

**2023 Outdoor Patio Proposal
for
The Paisley Common Restaurant
526 Queen Street South
Paisley, ON**

Patio Proposal for The Paisley Common, 526 Queen Street South, Paisley, ON

2021 Context

- In the summer of 2021, the Arran-Elderslie council approved an outdoor patio to be erected in front of The Paisley Common restaurant

The patio was considered a great success:

1. It was enjoyed by all of our patrons, local townspeople and tourists alike; people wanted a place to eat outdoors in our beautiful town, especially during the pandemic
2. It helped to slow down traffic, which generally runs fast on our main street, and led people to get out of their vehicles to walk on the downtown core and enjoy the local businesses and street art
3. The patio had support of Bruce County; so much so that we were provided a grant by the County to build the patio structure that is now reusable for years to come

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2022 Context (the motion was denied in April 2022)

- The bridge reconstruction project has started, and traffic will be diverted to the temporary bridge within the next month. This creates a lot of uncertainty for our town: potentially fewer visitors and less through traffic, reducing the potential for a strong tourist economy that is vital to our local businesses
- In light of the bridge construction and the ongoing uncertainty of Covid, it is our strong belief that we continue to need amenities in our town like an outdoor patio to encourage people to come to our town and enjoy themselves – **this is about stimulating economic development for all of our businesses in light of economic uncertainty driven by the bridge reconstruction**
- In March 2022, the Arran-Elderslie town council denied a motion to re-establish The Paisley Common patio in the same form as last year. Some of the key reasons for this, as we understand it, are:
 1. **Parking availability** – it is believed that parking scarcity is an issue already, the patio will only exacerbate this
 2. **Disability parking** – some citizens have raised concerns that moving the handicapped parking spot creates issues for the elderly and those with disabilities – proximity to the lawyer's office, bank and drug store are critical
 3. **Public safety** – it is believed that because of construction uncertainty and due to high speed traffic that generally flows down the main street, we are putting people in harm's way by setting up a patio
- **We are listening intently to these concerns and would like to propose a compromise to council**

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2023 Updated Proposal to Council – A Compromise

We are humbly requesting the following:

