



SAN BRUNO CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

January 24, 2023

5:30 PM

Public Comment for Item 4a.

Lupita Huerta

From: Michael Laughlin
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 1:08 PM
To: Lupita Huerta
Cc: Darcy Smith; Peter Gilli
Subject: FW: OUTDOOR SEATING

Michael P. Laughlin, AICP
Planning and Housing Manager

San Bruno Community & Economic Development Department City of San Bruno: <http://www.sanbruno.ca.gov/>
567 El Camino Real, San Bruno, CA 94066 Office Phone: (650) 616-7053 | Email:
<mailto:mlaughter@sanbruno.ca.gov>

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From: Camino Corner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 11:36 AM
To: Michael Laughlin <<mailto:MLaughlin@sanbruno.ca.gov>>
Subject: OUTDOOR SEATING

To :Mr. Michael Laughlin and City Council of San Bruno, Please allow us to keep our Outdoor Seating

We understand the executive order has come to an end but we would like to still have the option of outdoor seating for our customers who would choose to do so.

Why is this important?

As a humble mom and pop shop, we have always put our community and families first. Camino Corner Cafe has provided a safe gathering place for families and generations for more than 35 years. We have weathered all the challenges small local mom and pop shops face through the years - from the economic crashes in '01 & '08, to the pressures we face from the expensive and fast changes of the Bay Area which have resulted in other locals getting priced out, and of course the forced shut down of our business due to a pandemic that not only threatened the physical well being of the San Bruno residents, but also their mental health. Despite all these challenges, we strive to do what is best for our loving customers. First and foremost, our priority is to provide a safe place for people to gather to share a delicious meal and create meaningful memories. So when covid was hitting our community the hardest, we turned to provide to those in the community that needed it most. As the pandemic slowed and dining outdoors was encouraged and allowed, we invested much time, effort and money to create a safe and comfortable outdoor space for our returning patrons to enjoy and reconnect with each other. Seeing our returning families light up at the thought of being able to sit outside in the sunny new space, we saw that this area brought much needed joy and comfort after the long months of heartbreak and isolation due to the pandemic. Serving our customers that have suffered so much, we were encouraged to continue to finance and self upgrade our "patio" to create a cheerful yet calming, safe environment. From planting flowers, to providing heating, to creating Christmas trees, many of these self additions have been deeply enjoyed by many in the community - and now to the point where it has become the preferred location to be. Seeing such a

positive response and the profound beneficial effects to our patrons, we have adapted our business systems to cater to the much enjoyed space.

Though our governor has declared covid to be “over”, the threat and fear to many of our patrons is far from that, especially in the service industry. With a large percentage of our customers being elderly, many are still plagued with fear of closed areas. They are not only concerned about catching covid, but even the common flu - which has shown to have even worse symptoms than the current covid strain. Many feel safer outside with fresh air and a nice breeze, and they have even expressed that it has added enjoyment and an element of health in their overall lives. Others who have suffered from anxiety have found peace in the outdoor space and the fact that they can also bring their much loved support pets. With the additional space, our generational customers have the ability to freely move around in a relaxing manner, which is extremely beneficial to those customers who are physically impaired. Regardless of such, our outdoor patio has become a safe place that is beneficial for the overall health and well-being of our customers. Since the pandemic, our customers have grown accustomed to the outdoor seating. To take that away would be devastating, not to mention add more financial hardship for us.

Though we understand the concern for parking, it is not an issue for our location and our business. The two spaces that have now been converted to the patio was originally used for employee parking. With full agreement and support from our staff, we have designated an area in the back of our property for the few that drive to work. Most others commute via public transportation, walk or carpool as gas prices in California become more and more unreasonable. All employees truly believe that giving their underutilized parking space for our customers, in the form of the beautiful outdoor seating, is an invaluable “trade-off”. As for our customers, we are considered a small restaurant located on El Camino Real and already have limited seating. Regardless, we are in between streets Santa Dominga, San Marco and Santa Lucia, which all provide public street parking. Our hours of operation have now been reduced to 7:00am - 2:30pm, which is the time period that has the most street parking available due to the fact that the residences living on these streets are at work. This means that for the customers that do drive, there is still plenty of nearby parking options. As we have always been around for the local neighborhood, a good portion of our customers live close by and typically walk to the restaurant as part of their routine before sitting down and having coffee and/or a meal, thus reducing the need for parking. In addition, with the rise of food delivery companies along with the push from the pandemic, many customers who want to enjoy our food but want convenience have switched to online/ takeout orders and have continued to do so, making up a bulk of our business. Those that physically come to the location do so to enjoy the ambiance and setting, specifically the outdoor option.

The city of San Bruno has always been at the forefront towards safety and upholding their civic duty to their community. As a long standing member, it is unarguable that the city officials are known for their compassion and care. The city once again has the opportunity to spearhead a stance for the use of outdoor space which has benefited the both the environment and people. Studies have shown that being outdoors has significantly lessened the spread of flu, colds and reduced anxiety. This is a significant step forward in encouraging our community to enjoy the outdoors and be more environmentally conscious, all the while keeping health and safety a priority. Let's not backtrack and let's keep moving forward, outdoor spaces are a way of the future.

As such, we implore you to consider allowing local restaurants and cafes to maintain their outdoor seating. Not just for the businesses, but for the greater good of the community and the well being of their residents, as many has put it, it is the new norm and essentials needs.

Thank you so much for your time and your kind consideration.

Warm Regards,
Tiffany Le, Casey Yee and the Camino Corner Staff

Lupita Huerta

From: Camino Corner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 11:45 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: OUTDOOR DINING

To: City Council of San Bruno,
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Warm Regards,
Tiffany Le, Casey Yee and the Camino Corner Staff

ReplyReply allForward

From: [REDACTED]
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Sensitive use zones for marijuana sales
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 5:45:59 PM

I just looked at the sensitive use zones map attachment for tonight's city council meeting. It proposes allowing marijuana sales immediately adjacent to my home. Please please please please please there needs to be a reasonable buffer between marijuana businesses and residences.

Marsha Glassner
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Jay Reed <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 3:25 PM

To: Jovan Grogan <JGrogan@sanbruno.ca.gov>

Subject: Cannabis Zoning Question

Mr. Grogan -

Quick question regarding your zoning exclusions for cannabis.

TOD-S is excluded from retail operations in your new ordinance. Wondering if that is by design or if it was inadvertent. Specifically, I'm asking about whether 965 San Mateo is excluded from your proposed new ordinance or whether it is allowed.

As a policy matter, if you're establishing one retail store, it would make sense to include this area as allowable as this area has ample parking.

Please advise and thank you for your time.

Jay Reed

650-[REDACTED]