

Philadelphia Streeterly License Guide

Outdoor Dining Program

February 2024
Version 1.1

About This Guide

This guide is meant for restaurant owners and provides an overview of the goals, regulations, and application processes to obtain a Streeery License. This type of license gives restaurants the privilege of operating outdoor dining in eligible parking spaces in front of their building.

The goal is for applicants to use this guide as an ongoing, user-friendly point of reference. We encourage thorough review of this guide, including the various site and design requirements, to determine if a streeery is feasible before making any investments.

This guide summarizes the key regulations that most restaurants will find helpful. However, it is not a comprehensive resource for every restaurant or every situation. Web links to the City ordinance and regulations controlling streeeries can be found in the lower right-hand corner of following pages.

The City of Philadelphia values your contributions to the local economy and looks forward to reviewing your Streeery License applications.

This guide is subject to change if there are any program updates. Please make sure to have the most up to date version of this guide by visiting phila.gov/outdoor-dining.

Language Access

If you speak another language, assistance services are available to you. Call 3-1-1.

Si usted habla español, hay servicios de ayuda disponibles para usted. Llameal 3-1-1.

注意：如果您使用简体中文，可以获得相应的语言协助。致电3-1-1。

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，可以獲得相應的語言協助。致電3-1-1。

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Introduction

Philadelphia's thriving restaurant scene has helped our city become an international destination. Many of our restaurants are locally-owned and reflect the people, places, and global flavors of our multicultural population. Restaurants create jobs, enhance the economy, and create a sense of community in neighborhoods all over Philadelphia.

Outdoor dining has been a mainstay of Philadelphia's dining culture for decades, from the sidewalk awnings of cheesesteak shops and water ice stands to the cafe tables and shade umbrellas of upscale restaurants. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Philadelphia's Outdoor Dining Program was limited to sidewalk cafes for eateries licensed to enhance their seating capacity. Sidewalk Cafe Licenses were only issued to restaurants located in specific parts of the city for sidewalk tables and chairs placed during business hours.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic during the spring of 2020, the City of Philadelphia quickly launched emergency outdoor dining allowances to support the restaurant industry when public health restrictions limited indoor seating. The temporary measures helped more than 750 restaurants earn much needed revenue and retain jobs during a time of crisis. The emergency provisions expired on December 31, 2021.

In the Spring of 2021, City Council enacted Bill 210776, to establish where in the City streeteries could operate, their placement in the public right-of-way, and some basic safety measures. In the Fall of 2022, the City established a permanent and comprehensive Outdoor Dining Program with the release of streeter regulations. The City considered input from restaurant owners, residents, and the lessons learned by other cities since the spring of 2020 in the creation of its Outdoor Dining Program.

Outdoor Dining Program

Utilizing the public right-of-way for private dining, through sidewalk cafes and streeteries, is a privilege for restaurants as an enhancement to their seating capacity. This program benefits restaurants and their surroundings without compromising fundamental aspects of urban life. The program carries several goals, with public safety and accessibility being chief among them. The regulations establish a base-level of protection against auto collisions and ensure that emergency access and traffic sight-lines are not blocked.



Licensing & Enforcement

The Outdoor Dining Program requires restaurants to obtain a Streeetry License to set up and operate a streeetry. Applicants need Streets Department approval for use of the public right-of-way, and the Department of Licenses and Inspections (Licenses and Inspections, L&I) ultimately approves and awards the Streeetry License, which license holders must renew annually. Additionally, streeetry designs including structures require a Licenses and Inspections Building Permit and Art Commission approval.

Beyond the licensing process, the program also includes enforcement by the Streets Department and Licenses and Inspections. Dedicated staff track and monitor streeeteries across the City and issue violations against dangerous, abandoned or unlicensed streeeteries. The City also removes hazardous or unlicensed streeeteries as needed.

Thriving Streeeteries

The Outdoor Dining Program allows safe, well-maintained, and licensed streeeteries to operate and eliminates abandoned and hazardous streeeteries from our public right of way. Most of all, the program proudly contributes to Philadelphia's rich tradition of outdoor dining, exceptional restaurants, and lively streets.



Outdoor Dining Program Overview

The City of Philadelphia offers two outdoor dining licensing options for eligible restaurants. The City strongly recommends that restaurant owners explore the eligibility requirements and design standards of both outdoor dining options before making any investments. Both options balance the needs of the city's right-of-way and all of its public users.



Sidewalk Cafe License

A Sidewalk Cafe License allows eligible restaurants to occupy sections of the sidewalk in front of their storefront for outdoor dining. This grants licensed restaurants the privilege of additional seating while maintaining adequate sidewalk access for pedestrians and those with disabilities. It also regulates for issues, like noise and cleanliness standards, that could impact neighboring properties and general quality of life.

Restaurants operating sidewalk cafes must comply with the sidewalk cafe regulations. More information about Sidewalk Cafe Licenses and the application process is available on [Phila.gov](https://www.phila.gov).



Streeterly License

A Streeterly License allows eligible restaurants to occupy the parking lane in front of their storefront for outdoor dining protected by crash barriers. This grants licensed restaurants the privilege of additional seating while maintaining a standard of safety and access for street traffic, diners, pedestrians, and those with disabilities. It also regulates for issues, like noise and cleanliness standards, that could affect neighboring properties and general quality of life.

Restaurants operating streeteries must comply with Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code and the streeterly regulations as outlined in this guide.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeterly regulations [here](#).

Streeteries Program Goals



Thriving Restaurants

Streeteries contribute seating capacity to restaurants, helping them boost revenue, create jobs, and attract customers from far and wide. This increased economic activity creates positive ripple effects felt by nearby businesses, neighborhoods, and the city as a whole.



Traffic Safety

Streeteries should be safe for both diners and drivers. The regulations limit the placement of streeteries so that they don't creep into travel lanes and interrupt driver sight lines. They also include structural standards to protect diners in the case of a vehicle collision.



Quality Design

City streets are for everyone so streeteries should be properly built and easy on the eyes. The program requires streeteries with structures to comply with building codes and provides height limitations and transparency requirements so that streeteries are an active part of the street.



Emergency Access

For everyone's safety, emergency responders need easy access to buildings. Firefighters need access to fire hydrants and must be able to deploy ladders up the sides of buildings. EMTs and police need access to building entry points. The regulations ensure that streeteries don't block emergency responders when every second counts.



Utility Access & Maintenance

There is a lot of vital infrastructure hidden under the pavement. In a city as historic as Philadelphia, a lot of that infrastructure needs scheduled maintenance or emergency repair. The regulations limit the placement of streeteries so that they don't interfere with utilities.



ADA Compliance

All Philadelphians, regardless of their mobility limitations, deserve equal access to facilities. The regulations require streeteries to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This ensures that everyone can have a seat at the dining table.



Occupancy Standards

Streeteries add extra customer seating but they don't add extra restrooms to buildings. The regulations keep a building's occupancy in mind so that facilities aren't overwhelmed and customers can still wash their hands and use restrooms comfortably.



Legal Compliance

The City of Philadelphia doesn't always get the final say over what happens on its streets. The regulations increase streeteries compliance with PennDOT and USDOT regulations.



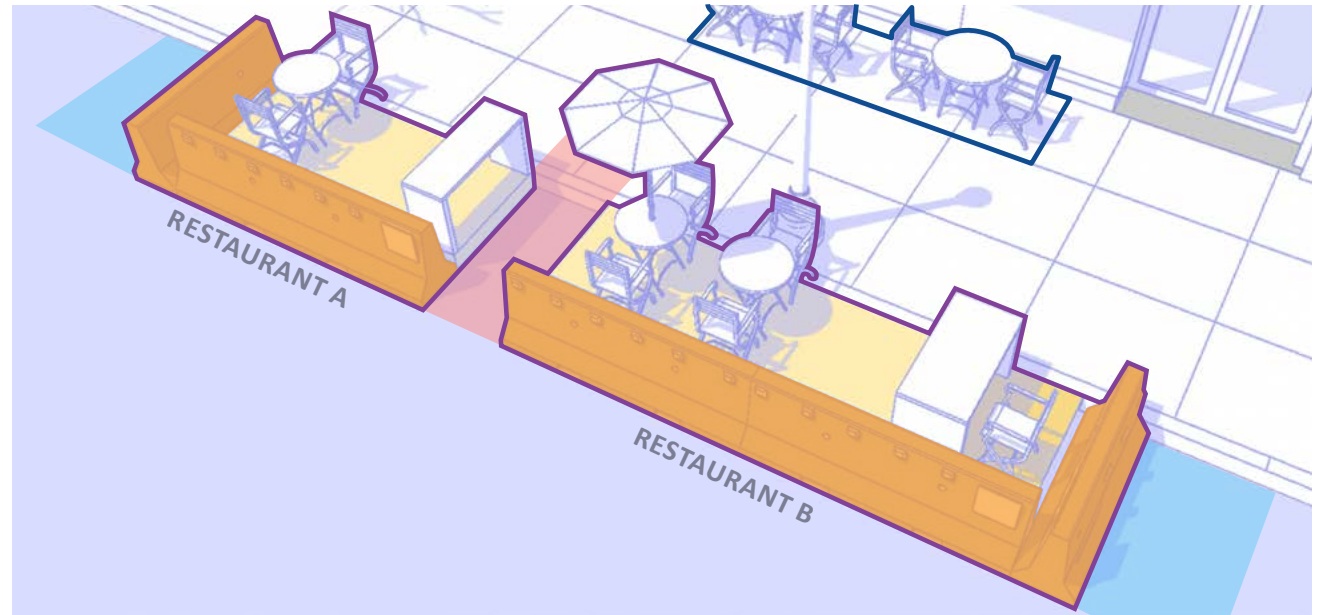
Neighborliness

In the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection, it's our duty to look out for our neighbors. The regulations specify hours of operation and cleanliness standards for Streeteries to minimize neighborhood disturbances.

