

# DOWNTOWN HAPPY HOUR

Join us Thursdays from 5 until 6 pm (EST) on Facebook Live as we discuss how our communities are adapting to the ever-changing landscape caused by the COVID-19 outbreak.



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or  
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+MAIN**

## Parking

We've put out stanchions/cones with signs that say "take out order parking only" in front of restaurants

Our city has made temporary parking signs for curbside delivery downtown!

Athens allowed designated parking for curbside pickup for all businesses.

We were allowed to take two street parking spaces for curb side pick-up.

"Special Event Parking" to modify parking resources for temporary pick-ups.

## Food Service

Distilleries converting equipment to hand-sanitizer.

Virtual Tip Jar: Reaching out to your favorite bartenders and servers and Venmo or Messenger Pay them your tip and a word of support

Local farmers / CSAs partnering with local restaurants to sell / distribute groceries.

Beer and wine to go with take out (with delivery permitted in some areas).

Virtual Date Night: Pre-order alcohol and food, curbside pick-up, live-stream wine tasting.

Offer take out order donations for health care and emergency workers.

Family-style dinners with larger portions for an entire family

Restaurants providing meals to children in need.

Restaurants giving proceeds from gift card sale to their employees who are out of work now.

Take and bake baked goods orders.

Add an extra tip on to-go orders to support the staff.

## Notes from our 3-20-2020 broadcast

## Retail

Private shopping by appointment only.

Call-ahead retail order pick-up

Merchants need to focus on online sales up and digitizing inventory!

## Community Organization

One of our communities had board members donate money so they could buy gift cards to downtown businesses to then raffle off. This shows a ton of community pride, from afar!

Possibly starting an online campaign where people share their favorite experiences/memories at local spots.

Donate time to community cleanup.

Main Streets can be more nimble than many other organizations.

This is a prime opportunity for Main Street to step up and become the source for innovative ideas and outreach.

Front yard/porch clean up in neighborhoods.

Write messages of encouragement with chalk in front of businesses

People have to accept iteration and failure as all part of this process. It's forcing us all to be more creative, flexible and improve our systems for sure.

Hold virtual Committee meetings via Facebook groups - to keep everyone up to date on what everyone is doing.

Create tech sheets for Businesses, downtown programs and customers that go out to Main Street and Rural Communities

## Other Services

Yoga studios and fitness centers live-streaming workouts.

Social distanced yoga classes in the park  
Downtown fabric shop made free fabric to-go bags for kiddos for arts & crafts projects, to learn how to sew, etc. while school is out.

Our local newspaper is offering free ads to bars/restaurants/retail businesses who are trying to adjust their business model to make things work.

Downtown art gallery rearranged the exhibit to be placed in front of the large front windows so people can either drive or walk by and still view the exhibit.

Columbus Arts Council is hosting a virtual art show and a couple of concerts and art classes. We are going to have a donation button so the artist will get paid

A local photographer is offering to take photos for businesses for online platforms for free.

Virtual Music Classes