

# Flex Streets

## DRAFT Parklet Guidelines



# Types of Flex Streets



Sidewalk Cafe



Parklet



Street Closure



Mobile Food Vending

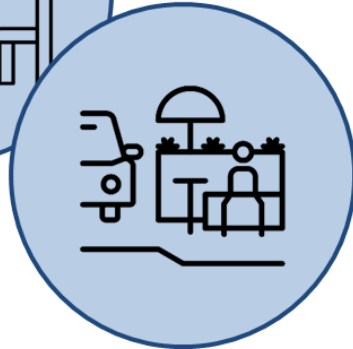
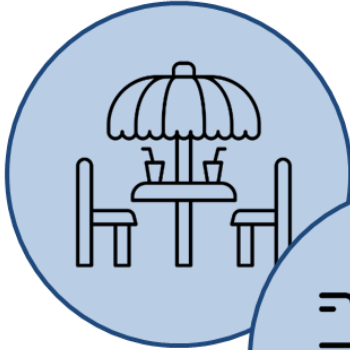


Public Property



Private Property

# Permitting Results



140+

Sidewalk Cafés  
& Parklets



13 Street Closures



60+ Mobile Food  
Vendors

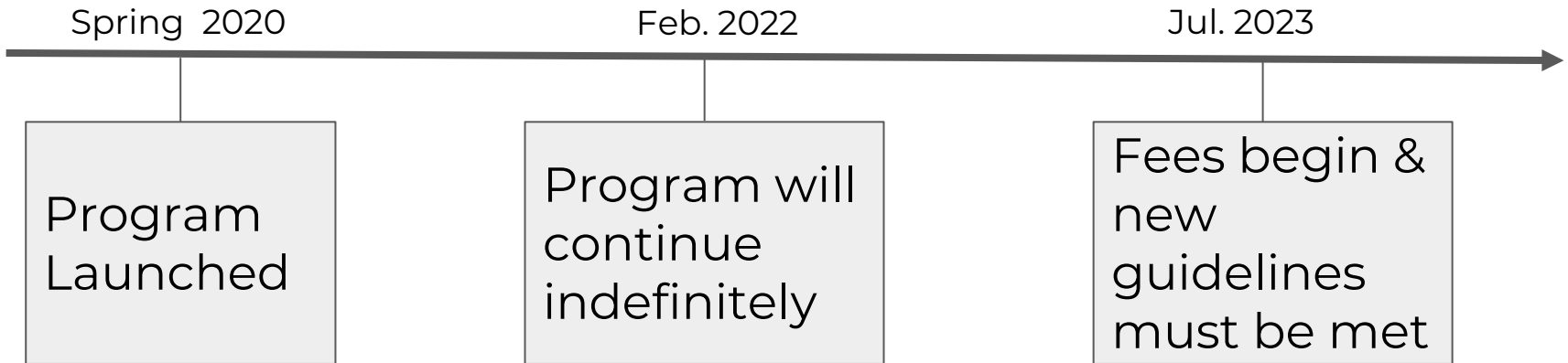


Quick  
Turnaround

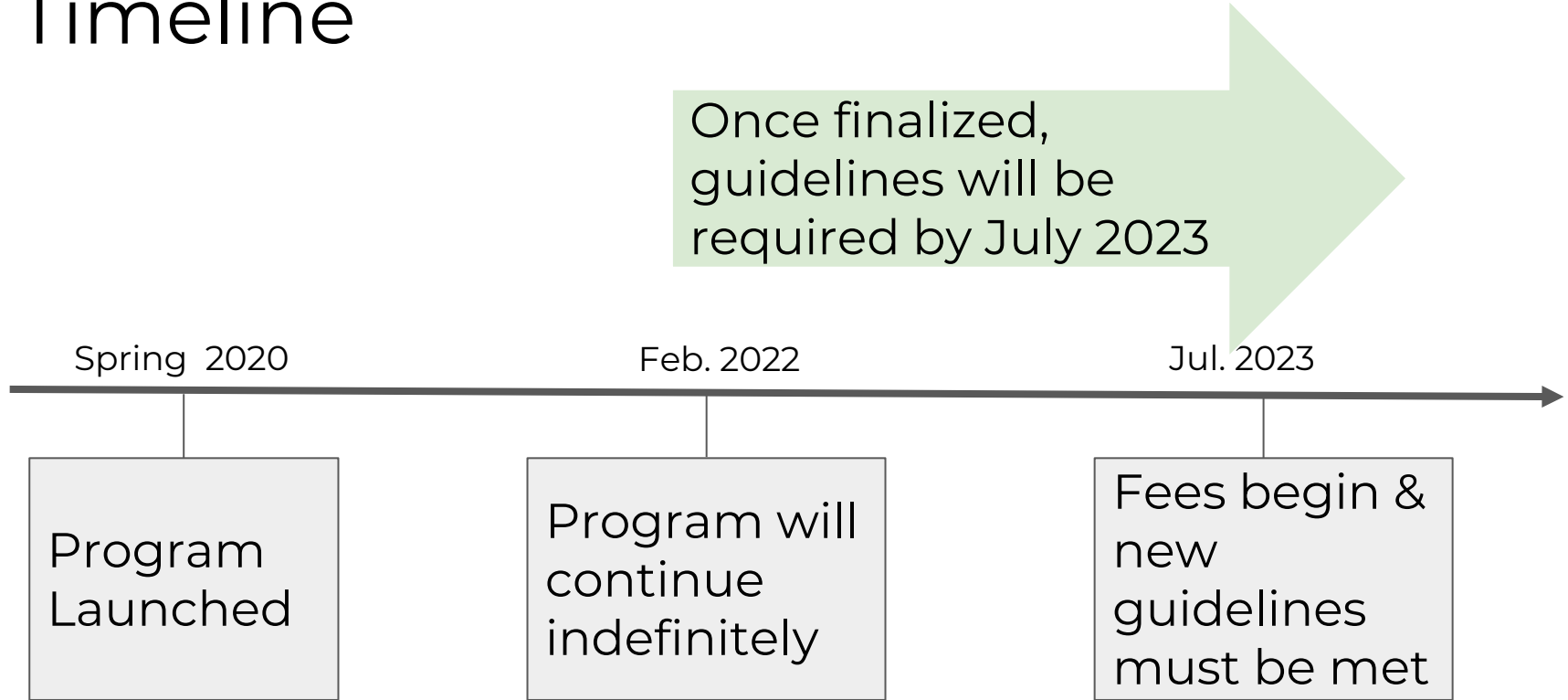


Repurposed  
Space

# Timeline



# Timeline



# Draft Parklet Guidelines

Developed through interdepartmental coordination & referencing relevant codes to ensure parklets meet safety and accessibility goals

Reminder: Parklets are in the shared Right of Way, and must be movable/modular



# Considerations

1. Do these guidelines help clarify what is/isn't allowed?
