Community based organizations including Business Improvement Districts, Merchants Associations, etc. or a group of, at a minimum, three (3) food service establishments (a “Restaurant Group”) on a full block may express interest in offering seating on an Open Street by submitting an application, including a site seating and safety plan, detailed run of show, management plan, and outreach plan, to NYC DOT. Open Streets: Restaurants seating is executed through full block, recurring street closures that are planned for nights and weekends beginning in July 2020. Community based organizations may apply on behalf of food service establishments in their catchment area. Restaurant Groups wishing to manage Open Streets shall identify one business entity to apply for and represent the Restaurant Group. All applicants will be asked to submit a robust plan for safety, security, sanitation, and must have a strong responsible party to coordinate the Open Street. If any of these requirements are not met the application will not be approved. Submitting an application does not guarantee acceptance into the program.

Criteria

Applications must come from either a community-based organization or Restaurant Group represented by a business entity (together the “Applicants”). While primarily for ground floor restaurants, plans that include second floor or below ground establishments and other business on the route may be considered on a case by case basis. Applicants agree to manage all aspects of the Open Streets program, to facilitate outdoor dining, which includes:

- Coordinating with participating food service establishments;
- Notifying residents and other stakeholders on the proposed route;
- Adhering to an agreed upon schedule for the temporary street closure based on these guidelines:
  - Fridays 5 PM to 11 PM (maximum hours)
  - Saturday and Sunday - 12 PM to 11 PM (max)
- Unless otherwise notified by the City, the Open Restaurants program will last until Oct. 31st, 2020;
- Managing street closure barricades (set up, oversight, break down);
- Setting up/breaking down of movable tables and chairs for public seating (if any);
- Cleaning and removing trash from the locations during the closure;
- Ensuring that restaurants adhere to all siting guidelines in accordance with Open Restaurants;
- Establishments participating in the Open Streets program must apply for and meet all criteria for Open Restaurants;
- Applicants will facilitate Open Restaurants certification for all Establishments included in Open Streets;
- Establishments that are unable to self-certify for Open Restaurants may be able to participate in a temporary street closure program.

Revised 7/17/2020
Applicant must provide emergency lane of 15 feet must be included. Where this is not possible on a given roadway, organizations must work with DOT and FDNY further to ensure emergency access at all times.

Food service establishments may extend seating beyond the curb lane up to the 15 foot emergency lane for the duration of the temporary street closure.

Roadway seating may not exceed width of business frontage.

Bike lanes may be included in the 15 foot designated emergency lane.

Roadway seating must be sited at least 15 feet from a hydrant and 8 feet from a crosswalk.

Individual businesses must delineate their footprint with some type of barrier element.

Tables and chairs must be provided by applicant and must be removed from the expanded zone at the end of each day.

DOT reserves the right to remove a site at any time in response to public safety, access, etc.

Guidelines

- Applicant must provide emergency lane of 15 feet must be included. Where this is not possible on a given roadway, organizations must work with DOT and FDNY further to ensure emergency access at all times.
- Food service establishments may extend seating beyond the curb lane up to the 15 foot emergency lane for the duration of the temporary street closure.
- Roadway seating may not exceed width of business frontage.
- Bike lanes may be included in the 15 foot designated emergency lane.
- Roadway seating must be sited at least 15 feet from a hydrant and 8 feet from a crosswalk.
- Individual businesses must delineate their footprint with some type of barrier element.
- Tables and chairs must be provided by applicant and must be removed from the expanded zone at the end of each day.

Application Requirements

Applicants shall complete an application to express interest in participating. Before an application is approved, the following items must be provided:

- **Site seating and safety plan**
  - Clearly indicating expanded seating areas and an unobstructed 15 foot emergency lane. Emergency lane must be a “straight shot” and cannot curve or otherwise deviate from a consistent course.

- **Outreach plan**
  - Detailing how you will notify businesses and residents on the proposed route that a temporary street closure will be taking place.

- **Run of show**
  - Detailing days and hours of operation inclusive of set up, operation, and breakdown.

- **Management plan**
  - Detailing how barricades will be managed and monitored, cleaning and trash disposal procedures, how you will ensure safety, and how you will notify businesses and residents on the proposed route that a temporary street closure will be taking place.

All restaurants must apply to this program, even if they are participating in Open Restaurants program.

The application and further information about the program can be found at nyc.gov/openrestaurants. Direct any questions or concerns to openstreets@dot.nyc.gov.