What is a Streeetry?

The term “streeetry” is used frequently throughout this guide. To avoid confusion, it is important to know exactly what elements of outdoor dining constitute a streeetry.

This section provides definitions for the term “streeetry” and other basic elements of outdoor dining. Note that these definitions pertain to this guide and may vary slightly from the technical definitions found in Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code and the Streeetry and Sidewalk Cafe Regulations.



Dining area

A dining area is the space between the curb and the crash barriers that customers occupy. This space is where platforms, structures and/or restaurant furniture is placed.

Crash Barriers

The crash barriers are the concrete or water-filled Jersey barriers (18 inch base or deeper) *surrounding the dining area*. Equally strong barriers certified by a licensed engineer may be approved for use.

Safety buffer zone

A safety buffer zone is a clear space on either side of a streeetry required for traffic safety, utility access or other necessary clearances.

Emergency pathway

An emergency pathway is a 3 feet or wider space open to the sky required for emergency response. They are required between neighboring streeeteries or every 20 feet of streeetry length, whichever is smaller.

Sidewalk cafe

A sidewalk cafe is a section of sidewalk used for outdoor dining. They are separate from streeeteries and require separate licenses.

Streeetry

A streeetry is the *combined dining area and crash barriers*, along with any platforms, structures, restaurant furniture or other fixtures. The streeetry *does not include any safety buffer zones, emergency pathways, or sidewalk cafes*.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeetry regulations [here](#).

Business Eligibility

Not all food or beverage businesses are eligible to operate streeteries. Before you begin planning for a streetry or starting the Streetry License application process, please review the eligibility guidelines below.

✔ With Food License

Only businesses with City issued food licenses are allowed to operate streeteries.

✘ Without Food License

Businesses without food licenses, such as beer distributors or most bottle shops, are not eligible to operate streeteries.

✔ With Indoor Seating

Only businesses with at least three indoor tables are allowed to operate streeteries.

✘ Without Indoor Seating

Businesses with fewer than three indoor tables like most take-out restaurants, delis, convenience stores, and grocery stores, are not eligible to operate streeteries.

✔ With Customer Restroom

Only businesses with a restroom available to customers are eligible to operate streeteries.

✘ Without Customer Restroom

Businesses without restrooms available to customers, like most take-out restaurants, delis, and convenience stores, are not eligible to operate streeteries.



Any ineligible business operating a streetry should immediately cease streetry operations and remove their streetry.



Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streetry regulations [here](#).

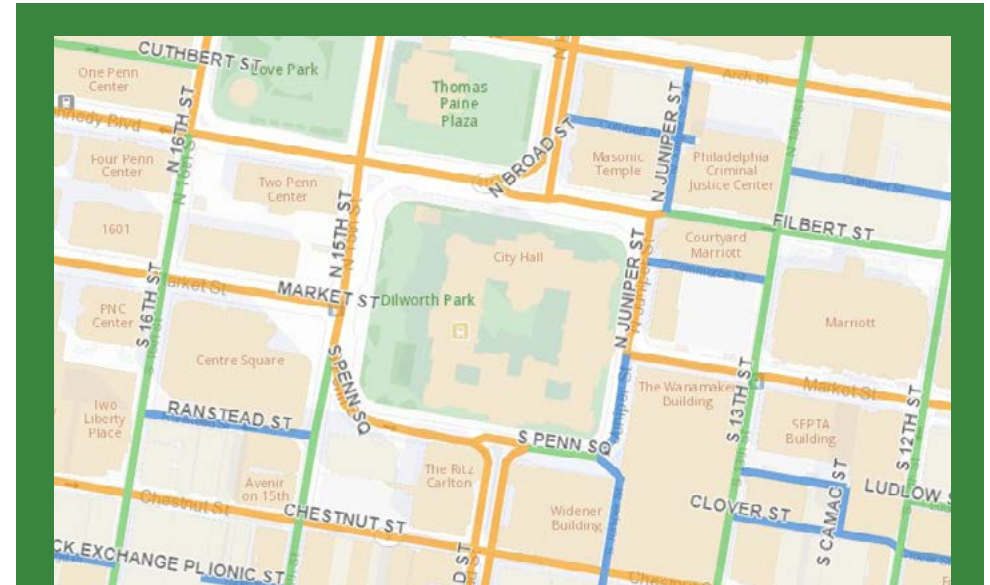
Location Requirements

Streeteries are only eligible in designated areas of the city. Before starting the Streeterie License application process, make sure that your restaurant is located in one of these areas.

Just like schools, houses, and industrial sites, streeteries are only eligible to be built and operated in designated areas of the city. These “by-right” areas can make up an entire neighborhood, a business district or even a single parcel. They are determined by City Council and can be found in Section 9-215 of the City Code. City Council passes ordinances to add, remove, or alter these by-right areas at their discretion.

Restaurants located in by-right areas are eligible for Streeterie Licenses. Restaurants not located in by-right areas are not eligible for Streeterie Licenses and need City Council to pass an ordinance granting eligibility for their specific location. All restaurants, whether or not they are located in by-right areas, must adhere to the regulations outlined in this guide and obtain Streeterie Licenses in order to open and operate a streeterie. Being located in a by-right area is not a “right” to open and operate a streeterie without a Streeterie License.

Section 9-215 of the City Code can be viewed online by visiting codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/Philadelphia and selecting “Title 9: Regulation of Businesses, Trades, and Professions” followed by “Chapter 9-200. Commercial Activities on Streets” followed by “§ 9-215. Streeteries.”



✔ Streeterie By-Right Locations Map

The Streets Department maintains an [online map](http://phila.gov/outdoor-dining) viewable through phila.gov/outdoor-dining indicating the blocks where streeteries are allowable subject to Streets Department approval. The map is intended as a reference tool and may not immediately reflect changes to Section 9-215.

✔ Not Located in a By-Right Area?

Restaurants falling outside of by-right areas require a City ordinance to operate a streeterie amongst all other requirements. The process for gaining an ordinance begins by contacting your district council member’s office. District maps and contact information can be found by visiting PHLCouncil.com.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeterie regulations [here](#).



! State Routes

The City will issue Streeetry Licenses for sites located on state routes. Please be advised that PennDOT ultimately controls these roads and may require the removal of streeteries at any time. Please keep this in mind when considering your streeetry investment and design. A map of state routes in Philadelphia can be found on phila.gov/documents/state-routes-in-philadelphia/

! Critical and High-speed Roads

Streeteries are not allowed on certain high-speed, high-traffic, high-collision, and critical arterial roads throughout the City. The Streets Department determines which roads are ineligible for streeteries on a case-by-case basis.

! Floodplains

Structure streeteries (see page 14) are not permitted within the FEMA 100 Year Floodplain. Pavement and platform streeteries (see page 14) are permitted. View the Floodplain map by visiting OpenMaps.Phila.gov and selecting "FEMA 100 Year Floodplain" on the left tab.

Site Requirements

It is important that streeteries be located on sites where they would not compromise public safety or block their neighbors. Before beginning the Streeterly License process, make sure that the space in front of your restaurant is suitable for a streeterly.

✓ With a Parking Lane

Streeteries can only exist in the parking lane directly in front of the business that holds the city-issued Food License.

✗ Without a Parking Lane

Vehicle travel lanes, bike lanes, medians, crosswalks, and other non-parking spaces are ineligible sites for streeteries. Streeteries located in a parking space across the street from the restaurant or over a bike path are unsafe and strictly prohibited.

