



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

CITY OF PALO ALTO
Architectural Review Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 02, 2024
8:30 AM

Agenda Item

3. Study Session to provide feedback on the Pre-Approved Parklet Designs and the Associated Draft User Guide.

PALO ALTO ONGOINGPERMANENT PARKLETS PROGRAM

(Proposed modifications to the adopted standard)

I. INTRODUCTION

The City of Palo Alto has developed an Permanent-ongoing Parklet Program that will allow for parklet installations in eligible areas of Palo Alto. The program is designed with the intended purpose of supporting the vibrancy of the public realm and enhancing the civic experience of diners, pedestrians, motorists, and cyclists.

The following standards outline the requirements for parklet installation including location, materials, and design. The City of Palo Alto will review all parklet permit applications and will only approve parklets that are able to meet the standards. Due to the unique circumstances of each proposed parklet location, some parklets may require additional review by key departments (as outlined).

All parklets—including installations previously installed under the pilot parklet program—will require a new Permanent-ongoing Parklet Permit from the City of Palo Alto. Application requirements are outlined in Section IV (A) Submittal Requirements.

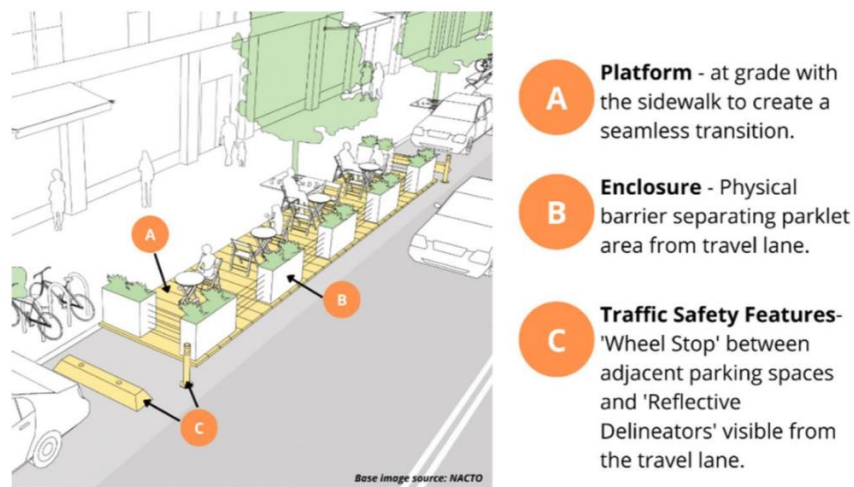
Parklets are permitted in conjunction with legally existing and permitted eating and drinking establishment uses as well as commercial uses including retail establishments. Any and all business activity must be contained within the parklet space and not encroach into the sidewalk, public right-of-way, or roadway.

II. GLOSSARY

Due to the unique design and placement of parklets, there are several terms with distinct meanings that should be understood in order to implement the standards.

1. **Enclosure**—Barrier/railing that follows the parklet edge.
2. **Platform Edge**—The outermost edge of the parklet platform.
3. **Parklet Footprint**—The total area within the platform edge that can be utilized by a project applicant.
4. **Platform**—Base of the parklet that is at grade with the sidewalk.
5. **Travel Lane**—Portion of the street with active automobile traffic.

FIGURE 1: Key Terms



III.LOCATION AND SETBACK REQUIREMENTS

A. Location

The location of a parklet is dependent on the eligibility criteria, which varies based on the type of parking space a parklet will occupy (parallel parking spaces, angled spaces, and non-standard spaces).

1. Eligibility

- a. Parklets are only permitted in the University Ave and California Ave downtown areas
- b. Parklets are only permitted on streets with speed limits of 25 mph or less.
- c. Parklets are only permitted on streets with a running slope (grade) of 5 percent or less.
- d. Parklets cannot be installed in any portion of a travel lane at any time.
- e. When located near an intersection, parklets must be located at least 20 feet from the rear most boundary of a crosswalk at the nearest intersection of the street corner. If there is an existing planter in the curb lane within 20 feet of the crosswalks, this distance may be reduced.
- f. Parklets are not permitted in any existing restricted area (i.e., loading zone, no parking zone, bus zone, etc.).
- g. Parklets must be located directly in front of the parklet operator's storefront.
 - i. Parklets may extend beyond the applicant's store front but may not extend any structures above the parklet barrier (e.g., sidewalls, roofs, trellises) beyond the parklet operator's storefront without a letter of consent (see section VI. 12).
- h. If a parklet extends in front of neighboring storefront(s) or proposes to extend in front of neighboring storefront(s), written notice will be sent to the affected neighbor(s) at the time of permit application and annual renewal. The business adjacent to the affected neighbor(s) will also receive notices.

- i. If the affected neighbor(s) or adjacent business wish to claim the same parking space(s) for their own parklet, they must notify the City in writing within 30 days of the notice.
 1. If a competing claim for the space from the adjacent business is confirmed, the affected neighbor has first priority over the space. However, a parklet permit application must be submitted by the affected neighbor within 60 days of the first notice to claim the space.
 1. If a competing claim for the space from the adjacent business is confirmed, and the affected business does not claim the space, the adjacent business and original parklet permittee shall split the space.
 - a. The Space shall be split from the centerline.
 - b. For parallel parking spaces, and each parklet shall maintain a minimum 4-foot setback from the centerline, creating a minimum 8-foot gap between parklets.
 - a-c. For angled parking spaces, each parklet shall maintain a minimum 3-foot setback from the centerline, creating a minimum 6-foot gap between parklets.
 2. If applicable, a parklet owner must remove and/or alter their parklet (applying for applicable permits) within 90 days of receiving notice of a competing claim for the space(s).

2. Parklet Size and Quantity

- a. Parklets with roofs or trellises shall be a maximum of 350 square feet in size.
- b. Businesses are allowed up to two (2) parklets.

3. Parallel Parking

- a. Standard parallel parking space dimensions are as follows:
 - i. Parallel parking space adjacent to a curb: 8-feet wide and 20-feet long
 - ii. Parallel parking space adjacent to a wall: 10-feet wide and 20-feet long
- b. For parallel parking spaces, the parklet structure must be set back 48 inches (4 feet) from adjacent marked parking spaces. This 4-foot setback must be kept clear at all times for emergency access.
- c. The platform edge shall be 2 feet back from the outer edge of the parking space it occupies. For all parallel parking spaces located on public streets within the City of Palo Alto, this shall be 2 feet from the exterior edge (closest to traffic) of marked parking T's (where they exist). This is shown in Figure 2.
- d. In no case shall a parklet be placed within the 2-foot area measured from the outer edge of the parking space. These 2 feet shall be kept clear at all times. The only objects which shall lawfully occupy this space are reflective delineator posts, or their equal.
- e. Parallel parking spaces adjacent to a curb typically measure 8 feet wide by 20 feet long. The dimensions of a parklet in one parking space could be 6 feet wide and 12 feet long. This is because of the 2-foot setback from the outer edge of the parking space and the 4-foot setbacks from the adjacent parking spaces.

- f. Parallel parking space measurements may vary across the City of Palo Alto. As a result of this variation, some parklets may measure less than 6 feet wide. If the existing parking stall width is less than 8 (eight) feet, the parklet shall be 2 feet less than the parking stall width.
- g. Parklets located in the downtown area that are between a bulb-out tree planter do not require a ~~4-foot~~ setback from the adjacent parking spaces.

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FIGURE 2: Dimensions of a Parallel Parking Space Parklet

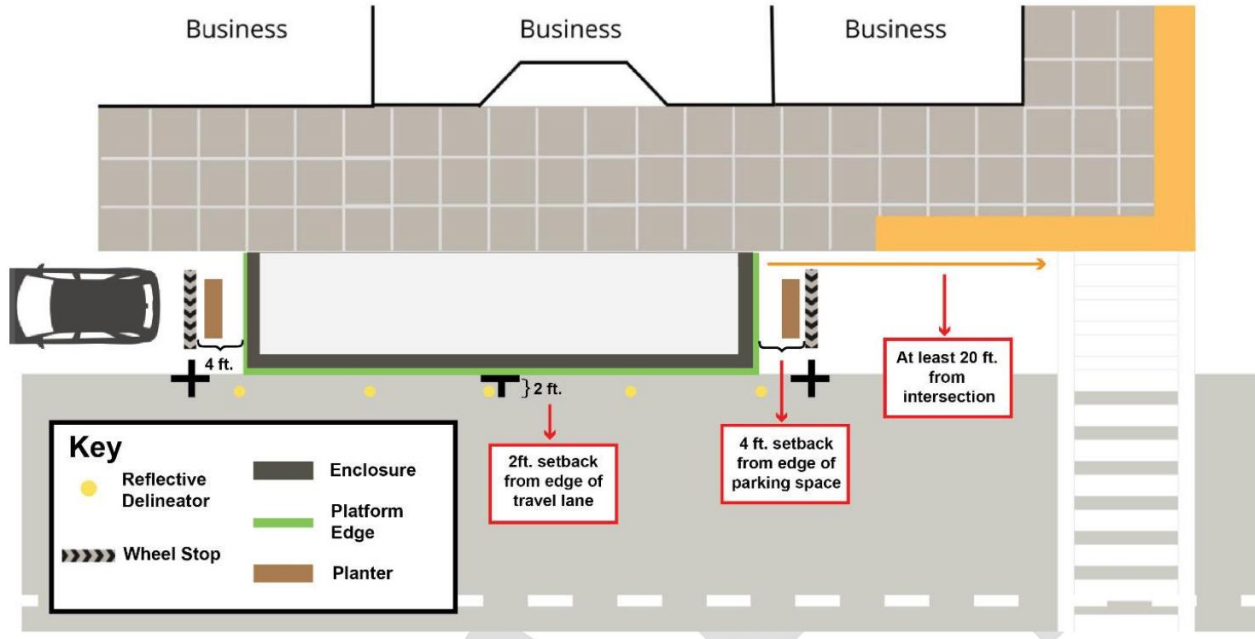


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4. Angle Parking Spaces

- a. Standard angled parking space dimensions are as follows:
 - i. 45-degree angle parking space: 8.5-feet wide and 21.2-feet long
 - ii. 60-degree angle parking space: 8.5-feet wide and 19.7-feet long
 - iii. 75-degree angle parking space: 8.5-feet wide and 20.2-feet long
 - iv. 90-degree angle parking space: 8.5-feet wide and 17.5-feet long
- b. A parklet in an angle parking space shall consist of up to 4 contiguous angles parking spaces.
- c. A parklet platform shall be 3 feet back from the rear edge of the existing angled parking space. For angled parking spaces located on public streets within the City of Palo Alto, this shall be 3 feet from the exterior edge (closest to traffic) of the marked parking stall. This is shown in Figure 3.
- d. In no case shall a parklet be placed within the 3-foot area measured from the rear edge of the parking space. These 3 feet shall be kept clear at all times for emergency access.
- e. The only objects which shall lawfully occupy this space are reflective delineator posts, or their equal.
- f. For angled parking spaces, the edge of the parklet must be set back 3 feet from the adjacent parking space on either space.
 - i. Angled parking space measurements may vary across the City of Palo Alto. As a result of this variation, some parklets may measure less than the standard 8.5-feet wide. If the existing parking stall width is less than 8.5-feet, the parklet shall be setback 3 feet from the parking stall striping.
 - ii. For non-standard angled parking spaces, the edge of the parklet structure must be set back 3 feet from the adjacent parking space on either side. (This

applies to all angle parking spaces along University Avenue as nearly all are substandard).

FIGURE 3: Dimensions of an Angled Parking Space Parklet

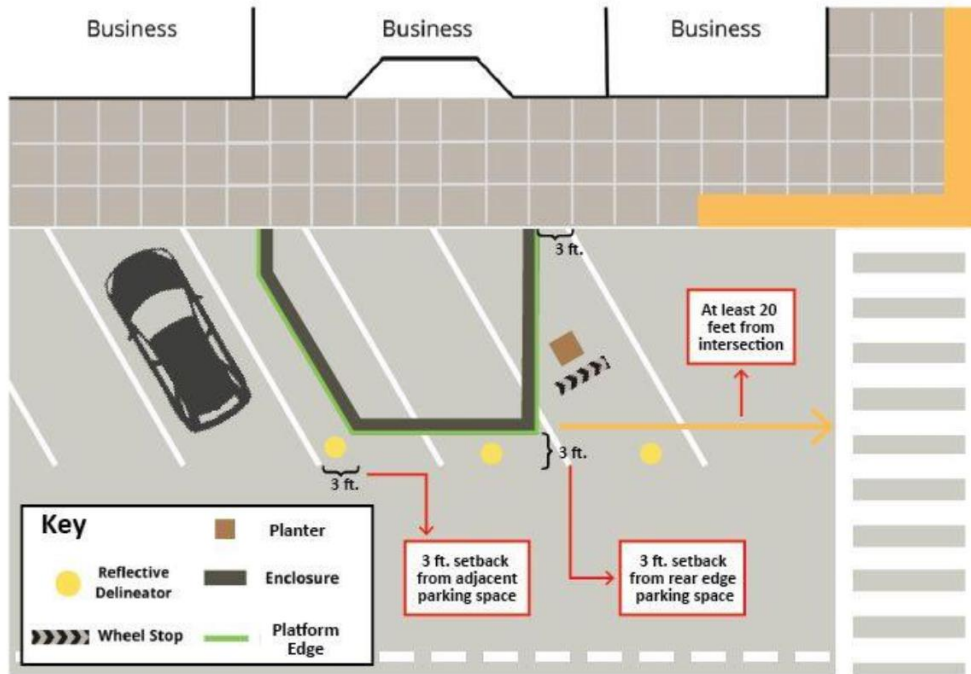


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B. Parklet Setbacks

1. Setbacks

- a. As stated above, all parklets in parallel parking spaces must be setback 4 feet from the adjacent parking spaces. This setback shall be delineated by a concrete wheel stop affixed to the street (see figure 2 above and 'Traffic Safety' below).
 - i. The setback between two adjacent parallel space parklets shall be 8 feet (two 4-foot setbacks).
- b. As stated above, all parklets in angled parking spaces must be setback 3 feet from adjacent parking spaces and 3 feet from the rear edge of the parking space (see figure 3).
 - i. The setback between two adjacent angled space parklets shall be 8-6 feet (two 4-3-foot setbacks).
- c. All parklets are required to include 15-foot setback from adjacent driveways, as measured from the highest point of the curb cut (i.e., the top of the adjacent driveway wing).
- d. Parklets are prohibited in front of active driveways or on curved street segments.
- e. The setback may not contain seating and must be clear at all times for emergency access.

2. Sidewalk Area

- a. Neither the construction nor operation of the parklet shall interfere with, obstruct, or otherwise diminish the adjacent sidewalk and pedestrian path of travel.
- b. All walkways and sidewalks shall maintain at least 8 feet clear path of travel.