2. Do these guidelines address any issues experienced by your stakeholders?
3. What concerns do you have that we should be aware of?



# Topics

1. Location & Operations
2. Design
3. Traffic Safety
4. Accessibility
5. Fire Safety
6. Relocation/Removal



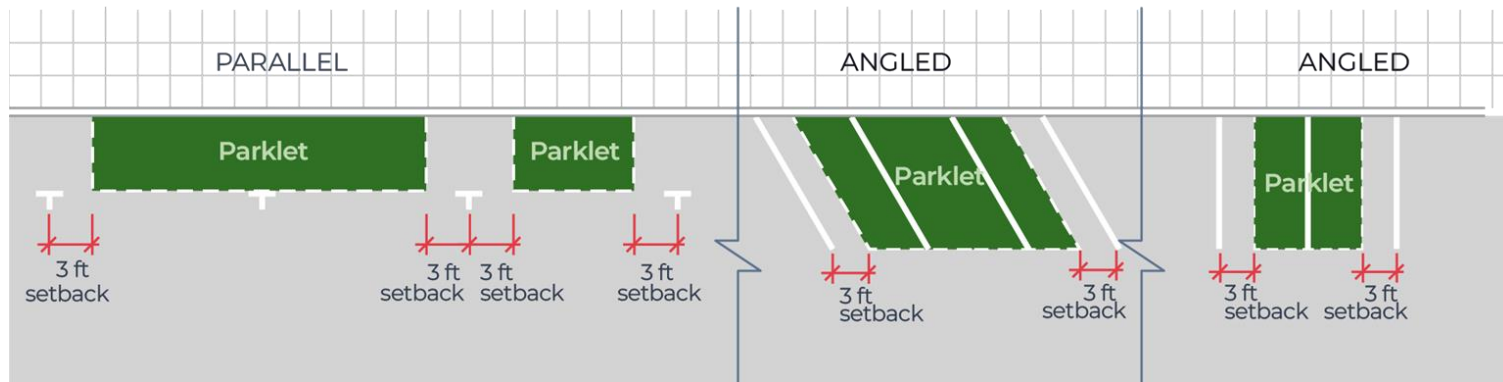


# 1. Location & Operation - parklet size and location

- 2 parallel or 3 diagonal spaces
- No parklets in blue, green, yellow, or white zones
- No parklets in bus stops, unless coordinated with AC Transit

## Important Location Criteria for Parking or Curbside Lane Shared Spaces

Note that structures located on angled parking must be angled to match the roadway striping

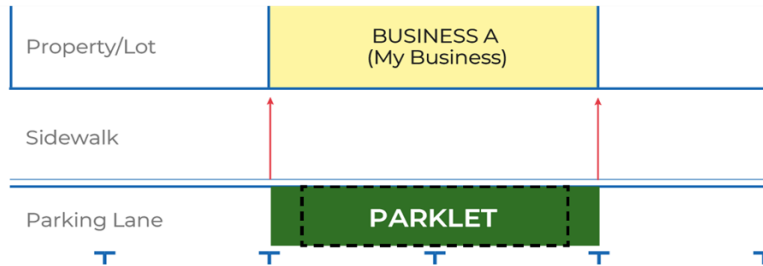


# 1. Location & Operation - Permissions

- Permission should be from ground floor business owner; building owner in absence of ground floor business

