

Memo

To: Downtown Development Authority Board
From: Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director
Date: June 8, 2016
Re: June DDA Meeting

There are several items on your June DDA agenda.

The first involves a request for the City to re-evaluate the limitation on the hours of operation of sidewalk cafes. The City has had a sidewalk café policy for about 10 years, but few restaurant operators have taken advantage of it. However, Riedy's Pizza has recently installed such a café area.

Riedy's is requesting that the City consider extending the hours that it can be used past 10 p.m., which is the current limit stated in our policy. When it was enacted, the idea for this limitation was to help keep noise at a minimum in the late evenings for those who live in apartments above the downtown storefronts.

This may, or may not, be a good reason to limit the hours of these cafes, and we have so little experience with them that I cannot offer much information about whether the policy has had any positive or negative effect.

I would like the DDA Board to discuss this issue Thursday morning.

The second item is on the agenda at the request of Tom Hewitt. **The Planning Commission has been discussing whether to allow food trucks to operate here in the City.** They are currently prohibited unless operating as part of a permitted special event or festival.

Mr. Hewitt is asking the DDA Board to consider this issue, as well. At the meeting, I will provide the board with some background on the Planning Commission discussions to date.

For the balance of the agenda, I will provide the board an update on the progress being made under Project Rising Tide and Michigan Main Street, as well as by the city's Ad Hoc Public Art Committee.