C. Other Location Criteria

1. Proximity to Utilities and Public Facilities

- a. Parklets must not block public utilities, bus stops, driveways, telecommunication vaults, or other in-ground infrastructure.
 - i. Parklets shall not be placed over gas main or gas services due to potential hazards.
- b. Parklets located next to alleys (as defined under PAMC 18.04.030(a)8) must be set back at least 15 (fifteen) feet from the driveway, as measured from the highest point of the curb cut (i.e., the top of the adjacent driveway wing).
- c. Parklets shall be placed no closer than 50 feet from a bus stop loading zone.
- d. Parklets shall be placed no closer than 15 feet from fire hydrants.
- e. Parklets shall not be placed within a 5-foot radius of a manhole cover to allow for maintenance access.
- f. Parklets shall be placed no closer than 5 linear feet from a storm drain catch basin. Parklet construction and design must allow access to the catch basin and shall not obstruct the catch basin.
- g. In the event a proposed parklet location is in conflict with public infrastructure (i.e., public signage, benches, etc.), the applicant shall reach out to Public Works to evaluate the possibility of relocating the infrastructure. If relocation is not possible, the applicant shall redesign the parklet to fit with the existing infrastructure.

2. Fire Safety

- a. No portion of the parklet or associated seating shall block FDC or associated equipment.
- b. The business address shall be visible from the street and shall not be fully obstructed by the parklet and associated materials.
 - i. Subject to direction from the Fire Marshal, address signage may be required on parklets subject to the following standards:
 - 1. Address numbers shall be a minimum of one-half inch (0.5") stroke by four inches (4") high.
 - 2. The street number shall be displayed, not the street name.
 - 3. The street number shall be a contrasting color to the background material.

3. Street Trees

- a. Structures built as part of a parklet (e.g., platform, barriers, sidewalls, roofs) must be at least 3 feet away from tree trunks or major branches.
 - i. Encroachment of structures to tree trunks or major branches closer than 3 feet must be approved by urban forestry.
- b. To discourage patrons from stepping on tree wells and possibly damaging tree roots, where needed, a railing shall be installed on the parklet platform

adjacent to the tree well. This will alter the path patrons travel, limiting persons stepping on the tree roots.

4. *Bike Facilities*

- a. Bicycle racks or other bicycle facilities shall not be removed, made unusable, or otherwise disturbed or obstructed by the construction or operation of a parklet.
 - i. Any parklet design that proposes such disruption shall require review by and approval of the Office of Transportation.
- b. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate bike parking into their parklet design.

5. *Accessibility*

- a. The sidewalk and parklet path of travel must comply with the appropriate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California Building Code (CBC) chapter 11B accessibility provisions. (See Section IV.5)
- b. The parklet path of travel must comply with CBC chapter 10 exiting requirements.

IV. PARKLET DESIGN

The following guidelines describe both the safety and design requirements for parklet applications including standards for:

- A.** Platform
- B.** Enclosure
- C.** Traffic Safety
- D.** Furnishings & Fixtures

A. Platform

1. *Structural*

- a. Parklets shall be constructed with quality materials and shall be of natural durable wood (such as redwood, cedar, etc.), preservative treated wood, [light-gauge steel](#), or other engineered material suitable for exterior conditions.
- b. The parklet platform must support 100 pounds per square foot of live load.
- c. All fastening hardware and fasteners adjacent to and into preservative treated wood must be made of one of the following: hot-dipped zinc coated galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon bronze, or copper.

2. *Drainage & Ventilation*

- a. The underside of the platform shall be constructed to allow for seasonal drainage.
- b. Adequate cross ventilation shall be installed to allow for the surface to dry within 12–24 hours.
- c. Openings under the platform shall be screened with corrosion-resistant material with a maximum 0.25-inch mesh.

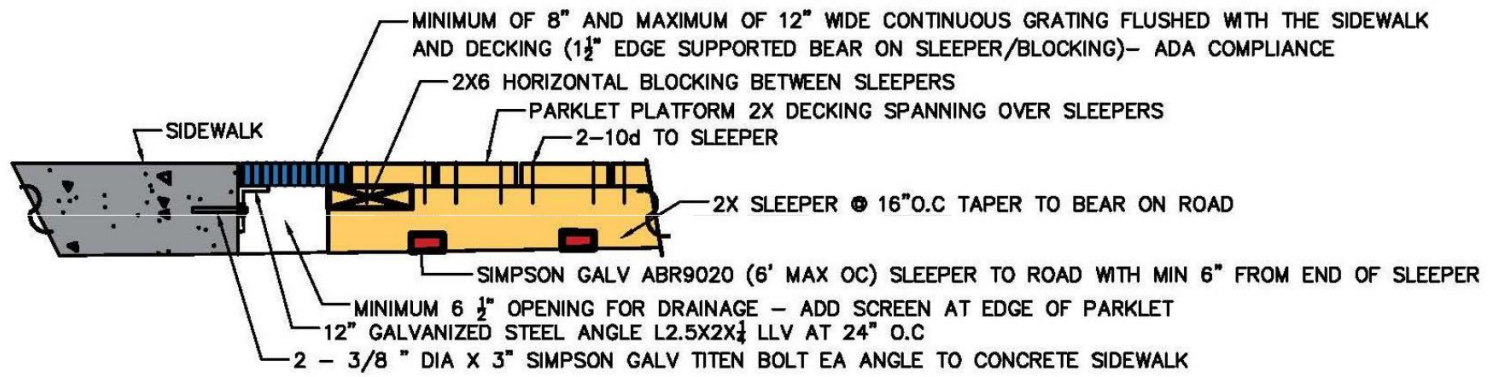
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- d. Parklets shall not impede the flow of curbside drainage. The parklet design shall include a minimum 6.5-inch wide clearance from sidewalk curb along the entire length of the parklet. Openings at either end of the parklet shall be covered with screens to prevent debris buildup beneath the parklet and in the gutter. The closure decking must be removable for easy access for under platform inspection as needed. See Figure 4 for suggested platform attachment design details.

3. *Platform Attachment*

- a. The parklet shall be anchored to the City street and/or curb. Any anchoring proposed into the public street will require Underground Service Alert (USA) markings and additional staff review. Platform system shall be anchored at maximum of 6 feet apart in each direction to the roadway to avoid movement during an earthquake. See Figure 4.
 - i. Limit anchoring to 6-12 inches embedment in the street.
- b. The grate support along the curb face shall be anchored to the curb. The anchor shall be installed perpendicular to the curb (per the detail provided in figure 4).
 - i. The manner of anchoring shall be through a pre-drilled hole into the curb and a concrete anchor bolt. Limit anchoring to 3-4 inches embedment in the curb.

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FIGURE 4: Platform Attachment Detail



PARKLET-SIDEWALK DRAINAGE DETAIL (NTS)

4. Roofs

a. Structural

- i. Complete roof framing plan, which includes horizontal and vertical bracing, is required to be submitted with structural calculations that meet the standards in the 2022 California Building Code. A licensed civil and/or structural engineer who is registered in the State of California, shall stamp and sign the plan and associated calculations, as well as conduct an onsite structural observation to ensure the roof structural system and its supporting elements were built according to the plans prior to occupancy.
- ii. All connector hardware and fasteners shall be resistant to corrosion and listed as compatible to the framing material.
- iii. Roofs may be a solid uniform material or open construction (i.e., trellis, pergola, etc.)
- iv. Roofs shall not be attached or connected to a building.
- v. Roofs shall slope toward the street to ensure rainwater drains into the street.

~~vi. Gutters and rain leaders are required.~~

~~vii. Roofs shall not extend over the public sidewalk.~~

vi. The roof's outer edges along the travel lane and sidewalk may extend 6 inches beyond parklet footprint at 8 feet or above ~~to allow for attachment of the rain leaders and gutters only.~~

~~viii.vii.~~ The roof shall not extend over the sides of the parklet into the setback from adjacent parking spaces or parklets.

b. Height/location

- i. The roof shall have a minimum head clearance of 7 feet, 6 inches be a minimum height of 8 feet provided the adjacent sidewalk is at least 8 feet wide. If the adjacent sidewalk is less than 8 feet wide, the applicant will need to consult with the Palo Alto Fire Department.
- ii. A parklet roof shall measure no taller than 12 feet, 11 feet, as measured from the platform grade.
- iii. Roofs are not permitted in front of any neighboring storefronts without a letter of consent (see section IV. 12).

c. Materials

i. Rooftops may be open or solid.

ii. Open roofs may be of flame retardant fabric, pressure-treated wood, or exterior grade wood

~~i-iii.~~ Solid roofs may be of plywood sheathing, polycarbonate sheets, or sheet metal.

1. If plywood sheathing is used, it must be painted or stained.

~~ii-iv.~~ Rooftops may not be made of corrugated acrylic or heavy materials, such as clay or stone tiles.

~~iii-v.~~ If fabric shade sails or similar fabric coverings are proposed, the fabric cover shall be limited to the top portion of the parklet and not extend to additional sides perpendicular to the street or sidewalk. All fabrics and all interior decorative fabrics or materials shall be flame retardant resistant in

accordance with the provisions set forth in CCR, Title 19, Division 1, chapter 8.

1. The applicant shall provide certification that the fabric covering is flame resistant with any of the following:

1. NFPA 701 certification
2. ASTM E84 or UL 723

iv.vi. Roof material may be a solid uniform material or open construction (i.e., trellis, pergola, etc.).

v.vii. All exposed wood is required to be treated for exposure to weather.

5. Accessibility

- a. The parklet shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- b. The surface of the parklet platform must be flush with the adjacent sidewalk with a maximum gap of 0.25 inches and 0.25 inches vertical tolerance.
- c. A minimum 4-foot-wide accessible path of travel and 5-foot-diameter (60 inches) turnaround space must be maintained within the parklet.
- d. Any abrupt changes in elevation exceeding 4 inches along an accessible path of travel shall be identified by 6-inch-tall warning curbs.
- e. Parklets shall utilize outdoor grade reflective tape to mark changes in grade.
- f. At least 5 percent of the seating spaces and 5 percent of the standing spaces shall be accessible. Accessible spaces must meet the following requirements:
 - i. International Symbol of Accessibility displayed at the table.
 - ii. Table surface between 28 to 34 inches.
 - iii. Minimum 27 inches of space from the floor to the bottom of the table.
 - iv. Knee clearance extends at least 19 inches under the table.
 - v. Total clear floor area of 30 inches by 48 inches per seat
 - vi. Maintain an accessible path of travel to the accessible table.

FIGURE 5: Accessible Table and Chair ADA Requirements

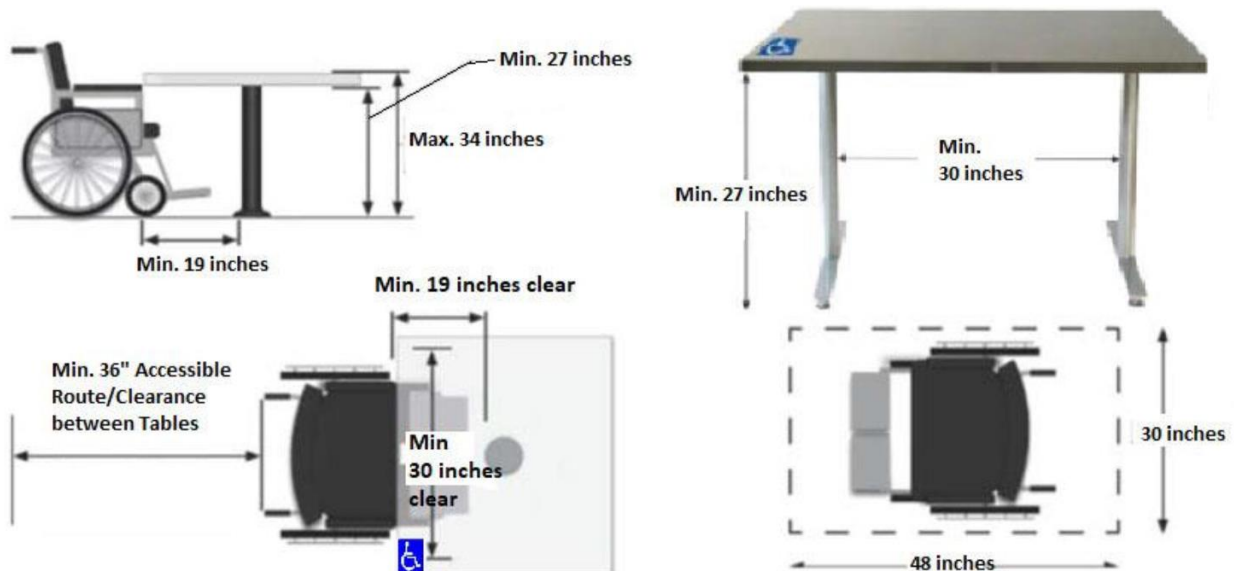
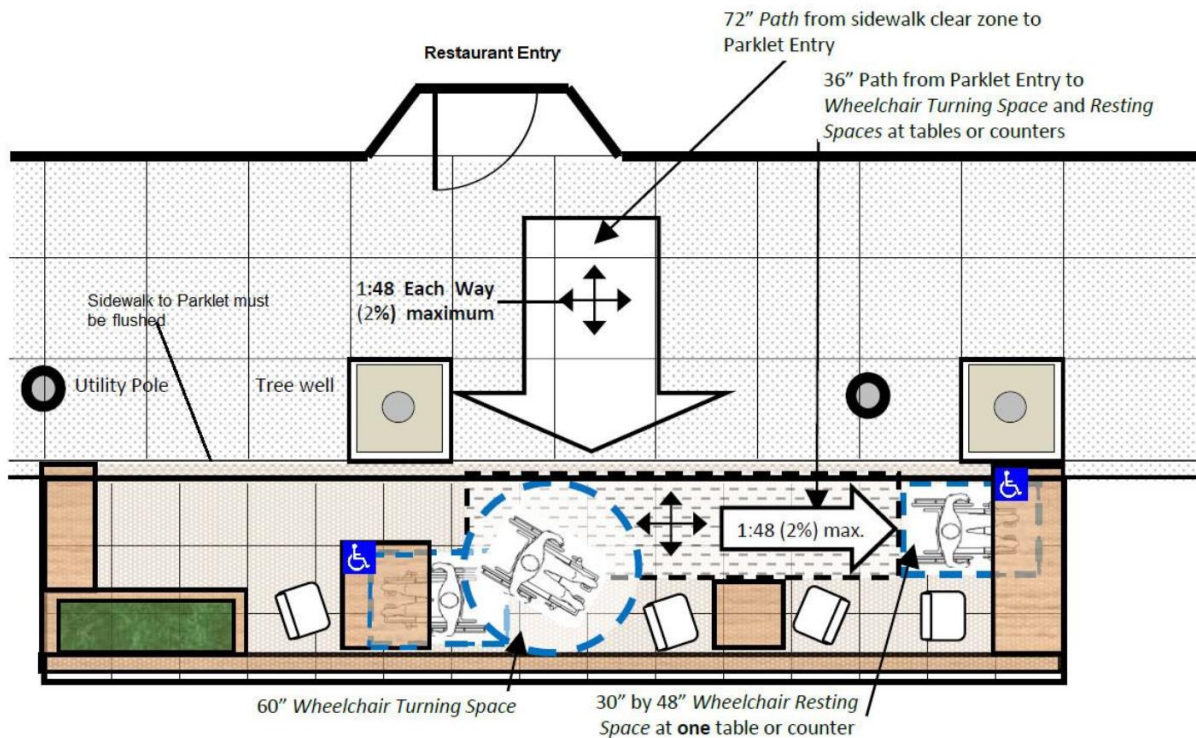