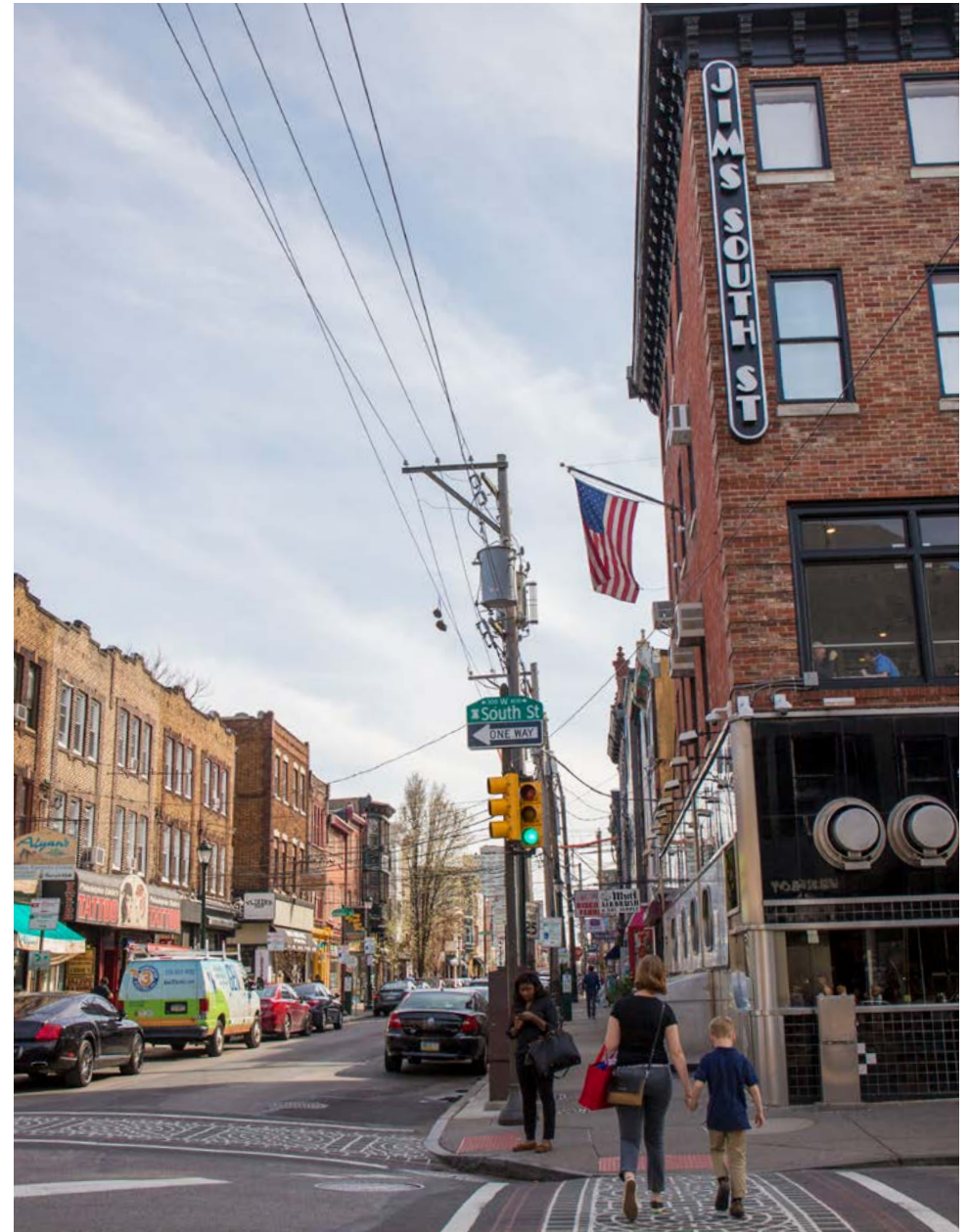
✓ Clear of an Emergency Response Facility

Streeteries can only be located in spaces that don't compromise the deployment of emergency vehicles from fire stations, police stations, and emergency medical facilities.

✗ Across or Next to an Emergency Response Facility

Streeteries are not permitted across the street or directly next to fire stations, police stations or emergency medical facilities.

! Any businesses operating a streeterly in an ineligible site should immediately cease streeterly operations and remove their streeterly.

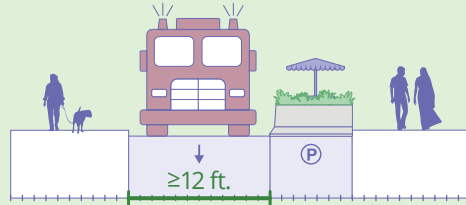


Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeterly regulations [here](#).

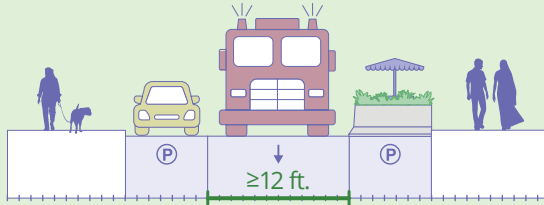
✔ With a 12-Foot Wide Travel Lane

Streeteries can only be setup in parking spaces adjacent to travel lanes that are 12 feet or wider so that emergency vehicles travel unobstructed. Bike lanes are considered travel lanes. Below are some common street configurations that would allow a streeteriy.

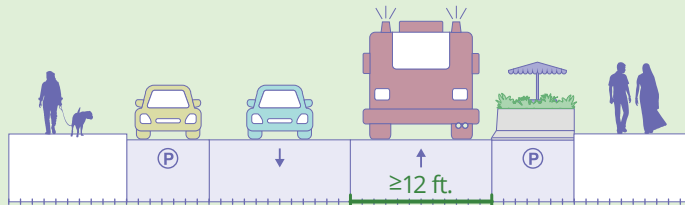
Travel lane adjacent to streeteriy is 12 feet or greater.



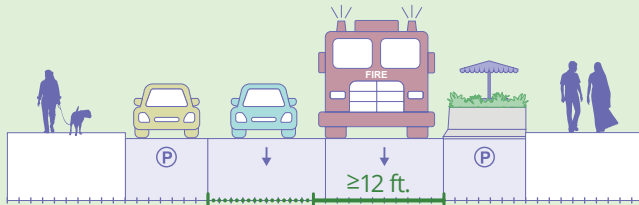
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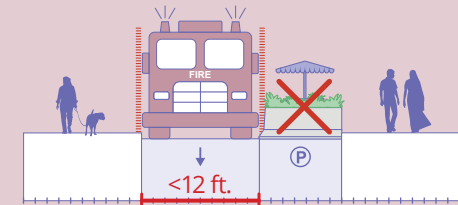
Travel lanes adjacent to streeteriy traveling in the same direction (which may include bike lanes) total 12 feet or greater.



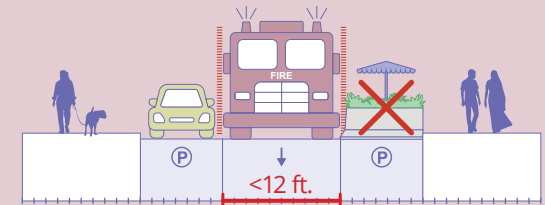
✘ Without a 12-Foot Wide Travel Lane

Streeteries are not permitted in parking spaces adjacent to travel lanes that are less than 12 feet wide because they can obstruct emergency vehicles. Below are some common street configurations that would not allow a streeteriy.

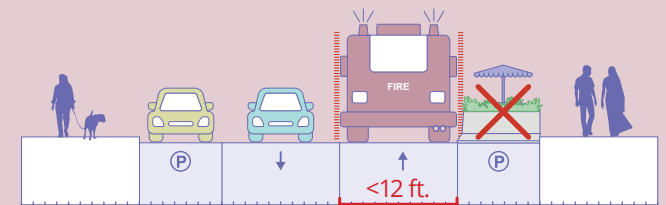
Travel lane adjacent to streeteriy is less than 12 feet.



Travel lane adjacent to streeteriy is less than 12 feet. Opposing parking lane does not count toward width.



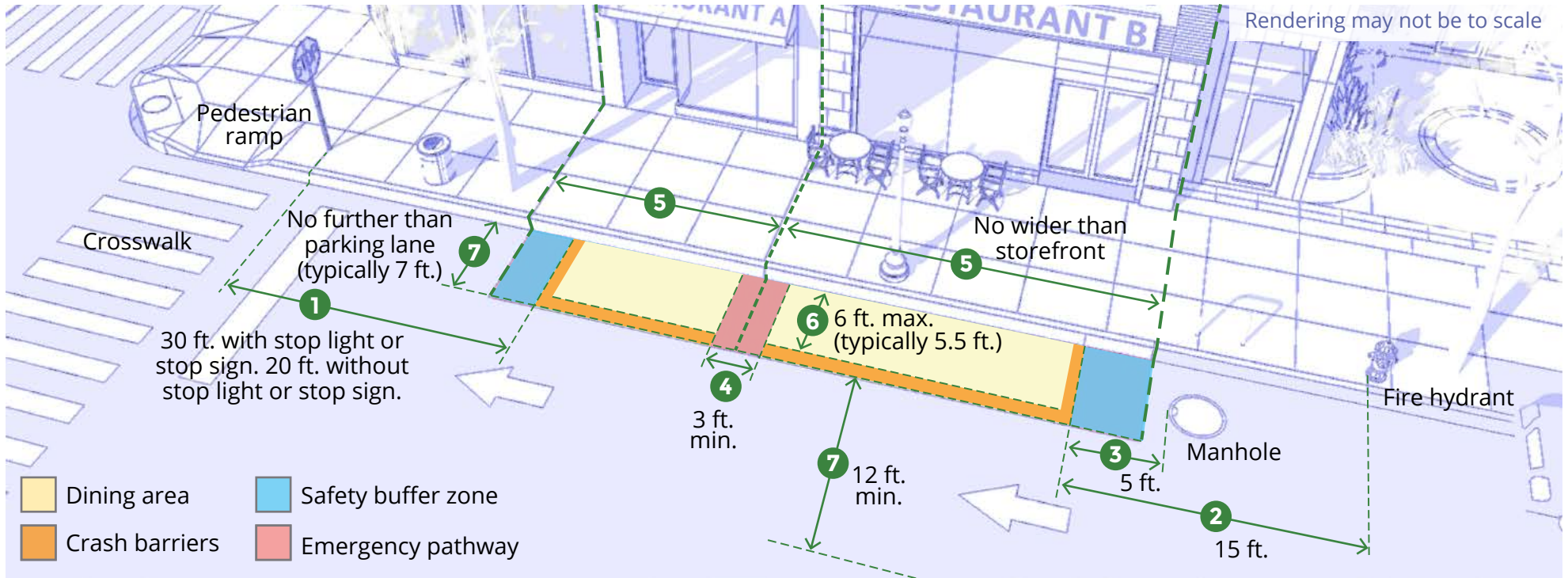
Travel lane adjacent to streeteriy is less than 12 feet. Opposing traffic lane does not count toward width.



