Sidewalk Café Checklist: Before You Begin Your Project

**DO**

- **Pre-Project**: Make sure you hire a Registered Design Professional, a Professional Engineer (P.E.) or Registered Architect (R.A.), to assure your project is Code-compliant.

- **Project Plans**: Only a P.E. or R.A. can submit construction documents, including drawings and other submissions, to the Department for approval.

- **Asbestos Investigation**: Have asbestos investigation performed on site to check for Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) that will be removed or disturbed.

- **Project Work**: Hire a Licensed/Registered General Contractor to perform the work. When hiring a professional, have a written contract that includes the Contractor's company name, address and license number(s).

- **DOB: NOW Requirement**: Owner must provide their email address to obtain for correspondence, inspections and final sign-off of the project.

- **Obtain DCA/DOT Approval and Permit**: Sidewalk Cafés require prior approval and permit from the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT). Ensure that you have obtained these prior to submitting the project application to the Department and prior to starting any work.

- **Commissioning**: If your project requires commissioning, ensure you have a qualified commissioning agent perform the work and if required, file the commissioning report with the Department prior to sign-off.

- **Work Completion**: Ensure inspections and sign-offs are performed to close the project permit.

**DON’T**

- **Work Without a Permit**: Do not begin work without a DOB permit. Property Owners and the people performing work without a permit may receive orders to stop on-site work, ECB violations with monetary and criminal penalties including court appearances, and civil penalties.

*NOTE: The Owner of the building/property is ultimately responsible for the project, and their signature/consent is required for submission of the project application by their design professional, and Department approval.*