FIGURE 6: Example Floorplan



B. Enclosures

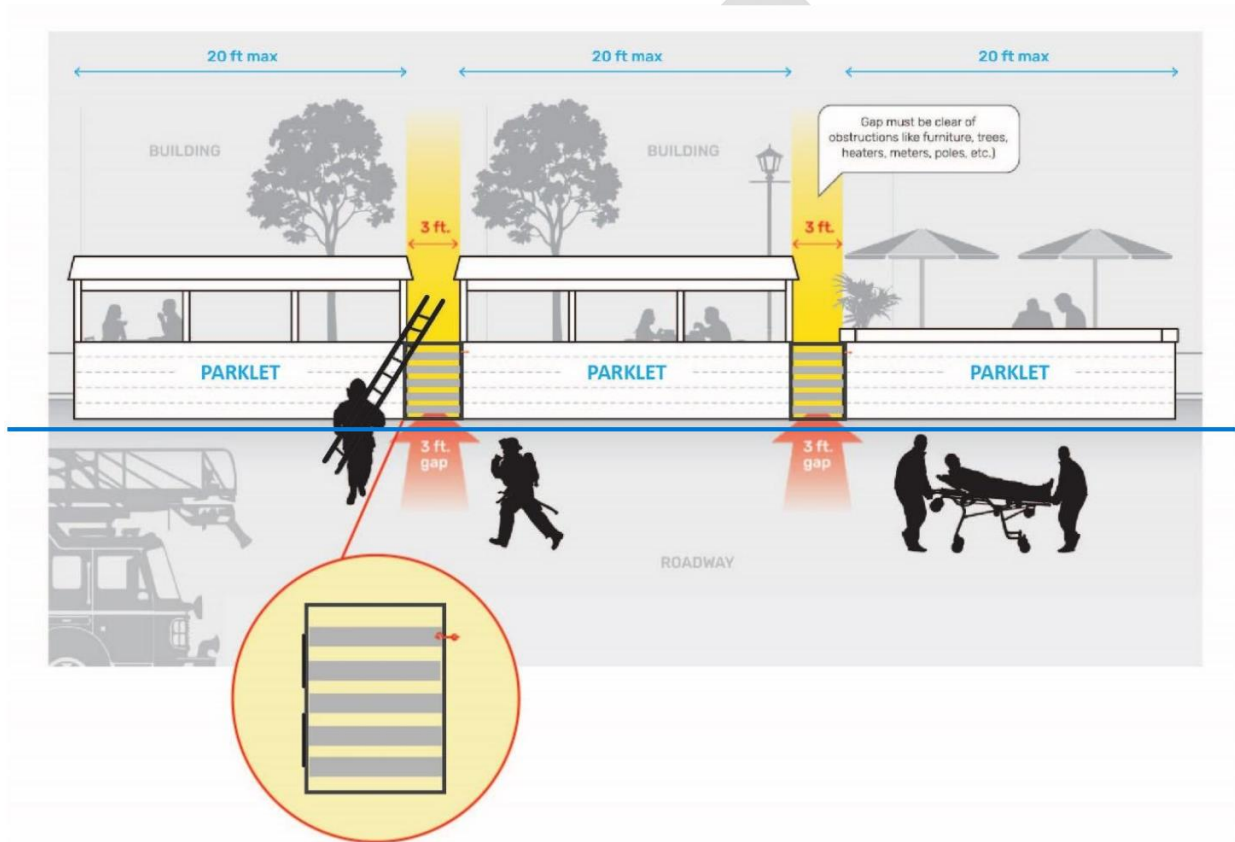
1. Dimensions & Load

- a. For user safety, parklets are required to include a continuous enclosure along the parklet's platform edge adjacent to the travel lane and parking spaces. The sidewalk edge of the parklet may be enclosed or open.
 - i. All parklets in which alcoholic beverages are served shall be enclosed on all sides of the parklet edge, as required by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
- b. The enclosure shall be 42 inches in height, measured from the surface of the platform.
- c. Any gaps in the enclosure shall be smaller than a 4-inch sphere.
- d. The enclosure must be capable of withstanding at least 200 pounds of horizontal force.

[2. Palo Alto Fire Department \(PAFD\) Emergency Access \(Figure 7\)](#)

- a. The PAFD may require a minimum 3-foot-wide emergency gap, with vertical and horizontal clearance, for every 20 feet of enclosure length.
- b. The gap must be kept clear of any tables, chairs, bike racks, poles, walls, roofs, or other elements.
- c. The barrier in the emergency access gap shall be easily removable by emergency personnel and provide a latch or hinge that allows easy access.
 - i. The latch shall be placed on the outside of the barrier, facing the travel lane.
 - ii. The hinge shall open a minimum of 90 degrees.
 - iii. Any gaps in the barrier shall be smaller than a 4-inch sphere.

FIGURE 7: Emergency Access Example



3.2. Design

- a. Enclosure materials must be high-quality, durable, and non-reflective including but not limited to **pressure-treated wood**, hardwood, steel, **concrete planters**, etc.
 - i. Materials that are not permitted: particle board, vinyl, soft plastic or tarps.
- b. Street facing colors used on the exterior of enclosure must be matte-finish paint or opaque stain.
- c. Parklets shall integrate and/or incorporate vegetation into the enclosure (edge treatment) at least every 6 feet.
- d. The height of any plants contained within planters in setback shall not impede or obstruct the view from the travel lane to the sidewalk and vice-versa.

- i. Plant material shall not impede or hinder pedestrian and vehicular visibility.
- e. Decorative planters shall be made of plastic, wood, steel, cold form steel, or fiberglass.

3. Floor

- a. Parklet floor must be made of exterior-rated material. They cannot be made of metal glass, or interior materials.
 - i. The floor must have finishing and slip resistance (BH is a minimum of 0.6 coefficient of friction).

4. Sidewalls

- a. Parklets may include ~~sidewalls between a hard, transparent screen between~~ the enclosure and the roof to provide a windscreen for parklet users.
- b. The sidewalls can be solid and transparent or open and semi-transparent:
 - a-c. Solid sidewalls:
 - i. The sidewall screen must be completely transparent and not obstruct sightlines from the travel lane to the sidewalk and vice-versa.
 - ii. Materials that are not permitted: vinyl, soft plastic, glass or tarps.
 - iii. Sidewalls are not permitted in front of any neighboring storefronts without a letter of consent (see section IV. 12).
 - d. Semi-transparent sidewalls:
 - iii-i. The sidewall can be pressure-treated wood or exterior grade wood.

C. **Traffic Safety**

1. Wheel Stops

- a. Parallel parking stalls:
 - i. When a parklet is adjacent to active parallel parking spaces, a wheel stop must be installed to delineate the 4-foot setback from adjacent parking spaces (see figure 2 above). The wheel stop shall measure 3 feet long by 4 inches high (see figure 9). It shall be constructed of concrete or rubber.
- b. Angled parking stalls:
 - i. When a parklet is adjacent to an active angled parking space, a wheel stop must be installed in the center of the parking space next to the parklet structure (see figure 3 above).
 - ii. Angled parking stalls with wheel stops shall also have “No Parking” painted between the buffer zone and wheel stop.
 - iii. Angled parking stalls with wheel stops shall also have a planter behind the wheel stop to promote visibility.
- c. Affixing Wheel Stops
 - i. Drilled-in Wheel stops: A permittee will need (USA) clearance to anchor a wheel stop into the road.

FIGURE 8: Wheel Stop



- d. Location (parallel parking space)
 - i. The wheel stop shall be placed 1 foot from the curb at the edge of the front parking space.
 - ii. A wheel stop shall be placed 1 foot from the curb at the edge of the rear parking space.
 - iii. Wheel stops shall be placed 4 feet from the parklet structure.
- e. Location (angled parking space)
 - i. The wheel stop shall be centered in the parking space next to the parklet structure (see Figure 3 above).
- f. Exceptions
 - i. Parklets extending the length between two in-street tree wells, as on University Avenue, may omit wheel stops.
 - ii. Wheel stops are not required between two adjacent parklets with no active parking stalls between them.

2. *Reflective Delineators*

- a. The parklet shall include installation of the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) approved delineator posts or flexible bollards. Examples of these devices are illustrated in Figures 10 and 11.

FIGURE 9: Reflective Delineator (Left Travel Lane)



FIGURE 10: Reflective Delineator (Right Travel Lane)



- b. Location
 - i. Delineator posts shall be surface mounted to the roadway via epoxy and/or glue down methods.

- ii. Reflective delineators must be installed at the outside corners of the parklet. The channelizers or posts must align with the end of the platform and not encroach on the travel lane.
- iii. Additional delineators must be placed every 10 feet (maximum spacing) in the 2-foot buffer (parallel spaces) or 3-foot buffer (angled spaces) zone along the lane of travel—but not in the lane of travel.
- c. Dimensions
 - i. Right side of travel lane – Delineators shall be 42 inches high and white with white reflective bands for use on the right side of a travel lane.
 - ii. Left side of travel lane – Delineators shall be 42 inches high and be white with yellow reflective bands if used on the left edge of a travel lane.
- d. Maintenance
 - i. Maintenance of the delineator posts shall be the responsibility of the permit holder.
 - ii. Permittee shall replace any missing or damaged delineators within 24 hours of a delineator’s failure or within 24 hours’ notice from the City.

D. **Furnishings & Fixtures**

1. *Materials*

- a. Parklet **furnishings and** fixtures must be high-quality, durable, outdoor-rated, and non-reflective including but not limited to: hardwood, steel, concrete, etc.
 - i. Materials that are not permitted: particle board and vinyl.

2. *Electrical Power Supply*

- a. A weatherproof GFCI electrical outlet may be installed (with applicable permits) on the exterior of the building at a minimum of 10 feet above the walking surface.
 - i. Electrical power supply to the parklet, including the outlet, shall comply with permanent wiring methods as outlined in the adopted California Electrical code.
- b. Power cords between the building and the parklet shall be secured to one (1) single overhead guide wire between the building and the parklet structure.
 - i. No extension cords shall be permitted for fixed lighting or heaters.
- c. No power cords or conduits are allowed on or under the sidewalk.
- d. Parklet power source shall not be pulled from city sidewalk lighting or supported by trees.
- e. Generators are not allowed in association with parklets.

3. *Lighting*

- a. The following types of lighting and fixtures are permitted:
 - i. String lights;
 - ii. Solar powered and/or rechargeable battery powered table lights; **and**
- b. The use of electrical adaptors and power strips are prohibited.
- c. All lighting must be rated for exterior use, listed, and carry a product certificate for its intended use by a recognized electrical testing laboratory.

- d. Lighting must be LED only
- e. Lighting shall be limited to the parklet area and not encroach into any portion of the public sidewalk.
- f. Lighting shall be of the lowest intensity and energy use adequate for its purpose and be designed to focus illumination downward to avoid excessive illumination above the light fixture with a maximum of 100 watts or 1600 lumens, whichever is greater, per fixture.
- g. Applicants interested in lighting should consider solar-powered lighting that use a rechargeable battery.
- h. If installing permanent lighting on the parklet or adding the exterior GFCI receptacle at the building per IV(D)2a, an electrical permit shall be obtained and shall comply with permanent wiring methods as outlined in the adopted California Electrical code.

4. Heaters

- a. Electrical heaters are allowed on parklets.
 - i. Electric heaters must be an outdoor approved type
 - ii. Electric heaters must be located on the parklet in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and specifications.
 - iii. Electric heaters must be placed at least 3 feet away from any combustible materials or as required by Manufacturer's installation instruction, whichever is more restrictive.
 - iv. A fire extinguisher is required to be mounted within sight and have appropriate signage per the Fire Code.
 - v. Use of electric heaters must comply with the power supply requirements in section IV.D.2.
 - vi. Any electrical equipment must be listed and carry a product certificate for its intended use by a recognized electrical testing laboratory.
- b. Propane heaters are permitted with a HAZMAT permit and CERS submittal.
 - i. hazmat permit is required for storage and use of liquid propane gas. A site plan with the desired location of each heater is required at time of the hazmat permit application. A final onsite hazmat inspection will be conducted to ensure the proper spacing of heaters from combustibles and emergency access/egress and storage of LPG.
 1. Proposed outdoor storage of 20-pound containers requires plan review and inspection.
 2. On-site storage of 20-pound propane contains (5 gal) is prohibited indoors.
 3. Propane storage is not allowed in the public right-of-way.
 4. If businesses do not have an approved private outdoor storage area, all propane containers must be removed from the premises at the close of business every day.
 5. LPG Heaters are not permitted on the sidewalk in the pedestrian path of travel

6. LPG heaters cannot be placed underneath overhead canopies, awnings, inside buildings or tents and they must have 5-foot clearance from any flammable materials
7. Any use of a portable heater, portable generator, candles, open flame or any activity regulated by the Fire code must be approved and permitted by the Palo Alto Fire Department separately from the parklet permit.

5. Umbrellas

- a. Permitted Umbrella Types:
 - i. Table Umbrella
 - ii. Tilting Umbrella
 - iii. Off-set/ Cantilever Umbrella
- b. No portion of an umbrella shall extend beyond the edge and/or enclosure of the parklet on any side.
- c. No umbrella shall obstruct the view from the street between 3 and 8 feet, measured from the street, from any side.

6. Signage

- a. Parklet signage is limited to 6 square feet and shall be limited to the name of the business and shall be non-illuminated and non-reflective. Letters can be no taller than 15 inches.
- b. Businesses are permitted one sign on their parklet, total.
- c. Signs must be affixed to the outer most portion of the parklet enclosure no higher than 36 inches from the street grade.
- d. No form of advertising is permitted to be painted or mounted on any surface or area of the parklet.
- e. If a signage post is in conflict with the proposed parklet, the applicant shall reach out to Public Works to evaluate the possibility of relocating the post. If relocation is not possible, the applicant shall redesign the parklet to fit with the existing post.
- f. Any existing parking signs installed adjacent to the parklet shall be removed from the sign post by the applicant and returned to the Public Works Department.

7. Seating & Furniture

- a. Accessibility
 - i. The establishment must provide 5 percent accessible seating for each type of seating provided (table, booth, etc.) or a minimum of one seat per type, whichever is greater, in an outdoor seating area where the slope is no greater than 2 percent in any direction.
 - ii. Such ADA accessible seating shall be of the same size and appearance as the establishment's other outdoor seating.
 - iii. Refer to Section IV(A)(5) for additional accessibility requirements

~~b. Street Furniture~~

- ~~i. Street furniture including tables, chairs, benches, etc. shall be all-weather, and of a high-quality material.~~

FIGURE 11: Street Furniture Examples



8. *Landscape*

- a. Vegetation shall be comprised of native, low-water use, and drought-tolerant plants.
- b. No plants shall have thorns, spikes, or sharp edges.
- c. Poisonous or invasive plants are not permitted.