Streeteries cannot extend beyond the parking lane or otherwise encroach upon the travel lane in any way. This includes bike lanes. Travel lane clearance must remain 12 feet or wider at all times from streeteries.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeteriy regulations [here](#).

Placement Requirements

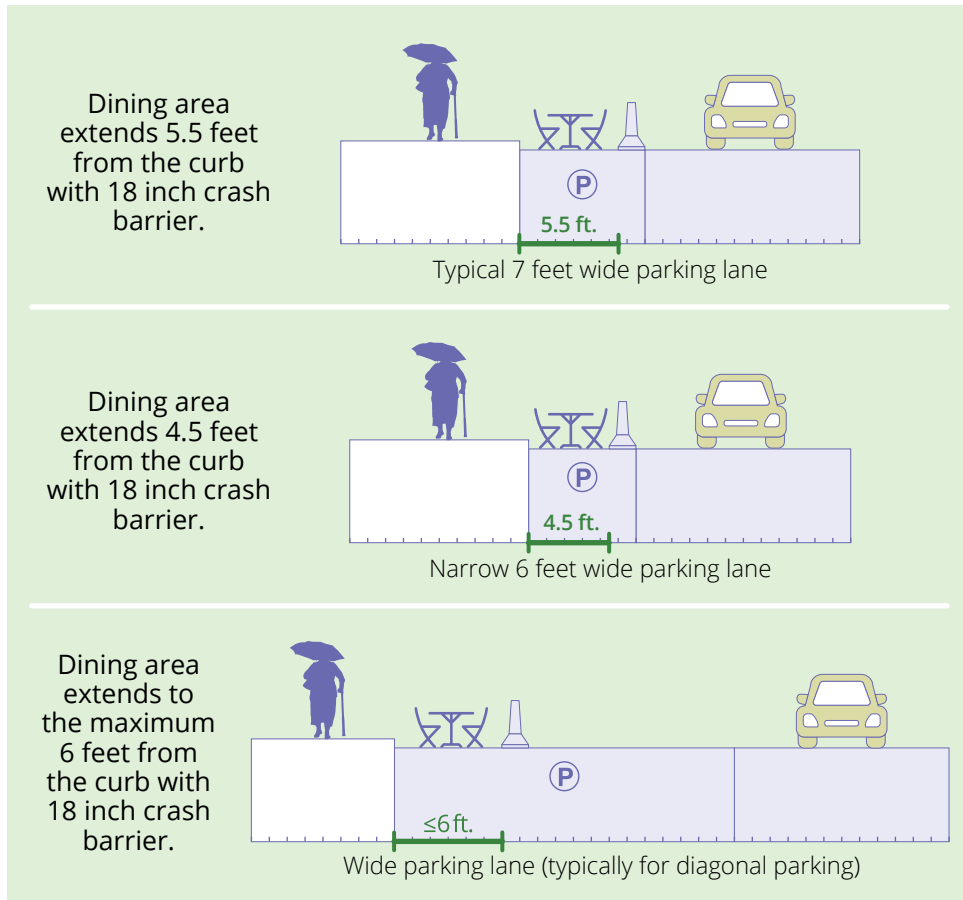


- 1** At intersections *with* stoplights or stop signs, streeteries must have a safety buffer zone of at least 30 feet from the crosswalk, pedestrian ramp, bus stop, stop sign or traffic signal, whichever is closer. At intersections *without* stoplights or stop signs, streeteries must have a safety buffer zone of at least 20 feet. Streeteries must have a safety buffer zone of at least 10 feet from driveways.
- 2** Streeteries must have a safety buffer zone of at least 15 feet from fire hydrants.
- 3** Streeteries must have a safety buffer zone of at least 5 feet from any manholes, water inlets, or other utility and ventilation access points.
- 4** There must be a 3 feet or wider emergency pathway open to the sky between each restaurant streetry, or every 20 feet of streetry length, whichever is smaller.
- 5** Streeteries cannot be wider than the width of the storefront, minus any safety buffer zones or emergency pathways.
- 6** Dining area cannot extend further than 6 feet from the curb. Typical parking lanes extend 7 feet from the curb, allowing the dining area to extend 5.5 feet with an 18 inch crash barrier. See page 13 for full requirements.
- 7** No part of the streetry can extend beyond the parking lane (typically 7 feet) and into the travel lane. Travel lane must remain at least twelve feet wide. See page 11 for full requirements.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streetry regulations [here](#).

✓ Dining area extends 6 feet or less from curb

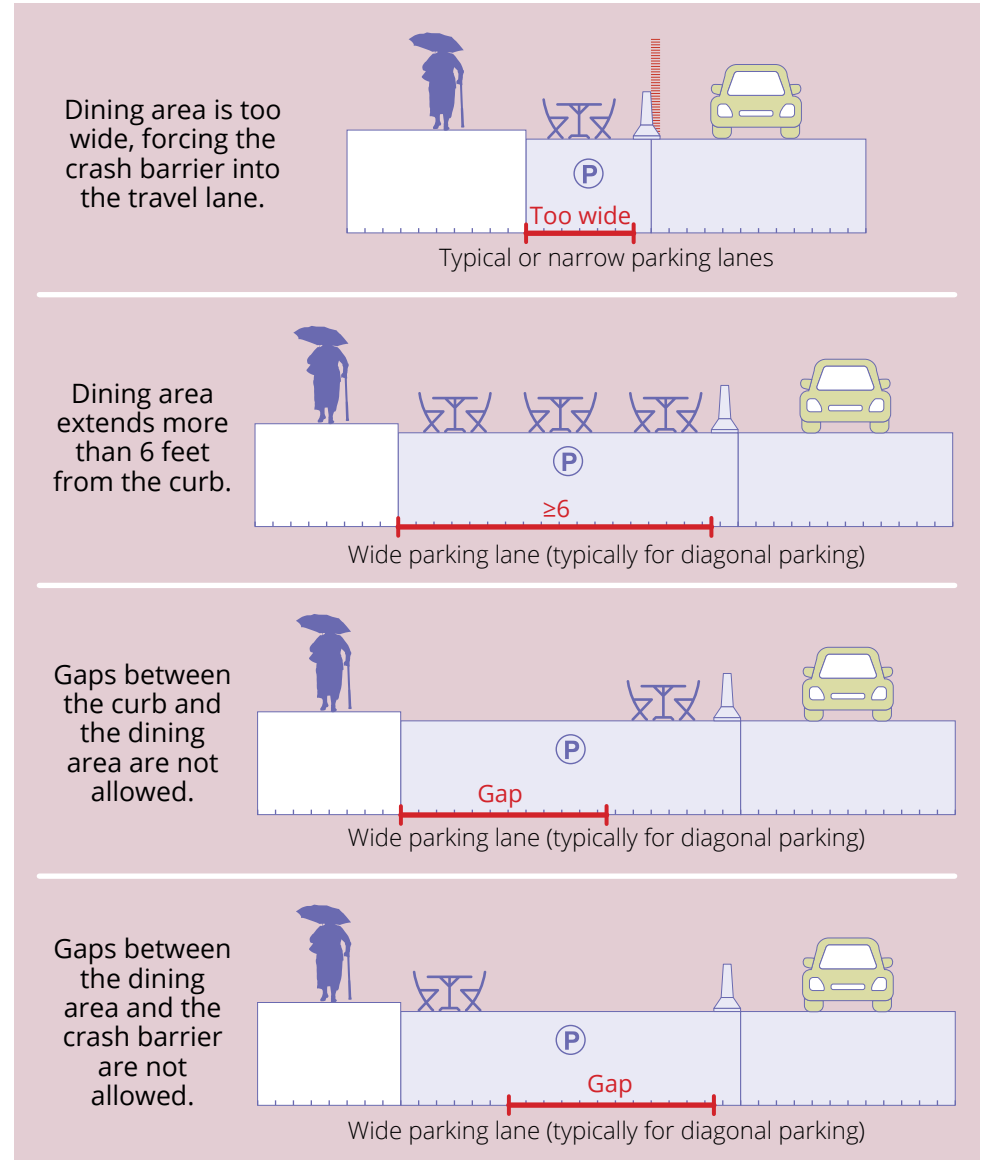
Dining areas can extend up to six feet from the curb so long as no part of the streetery enters the travel lane. Below are some dining area configurations for common parking lane widths.



! Streeteries cannot extend beyond the parking lane or otherwise encroach upon the travel lane in any way. This includes bike lanes.

