



OUTDOOR ACTIVATION

Car Free California Avenue

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www.cityofpaloalto.org

Agenda

Parklets on Cal Ave

- Council direction
- Permit options
- Custom design elements for year-round outdoor dining
- Pre-approved parklet modifications
- Discussion

6/17/25 Council Direction

Parklets

Direct staff to pursue standards for parklet structures, and

- Utilize the Architecture Review Board (ARB) for design recommendations and prospective processes for standard versus custom designs.
- Pursue edge materials in addition to planters – intended to go to ARB.
- Look at a street design that would allow for outdoor seating amounts and square footage close to or at the current amount that exists on California Avenue.

Enable year-round, all-weather outdoor dining

Outdoor Dining Permit by Type of Improvements

1. Existing improvements (adjusted as required)	Encroachment Permit
2. Tents (180 days max a year)	Encroachment Permit
3. Pre-approved parklet	Encroachment Permit
4. Custom parklet (similar to pre-approved)	Encroachment Permit
5. Awning & weather screens attached to building	Building Permit
6. Custom Parklets (substantively different)	Encroachment Permit, ARB Approval, (Potential Building Permit)

Notes:

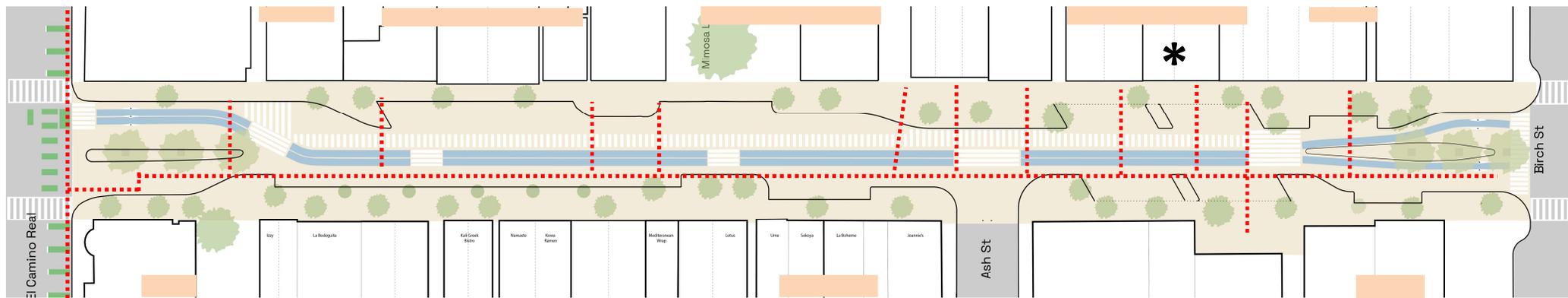
350 SF max parklet roof area

No more than 2 parklets per business

..... Gas Line

Location of Pre-Approved Parklets

Custom Parklets can be permitted throughout, Pre-approved only in specific locations



DRAFT Pre-Approved Parklet Locations

Pre-approved parklets modified for Cal Ave
* Pre-approved parklets will need ramp up to platform level.