9. *Televisions*

- a. Televisions are not permitted in parklets.

V. Operational Standards

A. *Private Control*

1. Parklets will be considered under the control of the permit holder. The permit holder is responsible for securing the parklet and any fixtures and furnishings contained within it at all times, including during hours when the associated business is not in operation.

B. *Alcohol Service*

1. Businesses with parklets that serve alcoholic beverages on the parklet shall include appropriate fencing or other barriers to delineate the space and adhere to Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) regulations.
 - a. As described in the *Enclosure* section above, all parklets in which alcoholic beverages are served shall be enclosed on all sides of the parklet edge, as required by the department of alcoholic beverage control.
2. All physical requirements of ABC should be reflected in the design submitted for review.
3. A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is required to allow alcohol service at a parklet.

C. *Site Maintenance*

1. Parklets and the sidewalk adjacent to the parklet shall be kept clean and litter free. Any food or drink stain shall be cleaned up immediately. Power washing is required monthly.
2. The drainage grates at the side of the parklet shall be maintained and kept clean and clear at all times to allow free flow of water. Any debris and leaves shall be removed immediately by the permittee.

D. *Hours of Operation*

1. The parklet shall adhere to the same approved hours of operation as the associated business.
2. In the Neighborhood Commercial (CN) or Service Commercial (CS) zone districts, a CUP is needed to operate between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. and approval conditions for

operations during these hours are to ensure the operation is compatible with the abutting (or within 50 feet of) residential property.

E. Amplified Sound

1. Amplified is not permitted on parklets. Any ambient sound may only originate from the interior of the business's occupied building.

VI. PERMIT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Submittal Requirements

1. **Site Plan**—Site plan shall be drawn to scale on 11 x17 tabloid paper, include all pertinent dimensions and the following information:
 - a. Location of the business frontage
 - b. Dimensions of the parklet platform
 - c. ADA accessibility measurements
 - d. Setbacks from adjacent parking spaces and the adjacent traffic lane
 - e. Locations of traffic protection improvements including wheel stops, reflective delineators, etc.
 - f. Location of public utilities including any manhole covers, gutter drains, fire hydrants, and FDCs, light poles, etc. and their distances to the parklet
 - g. Any adjacent installations on the sidewalk including utility boxes, street signs, bike racks, street furniture, street trees, tree wells, etc. and their distances to the parklet
 - h. Existing parking space striping
 - i. Crosswalks, bus stops, driveways and their distances to the parklet
 - j. Width of sidewalk
 - k. Planters (if applicable)
2. **Floor Plan**
 - a. Floor Plan of the proposed parklet showing the following information:
 - i. Total number and location of tables and seats and/or benches on parklet
 - ii. Dimensions of tables, seats, and benches on parklet
3. **Elevations**
 - a. Elevation drawing showing the following information:
 - b. Height and design of platform railings/enclosure
 - c. Height and design of roof (if applicable)
 - d. Heating, lighting, other electrical equipment
 - e. Power connection (show distance from ground to overhead wire)
 - f. Storm water drainage
 - g. Cross-section drawing of parklet
4. **Construction Drawing showing the following information:**
 - a. Structural drawings
 - b. Structural calculations for the enclosure
 - c. Complete roof framing plan (for parklets with roofs), including the following:
 - i. horizontal and vertical bracing,

- ii. structural calculations that meet the standards in the 2022 California Building Code.
 - iii. Stamp and signature from a licensed civil and/or structural engineer who is registered in the State of California
 - d. Heating, lighting, other electrical equipment
 - e. Electrical power connection/source
- 5. **Pictures of Existing Conditions**—The application should include at least three photos showing existing built parklet, if applicable, the proposed parking space(s) converted into a parklet, adjacent sidewalk and store frontage
- 6. **List of materials and equipment**
 - a. Materials palette showing the following information:
 - i. Proposed materials for platform
 - ii. Proposed materials for railings/enclosure
 - iii. ~~Proposed furnishings~~
 - iv. iii. Roof material (if applicable)
 - b. Equipment sheet including:
 - i. Image of equipment
 - ii. Any manufacturer instructions
 - c. Planters
 - d. Type of plants
- 7. **Parklet Information:**
 - a. Number of parking spaces requested
 - b. Perpendicular or angled spaces
 - c. Color of curb
 - d. Proposed use of parklet
 - e. Business hours of operation
 - f. Parklet Designer/ Architect/ Engineer/ Construction Firm contact (if applicable)
 - g. Signage (if applicable)
- 8. **Business Information**
 - a. Business Address
 - b. City of Palo Alto Business License Number
- 9. **Business Owner Information**
- 10. **Property Owner Information** (if different than applicant)
- 11. **Insurance Documents**
- 12. **Letter(s) of Consent** – A parklet applicant must get a letter of consent from the neighboring ground-floor tenant(s) if the applicant’s parklet has any structure above the enclosure (e.g., sidewalk, roof, trellis) that is not in front of the applicant’s storefront (see Appendix A).
 - a. Parklet sponsor must obtain an up-to-date letter of consent for any future license renewals as requested by Public Works during future permit renewal processes.
 - i. If a parklet sponsor cannot obtain an up-to-date letter of consent, or if parklet occupancy is not in accordance with the terms of any applicable law, these regulations, and/or any permit requirement, the parklet sponsor is responsible for the removal of any structure of the parklet permit extending into a neighboring frontage within 90-days.

13. Indemnity Acknowledgement

B. Failure to Maintain

A parklet sponsor who fails to properly and sufficiently maintain the cleanliness, safety, and accessibility of their parklet may be subject to violations and fines. If maintenance issues are not resolved, the City may revoke the encroachment permit and the parklet sponsor may be required by the City to remove the parklet at their own expense.

C. Utility Maintenance & Public Safety

Because a parklet may sit atop buried utilities, there may be instances where a parklet will need to be removed to access a utility beneath it. In the event of necessary utility maintenance or the unlikely event of a utility failure such as a gas leak or water main break that threatens public safety, the City or utility owner may remove parklets with little or no notice. Parklet sponsors are responsible for the cost of re-installing and restoring any damage to the parklet.

In instances of advanced notice (such as street repaving, planned maintenance, etc.), the parklet sponsor may need to remove and reinstall the parklet at their sole expense. If the sponsor cannot remove the parklet, the City will remove the parklet.

D. Parklet Removal

If for some reason the parklet sponsor decides no longer wants to maintain a parklet, the parklet sponsor is responsible for notifying the City and removing it at the parklet sponsors' own expense. Immediately upon removal the parklet area shall be cleaned and restored to its previous condition to the satisfaction of the City.

E. Parklet Fees

Parklets are subject to the following fees outlined in the City's Fee Schedule:

1. Permit Application Fee
2. Deposit Fee (refundable)
3. Permit Renewal Fee
4. Annual License Fee
 - a. This fee will be charged per square foot based on the total parklet platform area.

Appendix A: Sample Letter of Consent



Neighbor Acknowledgement Form for Parklets and At-Grade Uses

PUBLIC WORKS

pwecips@cityofpaloalto.org – 650.329.2295 or 650.329.2496 x. 8

FOR PERMIT APPLICANT TO FILL OUT:

Business Name	
Business Physical Address	
Contact Name	
Contact Phone and Email	
Adjacent property Business Name or Address	Number of parking spaces in front of the adjacent business or property you are seeking to use

FOR NEIGHBORING TENANT TO FILL OUT:

The business listed above is seeking your consent to use the on-street parking spaces in front of your business for a parklet or other on-street use. By signing below, I understand and agree to the following:

1. I am the **Ground Floor Tenant** at the business listed below. This property is adjacent to the Applicant’s business listed above.
2. I **consent** to allow the Applicant, located at the address listed above, to occupy the number of parking space(s) listed above in the parking lane fronting my business. I understand that the Applicant’s occupancy will be consistent with an encroachment or parklet permit in accordance with the Palo Alto Municipal Code and corresponding regulations.
3. I **acknowledge** that I am not prohibited by any lease or rental agreement from granting this consent to this neighboring business.
4. **This consent** is for the permittee’s upcoming permit cycle, which will last until the end of March 31, 2024. I acknowledge that any enforcement action against a permittee for revoked neighbor consent may be suspended until the time of the permit expiration.

Signature	Print Name	Date
Title		
Business Name		
Business Address		
Contact Phone and Email		

PLEASE EMAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM TO: pwecips@cityofpaloalto.org

12/1/22

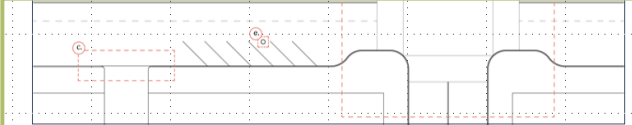
DRAFT
PRE-APPROVED PARKLET
USER GUIDE

ABOUT THE USER GUIDE

The Pre-Approved Parklet User Guide provides step-by-step instructions for creating your own parklet using pre-approved designs. The guide is designed to assist you from initial design through construction and maintenance. Ideal for business owners, parklet operators, and designers, this guide simplifies the process by focusing on approved specifications and compliance with local regulations.

This guide is tailored to help you seamlessly navigate the process of constructing your pre-approved parklet by integrating essential steps directly into each section. Here's how to use it effectively:

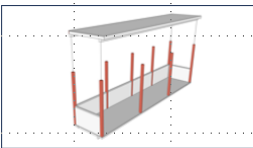
1. Follow the Embedded Checklists: Each page of the guide includes a specific checklist related to that section's content. These checklists ensure that you meet all necessary requirements and adhere to City regulations.



1.1 Applicable Locations		CHECKLIST
1.1.a	The parklet is located in an eligible area within the University Avenue and California Downtown areas. See Appendix A for maps of the eligible areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Site Requirements		
1.2.a	The parklet does not obstruct a restricted zone - loading zone, bus zone, no parking zone, public utilities, telecommunication vaults	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.b	Crosswalk Clearance: minimum 20' setback from a crosswalk <i>Note: not applicable if there is a bulb-out between the parklet and crosswalk</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.c	Driveway and alleyway clearance: minimum 15' setback from any driveways and alleyways <i>Note: not applicable if there is a bulb-out between the parklet and crosswalk</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Make Decisions: As you complete each checklist, you'll be prompted to make decisions regarding elements such as materials, dimensions, and additional features. This approach allows you to tailor the pre-approved designs to fit your specific needs and preferences.

Parklets With or Without a Roof



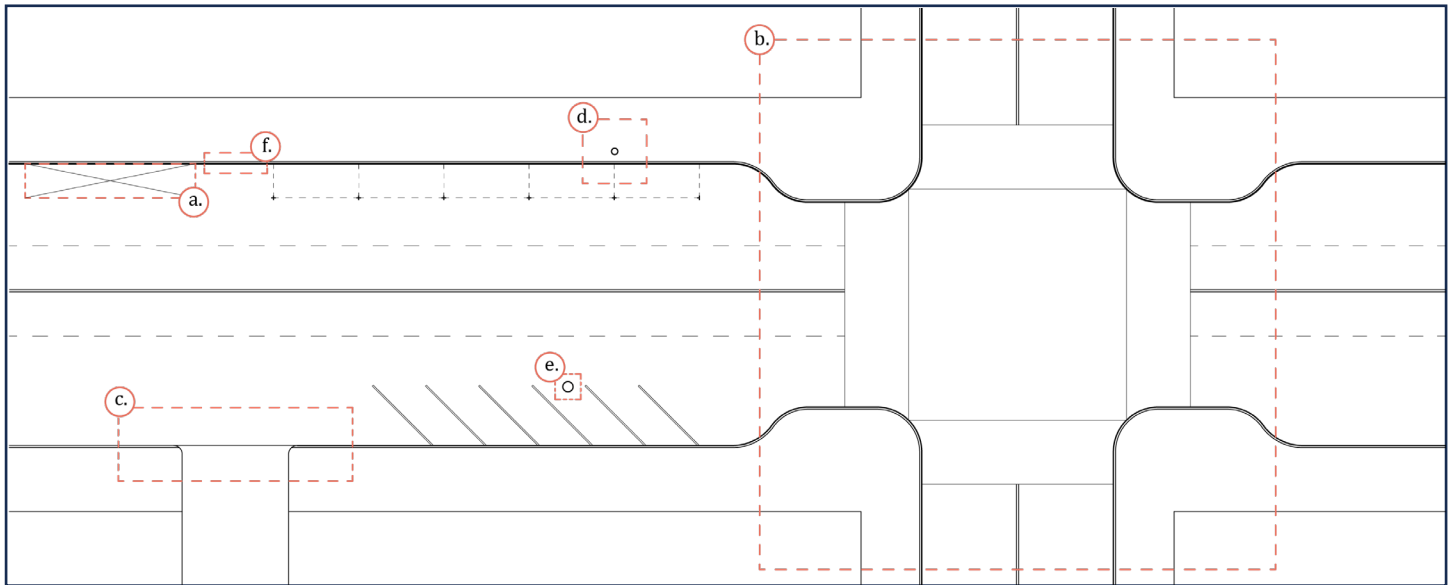
6.1 Parklet Post Material		CHECKLIST
6.1.a	The parklet post shall be constructed the following approved materials. Please select one of the following:	
	• Light-Gauge Steel	<input type="checkbox"/>
	• Pressure-treated wood	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Document your parklet details in "My Parklet" Sections: Alongside the checklists and decision points, you'll find "My Parklet" sections. Here, you can write the details of your choices and the specifications of your parklet design. This documentation will help you track your progress and ensure that every aspect of your parklet is planned and executed according to plan.

3.3.a	The parklet must be setback 3' from the outer edge of the parking space the travel lane. This setback must be kept clear at all times. The only objects permitted in this setback are reflective delineator posts.
3.3.b	The setback between angled parking parklets shall be minimum 6' (3' for each parklet)
My Parklet	
What is your parking space type (circle one):	Parallel Angled
How many parking spaces will you use?	_____
What is your parklet's approximate size after the setbacks:	_____ square feet
• Length (feet):	_____
• Width (feet):	_____

STEP 1: SITE PLANNING

Confirm your parklet site meets the requirements below. These requirements ensure a safe streetscape for pedestrians, vehicles, and parklet patrons.



1.1 Applicable Locations

1.1.a The parklet is located in an eligible area within the University Avenue and California Downtown areas. See **Appendix A** for maps of the eligible areas.

CHECKLIST

1.2 Site Requirements

1.2.a The parklet does not obstruct a restricted zone - loading zone, bus zone, no parking zone, public utilities, telecommunication vaults

1.2.b Crosswalk Clearance: minimum 20' setback from a crosswalk
Note: not applicable if there is a bulb-out between the parklet and crosswalk

1.2.c Driveway and alleyway clearance: minimum 15' setback from any driveways and alleyways
Note: Setback not needed if there is a bulb-out between the parklet and crosswalk

1.2.e Fire Hydrant Clearance: minimum 15' setback from a fire hydrant.