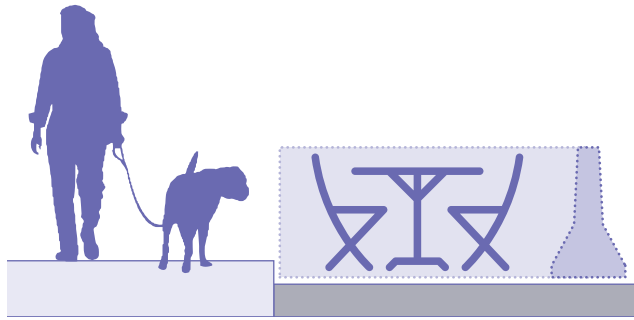
✗ Dining area extends over 6 feet from curb

Dining areas cannot extend further than 6 feet from the curb, no matter how wide the parking lane is. No gaps are allowed between the curb, the dining area or the crash barrier. Below are some dining area configurations for common parking lane widths that are not allowed.



Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeteries regulations [here](#).

Types of Streeteries

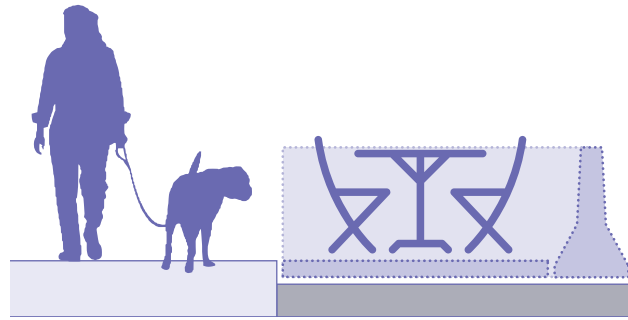


Pavement Streeteries

A pavement streeteries is a dining area surrounded by crash barriers placed directly on the street pavement. Pavement streeteries allow restaurant guests to enjoy the open air and clear views of their city surroundings with a “less is more” approach to outdoor dining.

Pavement streeteries are cheaper to install, easier to maintain, and can be removed quickly if the need should arise. Even the simplest streeteries need to welcome guests of all mobilities so a wheelchair ramp from the sidewalk to the street surface will be required in most instances.

Pavement streeteries *do not* require a Building Permit or Art Commission review for a faster and easier licensing process.

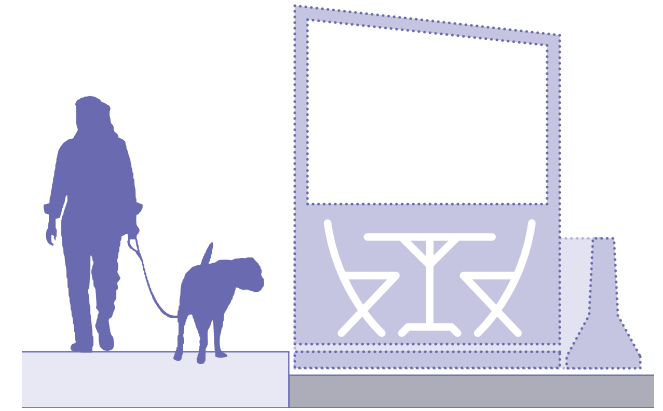


Platform Streeteries

A platform streeteries has a dining area elevated to curb-height on a platform. The platform is surrounded by crash barriers placed directly on the street pavement. Platforms make it easier for streeteries to meet ADA requirements and reduces tripping hazards for patrons and staff. Most streeteries platforms are made out of wood and still offer their guests an open and airy feel without any tall enclosed sides.

It is very important that platforms don’t block stormwater from flowing freely to sewer inlets and that they don’t become homes for rats and other vermin. It is highly recommended that removable floor access panels be a part of the platform design to allow for routine cleaning between the pavement and the platform.

Platform streeteries *do not* require a Building Permit or Art Commission review for a faster and easier licensing process.



Structure Streeteries

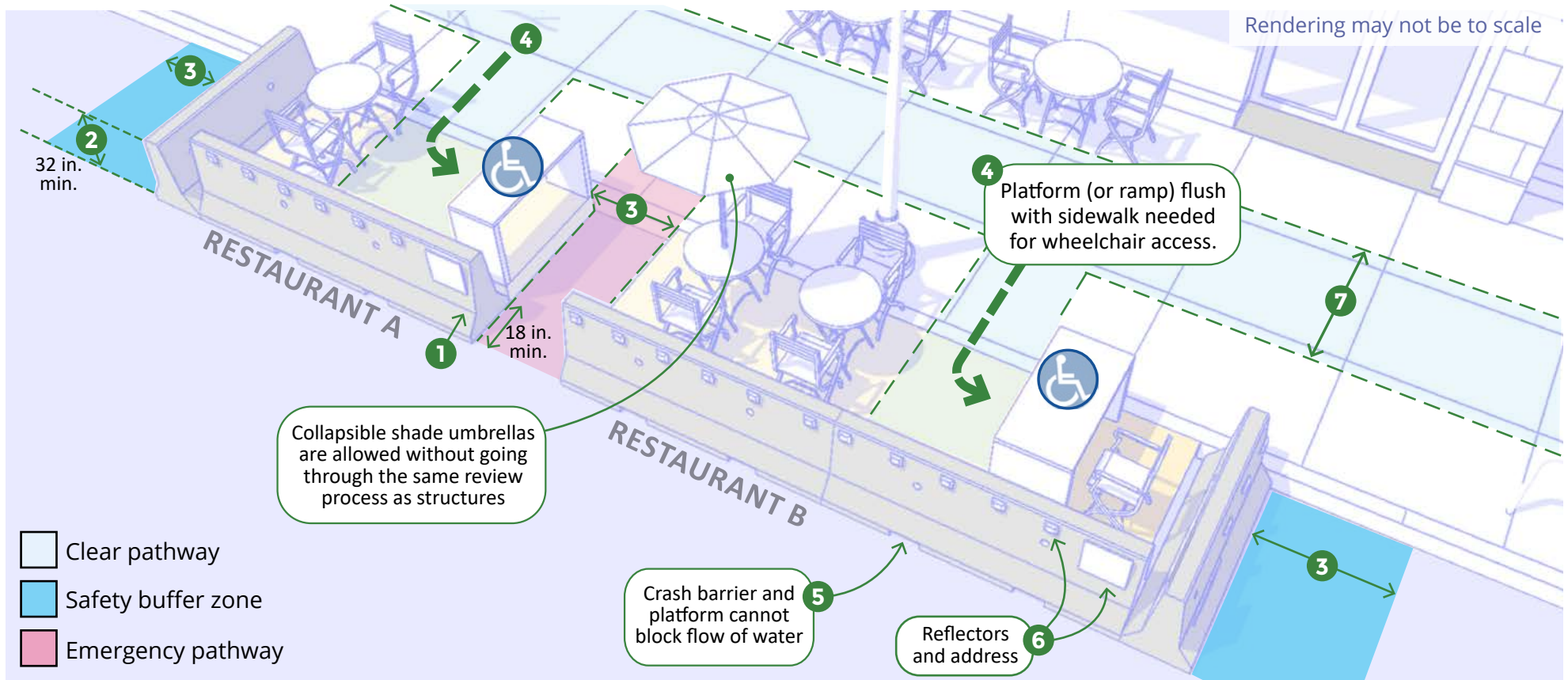
A structure streeteries has a dining area with a built enclosure that has an overhead covering or at least one side 48 inches or higher from the pavement. This type can include a platform or sit directly on the street pavement (the illustration above includes a platform). Crash barriers must surround the structure or be integrated into the structure design.

Structure streeteries are a larger investment and ongoing responsibility. They give off a restaurant’s first impression so quality materials, cleanliness, and security from trespass during non-business hours are essential. Maximum transparency above the barriers allows visibility to the restaurant’s signage and entrance.

Structure streeteries *require* a Building Permit and Art Commission review for a longer and more involved licensing process.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeteries regulations [here](#).