Custom Design Elements for Weather



**Louvered, Waterproof
Roof**



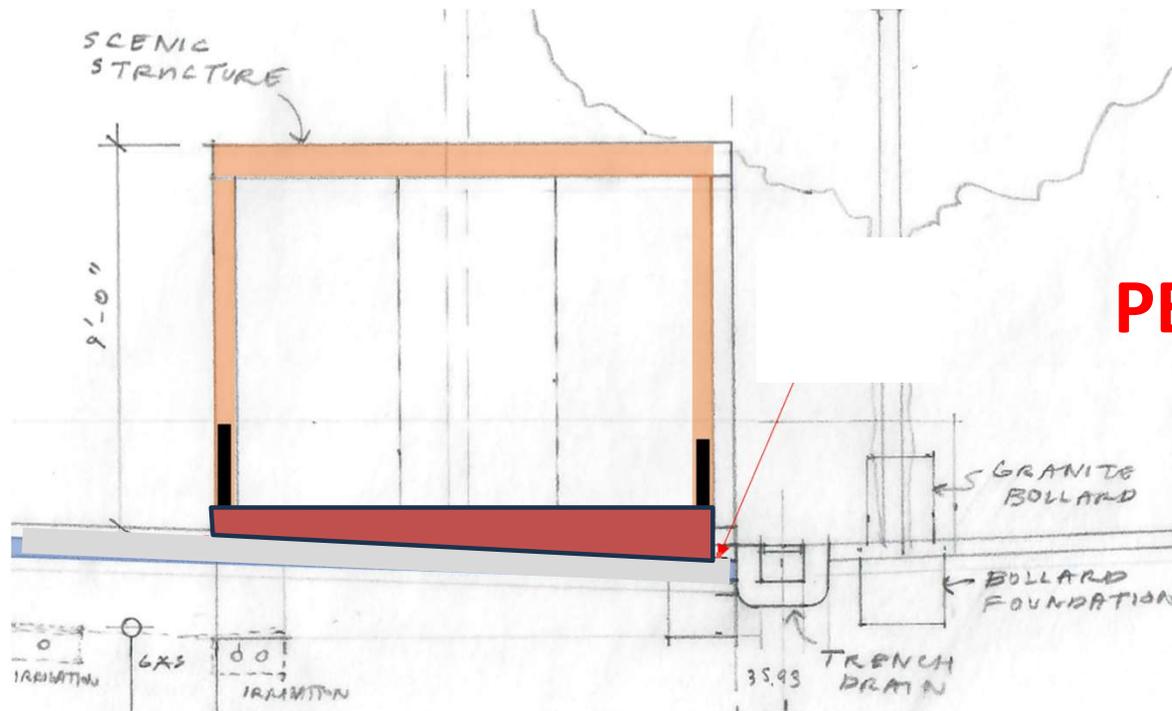
**Weather Screens
Glass & Louvered**



**Rolled Down
Sun/Wind Screens**

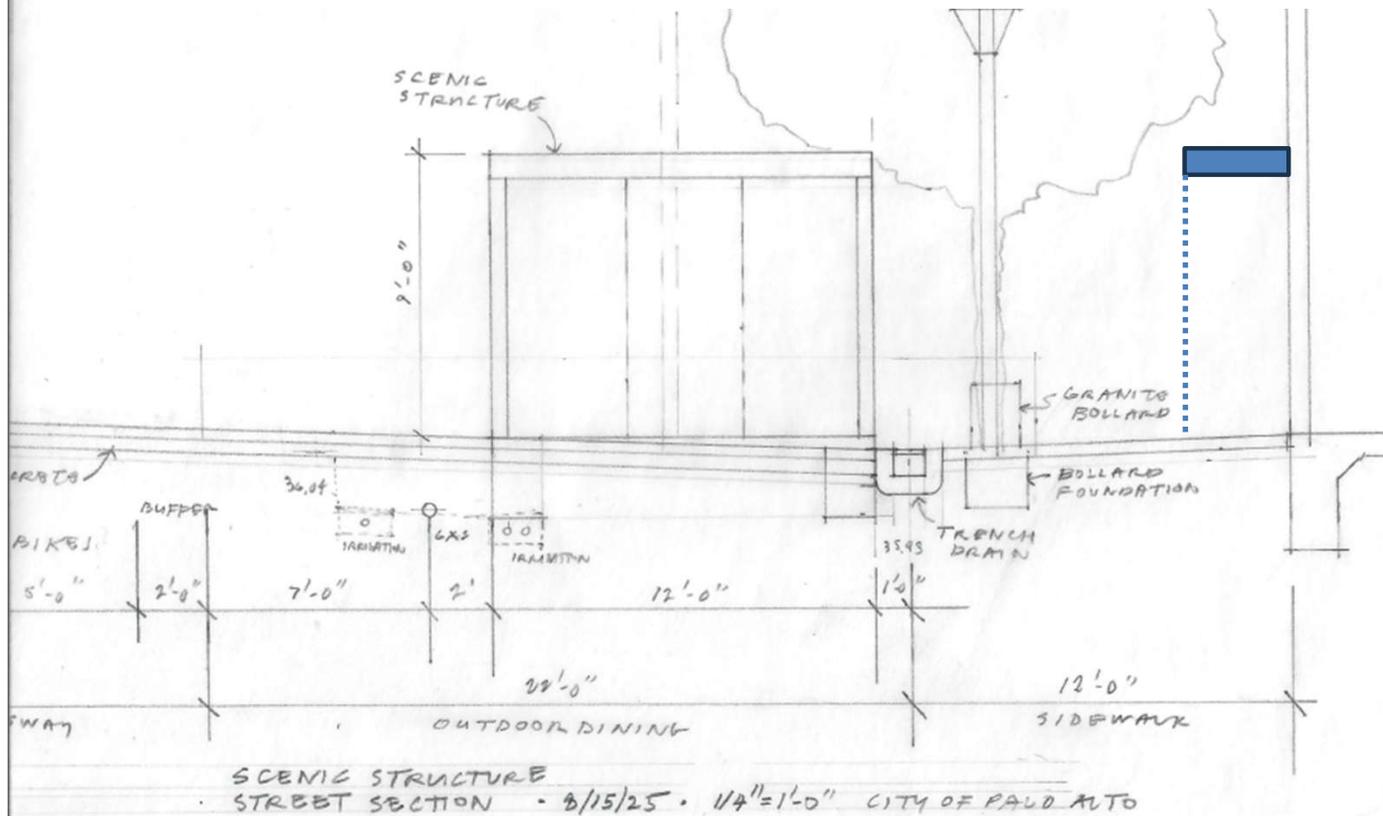
Images from Landscapeforms Scenic structure weather options

