



# The City of *Saline*

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## Memorandum

**From:** Community Development Director Ben Harrington

**Date:** May 20, 2024

**Subject:** 24-97 Downtown Social District

**Background Brief:** In collaboration with Saline Main Street, the City of Saline proposes creating a Social District on South Ann Arbor Street.

A social district allows consumers to buy a carry-out beverage from a participating establishment and carry/consume the beverage within a defined "Commons Area".

Roughly speaking, the proposed Commons Area is the sidewalk along South Ann Arbor Street between Michigan Avenue and Henry Street, as well as Leather Bucket Alley. The Commons Area will also include the West Henry Street Public Parking lot during Salty Summer Sounds (Thursday nights) and the Farmer's Market (Saturday morning).

Monday through Thursday, the District will begin operations at 4 pm and close at 10 pm. Friday through Sunday, the district will open at 10 am and close at 10 pm.

In compliance with State law, Main Street and the City put together an operations plan. Given the district's relatively limited geographic area, we do not anticipate many issues with the maintenance or operation of the district. Saline Main Street will provide the signage for the district this year and is assisting restaurants with the State-required specially marked cups. Main Street will also monitor the waste receptacle placed in Leather Bucket Alley.

Both City representatives and Main Street have spoken at length with the participating restaurants who are aware of the rules/guidelines of the district. Saline Main Street has also contacted downtown businesses to gauge their interest/support in the establishment of the district.

Lastly, as stated in the Maintenance and Operations plan, as well as found in the relevant State Law, the City Council reserves the right to make amendments to the district's operation should it deem it necessary.

**Recommended Motion:**

MOVED

SECONDED

To **acknowledge** receipt of the memo from Director Harrington and **approve or not approve** the Downtown Saline Social District in accordance with the maintenance and operations plan.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Social\\_District\\_Resolution.pdf](#)

[MAP - Daily Social District Location](#)

[Sign Placement A](#)

[MAP - Thursday Night and Saturday Morning Social District Location](#)

[Sign Placement B](#)

[FINAL - Management and Operations Plan](#)

[Police Chief Memo for Social District](#)

[Fire Chief Memo for Social District](#)

[Social District Requirements for Local Governments.pdf](#)

[Salt - Social District Permit Application](#)

[Brecon - Social District Permit Application](#)

[SMS President - List of Downtown Businesses Contacted](#)