City of Milpitas Guidelines for Temporary Outdoor Personal Care Services

The City of Milpitas will allow the use of outdoor areas for personal care services consistent with the current Santa Clara County Health Order and the COVID-19 Industry Guidance issued by the State of California. This temporary allowance for will remain in effect until the County Health Officer lifts or modifies the current Health Order, or as directed by the Milpitas City Council.

General Guidelines

1. All personal care services operators shall read and comply with the Mandatory Directive for Personal Care Services Businesses issued by the Santa Clara County Health Officer and the Covid-19 Industry Guidance for Personal Care Services issued by the State of California.

For guidance specific to personal care services, see:
- County of Santa Clara Mandatory Directive for Personal Care Services Businesses
- State of California COVID-19 Industry Guidance for Expanded Personal Care Services
- State of California COVID-19 General Checklist for Expanded Personal Care Services

2. “Personal care services” allowed to operate outdoors include hair and nail salons, barbershops, massage and tanning salons, and tailoring. At this time, tattoo, body art, and piercing shops; esthetician, skin care, and cosmetology services; and electrology, waxing, threading, and other hair removal services are not allowed to operate outdoors. See State directive for specific details.

3. Outdoor personal care services operators must implement measures to ensure physical distancing of at least six feet between and among workers and customers, except while providing the services that require close contact.

4. Outdoor personal care services must maintain at least six feet of physical distance between each work station area and/or use impermeable barriers between work stations to protect customers from each other and workers.

5. Outdoor personal care services operators shall obtain written authorization from the property owner for the use of private sidewalks or parking areas for temporary outdoor use. Sidewalks or parking areas immediately in the front of the business are the preferred location for outdoor use.

6. Tenants in shopping centers with multiple tenants shall work with management and other tenants to equitably allocate the available sidewalks and patios for temporary outdoor use.

7. Tables, chairs, umbrellas, or other temporary objects shall be located in a manner that does not obstruct the entrance to any building or fire safety equipment, impede the flow of pedestrian or vehicle traffic, or create a hazardous condition (such as a tripping hazard).

8. Removable barriers, such as stanchions, retractable belts, plants, or screens no more than three feet (3’-0”) in height, may be used to delineate outdoor service areas from the pedestrian path of travel.

9. No furniture, fixture, or equipment shall be permanently affixed to the sidewalk.

10. Access to indoor restroom must be provided; portable toilets are not permitted.
11. Operating hours for outdoor personal care services shall be consistent the indoor operating hours.

12. Entertainment events and all forms of amplified sound are not allowed in conjunction with temporary outdoor personal care services.

13. Personal care services operators shall maintain the cleanliness and appearance of outdoor areas.

14. Each personal care service operator may post one sign with a maximum area of four (4) square feet in the temporary outdoor personal care service area. No advertising shall be allowed except the establishment’s name and logo.

15. The use of tents or other coverings for outdoor personal care services shall require review and approval by the Milpitas Fire Prevention Division in accordance with current regulations and fees.

16. Parking areas immediately adjacent to the business (head-in parking) may be considered for temporary use as outdoor personal care service area if no other options are available. Each establishment shall maintain the minimum number of parking spaces required for available seating. Total outdoor service area shall not exceed the original occupancy of the business.

17. Substantial safety barriers such as temporary walls, concrete or water-filled K-rails, or landscape planters shall be installed to protect outdoor service areas from vehicles.

18. Personal care salons should only resume operations when they are fully ready and able to implement the necessary safety measures to provide for their safety and that of their customers.

Application and Registration

Prior to setting up an area to provide outdoor personal services, the business owner or manager shall submit an application for review and approval by the City of Milpitas Planning Department. No fee will be charged for this review, and same-day approval is expected for most applications. The application is available at: www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/planningdepartment. Please submit a completed application to outdoor.business@ci.milpitas.ca.gov, and staff will contact the applicant if additional information is needed. A complete application will include the following:

a. A detailed description of the proposed outdoor service area and operations. Please read the application form carefully for details and provide all requested information. Incomplete forms will be returned to the applicant. As directed on the form, please describe the size, layout, and general location of the proposed outdoor dining area. See form for details.

b. The business owner or manager shall obtain and verify authorization from the property owner for the creation of expansion of any outdoor personal service area. Tenants within the same shopping center may agree to share available sidewalks or plazas in front of multiple businesses.

c. Planning staff will review registration forms in the order they are received. One form shall be used for Temporary Outdoor Dining, Temporary Outdoor Personal Care, and Outdoor Gathering.

d. Once staff reviews the application, they will send an email to confirm approval or request additional information. The salon owner and property owner will both receive copies of the confirmation email.

Questions? – Please call 408-586-3279 or email outdoor.business@ci.milpitas.ca.gov