1.2.d Manhole Cover: minimum 5' setback from a manhole cover

1.2.f Storm Drain Catch Basin: minimum setback from a storm drain catch basin
Encroaching over a neighboring property

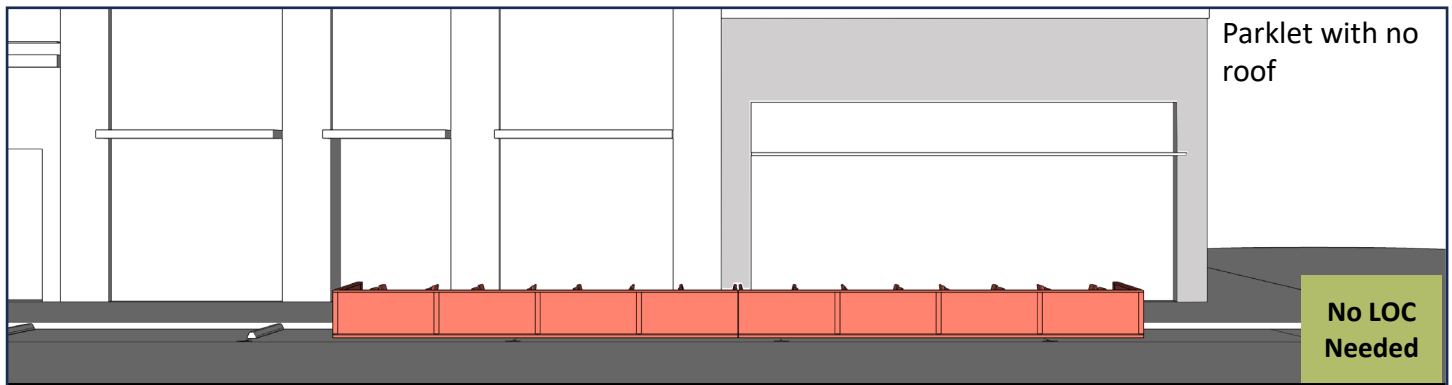
1.3 Applicable Parking Stalls

1.3.a The parklet is located in front of your business.

If required, you have a letter of consent from your neighbor.
See the next page to determine if you need a letter of consent from your neighbor

STEP 2: LETTER OF CONSENT (LOC) REQUIREMENT

Review the letter of consent (LOC) requirements below.



Parklet applicants must obtain a letter of consent from adjacent ground-floor tenant(s) to extend a roof, trellis, or sidewall, beyond their own storefront. Parklets without a roof, trellis, or sidewalls, may extend in front of a neighbor without a letter of consent.

2.1 Letter of Consent Requirement

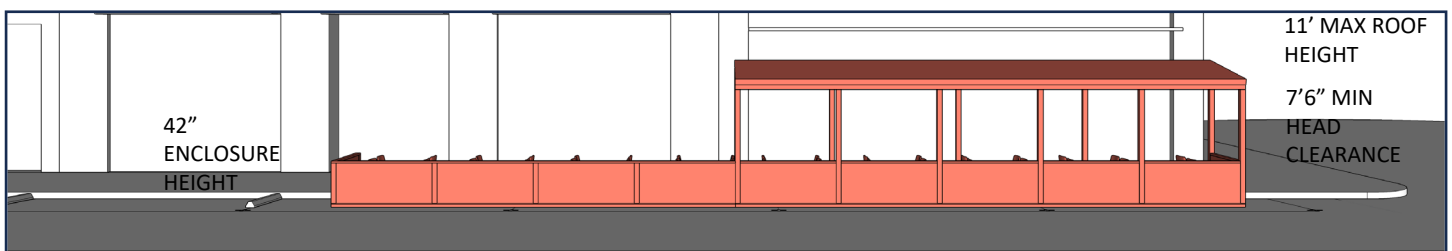
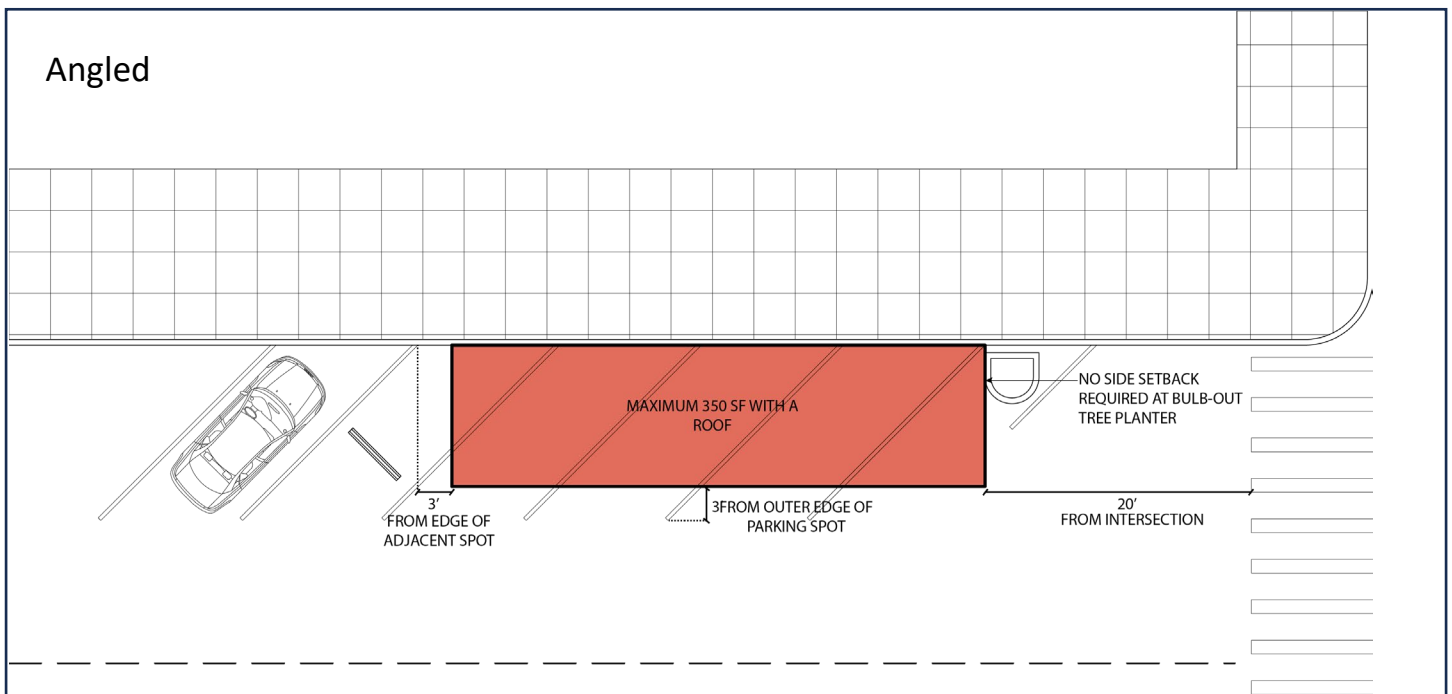
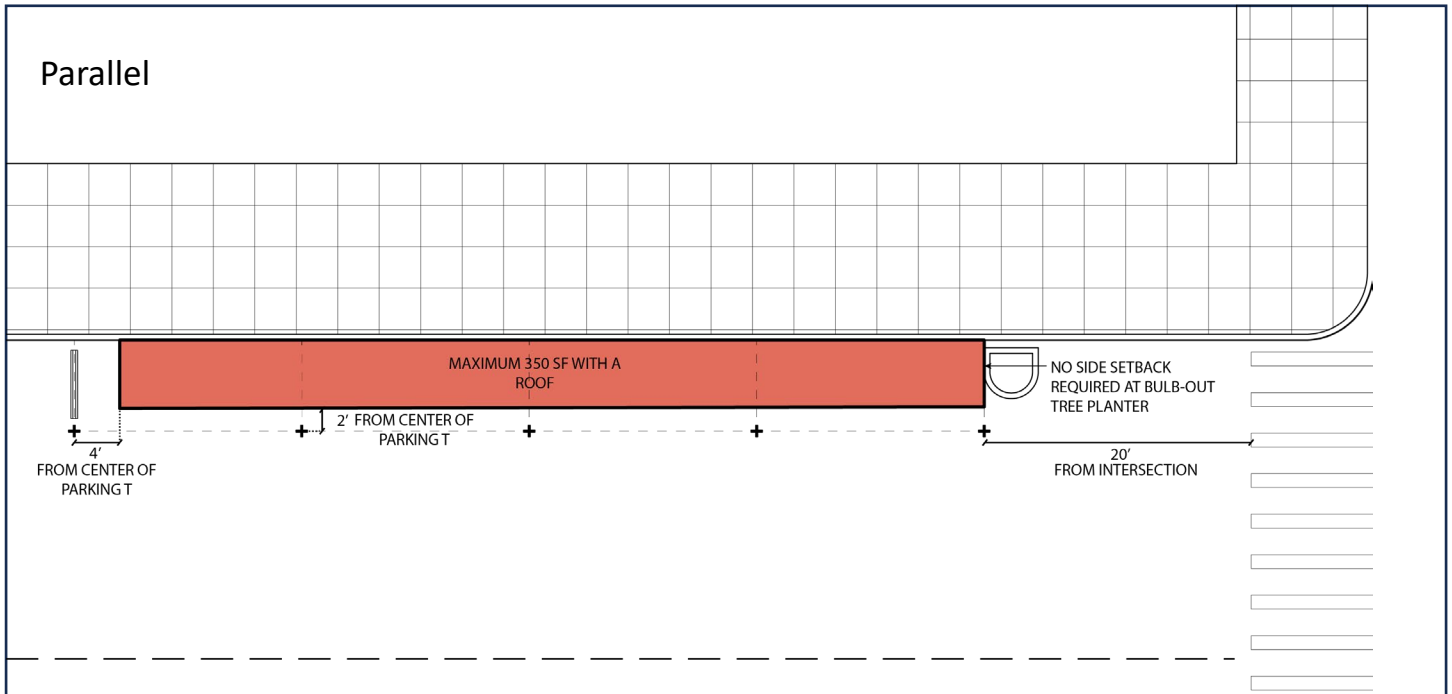
2.1.a Parklet does not have a roof or sidewalls: letter of consent not required.

2.1.b Parklet does have a roof or sidewalls:

- Does not extend beyond applicant's storefront: letter of consent not required.
- Does extend beyond applicant's storefront: letter of consent is required.

STEP 3: PARKLET ENVELOPE

Parklet Envelope



STEP 3: PARKLET ENVELOPE

Confirm your parklet meets the requirements below. Determine your parklet size.

	CHECKLIST
3.1 Parklet Size	
3.1.a Parklets <i>with a roof or trellis</i> can be a maximum of 350 square feet.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Parklets in Parallel Parking Spaces	
3.2.a The parklet must be setback 4' from the adjacent marked parking space. This setback must be kept clear at all time for emergency access. <i>Note: Setback not needed if there is a bulb-out between the parklet and crosswalk.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.b The parklet must be setback 2' from the outer edge of the parking space "T" along the travel lane. This setback must be kept clear at all times. The only objects permitted in this setback are reflective delineator posts.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.c The distance between parklets in parallel parking spaces shall be minimum of 8'.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Parklets in Angled Parking Spaces	
3.3.a The parklet must be setback 3' from the adjacent marked parking space. This setback must be kept clear at all time for emergency access. <i>Note: Setback not needed if there is a bulb-out between the parklet and crosswalk.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.b The parklet must be setback 3' from the outer edge of the parking space along the travel lane. This setback must be kept clear at all times. The only objects permitted in this setback are reflective delineator posts.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The setback between parklets in angled parking spaces shall be minimum of 6'.	<input type="checkbox"/>

My Parklet

What is your parking space type (circle one): Parallel Angled

How many parking spaces will you use? _____

What is your parklet's approximate size after the setbacks: _____ square feet

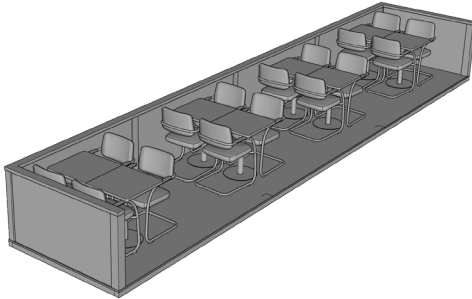
- Length (feet): _____
- Width (feet): _____
- Area (square feet): _____

STEP 4: SELECT YOUR PARKLET TYPE

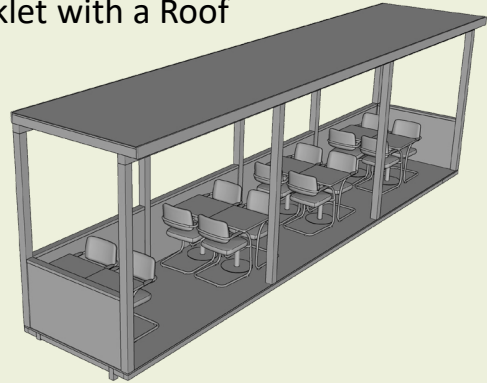
Choose what type of parklet you want to build.

4.1 Parklet Type: Choose One

Parklet with no Roof

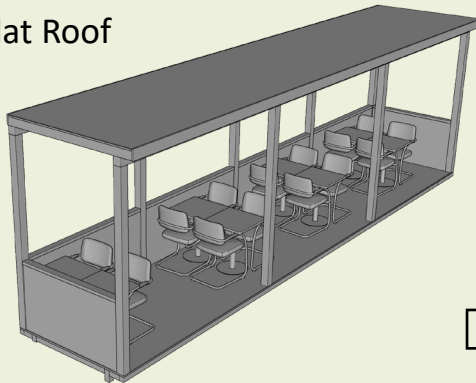


Parklet with a Roof

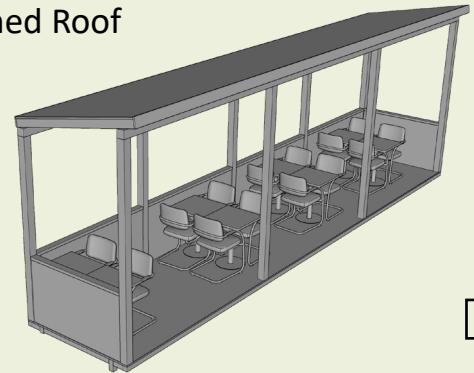


2 Roof Shape: Choose One

Flat Roof

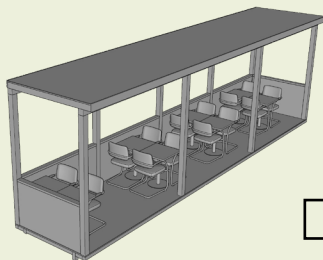


Shed Roof

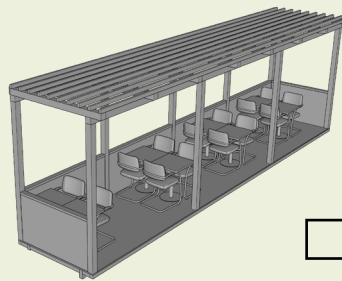


3 Roof Type: Choose One

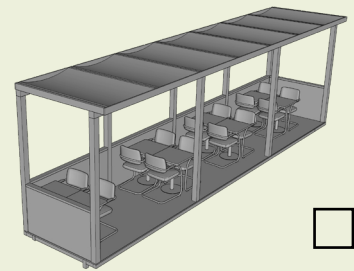
Solid Roof



Lattice Roof



Fabric Roof



4 Letter of Consent: Select the applicable requirement

The roof will not extend beyond applicant's storefront: letter of consent not required.