## Neighbor Occupancy

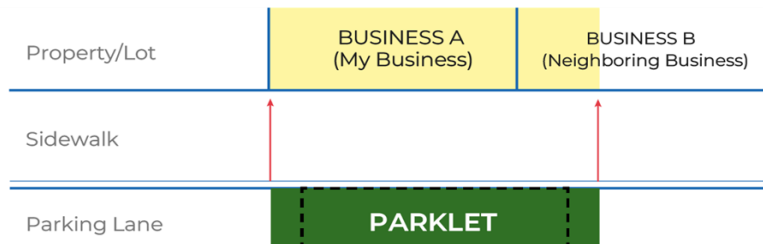
1



**No permission needed:**

OPTION 1: Shared Space fully within business frontage.

2

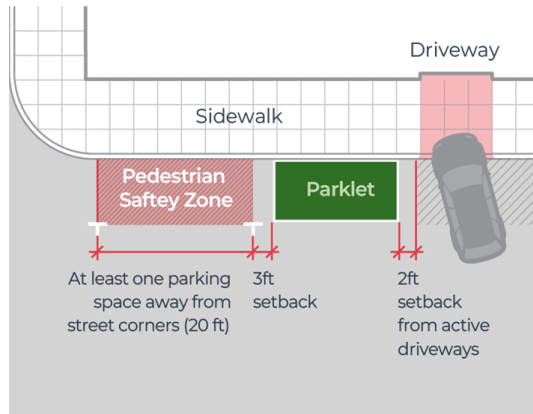


**Permission needed:**

OPTION 2: Shared Space extends into a neighboring frontage, occupying an unmarked space.

# 1. Location & Operation - visibility

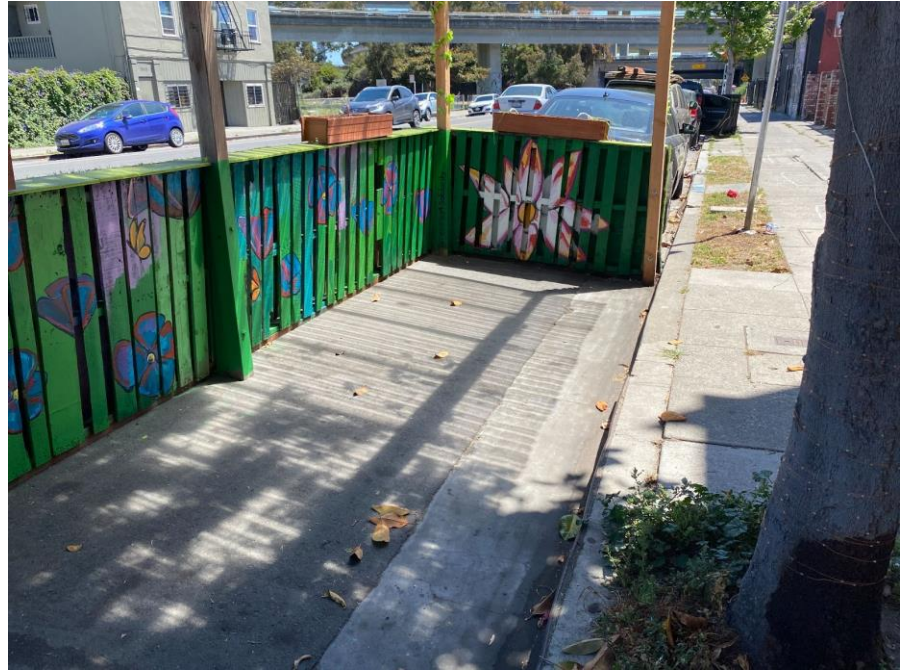
- Parklets cannot be in red zones, safety zones, or within 20' – 40' of intersections (40' when street includes a protected bike lane) unless they are 75% transparent; no structures allowed above railing height
- 2' setback from drivewalks



Current Parklet in a Pedestrian Safety Zone; upgrades would be required

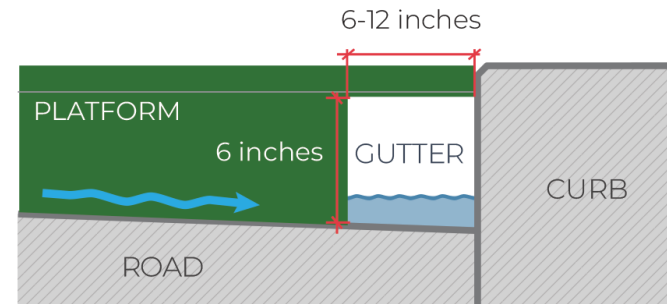
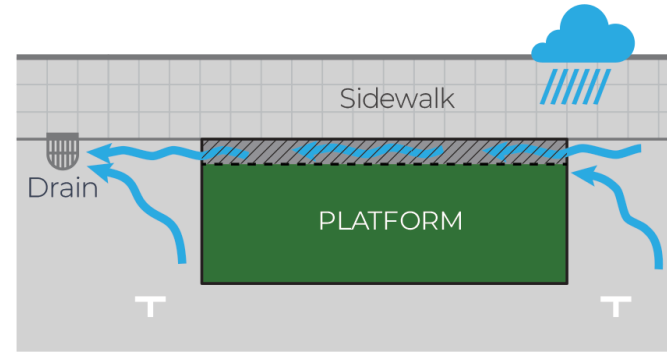
# 1. Location & Operation – hours

- Parklets must be in use for at least 50% of business hours.

