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CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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OPEN AIR BEAVERTON PROGRAM HELPING LOCAL BUSINESSES SAFELY SERVE CUSTOMERS

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The City of Beaverton has launched a new program to help area businesses safely serve customers and promote small business recovery during COVID-19.

The Open Air Beaverton program authorizes the temporary suspension of enforcement of certain city codes and allows food, recreation and other establishments impacted by physical-distancing requirements to temporarily expand outdoors into areas normally reserved for vehicles.

“Beaverton is constantly seeking new ways to help our community members impacted by COVID-19,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “Our program is modeled after successful examples in other cities. We all want to see our local businesses survive this challenging time and provide healthy opportunities for our residents to get outside and enjoy their neighborhoods.”

Now through October 31, the program will allow citywide food and drink establishments, gyms, yoga studios, hair salons and other personal services and retail businesses to expand into private parking lots. Like businesses located in downtown Beaverton will also be allowed to temporarily expand into the parking lanes of city streets, with approval via a free city-issued permit. The city will also pay for and place protective barriers around each permitted space for increased safety. Businesses are required to supply their own tables and chairs.

To date, nine downtown businesses have applied for permits to expand into public parking spaces, and other establishments have already expanded into private parking areas. The city is also evaluating closing a portion of First Street between SW Watson and SW Washington to provide additional seating for customers.

The city issued its first permit for public parking expansion to Raindrop Tap House, located at 4545 SW Angel Avenue.

“I am deeply grateful that the city is so willing to help small businesses such as mine during this crisis,” said Mark Foster of Raindrop Tap House. “Beaverton’s commitment to helping ensure small businesses succeed is fantastic!”

For more information, including program details, specific requirements and the permit application, visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/OpenAirBeaverton.

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