



MEMO

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

To: Common Council – Legislative Committee
From: Joe Stephenson
Date: 09-28-2022
Re: Outdoor Alcohol Beverage Area – Hours Open

The Outdoor Alcohol Beverage Area ordinance has been discussed by both the Plan Commission and the Legislative Committee. The final ordinance is being presented today that will allow for a better more welcoming use of the City's outdoor serve areas. After our last discussion a number of business owners reached out and were concerned with the recommended hours of operation. The existing ordinance dictates that the outdoor serve areas stop serving alcohol at 9PM on weekdays and 10 PM on weekend (Friday and Saturday nights). Business owners pointed out that recreation leagues often get done after 9PM, and they may want to patron the outdoor serve areas. In addition, it does not get dark until after 9PM in the summer.

After further review, the City's sidewalk café permits prohibit alcohol being served on the sidewalk after 11PM in all cases. Matching this ordinance seems intuitive and would not result in outdoor serve area guests being pushed to the sidewalks when the serve area closes at 9PM or 10PM.

Staff recommends amending the Outdoor Alcohol Beverage Area Ordinance, Chapter 12.03 (11), and have the hours of operation close at 11PM, for all days of the week.