business operations. The resulting “Shop the Block” pilot program began June 15, 2020, and was extended by [Ordinance No. 20201203-007](#).

On June 3, 2021, Council approved [Ordinance No. 20210603-12](#) which ended the “Shop the Block” pilot program with a final application deadline of December 1, 2021. Any permits issued throughout the remainder of the program will be in effect for six months.

In order to continue allowing for outdoor seating opportunities for businesses, Council approved [Resolution No. 20210729-116](#) on July 29, 2021 which directed exploring the creation of a new program for private parking lots and to synchronize the application process for existing permit options.

Update

Staff have completed the deliverables for Resolution No. 20210729-116 and are currently calibrating application and enforcement options that ensure the appropriateness of permitted outdoor space with surrounding areas. On February 17, 2022, City Council approved the creation of a Private Parking Patio and amendments to the Sidewalk Cafes Ordinance. Combined, both programs are responsive to Council Resolution No. 20210729-116.

This memo is to confirm that staff has completed the deliverables as directed by the ordinances. This item is now closed. Should you have further questions, please contact Assistant Director Beth Culver at 512-974-3111 or beth.culver@austintexas.gov.

CC: Spencer Cronk, City Manager