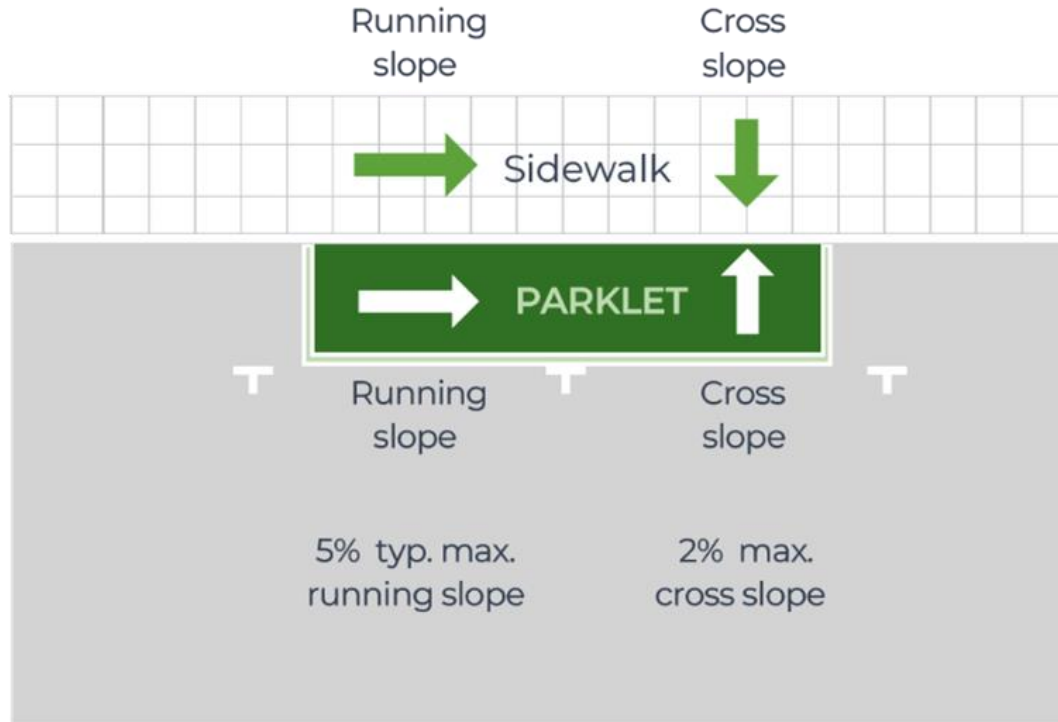


# 1. Location & Operation – access

- Parklet shall not restrict access to utilities, drains, or other public facilities
- Must allow for curbside drainage

