



Office of the Town Manager
Frank Cassidy

STAFF REPORT

Warrenton Town Council

Carter Nevill, Mayor
Heather Sutphin, Ward 1
William Semple, Ward 2
Brett Hamby, Ward 3
James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor
Eric Gagnon, Ward 5
Paul Mooney, At Large
David McGuire, At Large

Council Meeting Date:	March 10, 2025
Agenda Title:	Main St Discussion- Parklets, Concepts, Sidewalk Cafe
Requested Action:	Information/Discussion
Department / Agency Lead:	Town Manager
Staff Lead:	Frank Cassidy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This executive summary will be brief as most is found in the November 12, 2024 Council meeting when the issue of RollOutWarrenton! was discussed, and in the attachments.

At the November Council meeting, Staff was asked to look at a way to make the “parklet” program a yearlong/permanent program. The first thing to clarify is we don’t have a “parklet” program, we have a RollOutWarrenton! Program. We started by asking us all to remember our objective, to develop and provide a consistent, equitable, and predictable program. Then, we must remember that as we develop a walk able environment, this environment must be supplemented by a “sitable” aspect while providing public spaces for public use. These are fundamental aspects of good community developments and supported by entities like Strong Towns.

We have identified a section in our Town Code, Section 14-1, Obstructions generally, Sidewalk Cafes as the opportunity to continue this program. Section 14-1 maintains the objective of RollOutWarrenton! As well as flexibility. It solves the problem of consistency, equitability, and addressing all of the requirements for ADA, Building, fire, and maintenance. It is an “all year” section and builds upon the success of the RollOutWarrenton! Project.

BACKGROUND

The RollOutWarrenton! Program is no longer applicable. Staff is moving to the sidewalk café provisions in our existing ordinance. This is a continuation from the November council meeting.

Our Project Manager presents two concepts for review. These concepts are for the proposed upgrades to the sidewalks along Main ST. These will increase the width of the sidewalks, install bump-outs, and ADA improvements. These will assist with implementation of the sidewalk café program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Continue to work on the Main St improvements while creating a working approach to the existing sidewalk café provisions in our ordinance.

Service Level/Collaborative Impact

Continuing collaboration with businesses and managing a right of way use permit for the “Sidewalk Café” program.

Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040

Economic and Fiscal Resilience Goals

E-1: Grow a strong, diversified, and resilient economy that supports residents and businesses alike.

E-3: Promote Warrenton as a cultural, entertainment, and arts center.

E-5: Be proactive in the Town’s economic development.

Transportation and Circulation Goals

T-2: Enhance the traveling experience by creating great streets.

T-3: Promote livability in the Town by creating great places where residents and visitors feel welcome and safe.

Fiscal Impact

Main St improvements are part of VDOT revenue share funding

Legal Impact

Required insurance forms required by applicants and legal review of the drafted application.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Copies of attachments from November Council Meeting
2. Main St concepts and staff report from Michale Wharton