The roof will extend beyond applicant's storefront: letter of consent is required.

STEP 5: PREPARE FOR YOUR DESIGN

Confirm which components your parklet will have for the frame and finishes.

1 Parklet Frame – vertical and roof frame..... STEP 6

Parklets with or without a roof:

Posts

Parklets with roofs will also require the following:

Roof frame

Roof to frame connection

2 Parklet Finishes

Parklets with or without a roof:

Flooring..... STEP 7

Enclosure..... STEP 8

Planters..... STEP 9

Parklets with roofs will also require the following:

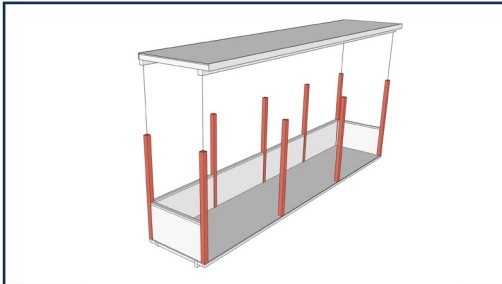
Roof coverings..... STEP 10

Sidewalls..... STEP 11

STEP 6: DESIGN YOUR PARKLET FRAME

Select your designs for the parklet post, roof frame and roof-frame connection

Parklets With or Without a Roof



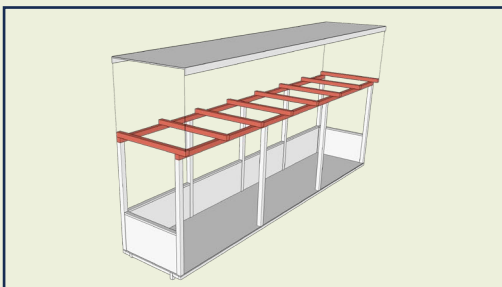
6.1 Parklet Post Material

CHECKLIST

6.1.a The parklet post shall be constructed the following approved materials. Please select one of the following:

- Light-Gauge Steel
- Pressure-treated wood

Parklet With A Roof

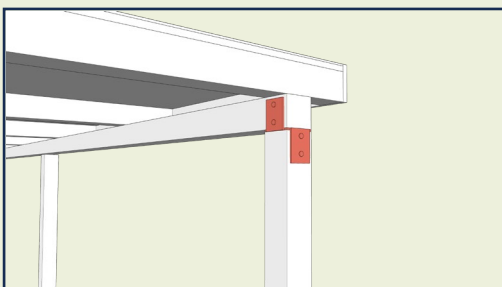


6.2 Parklet Roof Frame Material

6.2.a The parklet roof frame shall be constructed the following approved materials. Please select one of the following:

- Light-Gauge Steel
- Pressure-treated wood

Parklet Roof Frame Connection *(for parklets with a roof)*

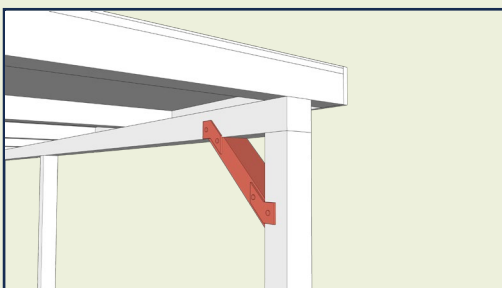


Option 1

6.3 Parklet Roof Frame Connection Design

6.3.a Select one of the following design options for your Roof-Frame connection. The connection material will be consistent with your roof frame material selection:

- Option 1: Diagonal Brackets
- Option 2: Standard Connection



Option 2

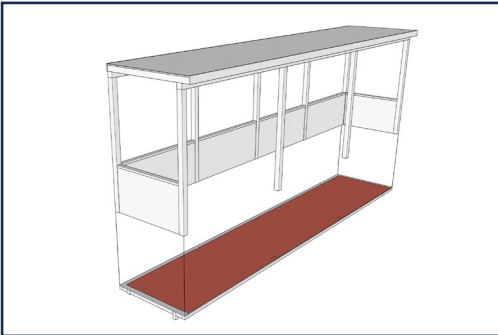
Light Gauge
steel example

Wood example

STEP 7: DESIGN YOUR PARKLET FLOORING

Select a flooring product for your parklet. The flooring product will be installed overtop the parklet platform frame and will be flush with the sidewalk.

Parklet Flooring Requirements *(for parklets with or without a roof)*



7.1 Materials

- 7.1.a The parklet flooring shall be an exterior-grade material
- 7.1.b The parklet flooring shall not be one of the following prohibited materials: metal, glass, materials designed for interior use.

7.2 Safety

- 7.2.c The parklet flooring has a finishing & slip resistance of BH minimum 0.6 Coefficient of Friction

My Parklet Flooring *(for parklets with or without a roof)*

CHECKLIST

Select Option 1 or 2 below.

Option 1: Select one of the following flooring materials (see product specifications attached)

Option 2: Select a flooring material that meets the requirements above and attach the product specifications to your parklet application

Flooring material name: _____

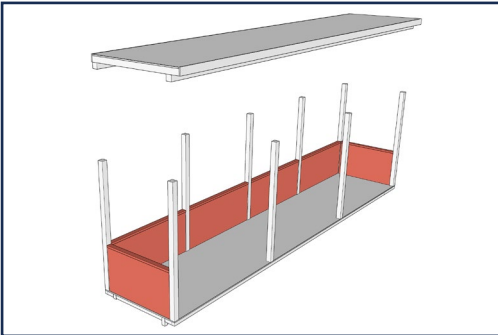
Meets the requirements above.

Product Specification attached.

STEP 8: DESIGN YOUR PARKLET ENCLOSURE

Select enclosure finishes for your parklet. The enclosure will connect to a horizontal rail that extends between posts.

Parklet Enclosure Requirements *(for parklets with or without a roof)*



8.1 Material

8.1.a The parklet enclosure shall **not** be one of the following prohibited materials: particle board, vinyl, soft plastic or tarps.

8.2 Safety

8.2.a Any gaps in the enclosure shall be smaller than 4" sphere

My Parklet Enclosure *(for parklets with or without a roof)*

CHECKLIST

Select Option 1 or 2 below.

Option 1: Select one of the following enclosure material and designs (see specifications attached)

Option 2: Select an enclosure material that meets the requirements above and attach the product specifications to your parklet application

Enclosure material name: _____

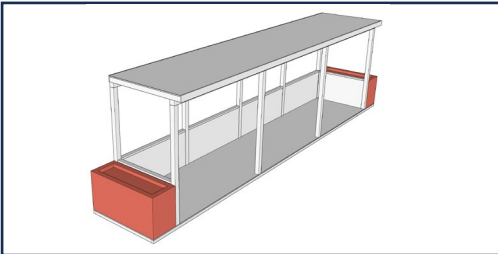
Meets the requirements above.

Product Specification attached.

STEP 9: DESIGN YOUR PARKLET *PLANTERS*

Select planter designs for your parklet. Parklets in parallel parking spaces will locate planters on either side of the parklet. Parklets in angled parking spaces will locate planters along the outer edge; parallel to the travel lane.

Parklet Planter Requirements *(for parklets with or without a roof)*



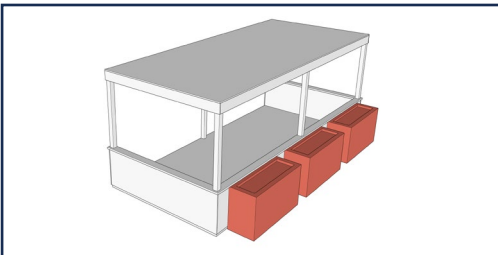
9.1 Material

9.1.a The parklet planter shall be constructed of wood, steel, cold form fiberglass, or plastic materials.

9.1.b The following materials are prohibited: clay, porcelain, and concrete.

9.2 Safety

9.2.a The planter shall be bolted to the parklet floor.



My Parklet Planter *(for parklets with or without a roof)*

CHECKLIST

Select Option 1 or 2 below.

Option 1: Select one of the following planter material and designs (see specifications attached)

Option 2: Select a planter material that meets the requirements above and attach the product specifications to your parklet application

Planter material name: _____

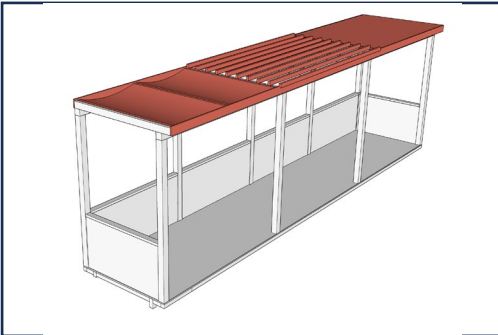
Meets the requirements above.

Product Specification attached.

STEP 10: DESIGN YOUR PARKLET *ROOF COVERINGS*

If your parklet will have a roof, select the roof covering and designs for your parklet roof. Roof coverings will be affixed to your roof frame.

Parklet Roof Covering Requirements *(for parklets with a roof)*



10.1 Design

10.1.a The parklet roof design shall be one of the following: solid roof, open framing, fabric shades.

9.2 Materials

9.2.a The following materials are permitted for roof coverings: pressure-treated wood, exterior-grade wood, steel, fabric (flame retardant), corrugated metal, plywood (with treatment), asphalt tiles, wood shingles.

The roof material shall be maximum 20psf in weight.

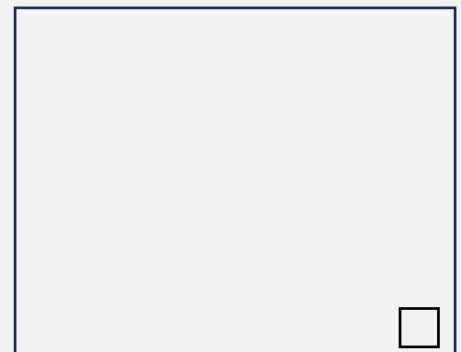
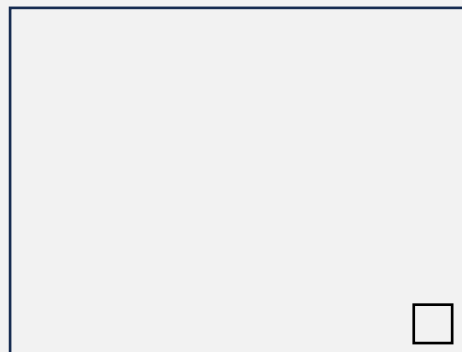
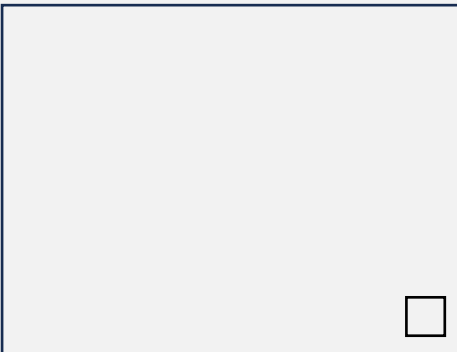
The following materials are prohibited: clay, porcelain tile, acrylic corrugated plastic, vinyl, soft plastic, tarps.

My Parklet Roof Covering *(for parklets with a roof)*

CHECKLIST

Select Option 1 or 2 below.

Option 1: Select one of the following roof material and designs (see specifications attached)



Option 2: Select a roof covering material that meets the requirements above and attach the product specifications to your parklet application

Parklet Roof Design: _____)

Roof covering material name: _____

Meets the requirements above.

Product Specification attached.

STEP 11: DESIGN YOUR PARKLET *SIDEWALLS*

If your parklet will have sidewalls, select the design from the options below. Sidewalls will be affixed to your posts.

Parklet Sidewall Requirements *(for parklets with or without a roof)*



11.1 Design

11.1.a Parklets may include either a solid transparent sidewall or an open semi-transparent sidewall.

11.2 Materials

11.2.a The following material is permitted for solid sidewalls: plexiglass

11.2.a The following materials are permitted for open sidewalls: pressure-treated Wood (stained or painted), exterior grade wood

My Parklet Sidewalls *(for parklets with a roof)*

CHECKLIST

Select Option 1, 2, or 3 below.

Option 1: The parklet will not include sidewalls.

Option 2 (if including sidewalls): Select one of the following sidewall material and designs (see specifications attached)

Option 3 (if including sidewalls): Select a sidewall design and material that meets the requirements above and attach the product specifications to your parklet application

Parklet Roof Design: _____

Roof covering material name: _____

Meets the requirements above.

Product Specification attached.

STEP 12: HEATING

Heaters are not required but are permitted in parklets in accordance with Section IV.D.4 of the Parklet Standards. Review the requirements below and indicate your selection.

Heating Devices *(for parklets with or without a roof)*

Heating devices are not required for operation, however, if a parklet wishes to include heating in conjunction with their parklet, they shall comply with the requirements below:

	CHECKLIST
12.1 Electric Heaters	
12.1.a Electric heaters must be an outdoor approved type	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.2.b Electric heaters must be located in accordance with manufacturing instructions and placed at least 3 feet away from any combustible materials or as required by manufacturer's instruction, whichever is more restrictive.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.2.c A fire extinguisher is required to be mounted within sight and have appropriate signage per the Fire Code.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.2.d Use of electric heaters must comply with the power supply requirements in section IV.D.2 of the parklet standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.2.e Any electrical equipment must be listed and carry a product certificate for its intended use by a recognized electrical testing laboratory.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.2 Propane Heaters	
12.2.a Propane heaters are permitted with a valid HAZMAT permit from the Palo Alto Fire Department and CERS submittal.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.2.b Propane heaters are prohibited in parklets with a roof or trellis.	<input type="checkbox"/>

My Parklet

Parklet heater and type:

- No heaters
- Electric heaters
- Propane heaters (if yes, see section below)

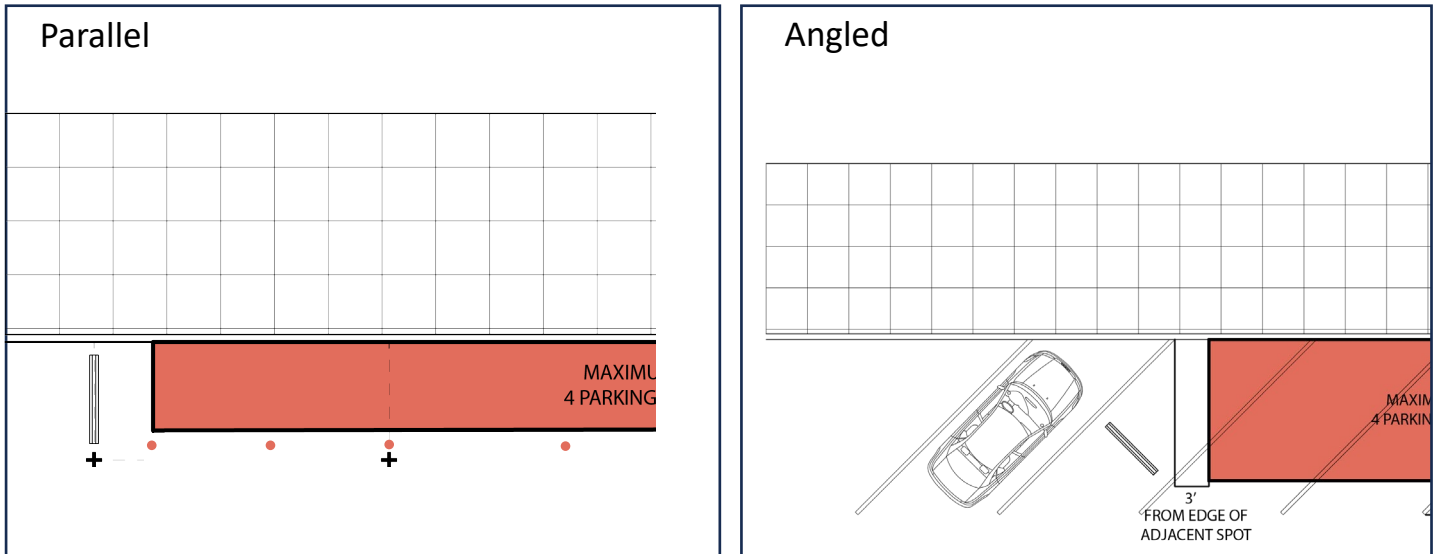
If using propane:

- Your parklet will not have a roof.
- You will obtain a HAZMAT permit.