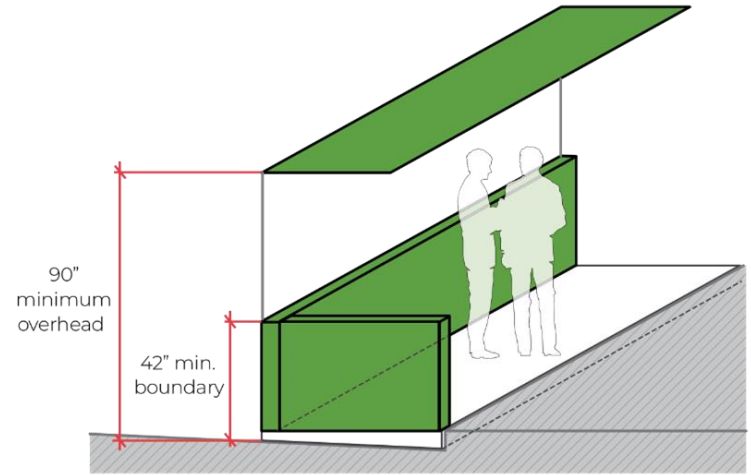


## 2. Design – slope



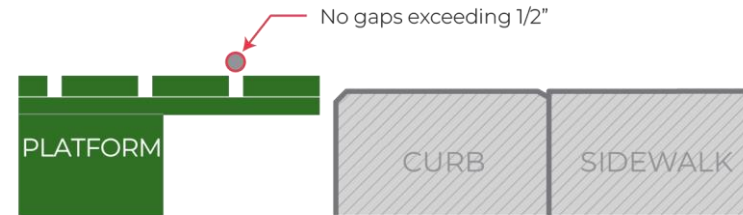
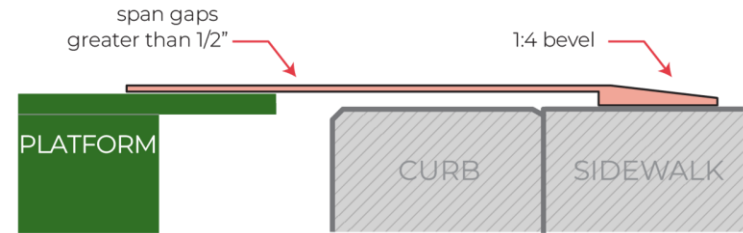
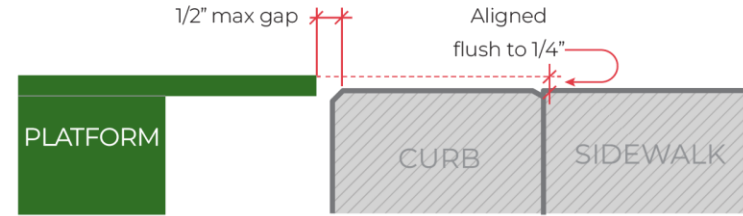
# Design – walls

- 3 sides are required, similar to a railing
- Transparency b/t 42 - 90" is required



# Design – platforms

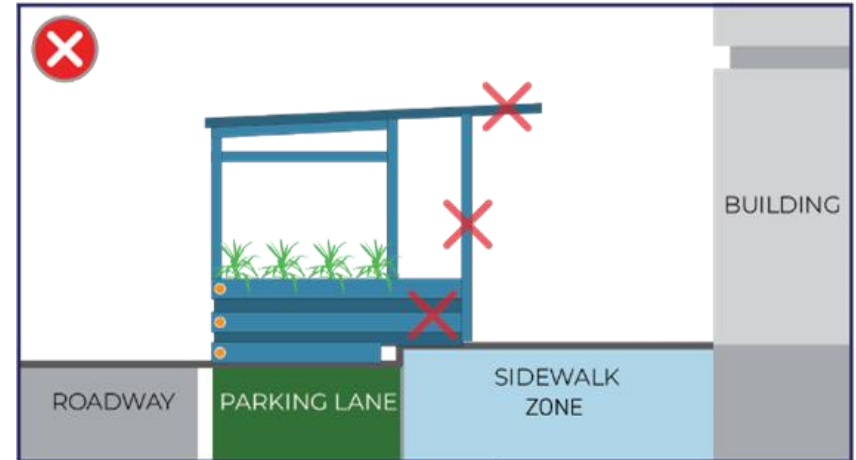
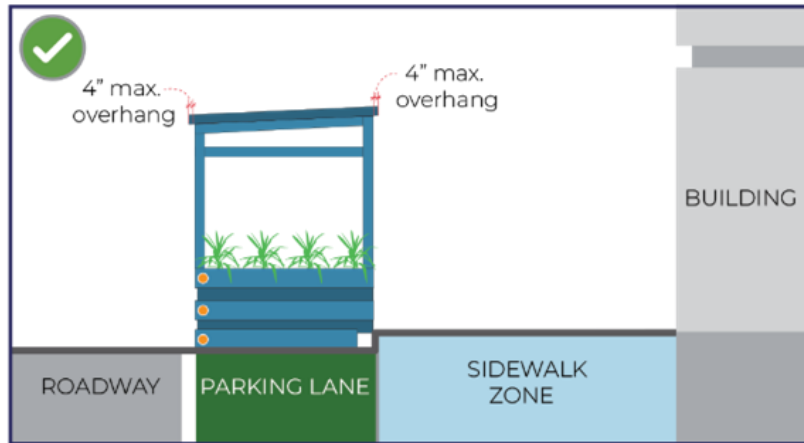
- Must support live loads up to 100 pound per square foot (psf)
- Must be accessible (see graphics to right)





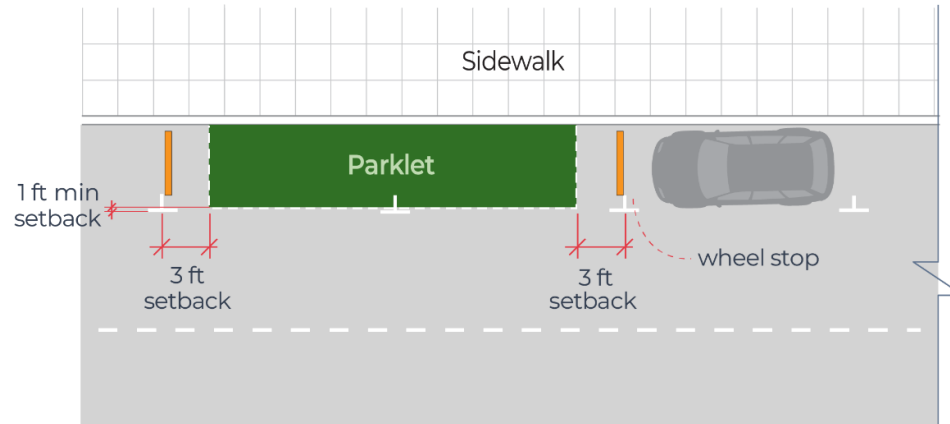
## 2. Design - coverings

- Umbrellas are allowed
- Temporary and permanent canopies or roofs must meet structural integrity required in CA Building Code
- Canopies, umbrellas and roofs cannot encroach into the sidewalk or roadway; 4" max overhang



