

Government of the District of Columbia  
Department of Transportation



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **DDOT's Online Permitting System Now Accepts Sidewalk Café Applications**

**(Washington, DC)** The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) announced today that the sidewalk café permit process now appears under the [Annual Permit category in the Transportation Online Permitting System \(TOPS\)](#). All first-time sidewalk café permit applicants can submit their applications in this category. The permitting system now allows users to enter the number of tables, chairs, umbrellas, etc., for which they are applying. The system also allows users to enter the hours and days of operation and upload all supporting documents (such as lease agreements, liability insurance, and site plans for the sidewalk café).

TOPS' integrated system helps users along in this process by conveniently forwarding the sidewalk café application to the Public Space Committee for review and tracking its review timeline. TOPS also automatically captures the height of the fence and dimensions of the sidewalk the applicant is proposing to occupy.

DDOT plans to continue making enhancements to TOPS and hopes to incorporate valet event venue permits in the future.

### **About TOPS**

TOPS is an online system that enables homeowners, tenants, and businesses alike to apply for specific types of public space occupancy, construction, excavation, annual or rental permits required for use of the public space within the District of Columbia. For more information on TOPS, please visit <https://tops.ddot.dc.gov>.

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