

# ENCINITAS

## Shared Streets Pilot Program Summary

### Pilot Summary

Upon notification of award, the City of Encinitas immediately assembled a project team composed of Engineering, Traffic, Planning, and City Manager staff and the business community in the downtown Encinitas area. City staff worked cooperatively to compose a plan that reduced the South Coast Highway 101 to one lane in each direction between D Street and E Street to allow space for dining, shopping, walking, and biking while maintaining parking and a bike lane on both sides of the street.

Once this plan was established, Public Works staff ordered the necessary materials and scheduled installation work. Staff began field work on June 29 with the installation of signage and posting of planned temporary parking restrictions. Full installation of the project included placing water-filled plastic orange barricades, traffic controls and signage, and parking wheel stops. City management also agreed to waive the Temporary Use Permit (TUP) application fee of \$179.

### Challenges

After one week of operation, it was apparent that closing one lane of the street in each direction on South Coast Highway 101 caused significant traffic issues. Additionally, not all business along this block were interested in utilizing the newly created space, while businesses on other blocks of South Coast Highway 101 were interested in additional space but left out of the initial project design. City staff quickly responded and came up with a revised project plan.

The revised plan reinstated the second travel lane in both directions between D Street and E Street while maintaining portions of the shared streets pedestrian area by removing parking in those locations and allowing businesses between B Street and K Street to be a part of the program through a permit application process.

### Successes

The project was installed on schedule and even expanded after its initial deployment in response to an increased interest from the public and the business community. Project deployment was timely given the ever-changing COVID-19 guidelines. It enabled the City to quickly react to Governor Newsom's revised health order on Monday, July 6, 2020, which added San Diego County to the Coronavirus Watch List. This subsequently required countywide suspension of all indoor, in-person dining at restaurants.



*City staff worked with the business community to create more space for dining, shopping, walking, and biking.*



*Revisions were made throughout the pilot as businesses and residents provided feedback.*

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The Pilot permitted outdoor dining and takeout provided that social distancing protocols were followed. The City was able to capitalize on efforts made to implement the Shared Streets project to quickly accommodate outdoor dining at restaurants, citywide, that formerly had limited or no outdoor dining space. The recently updated temporary use permit application was utilized to receive outdoor dining requests and approve permits.

### Impact

Due to the success of this pilot, the City's Shared Streets project will remain installed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as long as extra space for pedestrians, dining, and shopping is needed to support safe social distancing. To date, the implementation of the Shared Streets project resulted in a total of 19 Temporary Use Permits (public R/W) related to COVID relief. The \$179 fee for this permit was waived resulting in a total fee waiver of \$3401. Additionally, sidewalk dining permits and renewals throughout the City were able to be approved quickly because of the new permit processes introduced for the Shared Streets project. To date, a total of 45 businesses are utilizing newly created outdoor space as a result of recently approved use permits. Anecdotally, staff observed that the Shared Streets project area is also being used by pedestrians walking and standing in the barricaded areas to spread out and provide one another with safe physical distance.

### Marketing

Marketing was carried out in the form of social media posts, signage outside the project area, and the City News website. Signage was also placed in the newly created shared streets areas to indicate how businesses may apply for a permit to use the area.

### Resources

#### SANDAG

[sandag.org/sharedstreets](http://sandag.org/sharedstreets)

#### City of Encinitas

[encinitasca.gov/Home/City-News/ArticleID/318](http://encinitasca.gov/Home/City-News/ArticleID/318)



Outdoor dining was allowed in parklet style dining. Source: City of Encinitas



City of Encinitas

June 25 · 🌐

To support our local businesses during COVID-19 Coast, Hwy 101 between D and E St will be transformed to allow more space for dining, retail and pedestrian use. Starting next week, 101 will be reduced to one lane in each direction between D and E streets, while maintaining space for biking and parking. Additional space for walking, dining, and retail will be added using temporary wheels stops, barriers, and potted plantings. We encourage you to walk the 101 with more elbow room beginning 4th of July weekend!



👍👍👍 151

43 Comments 35 Shares

The City streamlined and waived permit fees for participating businesses.



**SANDAG**