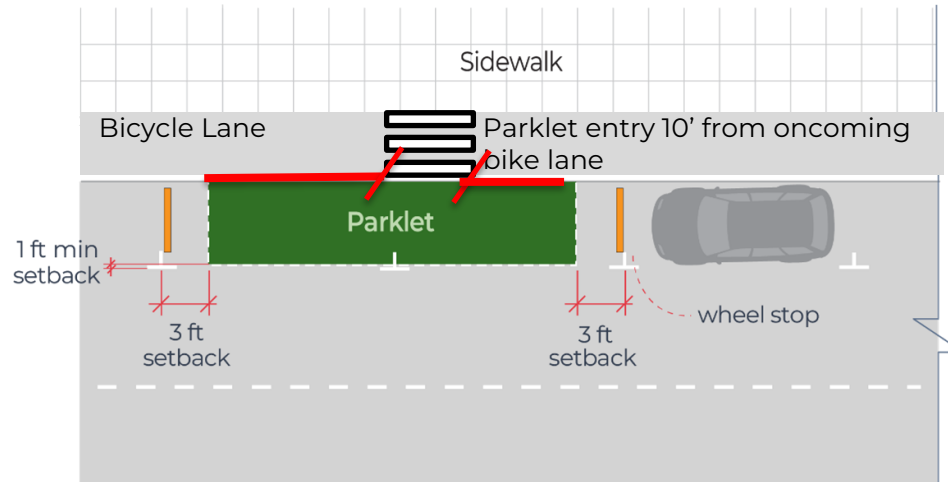
### 3. Traffic Safety – all parklets, 30 mph streets

- Safety Measures for All Parklets:
  - Wheel stops + reflective posts + 3 ft
  - Reflective tape/markers along traffic edge
  - 12" from moving lane
- Safety Measures for 30 mph streets:
  - Stronger barricades along traffic edge



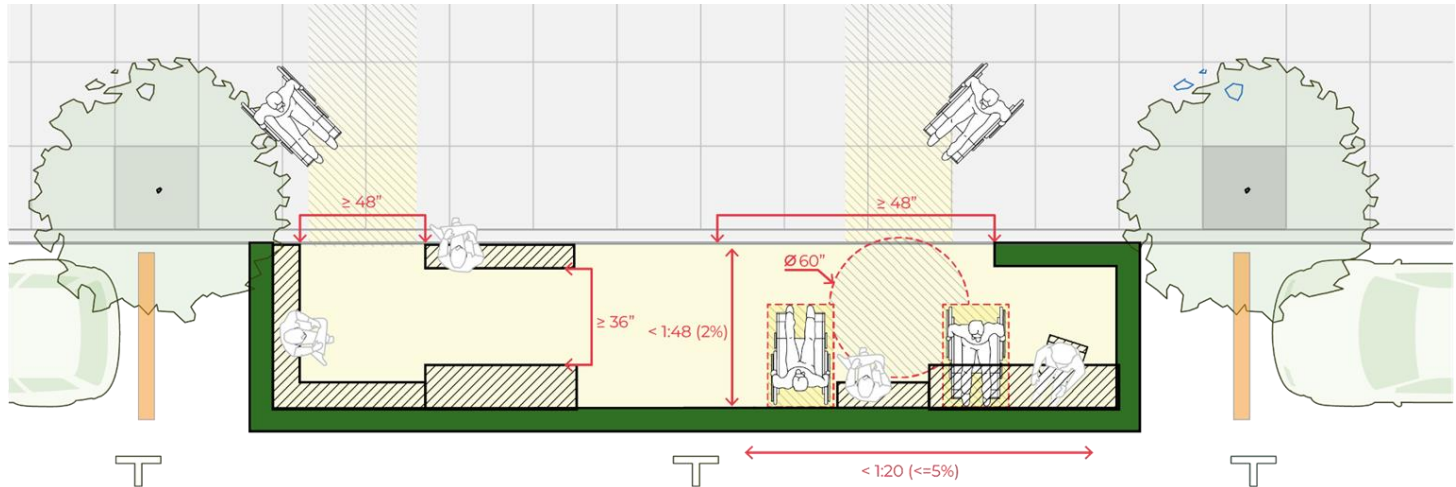
### 3. Traffic Safety – protected bike lanes

- Include a railing height wall along the protected bicycle lane edge, with entry and exit points for patrons at least 10 feet from the nearside of the bicycle lane for added visibility.
- Painted crosswalk bars and/or a raised crosswalk ramp connecting to the sidewalk.