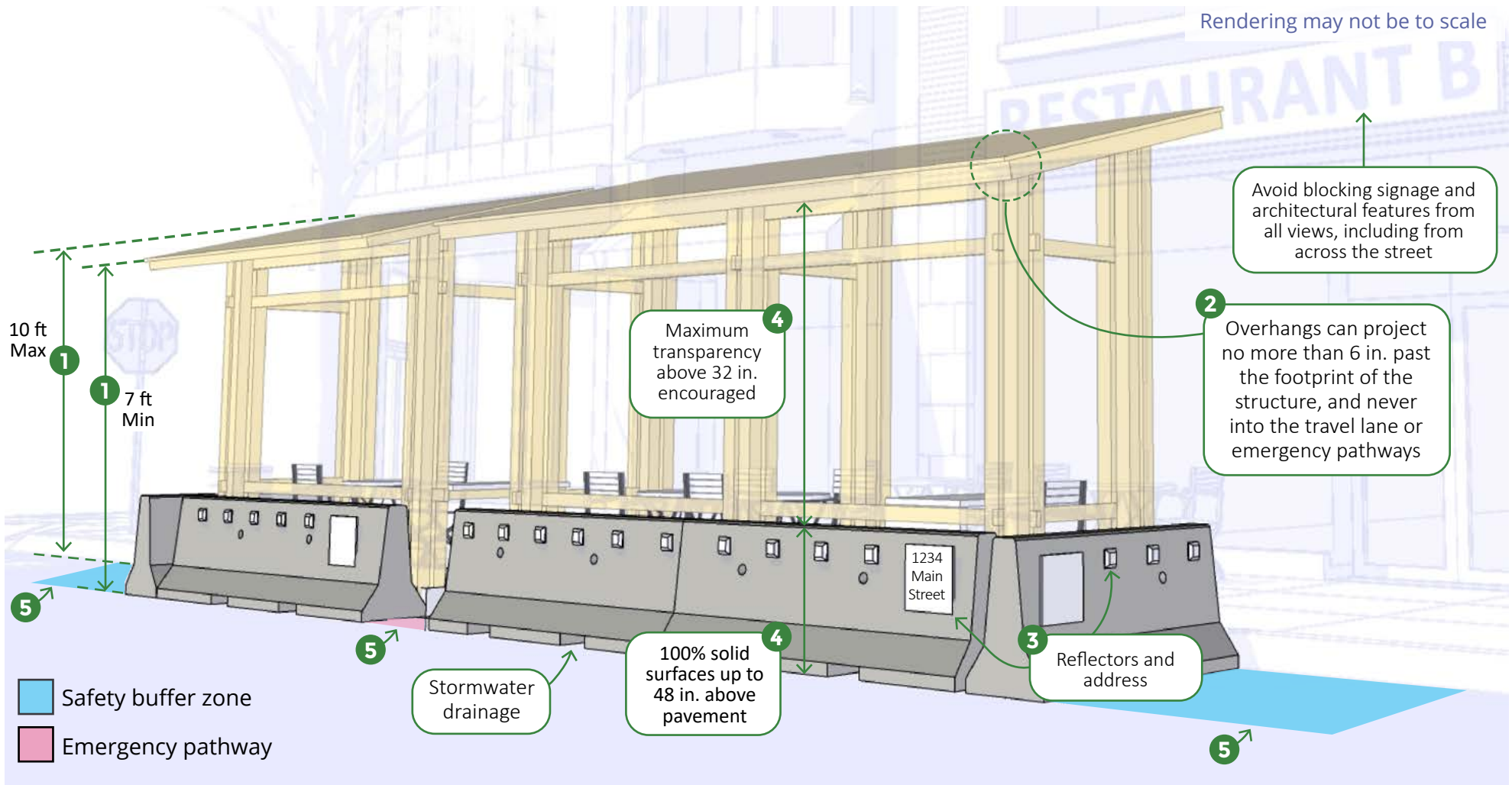
Platform Streeterly Requirements



- 1** Crash barriers placed along all 3 street-facing sides must be concrete or water-filled Jersey barriers 18 inches or deeper. Equally strong barriers certified by a licensed engineer may be approved for use.
- 2** Crash barriers need to stand at least 32 inches above the pavement.
- 3** Emergency pathways and safety buffer zones must remain clear and open to the sky.
- 4** Each restaurant streetery must offer ADA compliant seating and accessible routes.
See page 18 for full requirements.
- 5** Stormwater must flow freely through barriers, under platforms, and along the curb toward inlets.
- 6** Crash barriers must have safety reflectors and a street address.
- 7** Cafe seating, service carts, planters and other objects cannot block the sidewalk's 6 foot clear pathway without a separate permit.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streetery regulations [here](#).

Structure Streetery Requirements



- 1 Overhead covering must be 7 feet minimum height from the street pavement but no more than 10 feet.
- 2 No overhangs allowed over the travel lane
- 3 Structure must have safety reflectors and a street address.

- 4 100% solid surfaces may be used up to 48 inches from the street pavement. Maximum transparency is encouraged above 32 inches to increase visibility
- 5 Emergency pathways and safety buffer zones must remain clear and open to the sky.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeterly regulations [here](#).

Streeteries Don'ts



Propane & Open Flames

Propane tanks, other combustibles, and open flames are not safe in a streeteries setting, where people are clustered together and vehicles pass so close by. This means that duct heating from gas furnaces, fire pits, and overhead dome heaters are strictly prohibited.



Pavement Anchors

No part of the streeteries or furnishings can be permanently mounted or secured to the street or sidewalk. Bolts and other anchors damage the pavement and make streeteries removal very difficult. Obey the rules of the road and don't drill into it.



Enclosed Areas

No enclosed areas for equipment, storage or utilities are allowed. This includes storage rooms as well as storage boxes below benches or other seating. This reduces the number of enclosed spaces that vermin and other unwelcome guests can call home.



Outside Electrical

Electrical service coming from outside of the streeteries, like an extension cord running from the building, are not allowed. Conduit run under the sidewalk is also not allowed. All electrical devices should be powered by batteries or another portable energy source.



Shipping Containers

The dimensions of shipping and cargo containers are too large to comply with the streeteries regulations. Their solid metal frame and sidewalls are not removable within 48 hours without the help of substantial equipment.



Storage

Streeteries are meant to add activity and attractiveness to city streets. Using streeteries space to store equipment, trash or other items is not allowed, even during winter months when streeteries experience lower dining activity. Storing locked tables and chairs during non-business hours *is* permitted.



Sidewalk Structures

Streeteries structures, overhead shelters, platforms, barriers and other permanent streeteries fixtures cannot extend from the street on to the sidewalk. Restaurants operating sidewalk cafes are only allowed tables, chairs, service carts and other fixtures easily removed from sidewalks during non-business hours.



Building Attachments

Structures running from the building into the parking space, such as an extended awning cover or side walls, are not allowed. All Structure streeteries must be free-standing, with no attachments to buildings. This includes string lights running between a streeteries and its storefront.



Tents & Canopies

Tents, canopies, plastic dome shelters and other light-weight structures just aren't sturdy enough to withstand extreme weather and can create a fire hazard. Shade umbrellas are allowed because they are smaller and easily removed in the event of high winds.

Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements

✓ ADA Seating Area

Federal law requires that all streeeteries must provide at least 1 ADA accessible table or 5% of the available streeetry seating space, whichever is greater. ADA interior seating or sidewalk cafe seating does not count toward the ADA streeetry seating requirement.

- A clear floor area of 30" by 48" must be provided at the accessible seating area, which may include the knee clearance area. The slope of a clearance area shall not exceed 1:48 (2%).
- Unobstructed knee clearance between the ground or deck and table must be a minimum of 27" in height, 30" in width, and extend a minimum of 19" under the table.
- Table height must be between 28" and 34".
- If a counter is provided, the accessible portion must be a minimum of 60" in length.

✓ Consult a Professional

Spacial factors like footprint size, curb heights, sidewalk widths, and slopes can all impact the ease or difficulty of achieving ADA compliance. In most instances, streeeteries will need to include a platform base to be ADA compliant. Before you begin the application process, the City recommends that you consult with a licensed architect experienced in designing for ADA compliance to understand if ADA compliance is possible and at what impact on total seating capacity.

✓ ADA Accessible Route

Federal law requires that an ADA accessible route from the sidewalk to the ADA accessible seating area must be provided.

- The platform deck or the ramp access to the ADA compliant seating area must be flush with the sidewalk with no height differences greater than ½".
- Height differences between ¼" and ½" shall be beveled with a slope no steeper than 1:2 (50%).
- The platform deck or the ramp access to the seating area must be flush with the curb with no gaps greater than ½".
- Height differences exceeding ½" must be serviced by an ADA compliant ramp, including clear landing areas of at least 5' at the top and bottom of the ramp.
- The running ground slope (parallel to the curb) shall not exceed 1:20 (5%) and the cross slope (perpendicular to the curb) shall not exceed 1:48 (2%).
- The accessible route shall maintain a minimum width of 36" and be free of obstacles.
- A 60" minimum diameter circular wheelchair turning space or a T-shaped space compliant with the ADA standards must be provided. A turning space may include designated clearance areas.



Any business operating a streeetry that is not ADA compliant should immediately cease streeetry operations and remove their streeetry.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeetry regulations [here](#).

Operational Requirements

Streeteries need to be as friendly and inviting to their neighbors as they are to their paying customers. These operational requirements ensure that streeteries remain well-loved amenities.

Morning, Afternoon & Evening Hours of Operation

Streeteries can only operate from 7am to 10pm Sundays through Thursdays and 7am to 11pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

Late Night Hours of Operation

To keep noise down for neighbors, all customers must be clear of streeteries from 10pm to 7am Sundays through Thursdays and 11pm to 7am Fridays and Saturdays. Any loud breakdown duties, like stacking tables and chairs, must also be completed by these times.

Service Only

Streeteries are only for serving customers food and beverages coming from the business' licensed preparation area.

Food or Beverage Storage or Preparation


Food preparation of any kind, including outdoor grills, or stand alone bars where drinks are prepared are prohibited in streeteries. Refrigeration units, food display cases, or other types of food storage are also prohibited.


Clean & Sanitary


Streeteries must remain free of food scraps, spill stains, litter, and odors at all times. Daily cleaning and routine pressure washing in, under, and around streeteries structures and platforms, and routine pest control ensures that streeteries remain pleasant places to enjoy.

Unclean & Unsanitary

Food crumbs, litter, and dirty surfaces attract unwelcome diners like rats and insects. The Health Department can make food businesses cease total operations if their streeteries is found unsanitary, just like any other part of their establishment.

 A copy of the Streeteries License must be publicly displayed within the restaurant.