Custom Parklet: Attach to Platform



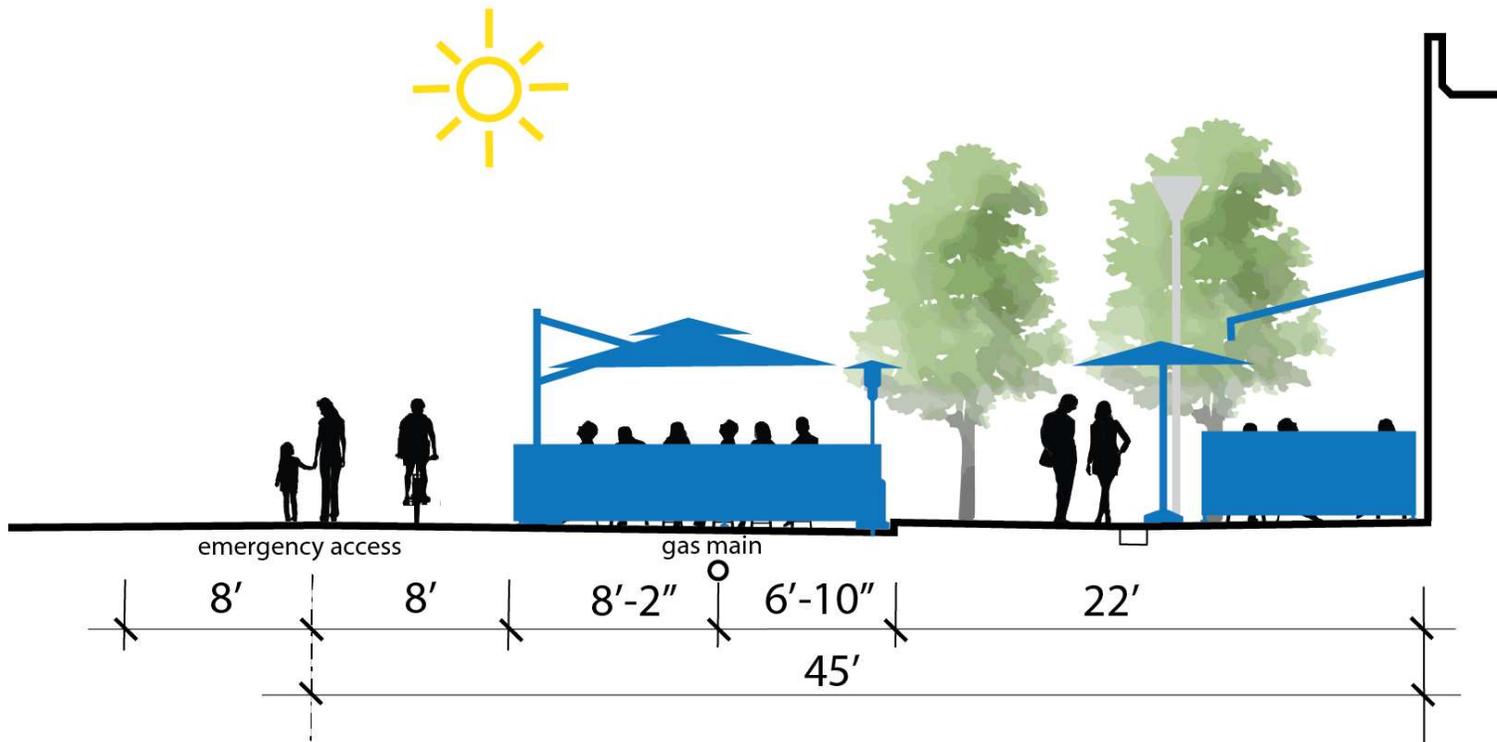
PERMITTED

Building Awning with Weather Screens

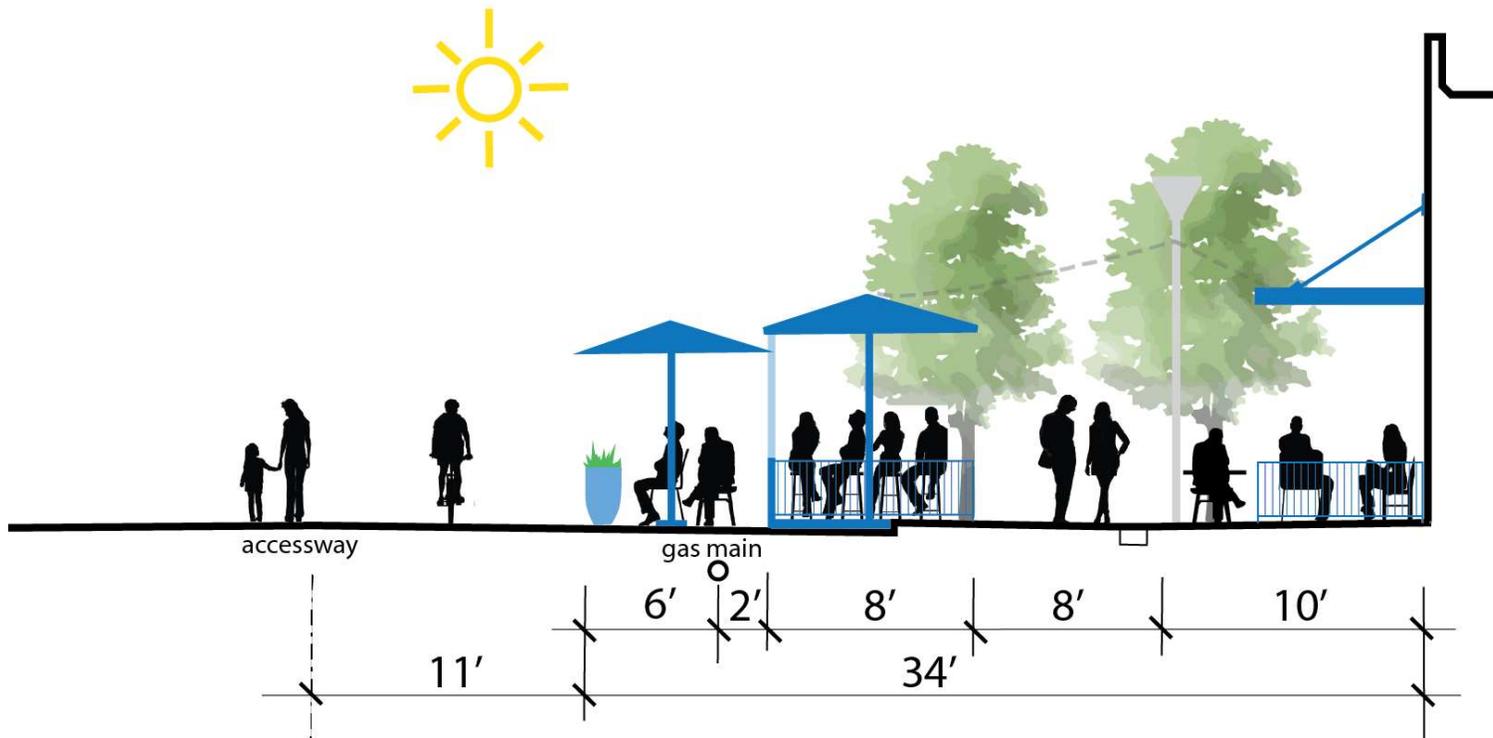


