

A close-up photograph of several hands reviewing architectural blueprints on a table. One hand on the right holds a yellow pen, pointing at a specific section of the drawing. Another hand on the left holds a black pen. The blueprints show various technical drawings, including floor plans and sections, with lines and text. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the workspace and other people's hands.

Sidewalk Cafés

Application Requirements

SITE PLANS – SIDEWALK CAFÉS

In this context, a site plan is a detailed drawing of the area you would like to put your patio. It includes measurements of the area, details of objects in the surrounding area like fire hydrants, street lamps, benches, trees, and identification of pedestrian walkways so the city can be sure the space is eligible to be approved as a CaféTO patio.

It is incredibly important that this drawing reflects the reality and is clear and legible, because these are the factors the city will be reviewing during future inspections.

REQUIREMENTS

- Clearly drawn and labelled, Computer plans preferred, but hand-drawn are accepted if clean & legible
- Accurate measurements, ensuring accessibility requirements are met
- Your application must include 3+ photos:
 - View of the front of the property, including the full width and sidewalk in front
 - Left view of your property showing the sidewalk parallel to the street
 - Right view of your property showing the sidewalk parallel to the street
 - Every desired café location requires its own set of photos (i.e. Frontage, Flankage, etc.)
- Photos must be current (2022), in focus, & show any obstacles

SITE PLAN CHECK LIST – SIDEWALK CAFÉS

- Accurate, legible and drawn to scale.

Plans created with a computer are preferred.

- If using pen & paper, try tracing paper over graph paper.
- Use a ruler.
- Use black or blue ink.
- Create a rough plan and trace over the final plan on a clean, new sheet

- A Legend must be provided marking objects, entrances, etc.

- Draw the plan view from above, with dimensions

- Include pedestrian clearway measurements

- Pedestrian clearances must be min 2.1m for collector roads and 1.8m for local roads. Minimum 2.5m for sidewalks wider than 5.0m

- Include property lines, name of streets, name of business, and address

- Show exterior walls of buildings, entrances and exits

- Width of sidewalk from the building to the curb

- Plan must extend at least 5.0m (approx. half a building) on either side of the proposed permit area to show all objects on the sidewalk and measurements, including:

- Fire connections
- Benches, Trees, Planters
- Bike parking
- Waste bins, newspaper boxes
- Transit shelters
- Taxi stands
- Utility covers, hydro vaults, etc.

- Location and dimension of the accessible entrance/exit

- Recent photos of the area

A person is writing on a document with a pen. The background shows a laptop and other papers, suggesting a professional or academic setting. The text is overlaid on the image.

Curb Lane Cafés

Application Requirements

APPLICATION CHECK LIST – CURB LANE CAFÉS

LOCATION – Make sure you have a suitable site

Curb Lane Cafes are not allowed in:

- Commercial or accessible loading or boarding zones
- Certain transit stop zones
- Designated Accessible Parking locations
- Designated taxi cab zones
- Certain bike lane locations
- Areas that would conflict with an active construction zone
- Your cafe must maintain emergency access routes and 1.2m clearance from fire hydrants

Thoroughly Review the CaféTO Guidebook for Curb Lane Patios

- Review Intersection Setbacks

Decide if you will be applying for a temporary platform permit, or if you will be providing ramps

If you think you have an appropriate location for a Curb Lane Café, register via **toronto.ca/cafeto**

APPLICATION CHECK LIST – CURB LANE CAFÉS

Your curb lane patio must have either a **temporary platform**, or **ramps** from the curb to street level to meet AODA accessibility standards. Temporary Platforms require a separate application, and are only for curb lane patios.

To install a platform/deck, you must submit:

- Two photos showing the streetscape of the proposed location, one in each direction (e.g., one facing east, one facing west) showing the curb lane where your deck or platform is proposed to be located.
- CaféTO staff will contact you with the results of the preliminary review. If the platform is feasible, you will be asked to produce and submit drawings, at your own expense*, stamped by a structural engineer/architect, or signed by a BCIN (Building Code Identification Number) licensed designer

* Up to \$1,000 of the matching grant can be applied to professional fees associated with custom platform designs.

Or provide temporary ramp(s) (a sloped entrance from the sidewalk to the curb lane cafe):

- At least 1 m wide
- Slip proof, visible at night, stable (so that it does not shift or move when used)
- There must be space at the bottom of the ramp for someone using a mobility device to turn and navigate into the café area.
- Do not affix your ramp to the sidewalk, curb edge or road with screws, bolts or any other materials.
- Ramp must be present and accessible during all operating hours.

Note: Asphalt Ramps are no longer being installed by the City allowing for more flexibility in placement

A person wearing dark trousers and black shoes is walking on a paved path. They are using a white cane with a red band. The path is made of grey bricks, and there is a tactile paving strip (yellow with raised dots) under their feet. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

Accessibility

Requirements + Considerations

Accessibility Check List

- Ensure that you maintain barrier-free access and sidewalk clearance for people using mobility devices, especially when considering the placement of your café equipment and guest queuing areas.
- Provide accessible access to your café with a minimum width of 1 metre*.
- Maintain pedestrian clearways on the sidewalk around your cafe
- Keep this area clear of café materials, signs, wires, etc.
- Consider furniture style selection for people in wheelchairs
- Consider colour contrast of your furniture & materials



* New for 2022 – Restaurant Operator Supplied Ramp or Platform



Design Considerations

PATIO DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Choose a colour palette
- Choose furniture that's easy to store
- Comfortable, mixed occasion seating – zones
- Looks intentional & consistent with interior
- Create a sense of separation between pathways and roadways
- Accessible – People with Disabilities and Families
- Consider guest and pedestrian traffic flow

OPPORTUNITIES

- Table Decorations
- Accessible Access Plan
- Barrier Selection
- Signage
- Greenery
- Ambiance – Acoustic Music
- Multi-level lighting
- Weather Protection

Need Help?

Go to toronto.ca/cafeto
Email cafeto@toronto.ca

Reach out to The Fifteen Group at
info@thefifteengroup.com

Reach out to Restaurants Canada at
members@restaurantscanada.org

Go to info.restaurantscanada.org/building-for-success-with-the-2022-caféto-program
for additional resources from this presentation.