 All streeteries must be covered by a \$1,000,000 comprehensive general liability insurance policy.

 Any businesses currently operating a streeteries in violation of any of these requirements should take corrective action immediately. Businesses found in violation may be subject to violations, fines, ceased operations and/or denial of Streeteries License renewal.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeteries regulations [here](#).

Design Compliance & Changes

The City understands that streetery operators may need to alter their streetery setups over time and encourages restaurants to invest in enhancements. But just like adding a deck to a house, the City needs to review plans and grant approvals before any substantial changes can be made.

Compliant with Designs on File

Streetery License holders must place and build their streeteries according to the final designs submitted with their Streetery License Application and approved by the City.

Not Compliant with Designs on File

Streetery License holders must not deviate from their approved designs, like expanding beyond their approved footprint, building an unpermitted structure or dismissing ADA requirements. The City approves streetery designs according to a variety of critical safety measures and other considerations. Deviating from approved designs can put restaurant staff, customers, and the public at risk.

Approved Changes

Streetery license holders must obtain any required permits or approvals before adding, removing, replacing or altering a structure or platform. They must also gain approvals for any other changes that could impact safety and accessibility, like switching to a different type of crash barrier. Email streetery@phila.gov for guidance on any required permits or approvals.

Unapproved Changes

Streetery License holders must not make unapproved or unpermitted changes to their streeteries. Unapproved platforms and unpermitted structures can carry safety and liability risks that can jeopardize your business.



Any Streetery License holders operating a streetery that does not comply with streetery designs approved by the City are subject to violations, fines, ceased operations and/or denial of Streetery License renewal.

Removal Requirements

City functions, like trash collection, snowplowing, and underground utility work, and City-approved special events, like parades and marathons, take precedent over outdoor dining. The City will notify streeter operators with as much advance notice as possible for planned interruptions. However, fast approaching snowstorms or other hard-to-predict events may provide little warning time. Below are requirements for temporary removals and permanent removals to prevent streeter blight and abandonment.

✓ Removable within 48 Hours

Streeteries must be removed within 48 hours of written or verbal notice from a City official. Streeter License applicants should keep removability and storage access in mind when designing their setups.

✗ Not Removable within 48 Hours

Streeter License applicants should avoid build-outs that would require special lifting equipment, such as cranes, or time-intensive disassembly efforts for removal.

✓ Removed

Restaurants shutting down, relocating or seeking to permanently cease streeter operations are responsible for removing their streeteries. Removal must occur prior to a restaurant vacating a property.

✗ Transferred, Vacant or Abandoned

Streeter Licenses are issued to specific license holders for specific locations and are non-transferable. This means that restaurants moving locations must obtain a new Streeter License before installing a streeter at their new location. This also means that license holders cannot vacate a property and leave behind their streeter for a future occupant or transfer supervision responsibilities to a property owner. Even short lapses in streeter occupancy and maintenance can lead to blight that can jeopardize quality of life and public safety.

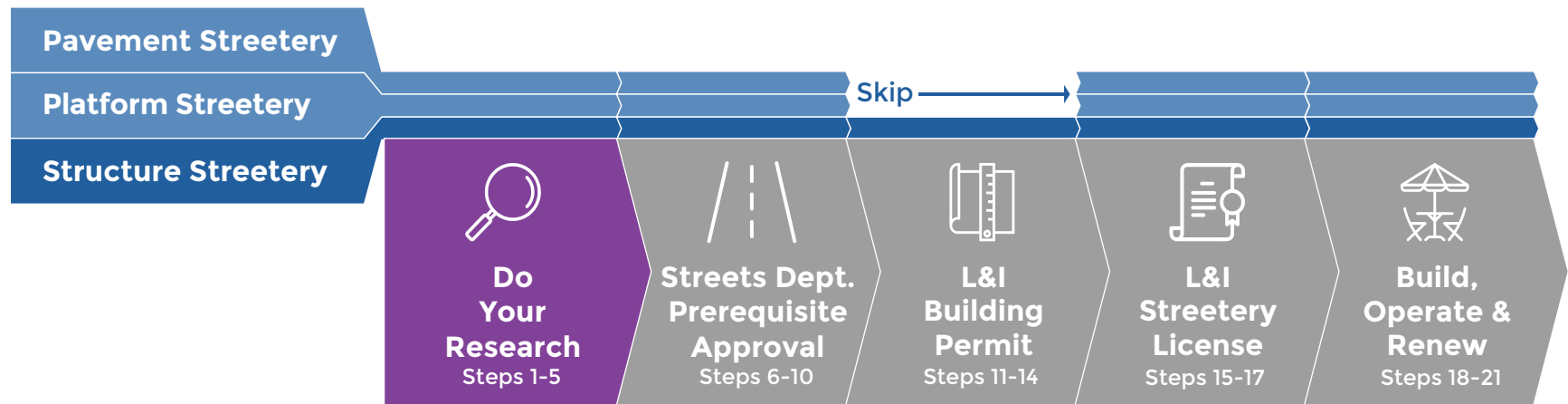
! Businesses that do not remove streeteries when ordered to do so, or vacate or abandon streeteries are subject to violations, fines, ceased operations and/or denial of Streeter License renewal.

! The City reserves the right to remove hazardous, vacant or abandoned streeteries as well as streeteries that remain following orders for removal. The cost of removal may be billed to the abutting property owner and/or licensee.

Find Section 9-215 of the Philadelphia Code [here](#). Find streeter regulations [here](#).

Licensing Process Do Your Research

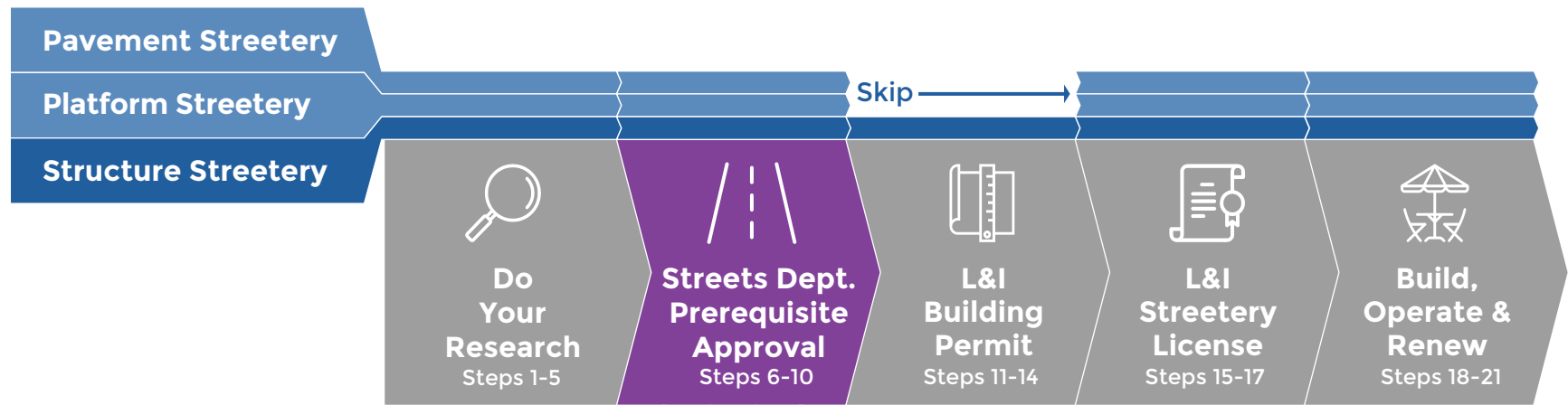
This section provides a step-by-step overview of how to obtain a Streeetry License. Please review these steps thoroughly to ensure a complete understanding of the sequence, time frames, fees, and overall work entailed. Steps 1-5 are to make certain that a streeetry is feasible for the business and location before pursuing formal steps.



Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Check if the business is eligible for a streeetry. See page 6 of this guide.	Check if the restaurant location is eligible by-right for a streeetry. If it is, skip to Step 4. See page 7 of this guide.	If not eligible by-right, reach out to the restaurant location's district councilperson's office to request an ordinance allowing a streeetry for that location. See page 7 of this guide.	Check if the site in front of the restaurant is eligible for a streeetry. See pages 9-10 in this guide.	Check if the placement in front of the restaurant is eligible for a streeetry. See page 11 in this guide.