**PERMITTED
With
Building Permit**

Existing Outdoor Dining - 22' wide sidewalk

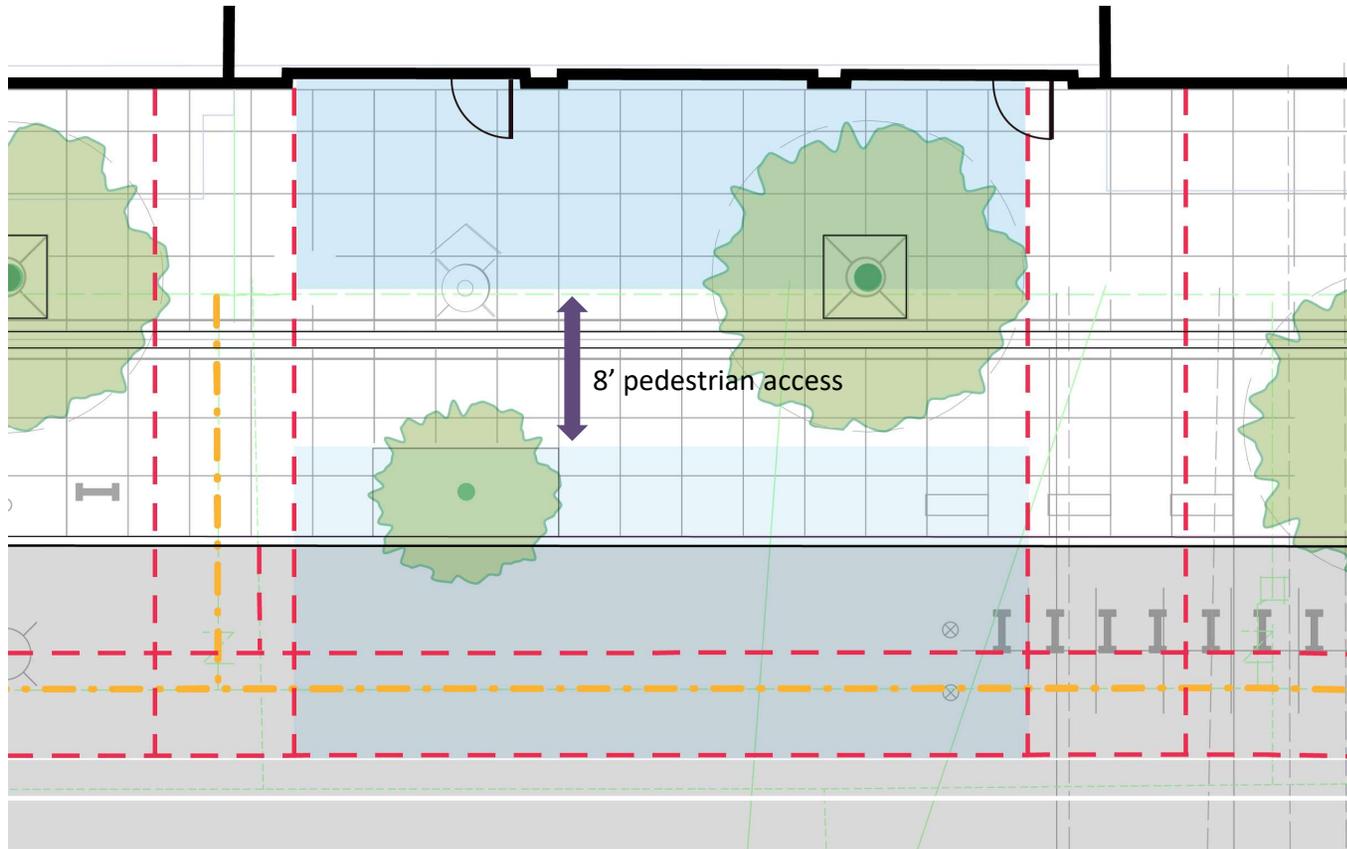


Parklet, Awning, Railing – Sunny Day



Other options for emergency gas line access may include constructing platforms only without roofs with removable panels, or other improvements that can be quickly and easily removed on short notice.

