

Planning Division



SUMMARY

In December 2025, Planning Division provided an overview of current live entertainment process.

Staff discussed a possible “hybrid” model for an administrative approval for certain requests and redefining the current definition of “live entertainment”

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Provide staff with comments and/or direction on:

- Proposed draft Entertainment Ordinance
- Draft Entertainment Permit Application

Division Outreach

Staff conducted public outreach:

- Individual meetings with CUP holders
- Larger group meeting for business owners for potential live entertainment

Common concerns with current process:

- More flexibility should be allowed to allow businesses to remain dynamic and relevant
- Frustration on required information (templates)

Draft Entertainment Ordinance & Entertainment Permit Application



VISALIA ZONING ORDINANCE PROPOSED UPDATE

Definitions

Updated/Added definitions:

- Entertainment
- Acoustical music
- Ambient music
- Security Personnel

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Zone Use Matrix

Commercial, Mixed Use, Office, and Industrial Zones Use Matrix <i>P = Use is Permitted by Right C = Use Requires Conditional Use Permit</i> <i>T = Use Requires Temporary Use Permit Blank = Use is Not Allowed</i>											
	USE	Commercial and Mixed Use Zones					Office Zones			Industrial Zones	
		C-N	C-R	C-S	C-MU	D-MU	O-PA	O-C	BRP	I-L	I
E3	Micro-breweries/micro-wineries (with or without restaurants)	C	P	C	C	C			C	C	C
	Micro-breweries/micro-wineries (with or without restaurants) (with or without entertainment)	C	P	C	C	C			C	C	C
E4	Craft distilleries			P	C	C				C	C
E5	Cafeterias	P	P	P	P	P	C		P	C	C
E6	Quick Service/Fast Food Restaurants	P	P	P	P	P	C		P		
E7	Quick Service/Fast Food Restaurants (Industrial Zone)									P	P
E8	Live Entertainment		C		C	C					
	Entertainment till 10:00 P.M.		P		P	P					
	Entertainment past 10:00 P.M.		C		C	C					
E9	Sit-Down Restaurant/Café	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
E10	EVENT CENTERS		C		C	C	C				

ENTERTAINMENT PRIOR TO 10:00PM

Submittal & Approval of Entertainment Permit

Complete Entertainment Permit Application required as well as:

- Site Plan
- Floor Plan
- Description of type of entertainment
- Security Plan

Application is comprehensive and serves as a template for applicants.

30-day Review
Process

Reviewed by
Planning, Code
Enforcement, PD,
Fire, Building

Approved / Denied
Administratively

Examples of entertainment allowed with an **Entertainment Permit**:

Karaoke and DJ hosts ending at 9:00PM

Comedy Night with multiple performers ending at 10:00pm

Line dancing classes ending at 8:00PM with music and dancing continuing till 9:30PM

Open Mic at ending at 8:30 PM

Bands playing amplified music ending at 10:00PM

Bingo/Trivia with amplification playing music and host starting at 10:00am



ENTERTAINMENT PAST 10:00PM

Submittal & Approval of Conditional Use Permit

The current CUP process provides a project-specific review tailored to each establishment which provides staff with the ability to impose case-by-case operating conditions.

Discretionary approval and each request reviewed on a project-by-project basis.

Process includes
staff review (Site
Plan Review),
public hearing
notices within
300-feet of site,
Planning
Commission
approval

Examples of type of uses applicable to a Conditional Use Permit:

- Karaoke and DJ on Wednesdays and Fridays ending at 11:00 PM
- Comedy Night with multiple performers ending at 12:00 AM
- Line Dancing and Salsa Dancing classes ending at 8:00 PM with music and dancing continuing till 12:30 AM
- DJ ending at 2:00 AM
- Bands with amplification ending at 11:30 PM

BASELINE CONDITIONS

Baseline conditions have been included that will be applied to Entertainment Permits.

With the exception of the Time Restriction baseline condition, all other baseline conditions listed in the ordinance will be applied to CUPs for Entertainment.

The Planning Commission, may require additional conditions of approval of a CUP for entertainment based on the specific location and operational characteristics of the business.

Type, Manner, & Hours of Operation

Noise

Occupancy

Security Plan

Conditional Use Permit Time Restrictions

Baseline conditions also applicable to all businesses with a CUP for Entertainment with the exception of the following:

Time Restriction.

- Business shall not conduct Entertainment regulated under this code section between the hours of 1:30 a.m. through 11:00 a.m.
- The time restrictions may be further limited by an applicable conditional use permit or an Entertainment Permit.

Uses not requiring an Entertainment Permit or a CUP for Entertainment:

- A three-piece mariachi group walking around the inside of a restaurant without amplification prior to 10:00 P.M.
- A solo singer with a guitar performing without amplification prior to 10:00 P.M.
- An open stage event with multiple small music groups performing without amplification at a brewery prior to 10:00 P.M.
- A violinist performing without amplification prior to 10:00 P.M.



Existing CUPs for Entertainment

Existing CUP holders may apply for to complement their existing CUP for entertainment.

Administrative level approval

- More restrictive in hours of entertainment
- More flexible in the types of entertainment

If the business owner wants to increase the hours of entertainment till after 10:00PM, an amendment to the existing CUP will be required.

A business owner who currently has a CUP that allows amplified bands on Fridays and Saturdays till 1:00 A.M, can apply for an Entertainment Permit to include:

- DJ on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only till 10:00 PM
- Karaoke and Bingo on Sundays from 10:00AM – 12:00 PM

Acoustical guitarist to play during dinner service, from 5:00pm to 9:00pm, can do so without an amendment to the CUP and without the need of an Entertainment Permit.

Entertainment Permit Non-transferable

Fees for Entertainment Permit

same fee of Temporary Co

Appeals

nment Permit, the admin

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

ALTERNATIVE

Recommended motion, direct
e Chapter 17.32.155

Questions & Discussion

