



La Jolla Community Planning Association

20 November 2020

Cindy Kodama
Special Events Coordinator
City of San Diego

RE: La Jolla Shores Outdoor Dining on Avenida de la Playa

Dear Ms. Kodama:

The La Jolla Community Planning Association commends the La Jolla Shores Association for proactively pursuing outdoor dining options in La Jolla Shores in response to Covid-19 restrictions. By creating pedestrian-only access in the central section of Avenida de la Playa and permitting adjacent restaurants to expand their outside dining areas into the street, San Diegans reaped several benefits.

As one of the first efforts in the city to use street closure for outdoor dining, this experiment paved the way procedurally for other similar activities elsewhere in San Diego. Not only were local businesses able to continue through these difficult times, residents experienced the multi-functioning capacity of our city streets. Like Little Italy's popular Piazza della Italia, this successful experiment will increase public support for additional non-vehicular ROW uses envisioned in the Draft Master Parks Plan. For the past several months, San Diegans have been able to safely connect with friends and family while dining and socializing under our fabulous sun. This delightful island of normalcy provided mental health benefits for weary residents during a continued public health crisis. The outdoor dining experience also provided an area wide economic multiplier. Visitors who came for food stayed to patronize other businesses and to enjoy our justly famed beaches.

Because of the multiple public benefits outlined above, we support the LISA permit request to continue outdoor dining on Avenida de la Playa for as long as possible into 2021, or until the restrictions arising from COVID-19 concerns are no longer in effect.

Sincerely,

/s/

Diane Kane, President
La Jolla Community Planning Association