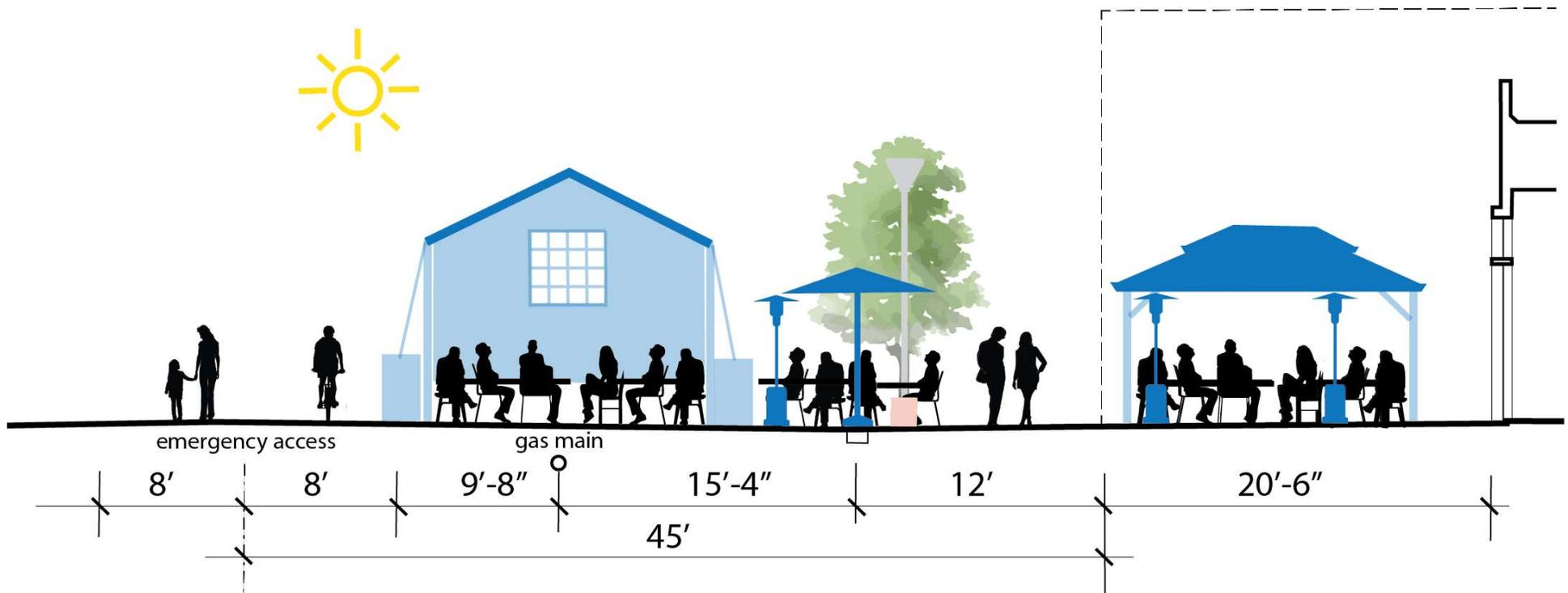
Setbacks and Permitted Dining Area



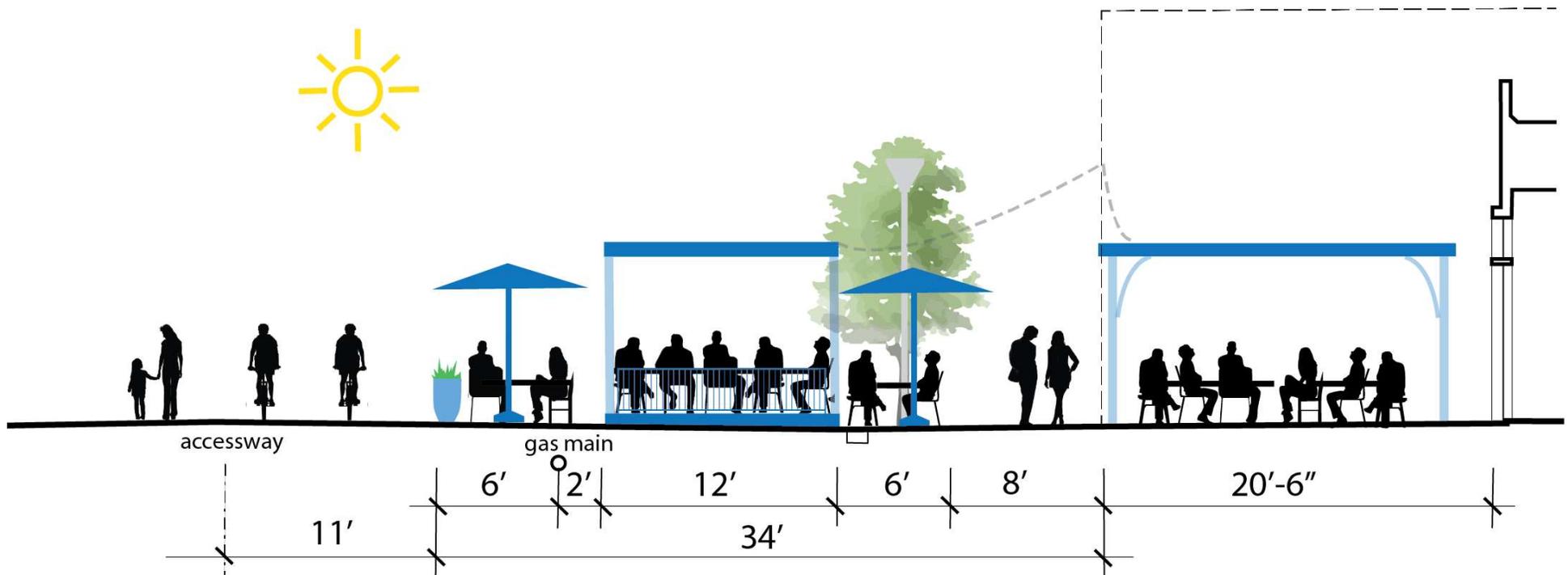
Parklet & Outdoor Dining – ADA Access



Existing Outdoor Dining - Level Sidewalk & Roadway

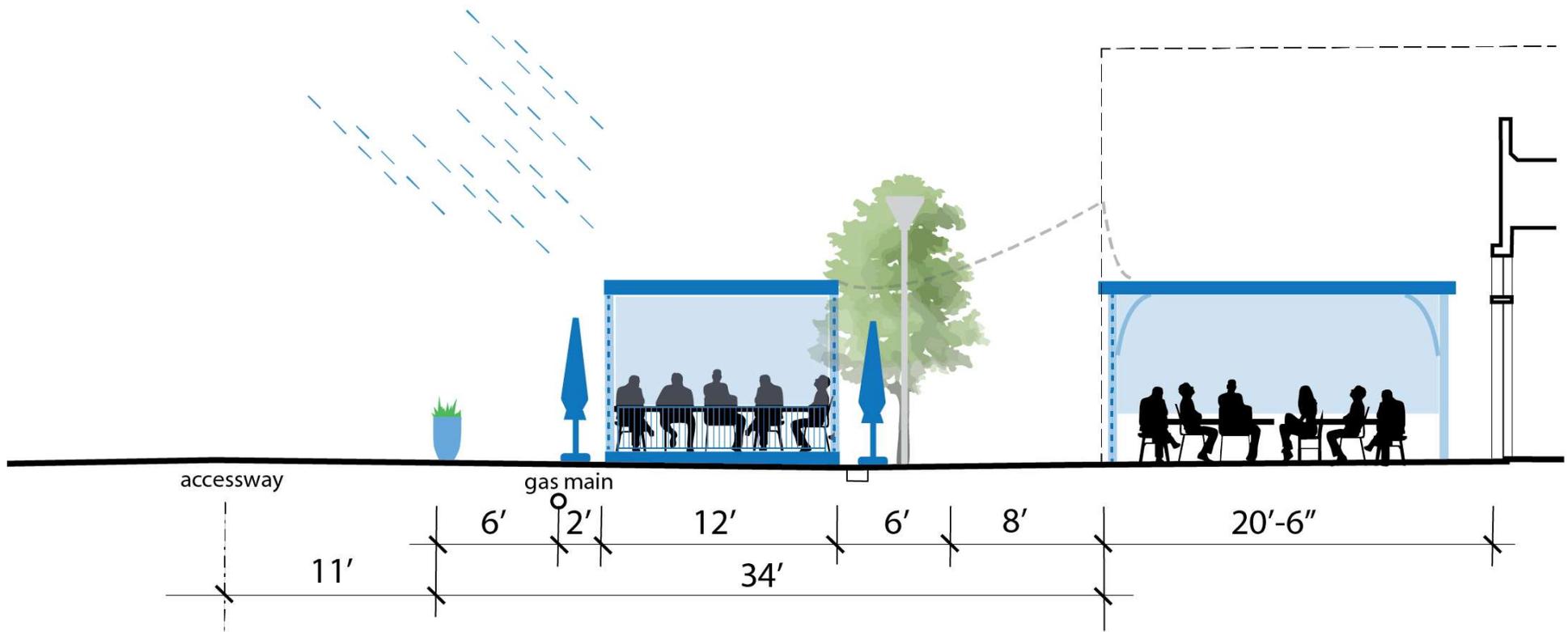