Licensing Process streets Dept. Prerequisite Approval

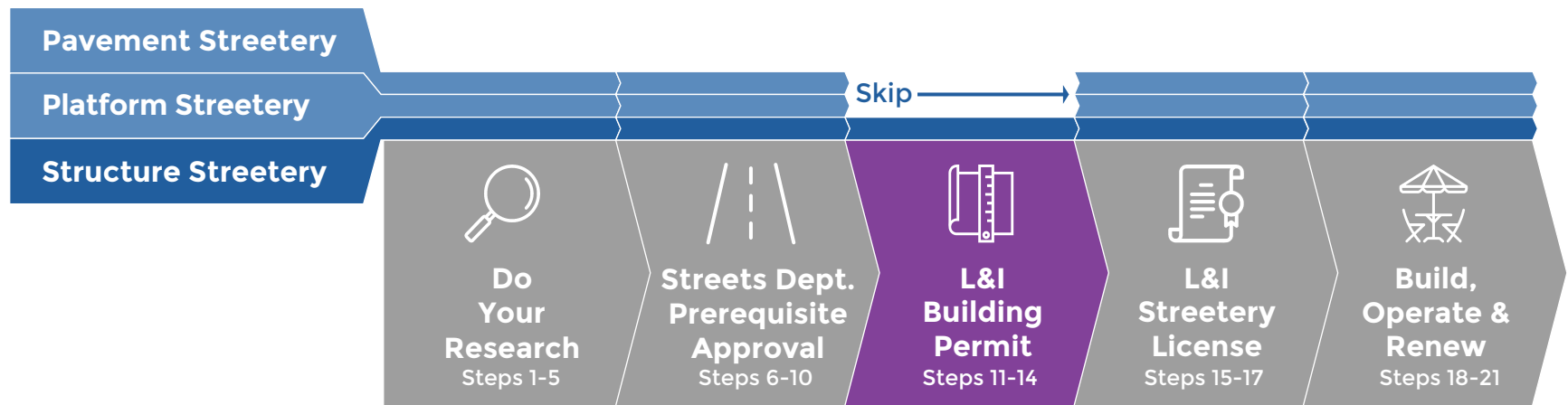
The Streets Department needs to approve the location, site, placement and design of the proposed streeteries to make sure that it will meet the safety and spacial requirements of the streeteries regulations. For structure streeteries, the added step of Art Commission approval makes sure that structures contribute to the aesthetics of their surroundings.





Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
<p>Submit Streeteries Prerequisite Approval Application to the Streets Department online. phila.gov/services/streets-side-walks-alleys/outdoor-dining</p>	<p>Inter-agency review.</p>	<p>Streets Department inspector site visit. The applicant does not need to be present during site visit.</p>	<p>Art Commission review for structure streeteries only. Streets Department will automatically provide the application to the Art Commission. Applicants will be notified by the Streets Department of Art Commission approval.</p>	<p>Streets Department approves use of right-of-way. Approval letter received via email.</p>
<p> \$200 non-refundable application fee credited toward cost of L&I Streeteries License. Fee paid to L&I through Eclipse. eclipse.phila.gov</p>	<p> Total review and site visit time is 14 business days if streeteries designs are rendered by a licensed engineer or architect. 30 business days if sketched by hand.</p>	<p> Review times vary by project complexity.</p>		

Licensing Process L&I Building Permit

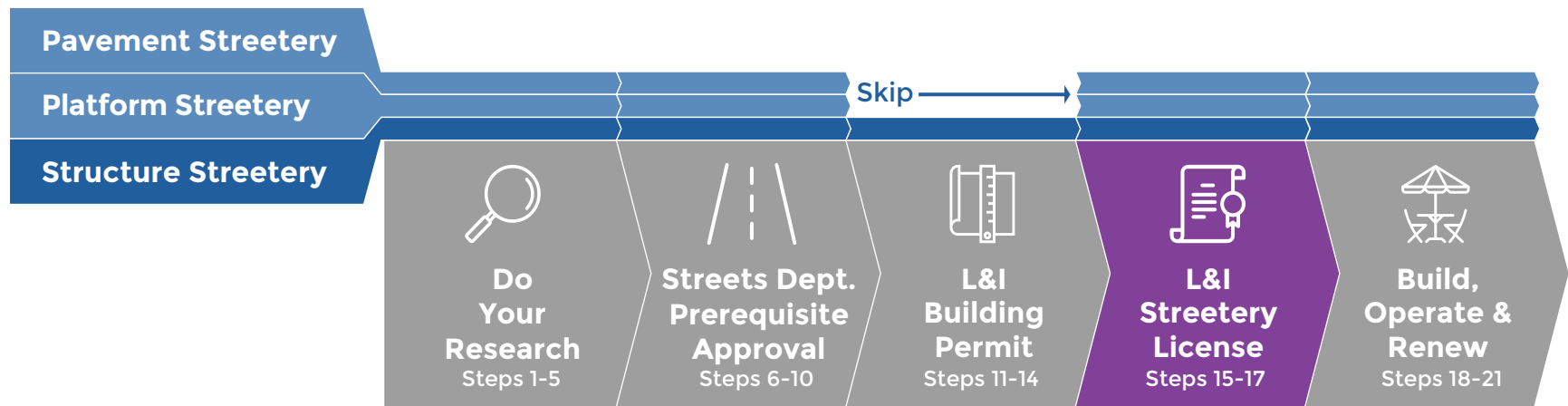
Proposed structure streeteries must obtain a Licenses and Inspections Building Permit to ensure that they will meet the Philadelphia Building Code for the safety of occupants and the surrounding public. *For pavement streetry and platform streetry applicants, skip to Step 15 on the following page.*



Step 11	Step 12	Step 13	Step 14
Submit Building Permit application to Licenses and Inspections through Eclipse. eclipse.phila.gov	Licenses and Inspections review.	Licenses and Inspections inspector site visit. Licenses and Inspections will schedule a site visit for a time when the applicant can be present.	Licenses and Inspections issues Building Permit. Permit received via Eclipse.
 Fees vary based on project complexity.	 Plans reviewed within 20 business days. Applicants will be notified for any clarifications needed.		

Licensing Process L&I Streeery License

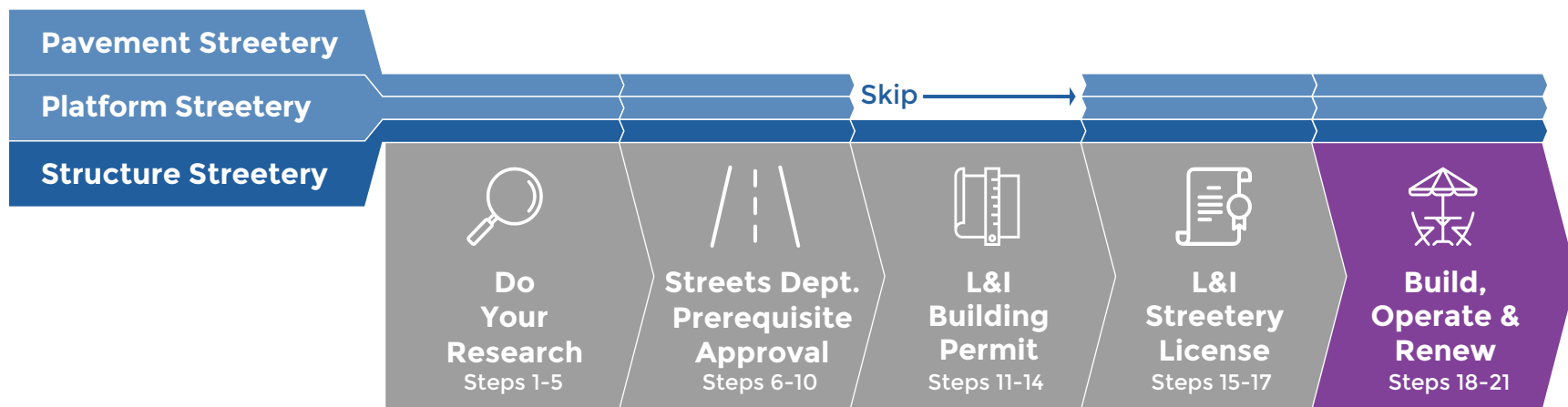
The final steps before building and operating is to obtain the Streeery License through Licenses and Inspections. Licenses and Inspections will make sure that all prerequisite approvals have been met before issuing a Streeery License.




Step 15	Step 16	Step 17
Submit Streeery License application to Licenses and Inspections through Eclipse. eclipse.phila.gov	Inter-agency review.	Licenses and Inspections issues Streeery License. Streeery License received via Eclipse and must be printed and posted within public view.
	Application reviewed within 5 business days. Applicants will be notified for any clarifications needed.	\$1,750 annual Streeery License fee. \$200 credit applied from Step 6 reduces first-year fee to \$1,550.

Licensing Process Build, Operate & Renew

Steps 18 and 19 are building out the streeetry. For structure streeeteries requiring a Building Permit, a final inspection and Certificate of Approval is required. Steps 19 and 20 are the ongoing tasks of operating and maintaining the streeetry, and renewing the streeetry License annually.



Step 18	Step 19	Step 20	Step 21
<p>Congratulations! It's time to build-out the streeetry. For pavement streeeteries and platform streeeteries, skip to Step 19.</p> <p>All streeeteries must comply with the designs on file and approved by L&I. See page 20 of this guide.</p>	<p>Building Inspection of Structure streeeteries by Licenses and Inspections. Structure streeeteries cannot operate until inspected and approved for occupancy. The applicant or contractor must contact Licenses and Inspections for an inspection upon completion of the structure streeetry. Applicants will receive a Certificate of Approval by the inspector.</p>	<p>Operate and maintain the streeetry according to operational requirements. See page 19 of this guide.</p> <p>Obtain approvals before making any substantial design changes and abide by removal requirements. See page 20 and 21 of this guide.</p>	<p>Streeetry Licenses must be renewed with Licenses and Inspections annually through Eclipse. eclipse.phila.gov</p> <p> \$1,750 annual Streeetry License fee.</p>

Assistance

For questions and assistance regarding the Streeery License application process, please contact:

streeery@phila.gov



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