

## Walter, Penny

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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Brent Penner - Downtown Saskatoon Email - Permitting Asphalt Parking Patios for 2021 - CK 4350-017-001  
**Attachments:** letter\_to\_city\_of\_saskatoon\_from\_four\_bids\_with\_accompanying\_letter\_from\_owners\_of\_congress\_beer\_house\_21mar10.pdf

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**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 8:07 AM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Subject:** Email - Communication - Brent Penner - Downtown Saskatoon Email - Permitting Asphalt Parking Patios for 2021 - CK 4350-017-001

Submitted on Thursday, March 11, 2021 - 08:07

Submitted values are:

Date Thursday, March 11, 2021

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Downtown

Last Name Saskatoon

Phone Number

Email

Address 3rd Avenue South

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) Downtown Saskatoon

Subject Permitting Asphalt Parking Patios for 2021

Meeting (if known)

Comments

Please see attached a letter from the Downtown, Broadway, Riversdale, and Sutherland Business Improvement Districts along with a letter from the owners of Congress Beer House on the same topic. Please place on the most appropriate agenda for City Council. Please notify me when the letter will be heard as there may be a request to speak to the matter in addition to the letter. FYI, a copy of the communication will also be directly emailed to City Councillors and some Administrative staff of the City.

Thank you,

Brent Penner

Executive Director

Downtown Saskatoon

Attachments

[letter\\_to\\_city\\_of\\_saskatoon\\_from\\_four\\_bids\\_with\\_accompanying\\_letter\\_from\\_owners\\_of\\_congress\\_beer\\_house\\_21mar10.pdf](#)



March 10, 2021

Your Worship Mayor Clark and City Councillors  
City of Saskatoon  
222 Third Avenue North  
Saskatoon, SK

**Re: Temporary Asphalt Patios**

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Broadway, Downtown, Riversdale and Sutherland Business Improvement Districts.

From June 29 to September 15, 2020, the City of Saskatoon permitted businesses to operate patios directly on the surface of an on-street parking stall in front of their business. With the challenges still faced by businesses from the pandemic, we are requesting that the City of Saskatoon again permit this use in 2021 and consider extending the timeframe from as early a date in April until October 31, 2021.

With considerable uncertainty for businesses on regarding customer limits, table spacing for restaurants, this program may benefit some businesses looking to increase their ability to seat customers outside to help bring employees back to work and make customers comfortable by sitting outside. The cost of building a boardwalk style parking patio is not insignificant and approving the same program in 2021 as you did in 2020 is a step to help businesses recover from COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Brent Penner  
Executive Director, Downtown Saskatoon (on behalf of the other BID ED's)

cc: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services Department  
Mark Wilson, Licensing and Permitting Manager

March 10, 2021

City of Saskatoon  
Mark Wilson  
Licensing & Permitting Manager

Re: Temporary asphalt parking patio program

Dear Mark,

I've read the letter you sent to Mitch Butler, our General Manager at Congress Beer House regarding the expiry of the temporary patio parking program and while I understand that it has expired I have to question how it makes sense that it shouldn't be extended through this summer.

Currently we have less capacity than we did last year when the program was implemented (and have since November) and absolutely less budget for any extras than ever. We have been quoted \$20,000 to create and install the boardwalk that you are requiring for this year's patio program. Other restaurants and businesses are facing the same situation. The restrictions continue and customers are more safe and comfortable seated outdoors. The pandemic began a year ago and for those businesses that have survived, the financial situation is, if anything, worse than when the City made the decision to allow temporary patios as they proceeded last summer.

This is why I must question why we and other restaurants should have less access to programs offering relief like this would offer for us. We were part of a revival of the downtown restaurant scene when we opened and we'd like to continue to be part of a thriving and lasting downtown restaurant scene.

Please reconsider the current expiry and allow us and other restaurants to proceed with the same requirements as last year for our outdoor patio.

Sincerely yours,



Blair Voth Miller, Brad Miller & Cole Dobranksi

Owners of Congress Beer House