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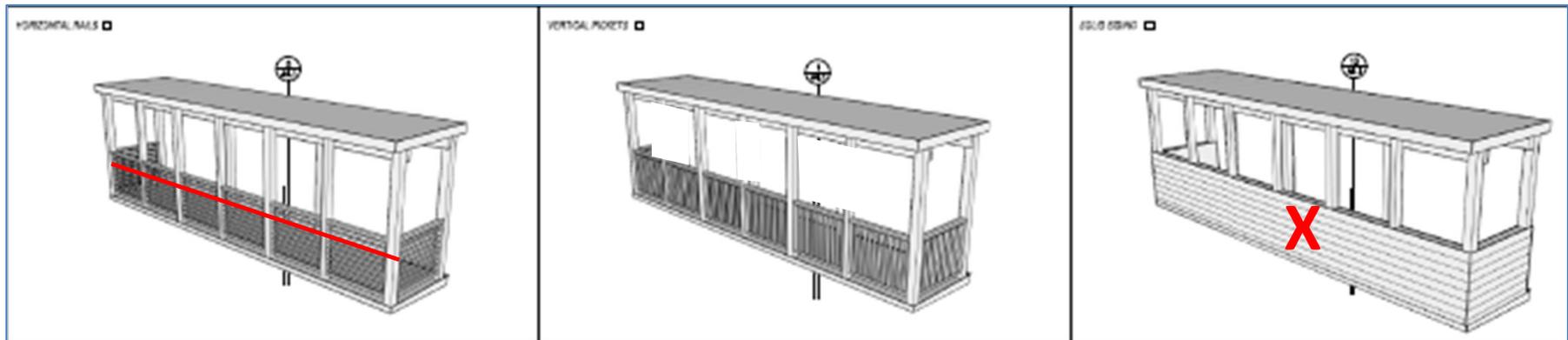
Existing Outdoor Dining - Level Sidewalk & Roadway



Pre-Approved Parklet Modifications

Increase Transparency

- No solid walls
- Lower railings from 42 inches to 30 inches, 50% transparent
- Fewer structural posts