IMPORTANT: If using propane heaters, parklet applications will not be approved until a valid HAZMAT permit is provided.

STEP 13: TRAFFIC SAFETY

Review the requirements below for parklet traffic safety. These measures will apply to all parklets following parklet design, approval, and construction.



- | 13.1 Wheel Stops (see section IV.C of the parklet standards for full details) | CHECKLIST |
|--|--------------------------|
| 13.1.a When a parklet is adjacent to active <i>parallel</i> parking spaces, a wheel stop must be installed to delineate the 4-foot setback from adjacent parking spaces. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.1.b When a parklet is adjacent to an active angled parking space, a wheel stop must be installed in the center of the parking space next to the parklet structure | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.1.c The wheel stop shall measure 3 feet long by 4 inches high. It shall be constructed of concrete or rubber. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.1.d Parklets extending the length between two in-street tree wells, as on University Avenue, may omit wheel stops. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.1.e Wheel stops are not required between two adjacent parklets with no active parking stalls between them. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.2 Reflective Delineator | |
| 13.2.a The parklet shall include installation of the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) approved delineator posts or flexible bollards. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.2.b Delineator posts shall be surface mounted to the roadway via epoxy and/or glue down methods. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.2.c Reflective delineators must be installed at the outside corners of the parklet. Additional delineators must be placed at least every 10 feet. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

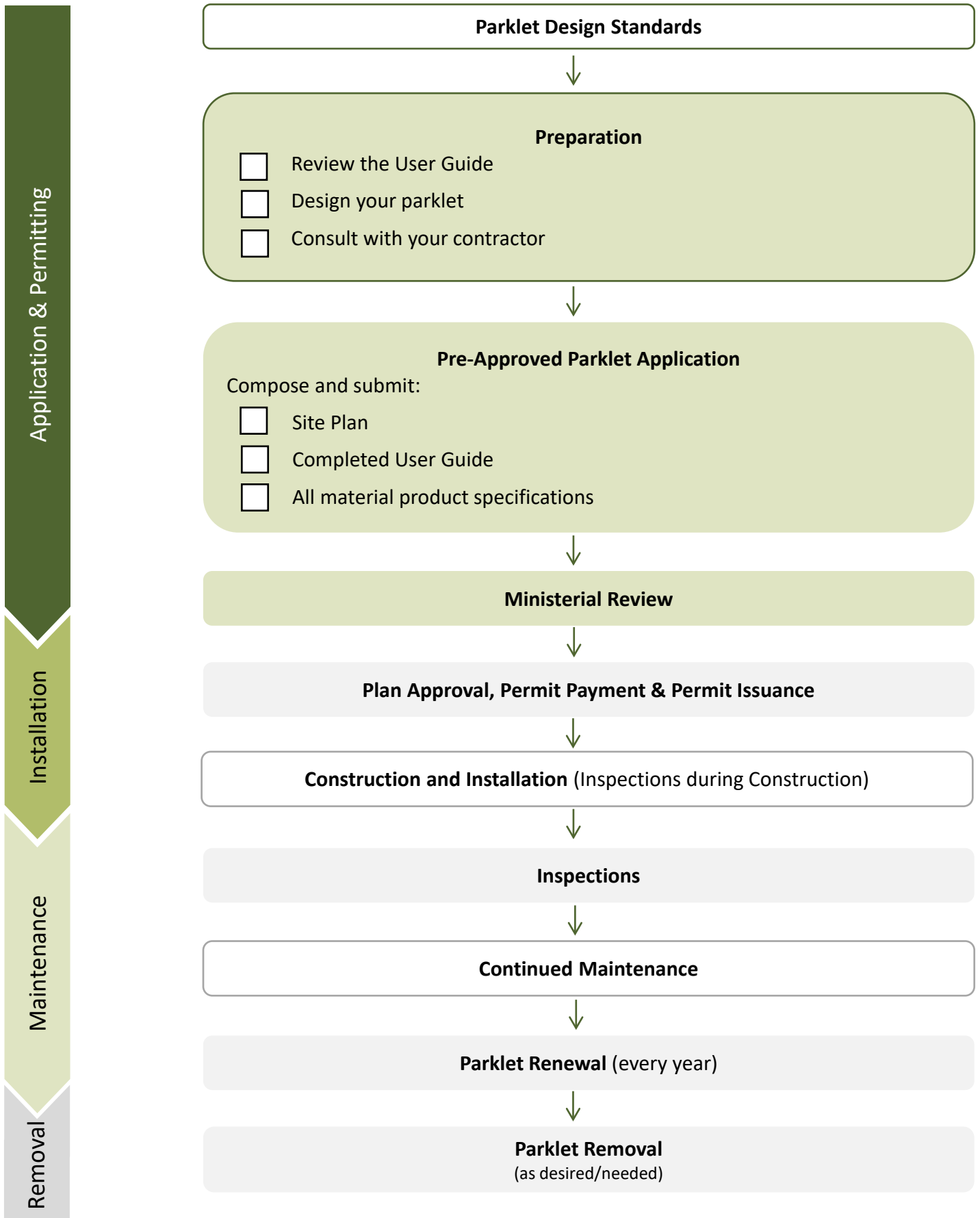
STEP 14: OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Review the requirements below for parklet operations and maintenance. These measures will apply to all parklets following parklet design, approval, and construction.

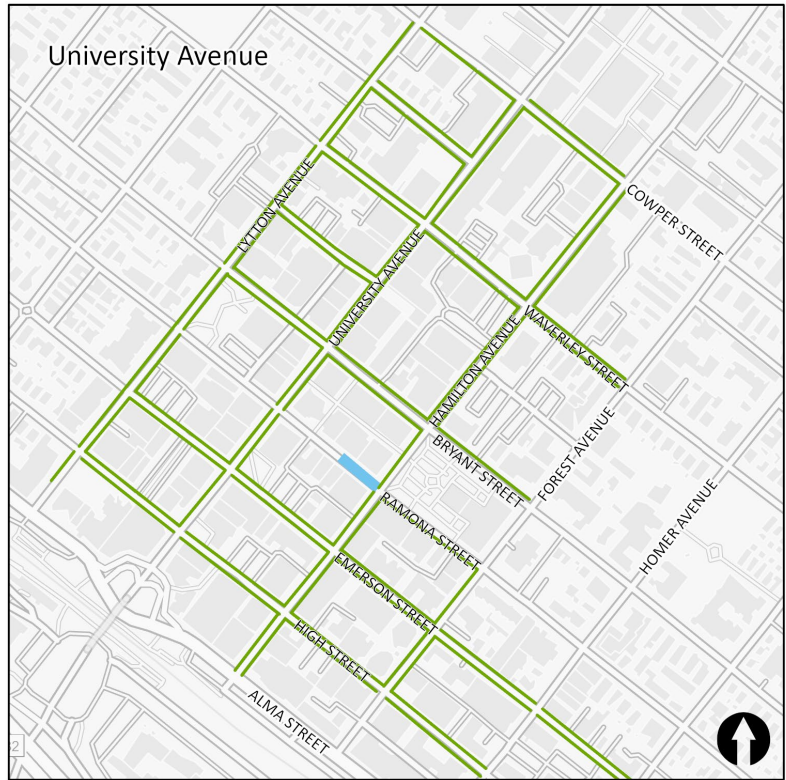
	CHECKLIST
14.1 Site Maintenance	
14.1.a Parklets and the sidewalk adjacent to the parklet shall be kept clean and litter free. Any food or drink stain shall be cleaned up immediately. Power washing is required monthly.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.1.b The drainage grates at the side of the parklet shall be maintained and kept clean and clear at all times to allow free flow of water. Any debris and leaves shall be removed immediately by the permittee.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.2 Hours of Operation	
14.2.a The parklet shall adhere to the same approved hours of operation as the associated business.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.2.b In the Neighborhood Commercial (CN) or Service Commercial (CS) zone districts, a CUP is needed to operate between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. and approval conditions for operations during these hours are to ensure the operation is compatible with the abutting (or within 50 feet of) residential property.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.3 Amplified Sound	
14.3.a Amplified is not permitted on parklets. Any ambient sound may only originate from the interior of the business's occupied building.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.4 Alcohol Service	
14.4.a Businesses with parklets that serve alcoholic beverages on the parklet shall include appropriate fencing or other barriers to delineate the space and adhere to Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.4.b All physical requirements of ABC should be reflected in the design submitted for review.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.4.c A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is required to allow alcohol service at a parklet.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parklet Removal	
If a business with a parklet decides they no longer want a parklet, the business is responsible for notifying the City and removing it at the business's own expense.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immediately upon removal, the parklet area shall be cleaned and restored to its previous condition to the satisfaction of the City.	<input type="checkbox"/>
In instances of advanced notice (such as street repaving, planned maintenance, etc.), a business may need to remove and reinstall the parklet at their sole expense. If the sponsor cannot remove the parklet, the City will remove the parklet.	<input type="checkbox"/>

PERMITTING PROCESS CHECKLIST

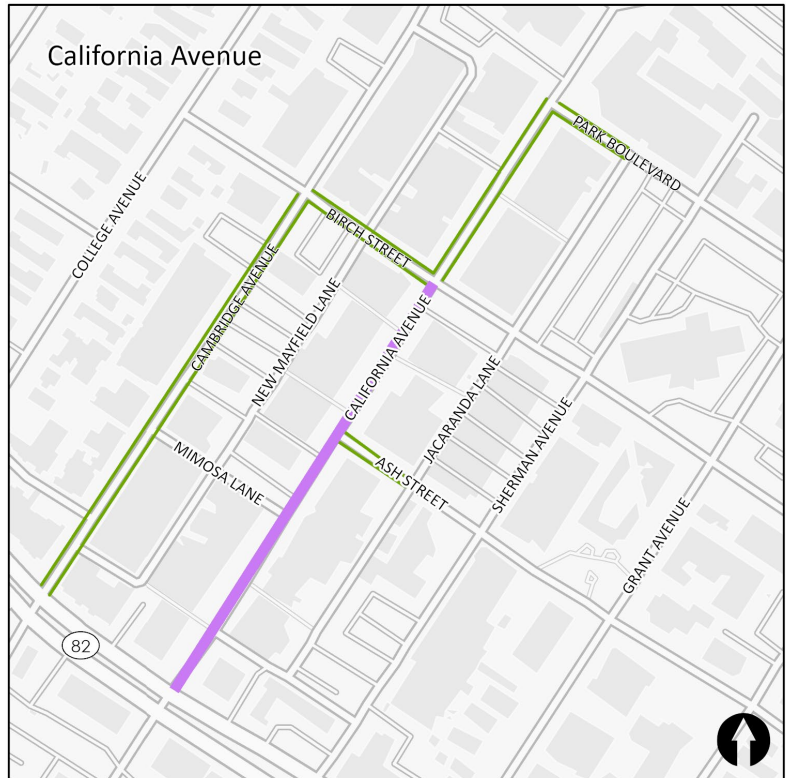
Review and confirm your parklet design. Compile your application documents.



APPENDIX A: PARKLET LOCATIONS



- Closed Street and Parklets Allowed
- Parklets Allowed



- Closed Streets
- Parklets Allowed

Attachment C: Overview of the History of the Parklet Program

- June 23, 2020¹ (City Council): City Council adopted a pilot parklet program with Ordinance No. 5500, which temporarily permitted businesses to operate outdoors in lieu of normal zoning and parking requirements, and Resolution No. 9909, which provided additional implementation guidelines for the pilot parklet program.
- April 19, 2021² (City Council): Council directed staff to develop a permanent parklet program with the input of the Architectural Review Board and extend the pilot program to December 31, 2021.
- September 13, 2021³ (City Council): The pilot program was extended to June 30, 2022.
- April 27th, 2022 (Community Engagement): Staff met with nine (9) members of the Palo Alto business community to provide a preview of proposed permanent parklet program standards. The group included restaurant owners and property owners in the Downtown and one restaurant/business owner from California Avenue.
- May 5, 2022⁴ (ARB): Staff presented draft standards for the permanent parklet program to the ARB to receive initial feedback on the draft program standards.
- May 9, 2022⁵ (City Council): Staff presented draft standards for the permanent parklet program to City Council to receive initial feedback on the draft program standards. The City Council extended the pilot program to the end of 2022.
- June 1, 2022 (ARB ad-hoc): An ARB ad-hoc committee provided further feedback on the draft program standards.
- July 21, 2022⁶ (ARB): Staff presented revised standards to the ARB based on the May 5th ARB meeting, May 9th Council meeting and June 1st ARB ad-hoc committee meeting.
 - ARB recommendations included in the permanent standards include: allowing clear panels above the enclosure, prohibiting televisions, allowing greater flexibility in the size of plants permitted, prohibiting tent-like structures and vinyl materials.
- October 24, 2022⁷ (City Council): City staff returned to the City Council to present the refined permanent parklet standards based on ARB and staff input, receive feedback on the program standards and operations, and extend the temporary parklet program through June 30, 2023. Council directed staff to do the following:
 - Implement the draft permanent standards upon adoption of a permanent parklet ordinance,

¹ Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=3031&compileOutputType=1>

² Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=3457&compileOutputType=1>

³ Staff Report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=3325&compileOutputType=1>.