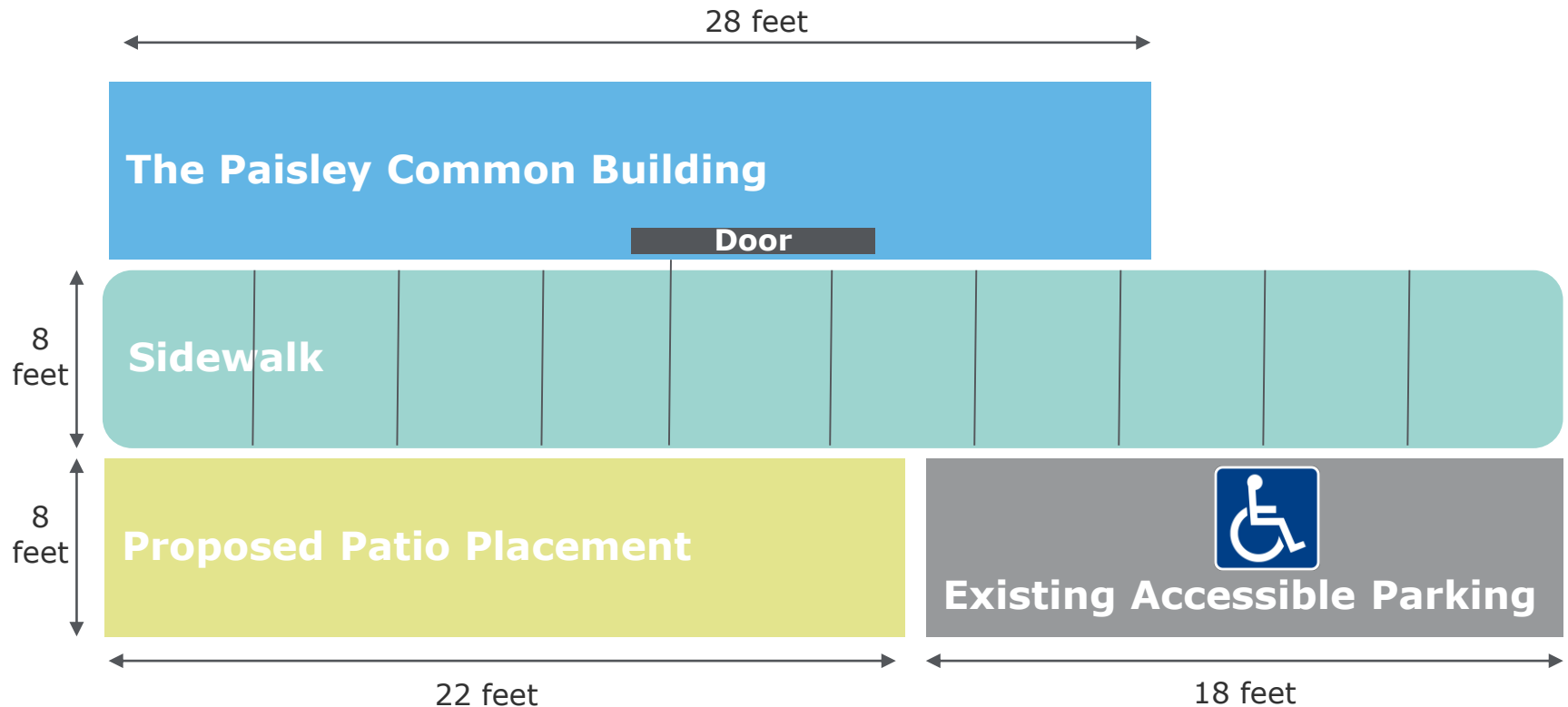
- Erect a smaller patio in the front – **22 feet long instead of 36 feet long**
- This would cover one parking spot instead of two, and leave the Accessible Parking spot intact and available – it will be on the left side of the building when facing it
- All safety precautions will be undertaken, including signage, reflectors, rebar rails
- No encroachment on neighbouring properties' parking
- We will also limit the use of umbrellas when there are no patrons sitting at the tables to optimize sight lines
- We will only have two tables on the patio, but it still send the signal 'Paisley is open for business'

Why are asking again, despite council denying motion in 2022?

- Paisley needs this – we need to generate as much 'buzz' in our community to encourage visitors during our bridge reconstruction
- **We maintain a petition with signatures from 275 people** – many of whom are local – to keep our patio and to enjoy our patio – there is strong demand to have this in our community
- We want to do everything we can to maintain our sustainability and viability as a business during the bridge reconstruction – we employ 20+ people and we want to maintain every one of these jobs
- This is a positive step forward for Paisley – a thriving community of residents, entrepreneurs, and artists
- We have advocacy from Bruce County; the Bruce County Warden and the Mayor of the Town of South Bruce Peninsula, Janice Jackson, is supportive of this idea and recognizes compromises are critical to a strong democracy – the road is Bruce County land and our County supports this

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Proposed Floor Plan – Bird's eye view



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Quotes from our Patrons and Citizens of Paisley

"Traffic will be at a crawl this summer with the bridge re-construction, all local businesses should be able to have a patio with advertised parking on side streets. Let's get this town rockin, give the small business owners a chance....Add the patios, slow the traffic." – **Mike Watt, Paisley resident and general manager of Home Hardware in Port Elgin**

"Patios add fun and life to our restaurant dining experience and encourage people to stop and explore our local businesses. Patios are good for Paisley!" – **Daniel Liu, Paisley resident and Owner, Midtown Convenience**

"I don't understand why they'd deny having the patio. It's a great outdoor space for locals to congregate...James and Ranna are amazing hosts and the perfect people to welcome passerbys to our town....the community is changing, growing and that's okay." – **Lindsey Grummet, Paisley resident, and Communications Specialist, Bruce Power**

"We have to recover from two years COVID,, and now the bridge... we need creative options...[the patio is a creative option]" – **Tammie Mcfarlane, Paisley resident and Owner, Tomboi Ice Cream**