

Restaurants, Taverns & Night Clubs

Planning Commission Workshop

Overview

- To create clear and concise definitions that reflect contemporary practices
- Avoid conflicts between regulations relating to dancing
- Ensure consistent application of codes and policies across the City
- Establish objective criteria
- Protect public welfare

Current Regulations

- Fresno Municipal Code regulates zone districts for specific uses
 - 1994, CUP were required for alcohol sales
- A plethora of definitions
- 16 zone districts that permit such activities
- Department policy (1996) regulates dance permits (i.e., Café, Social, & Commercial Dancing)

Current Regulations

- Dance permits are currently issued by the Finance Department
- Permit is reviewed by the Planning Dept., Police, Risk Management & Fire
- 12 am closure policy
- Restaurants transform into other uses to generate revenue
- Approx. 62 active dance permits

New Definitions

➤ RESTAURANT:

...a restaurant may provide entertainment for the customer by performers of the arts (music, dance, comedy, readings, etc.), and differs from a Night Club in that it does not provide for customer dancing. A restaurant also differs from a Tavern because it must prepare and serve food at all times during business hours.

New Definitions

- **BAR, TAVERN, COCKTAIL LOUNGE, PUB:**
....while a Tavern may have facilities for performers of the arts (music, comedy, etc.) for the entertainment of the customer, it differs from a Night Club in that it does not provide floor space for customer dancing. A Tavern differs from a Restaurant in that it is not required to prepare and serve food at all times during business hours.

New Definitions

➤ NIGHT CLUB:

.....Night Club differs from either a Restaurant or Tavern in that dancing by the customer is permitted. The serving of food, before, during and after performances and/or dancing is optional.

Overview of Regulations

- Table format that is user friendly
- Setbacks from residences
- Gross floor areas
- Closing hours
- Granting Authority (i.e., Planning Director, Planning Commission, City Council)

New Section

- Public noticing requirements
- Revocation process (automatic initiation)
- Notice tenants/owners and posting of the site
- Noise studies
- Loitering in parking lots
- Change of ownership
- 3rd party promoters
- Closures/Start-ups
- Special Events such as holidays
- Dance permits

Process

- 4 stakeholder meetings
- Draft ordinance will be distributed for comments & posted on our website
- Will be reviewed by the Airport Land Use Commission
- Will be reviewed by all Community Advisory Committees
- Planning Commission
- City Council (2 public hearings)

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