⁴ Staff report: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/architectural-review-board/2022/arb-05.05.2022-public-agenda.pdf>

⁵ Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=3643&compileOutputType=1>

⁶ Staff Report: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/architectural-review-board/2022/arb-07.21.2022-public-agenda.pdf>

⁷ Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=9096&compileOutputType=1>

- Require a letter of consent in if a parklet used 50% or more of a parking space not in front of their store, and
- Return to Council with a recommendation continuing propane use, establishing parklet fees, and limiting amplified sound to only come from buildings.
- March 13, 2023⁸ (continued March 27, 2023) (City Council): Staff returned to Council to present revised standards implementing Council’s previous direction, and to receive Council’s feedback on limiting the size and scale of parklets, parklet fees, and letter of consent requirements. Staff recommended that the Council limit parklet size to a maximum of two parallel parking spaces or three angled spaces and require letters of consent consistent with the October 2022 direction. Staff presented several factors that affected the maximum size recommendation; these included fire safety and electrical panel capacity, providing greater certainty around restaurant occupancy increases, and limiting encroachment over neighboring storefronts. After a robust discussion, Council directed staff to implement the following standards:
 - Require a letter of consent for parklets that extend structures (e.g., sidewalls, roofs, trellises) beyond the applicant’s storefront. Non-structured parklet areas are allowed to extend beyond the applicant’s storefront without a letter of consent.
 - Tenants who wish to utilize a parking space in front of their store may do so after 90 days.
 - Limit the size of covered parklets to 350 square feet but allow businesses up to two (2) parklets, provided they are limited in location to the tenant’s street frontage.
 - Require parklet owners to keep parklet areas and sidewalks clean.
 Council also directed staff to return with the following:
 - Incentives for the use of electric heating.
 - Proposals on greater safety from vehicles such as k-rail or concrete barrier on the leading-edge corners.
 - A fee recommendation on the low end of fees.
- May 8, 2023⁹ (City Council): Council extended the pilot program to March 31, 2024.
- September 11, 2023¹⁰ (City Council): Council adopted the permanent parklet ordinance No. 5594 and standards with changes including: allowing sidewalk dining, and removing references to charging parklet renters to relocate/add bike facilities. Council also adopted fees for the Permanent Parklet Program (No. 5593). In addition, Council directed staff to work with the Architectural Review Board (ARB) to create design standards and uniform guidelines as soon as possible. Council also adopted new permit and license fees for the permanent parklet program.
- February 15, 2024 (ARB)¹¹: Staff presented the pre-approved parklet design approach for feedback on the potential pre-approved design options, recommended outreach strategy, and timelines for the design process.

⁸ Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=1093&compileOutputType=1>

⁹ Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=11199&compileOutputType=1>

¹⁰ Staff report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateld=13022&compileOutputType=1>

¹¹ Staff report:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/architectural-review-board/2024/arb-2.15-parklets.pdf>

- March 11, 2024 (City Council)¹²: Council extended the Interim Parklet Program to July 31, 2024, and phased in enforcement for the Ongoing Parklet Program through November 1, 2024. Existing interim parking lot eating/drinking uses were extended through December 31, 2024.
- March 19, 2024 (ARB Ad-hoc): An ARB ad-hoc committee consisting of Chair Baltay and Vice-chair Rosenberg provide feedback on initial design concepts for the pre-approved parklet designs, including post-beam connections, roof design options, overhang, and materials.

¹² Staff Report:

<https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/Public/CompiledDocument?meetingTemplateId=13515&compileOutputType=1>



Date: April 18, 2024

**SUB: CITY OF PALO ALTO PARKLET FORCE PROTECTION MEMORANDUM
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA**

The following memorandum provides supplemental information to the Parklet Force Protection Memorandum provided by Siegfried dated August 1, 2023.

As described in Siegfried's analysis, Planters are usually 18" to 24" wide and length may vary between 8ft to 10ft filled with soil. Although these planters are heavy due to presence of soil in it but that is not enough to resist the 6000 lb force requirement for qualifying as a barrier. Therefore, planters wouldn't qualify as a traffic barrier.

The Siegfried analysis also states that the way a planter is constructed is an important consideration, as some materials could shatter and result in flying debris if impacted. To add to this analysis, REI recommends that the use of flexible material would be the safest option for the planter considering that it won't shatter and cause any hazards for the parklet occupants and minimize the damage. Some of the additional reasons are listed below:

- Durability: Flexible materials are generally more durable than brittle ones. They are capable of withstanding minor impacts and deformation without fracturing or shattering.
- Adaptability: Flexible materials offer more creative and custom designs to suit specific aesthetic or requirements due to their greater adaptability in design.

Specifically, REI recommends the following material types be used for planters in conjunction with parklets:

1. Wood
2. Steel
3. Cold form Steel
4. Plastic
5. Fiberglass

August 1, 2023

Holly Boyd, P.E.
Assistant Director
Public Works Department
City of Palo Alto

**RE: CITY OF PALO ALTO PARKLET FORCE PROTECTION MEMORANDUM
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA**

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ASSUMPTIONS

The City of Palo Alto (City) is transitioning the temporary parklet program to a permanent parklet program. To make this transition, the City's goal is to provide guidelines for the construction of improvements to provide a safe parklet experience. The inherent risk to parklets and their occupants is the danger posed by adjacent vehicular traffic. Various solutions have been deployed in other jurisdictions ranging from pedestrian guardrails to permanent or detached highway type barriers. The following is a summary of our review of these options and our findings.

II. BACKGROUND

In conducting our investigation, we reviewed a sample of other Parklet Guidelines and Standards from other jurisdictions and organizations in California. In our limited review of this literature, we found the following design features to be fairly consistent;

- a. A vehicular speed limit of 25 mph as the roads are typically narrow and have low posted speed limits.
- b. A minimum of one foot between the edge of traveled way and any barrier.
- c. Barrier heights ranging from 32 to 48 inches in height.
- d. Barriers are required to be designed and approved by a professional engineer.
- e. Barriers were either guardrails, as defined by building codes, or in some cases planter boxes or similar structures used to create a physical separation between parklet occupants and vehicular traffic.
- f. The barriers were **not designed** as highway type traffic railings or crash barriers and appeared to act as a deterrent as opposed to a crash barrier.

The design requirements for barriers vary. The following is a summary of those prescribed by jurisdictional requirements.

A. Guards

Guards as prescribed by the California Building Code Section 1015 fall into two categories;

1. Guard railing to keep pedestrians from entering hazardous areas or conditions. Pedestrian guard rails are required to;
 - a. Be a minimum of 42 inches in height.
 - b. Not allow a sphere of 4" to pass through the guardrail. The intent of this provision is to prevent small children from passing through the guardrail.
 - c. Be designed to resist a lateral force of either 50 pounds per lineal foot or a concentrated load of 200 pounds applied at the top of the rail.

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SACRAMENTO

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Sacramento, CA 95825
t: 916.520.2777

MODESTO

101 Sycamore Ave, #100
Modesto, CA 95354
t: 209.762.3580

2. Vehicle barriers used along the sides of parking garages more than one foot above adjacent grades not subject to bus or truck traffic. Vehicle barriers are required to resist a 6,000 pound load 18 to 27 inches above the pavement.

B. Traffic Railings

Traffic railings are generally barriers designed to prevent vehicles from going off the roadway. The requirements for traffic railings are specified in Caltrans and AASHTO (American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials) standards. These barriers are generally required to be tested at various speeds and approved by governing agencies. Some of the approved railings available for use in parklets may include the following Caltrans standards, however they may not meet the aesthetic goals of the parklet program and will require more area;

1. Type K Temporary Railing (Plan T3A and T3B). Type K Rails are 32 inches in height. Though the title of the plan is “Temporary”, it does provide for long term use if pinned to the pavement as described in plan T3B.
2. Concrete Barrier Type 60M (Plan A76A). This is an unanchored barrier and is 42 inches in height.

Caltrans Standards include many other types of barriers such as metal beam guard rails and crash cushions. In addition, Caltrans approves the use of some proprietary pre-manufactured barriers.

III. FINDINGS

In addition to the barriers described above, we considered the possible use of other barriers such as planters or bollards. The following represents our findings for all barriers investigated;

1. Type K Railing
As previously described, Type K railing meets Caltrans requirements for a traffic barrier, however;
 - a. At only 32 inches in height, the railing does not meet the height limit of a 42 inch tall guard rail. Additional railing would need to be attached on top of the K rail to meet this requirement.
 - b. A K rail is intended to deflect the vehicle back into the roadway. This does not mean that it will not move. Any pedestrian or table abutting this barrier could still be affected by a vehicle impact. Type K railing anchored into a foundation could further restrict barrier movement, however, without a testing program, this system performance is unknown and cannot be verified.
 - c. The railing does not protect the pedestrian from flying vehicle debris that may be associated with a vehicle hitting the barrier.
2. Type 60M Railing
The comments for K Railing above also apply to Type 60M barriers except that the 60M barrier does meet the requirement for guard railing height.

Other Barriers Investigated

We reviewed other various types of barriers. Our analysis assumed the following;

- a. Factor of safety of 1.5 against sliding and overturning.
- b. Vehicle bumper height of 24 inches.
- c. Pavement coefficient of friction of 0.35.
- d. Soil passive force capacity of 200 pcf for foundations, 400 pcf for poles.

1. 500 Pound Water or Soil Filled Structure

A 500 pound, 18 inch wide, unanchored structure is only capable of resisting a 117 pound lateral force. This does not meet the requirement for a guard rail. This option is not recommended for use as a safety barrier.

2. Planter

A planter 42 inches tall by 18 inches wide by 10 feet long filled with soil (80 pcf) is capable of resisting a 490 lb lateral force. This assumes the vehicle hits near the end of the planter causing it to rotate. This meets the requirement of a guard rail but is not sufficient to serve as a traffic barrier. Another consideration is, depending on how the planter is constructed, flying debris from a broken planter may hit a parklet occupant creating an additional hazard. If the planter is constructed of structural concrete or masonry and is anchored to a foundation 48 inches wide by 18 inches deep the lateral force capacity increases to 2,540 pounds.

3. Bollards

Bollards typically consist of a concrete filled steel pipe embedded into a concrete foundation. Bollards are commonly used as a device to protect equipment in traffic areas or prevent vehicular access into restricted areas. A Bollard with a 24 inch diameter foundation 36 inches deep is capable of resisting a lateral force of 550 pounds. Bollards, with added horizontal railings, can meet the requirement of a guard rail but are not sufficient to serve as a traffic barrier.

IV. CONCLUSION

Each type of barrier described and investigated will provide varying levels of protection. Guard rails restrict the parklet occupant from entering the traveled way while traffic railings restrict vehicles from leaving the traveled way. A summary of each barrier's lateral force capacity is as follows:

1. Guardrails – 200 lbs. at 42 inch height, see the attached detail for minimum configuration and requirements.

Barriers with loads applied at 24 inch bumper height;

1. 500 lb. Object – 117 lbs.
2. Planter – Unanchored – 490 lbs.
3. Planter – Anchored – 2,450 lbs.
4. Bollard – 550 lbs.
5. Type K Railing – Capacity per test data.
6. Type 60M Railing – Capacity per test data.

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The values presented provide a degree of magnitude with respect to each barrier's capacity. However, none of the barriers investigated can guarantee a parklet occupant will not be harmed when a vehicle hits the barrier. We trust the information provided herein will assist you in assessing acceptable risk levels and help provide guidance in the development of your Parklet Design Standards.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please do not hesitate to call me directly.



Paul J. Schneider, QSD, QSP, P.E.
President | Managing Principal
SIEGFRIED



Attachments:

Typical Guard Rail Detail.pdf

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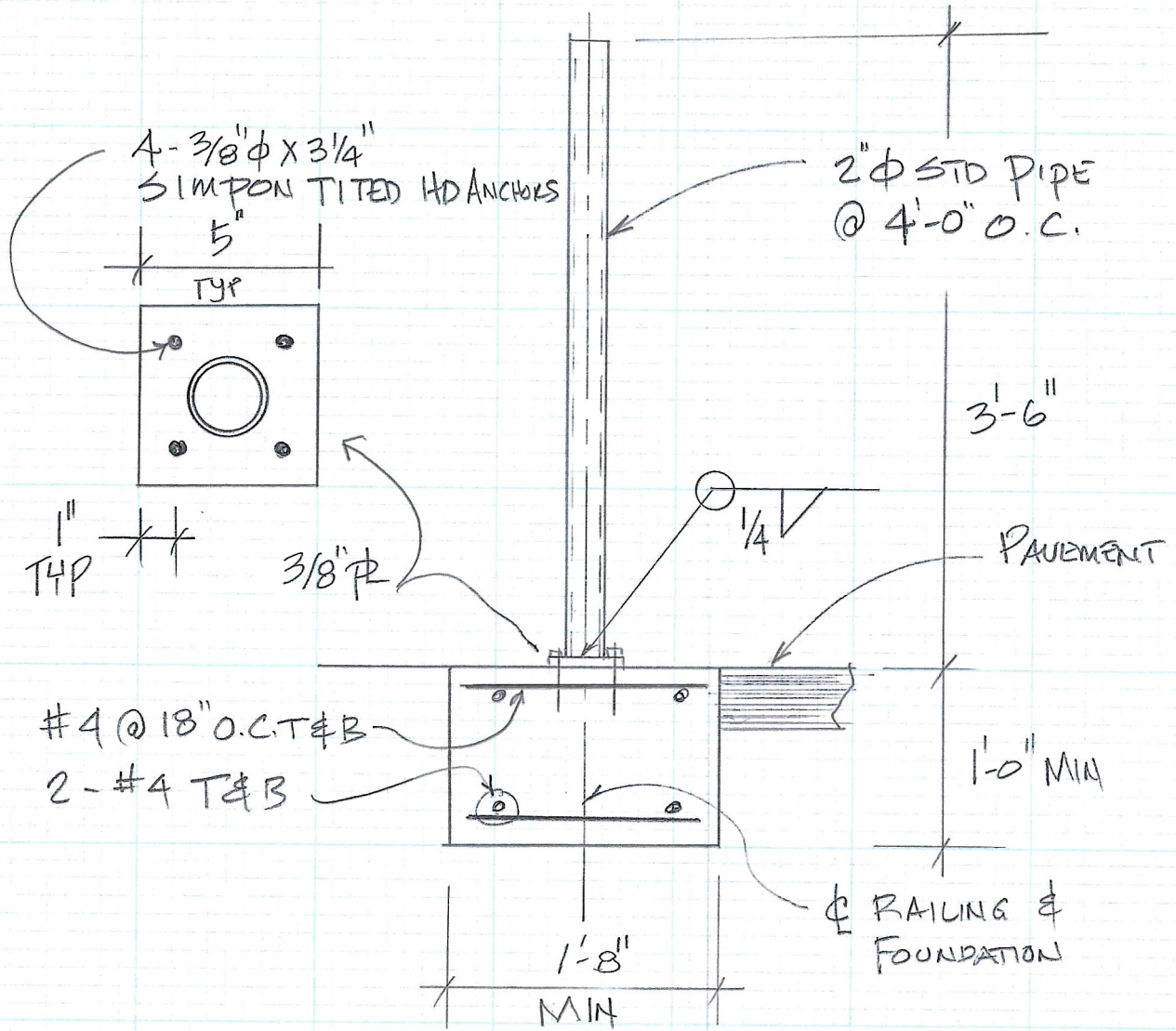
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Sheet 1 of 1

Project PALO ALTO
GUARDRAIL

By ALL Date 8/1/23

Rev _____



DETAIL