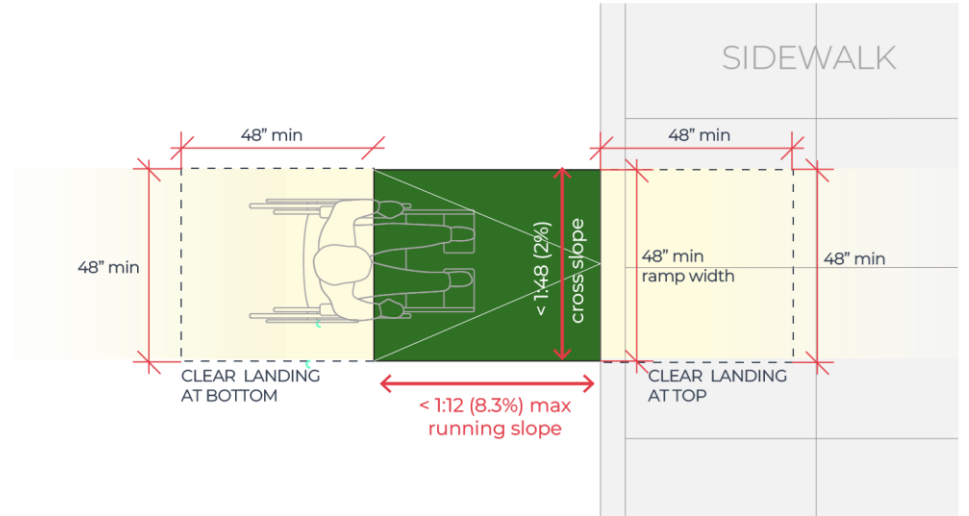
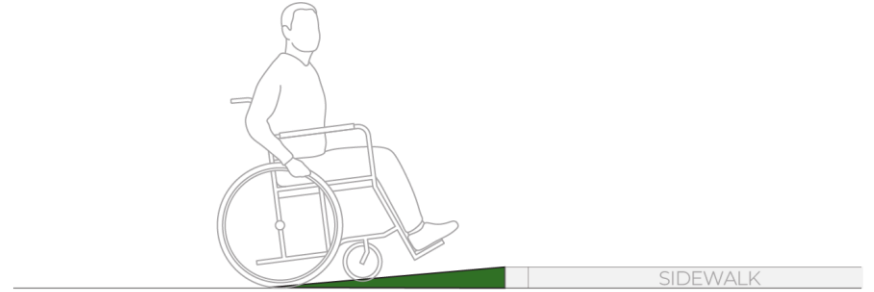
## 4. Accessibility - circulation

- Parklets encouraged to be at sidewalk level; must have accessible entrance every 20'; 48" wide
- Interior circulation and wheelchair turning space
- No more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " vertical elevation change



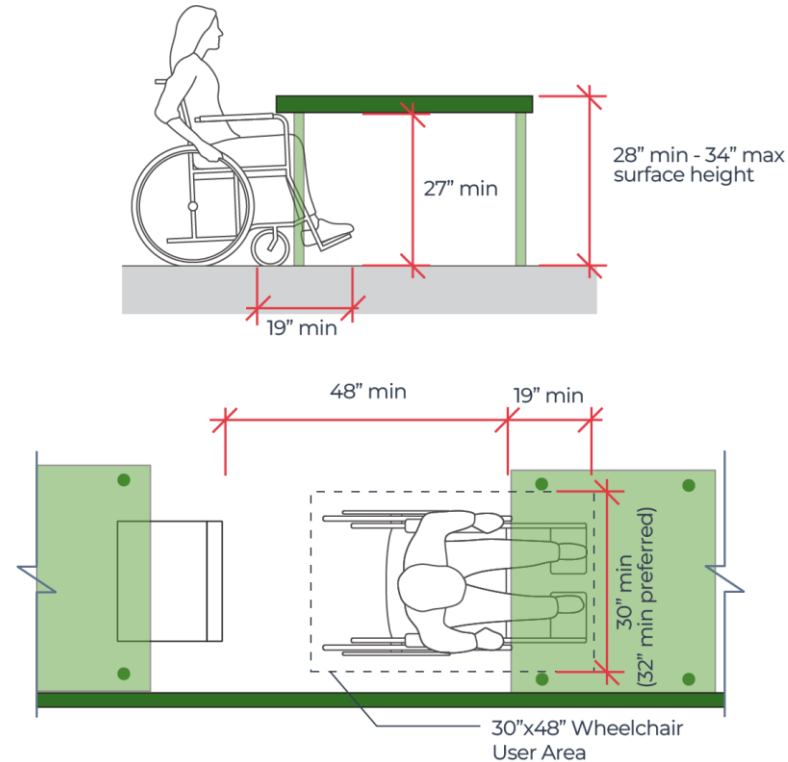
## 4. Accessibility - ramps

- Ramp slope no more than 1:12 or 8.3%
- Clear level landing at top and bottom
- Edge protection
- Firm, slip resistant material
- Handrails required for more than 5% slope



