

County to Begin Permitting of Outdoor Dog Friendly Dining Facilities

On April 12, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance that will become effective on July 1, 2016, to provide an exception to the provisions of Chapter 509 of Florida Statutes. Pursuant to Chapter 509 of Florida Statutes, outdoor dog dining at restaurants is not allowed unless the local government establishes, by ordinance, a local exemption providing the permit requirements to allow outdoor dog dining. Food service establishments that wish to receive a permit to provide outdoor dog-friendly dining areas for their restaurant patrons will need to submit an application and an initial review fee of \$100 (\$50 annual renewal fee thereafter). The new ordinance will only apply to those areas outside the municipal limits of the City of Tallahassee. For specific details on the dog-friendly dining area requirements, please refer to the adopted ordinance, which is accessible on the Leon County Department of Development Support and Environmental Management (DSEM) website at www.leonpermits.org. The Outdoor Dog Dining Permit Application, including instructions for completion and submittal, will also be available on the DSEM website on July 1, 2016.

For information regarding this ordinance, application requirements, submittal process or other compliance related issues, please contact Ryan Culpepper, Director of Development Services at (850) 606-1300.