

# Chicago Alfresco

## Request for Project Proposals

Virtual Webinar

March 26, 2021

\*This webinar is being recorded

# What is Chicago Alfresco?

**Chicago Alfresco** is an initiative to support the creation of active community spaces that are anchored by outdoor dining and highlight community-focused placemaking, support community identity, and provide opportunities for public enjoyment.

The program is part of a broader City initiative to **open streets** and create places for dining, public activity, community, arts, culture, walking and biking.

Building upon the **Expanded Outdoor Dining** program, the City is encouraging local community organizations such as chambers of commerce, Special Service Area providers, and other non-for-profit organizations to submit project proposals.



# Chicago Alfresco Resources

## Design Guidelines

The Chicago Alfresco Design Guidelines included as part of this Request for Project Proposals encourage the use of creative elements to design visually appealing community places. Elements can include seating, planters, barriers, surface treatments, signage, lighting, curbside platforms and other site furniture.



**TABLE OF CONTENTS** 2

- 3 INTRODUCTION
- 4 GENERAL CONDITIONS
- 5-6 SEATING OPTIONS
- 7-8 PLANTER OPTIONS
- 9-10 BARRIER OPTIONS
- 11-12 SURFACE TREATMENTS
- 13 SIGNAGE
- 14 MISCELLANEOUS SITE FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES
- 15 STRING LIGHTING AND CANOPY STRUCTURES
- 16 CURBSIDE ACTIVATIONS - PLATFORM
- 17 CURBSIDE ACTIVATIONS - NON-PLATFORM
- 18 OTHERS



**CHICAGO ALFRESCO** **CDOT**



## Financial Assistance

Choose Chicago is accepting applications from chambers of commerce, Special Service Area Providers, and other not-for-profit organizations in need of financial assistance solely for the purpose of implementing a Chicago Alfresco project pursuant to this Request for Project Proposals. If you are interested in applying for such financial guidance, please contact Choose Chicago directly at [neighborhoods@choosechicago.com](mailto:neighborhoods@choosechicago.com).

# Project Types

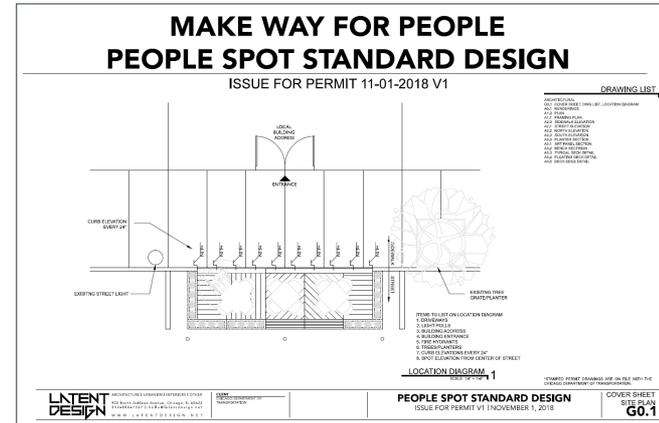
Proposals will be accepted for projects of a variety of types and scales. **Project Duration** must be a minimum of six months and preference will be given to those that commit to activating the public way for up to three years.

- **Existing Plaza Programming** - CDOT has approximately 50 plazas under its jurisdiction. Information on plazas that might be suitable for Chicago Alfresco projects can be found at [chicago.gov/alfresco](http://chicago.gov/alfresco). Respondents can propose to activate these plazas with movable furnishings for outdoor dining and public use, as well as other types of installations.
- **Street / Alley Activations** - Street and alley closures can provide additional dining and community gathering spaces. These will be dependent on the feasibility of the street / alley closure due to impacts on the traffic network. Preference will be given to projects that demonstrate community support for long-term or permanent closures of the proposed project location.



# Project Types

- **Curbside Use (platform and non-platform)** – The use of parking spaces along the curbside of the street provide an opportunity to expand sidewalks and provide additional public outdoor space. Platform and non-platform solutions can provide additional space for outdoor dining and public seating.
  - Projects can incorporate seating on sidewalks, but a Sidewalk Café permit would be required for dining service.
  - The Chicago Alfresco Design Guidelines show design requirements for each curbside activation type, including barrier and safety element requirements.
  - CDOT provides a free standard People Spot design and assembly manual, greatly reducing or eliminating design costs associated with People Spot installations.
  - Respondents can also provide a customized People Spot using CDOT's design guidelines.



# Call for Projects Timeline

CDOT will accept applications at any time; however, the following timeline has been established to support projects during the upcoming outdoor dining season:

[Request for Project Proposals Issued](#) – 3/19/21

**WE ARE HERE** [Virtual Webinar / Q & A](#) – 3/26/21 at 3PM CDT

[Proposal Submission Deadline](#) – 4/15/21 at 5PM CDT

[Respondents Selected](#) – approximately 4/30/21

[Project Groundbreaking](#) – starting 6/1/2021 and ongoing

## Transportation

[Home](#) / [Departments](#) / [Transportation](#) / [Supporting Info](#) / Alfresco

### Alfresco



#### Request for Project Proposals

The City of Chicago Department of Transportation seeks proposals for its “Chicago Alfresco” program from community organizations throughout Chicago interested in creating active community spaces that are anchored by outdoor dining and highlight community-focused placemaking, support community identity, and provide opportunities for public enjoyment. Chicago Alfresco is part of a broader City initiative to open streets and create places for dining, public life, community, arts, culture, walking and biking.

