



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR PERMITS – Car-Free Portion of California Avenue

Any changes to the approved plan must be submitted to Public Works for review and approval before being implemented. Current certificate of insurance must be filed with Public Works for the duration of the encroachment.

Umbrellas:

- Are not allowed on the sidewalk.
- Cannot extend into the emergency access lane.
- Must be placed within the approved outdoor dining area.
- Must be sufficiently weighted or secured to prevent being blown over or blown away.

Heater Standards:

- Heaters must be placed at least 5 feet away from any combustible materials.
- A fire extinguisher shall be kept on site at all times.
- Propane qualifies as a hazardous material, storage of propane tanks shall be outdoors and in an approved storage cage. The Fire Department must approve storage location.

Railings/Barriers/Other:

- “Edge treatments” in the form of railings or other barriers along the perimeter of the encroachment area shall be a maximum of 36 inches in height.
- Any sidewalk encroachment which is being used must have a minimum clear distance of 8 feet from any objects for unimpeded pedestrian travel.
- The emergency access lane must be kept clear at all times.
- Any ramp installed for accessibility purposes must comply with the applicable requirements of 2019 CBC 11-B and 2010 ADA requirements provisions for ramps including: width, slopes, landings, handrails, and edge protection.

Tents:

- Sidewalls on tents are no longer allowed.
- Tents are not allowed on sidewalks.
- No tents over 400 square feet are allowed, this includes multiple smaller tents within 12 feet of each other and which total more than 400 square feet.
- Be sure to account for neighboring businesses’ tents which are closer than 12 feet to your tent.
- The square footage of your tent and their tent will count towards the 400 square feet limit.

Lighting & Electrical:

- All outdoor lighting or electrical appliances used outdoors must be rated for outdoor use.
- All outdoor lighting needs to be connected to a GFCI electrical outlet receptacle. A building permit is required for installation of GFCI receptacles or permanent electrical.
- Solar powered lighting may reduce or eliminate the need to connect lights to electric receptacles. Any extension cords and/or electrical cords used to power outdoor lighting must be rated for outdoor use.
- No electrical cords shall cover public sidewalks at grade or egress paths. Electrical power cords can run overhead. Such cords shall be at least 8 feet above the sidewalk or adjacent grade.
- Lighting or electrical appliances shall not be connected to City of Palo Alto power receptacles including City streetlights.