

RESOLUTION NO. 1171-21

**A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE USE OF TEMPORARY TENTS
AND OUTDOOR DINING, DUE TO COVID-19, IN THE TOWN OF BEL AIR,
THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2022.**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Maryland proclaimed a state of emergency, on March 5, 2020, and later enacted multiple safety measures, including prohibiting all restaurants and bars from providing food or beverage for consumption on premises, for the entire state of Maryland, due to the impending threat and continuing impact of the contagious disease known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners supported and enforced these measures while simultaneously taking additional actions, in accordance with the Governor's executive orders, to promote economic recovery by permitting expanded outdoor seating at restaurants, bars, and breweries, and suspending certain provisions of the Bel Air Town Code, including but not limited to, the use of temporary structures (tents); and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Maryland, as of March 12, 2021, has allowed restaurants and bars to operate at full capacity for indoor dining; and

WHEREAS, however, outdoor seating at restaurants, bars, breweries, and nightclubs, is safer and less likely to lead to the spread of COVID-19 than indoor dining; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate and encourage the continuation of social distancing and to encourage and promote the continued operation of outdoor seating areas, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners find it necessary to temporarily extend the suspension of certain provisions of the Bel Air Town Code, including but not limited to, the use of temporary structures (tents) to encourage outdoor dining.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners that provisions of the Bel Air Town Code, including but not limited to, Chapter 145 Building Construction, and Chapter 165 Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations, pertaining to limitations on the temporary use of temporary structures (tents), shall be suspended until January 15, 2022.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners that this Resolution shall take effect on July 19, 2021.

ENACTMENT: July 19, 2021

EFFECTIVE:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Amy G. Chmielewski, Chair
Board of Town Commissioners

Michael Krantz, Town Clerk