The City will be accepting project proposals from community organizations interested in incorporating outdoor dining and community activity in the public way. The Chicago Alfresco Design Guidelines, which are included as part of this Request for Project Proposals, encourage the thoughtful design of visually appealing community places that cultivate a sense of ownership, belonging, and safety through activation, physical transformation, community engagement, and economic development.

[chicago.gov/alfresco](http://chicago.gov/alfresco)

# Evaluation Criteria

- Respondent meets local community organization eligibility – chambers, SSA providers, and not-for-profits.
- Proposal demonstrates strong community support for the project and public benefit.
- Project is located in a business district or commercial corridor, promotes economic development activity and / or has been part of a successful Expanded Outdoor Dining closure.
- The project maintains an uninterrupted and unobstructed walkway for pedestrians on the sidewalk, adjacent to building facades, and meets all ADA requirements.
- The project mitigates any impacts to emergency vehicles, bus services or traffic network. For example, projects shall not block bike lanes and may not be less than 30' from any intersections. Street signage cannot be blocked and sightlines for pedestrians and vehicles cannot be impeded.
- Project promotes programming and placemaking.
- Project incorporates outdoor dining and community activity.
- Respondent must be a legal entity in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State.
- Respondent demonstrates its ability, including its financial ability, to implement, maintain, and manage the project.
- Quality of maintenance, operations and staffing plan.
- Planned pre- and post-implementation data collection activities.
- Project demonstrates creativity, innovation and high-quality design that is functional and attractive.

# Approval & Permitting Process

## For Selected Project Proposals

### Signed Plans or Diagrams

- Certified drawings stamped by an Illinois Certified architect or engineer (platforms and vertical installations)
- If certified drawings are not required, detailed diagrams showing proposed project layout
- Preliminary traffic reroute plan showing street / alley closures, if applicable

### Letters of Support

- Impacted Businesses and Residents

### Certificate of Liability Insurance

- Policy Limits
  - *Commercial General Liability - \$1 million*
  - *Automobile Liability - \$1 million*
  - *Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability - \$100,000*
- Insurance Endorsements (Commercial and Automobile Liability only) specifically stating endorsement of the City of Chicago
- City of Chicago Economic Disclosure Statement
- State of Illinois Certificate of Good Standing

# Approval & Permitting Process

## Signed Legal Use Agreement

- Projects 1+ Months / Term Up to 3 Years
- States City of Chicago Indemnification & Insurance Requirements
- Grants Non-Exclusive Use of the Public Way for Requested Purpose (i.e., People Spot)
- Stipulates Grantees Responsibilities
  - *Construction*
  - *Operation*
  - *Maintenance*
  - *Removal / Storage*
  - *Public Way Restoration*

## CDOT Permits

- Make Way for People Permit – \$75
- Occupy the Public Right of Way Permit (for construction and installation)
  - *Allows for vehicle to occupy the curb during construction*
  - *Fee per linear foot*

# Approval & Permitting Process

- Respondents responsible for complying with all applicable laws, including City permitting requirements.
- The City of Chicago will work with selected respondents to identify and obtain all necessary permits from the City of Chicago, including, but not limited to the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), and the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP).
- Permitting requirements for retail food establishments:
  - All establishments directly providing table service or distributing food for curbside pick-up must have a valid Retail Food Establishment license through BACP.
  - All businesses selling alcoholic beverages for consumption must obtain an Outdoor Special Event Liquor License through BACP.
  - Businesses seeking to extend dining service onto the sidewalk must obtain all required Sidewalk Café and Extended Sidewalk Café permits through BACP. If tables and chairs placed on the sidewalk do not meet the requirements of a Sidewalk Café, Extended Sidewalk Café, or Extended Outdoor Dining permit, they shall remain open for public use and be used for curbside pick-up dining only.
  - Businesses seeking to extend dining service onto the street must meet all requirements under the Extended Outdoor Dining permit through CDOT, DCASE, and BACP. If tables and chairs placed on the street are not permitted through an Extended Outdoor Dining permit, they shall remain open for public use and be used for curbside pick-up dining only.
  - Projects must meet COVID-19 social distancing guidelines as established by CDPH.

# THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We appreciate **YOU** taking the time to join us!

This concludes our presentation

**Q & A**

*(Please send any questions through the chat to all presenters)*

Additional questions can be emailed to [alfresco@cityofchicago.org](mailto:alfresco@cityofchicago.org)

Visit our website at [chicago.gov/alfresco](https://chicago.gov/alfresco)