

RESOLUTION 2021-10

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA
EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE TEMPORARY PARKLETS ON THIRD STREET
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS OR UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30TH 2021**

WHEREAS, in an effort to control the pandemic caused by the COVID-19 Virus, City Council declared a State of Emergency March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the shelter in place health orders that followed the state of emergency mandated a “shelter in place order” and closed all but essential businesses; and

WHEREAS, this closure of businesses was harmful to the City’s economy and the City, among many other things, initiated the Transformation of Third Street by adopting Resolution 2020-24, on May 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, to implement the Transformation of Third Street, business owners were offered the opportunity to expand their business onto the public right-of-way and build decks, also known as “parklets,” where customers could sit safely and enjoy their services; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to protect the historic nature of the downtown, these parklets have to be built in compliance with the City historic design guidelines and, on June 18, 2020, the Historic Resources Board approved design guidelines for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the parklet program was approved by the City Council for a period of six months ending December 31, 2020, and extended until March 30, 2021 on November 10, 2020, but many have asked the City to consider developing a parklet policy that governs the use of the City’s right-of-way for outdoor dining and retail sales; and

WHEREAS, developing a permanent parklet policy for the whole City to embrace takes time, but this could be accomplished in the next six months.

WHEREAS, the Historic Resources Board and the Planning Commission discussed this matter at their February 2nd 2020 meeting, and the Planning Commission adopted Resolution 2021-03, recommending to the City Council that a one hundred eighty-day extension of the parklet program be approved, to allow for consideration of making parklets permanent; and

WHEREAS, at its Joint Town Hall Meeting February 9, 2021, the City Council, Historic Resources Board, and Planning Commission received testimony from members of the business community and community-at-large in support of the six-month (180 day) extension of parklets, but clearly pointing out the need to further study a permanent solution for the transformation of Third Street; and

WHEREAS, at a Regular Meeting of the City Council held on February 16, 2021, the Council considered additional public comments and agreed to the six-month (180-day) extension of the parklet program on Third Street until September 30, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA:

1. Agrees with the descriptions and contents of the staff reports referenced above, incorporating them by reference into this Resolution; and
2. Agrees with the recommendation from the Historic Resources Board and Planning Commission; and
3. Agrees that during this State of Emergency, that the term of the Transformation of Third Street and the parklets be extended for one hundred eighty days, or until September 30, 2021; and
4. Directs staff to prepare the policies and procedures necessary for a public debate of a City policy that governs all matters related to parklets going forward, after the current State of Emergency has ended.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of San Juan Bautista on the 16th day February, 2021 by the following vote:


AYES: Jordan, Edge, Flores, Freeman, Freels

NOES: None


ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:



Trish Paetz, Deputy City Clerk



Leslie Q. Jordan, Mayor