- Low curb at platforms

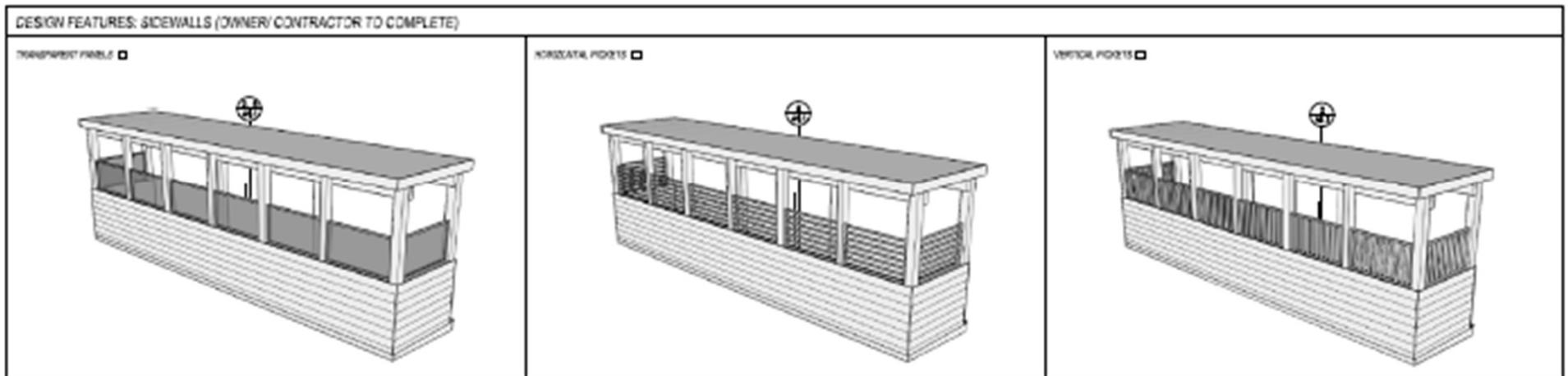


Existing Pre-Approved Parklet Exhibits to Change

Pre-Approved Parklet Modifications

Weather Options

- Laminated glass or plexi-glass screens
- Retractable shades for sun/wind



Existing Pre-Approved Parklet Exhibits to Change