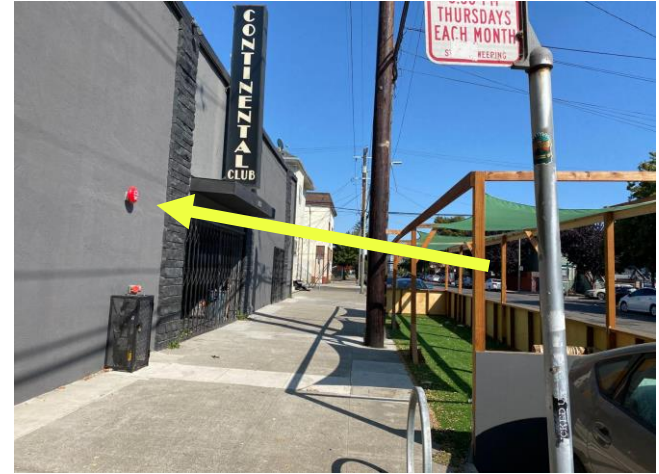
## 4. Accessibility - seating

- 5% and at least one of each type of seating must be accessible
- Describes in detail what the requirements are for each type of seating (Table, bar, bench)
- Requires 4 feet clear b/t accessible seating and nearest obstruction



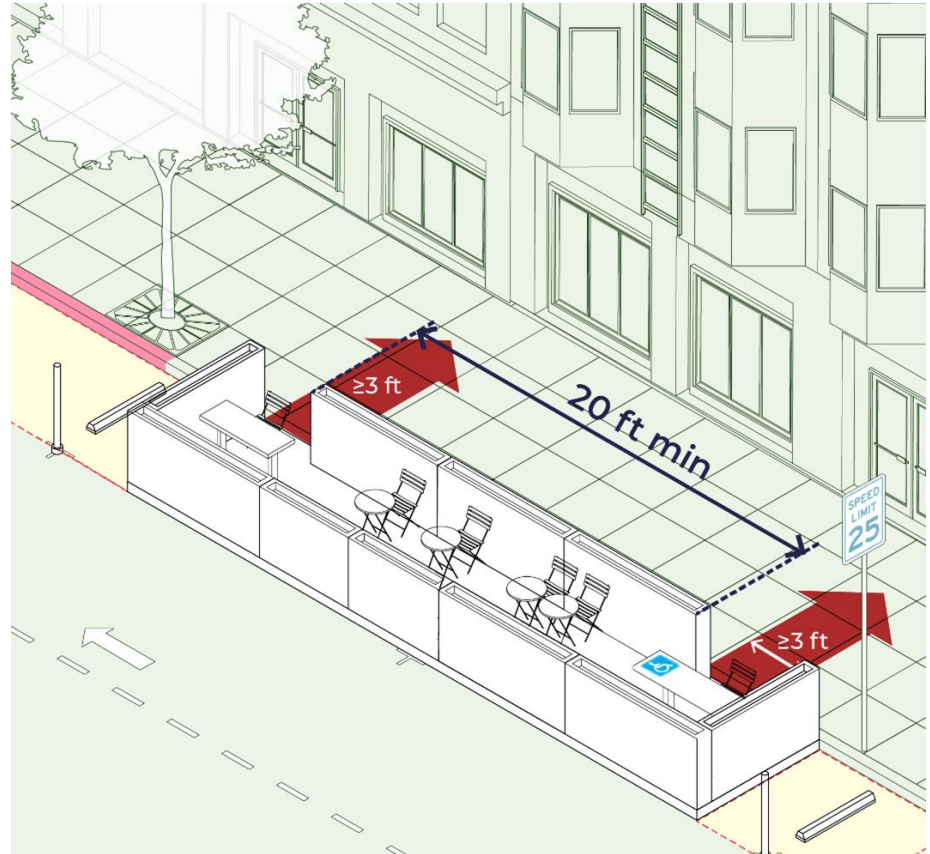
## 5. Fire Safety

- Cannot block fire hydrants (3 ft clear)
- FDC connections must be visible from roadway
- No tripping hazards across the sidewalk
- Electric heaters recommended
  - Must be 3' from combustible materials
- Propane heaters:
  - Need an additional permit
  - Cannot be used during fire season in high fire severity zones
  - No canopies/roofs
  - 3' from combustible materials
  - 10' from buildings, tent/canopy entrances



## 5. Fire Safety – other

- Cannot be located next to combustible waste (ie. Dumpsters)
- Tents greater than 400 sf must have a permit prior to use





## 6. Relocation/Removal

- Parklets are in the public ROW, which is shared and serves many purposes
- Parklet owners are responsible for moving parklets within 24 hours (can be immediate in an emergency); City will strive to provide as much notice as possible
- Costs incurred by permittee



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**Thank you!**

Nicole Ferrara, Policy &  
Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor

