

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-005

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CULVER, INDIANA ESTABLISHING A DESIGNATED OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (DORA)

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Culver, Indiana finds that the establishment of a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (“DORA”) will promote tourism, economic development, downtown vitality, and community engagement within the downtown business district; and

WHEREAS, Indiana law permits municipalities to establish designated areas in which alcoholic beverages may be consumed outdoors pursuant to applicable provisions of Indiana alcoholic beverage laws and regulations administered by the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to establish a DORA encompassing businesses whose primary public access is located on Main Street between Jefferson Street and Madison Street within the Town of Culver; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the establishment of a DORA in the downtown area is in the best interests of the residents, businesses, and visitors of the Town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Culver, Indiana, as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the “Town of Culver Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area Ordinance.”

SECTION 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (“DORA”) within the Main Street business district of the Town of Culver to permit the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages purchased from authorized permittees within designated public areas, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and all applicable Indiana laws and regulations.

SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF DORA

The Town of Culver hereby establishes a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (“DORA”) consisting of the downtown Main Street corridor between Jefferson Street and Madison Street.

The DORA shall include businesses whose primary public entrance or customer access is located on Main Street within the following boundaries:

- Beginning at the intersection of Main Street and Jefferson Street;
- Continuing along Main Street to Madison Street; and
- Including adjoining sidewalks, designated public gathering spaces, and participating businesses approved by the Town.

SECTION 4. DESIGNATED RETAIL PERMITTEE

The following business is hereby designated as an authorized retail permittee within the DORA:

- Cafe Max

Additional businesses holding valid permits issued by the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission and approved by the Town may participate in the DORA upon compliance with this Ordinance and any administrative rules adopted by the Town.

Participating businesses located within the DORA boundaries include, but are not limited to, businesses whose primary access fronts Main Street between Jefferson Street and Madison Street.

SECTION 5. BUSINESS OPT-IN REQUIREMENT

A. Participation in the DORA shall be voluntary.

B. Any business located within the DORA boundaries may elect to participate in the DORA by submitting a written opt-in participation agreement on forms approved by the Town.

C. Businesses choosing not to participate in the DORA may prohibit the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on their premises.

D. Participating businesses shall display Town-approved signage indicating whether alcoholic beverages purchased within the DORA are permitted on the premises.

E. The Town may maintain and publish a current list of participating businesses.

F. A participating business may withdraw from participation in the DORA by providing written notice to the Town.

SECTION 6. HOURS AND DAYS OF OPERATION

The Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area shall operate:

- Monday through Sunday from 11 AM – 9 PM

The Town Council may establish or amend specific hours of operation by resolution from time to time.

SECTION 7. CONTAINERS AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

A. Alcoholic beverages consumed within the DORA shall be purchased only from authorized participating permittees.

B. Alcoholic beverages must be served in designated non-glass containers approved by the Town and clearly marked to identify the participating permittee.

C. No person shall carry or possess alcoholic beverages outside the designated DORA boundaries. Clearly marked trash reciprocals will be located at the DORA set limits for the disposal of DORA purchased alcohol.

D. No person under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall possess or consume alcoholic beverages within the DORA.

E. All alcoholic beverage sales and consumption shall comply with Indiana law and regulations of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission.

SECTION 8. SIGNAGE

The Town shall install and maintain signage identifying the boundaries of the DORA.

Signage shall be placed at designated entry points and along the following streets:

- Jefferson Street
- Madison Street

- Main Street

The signage shall notify the public of:

1. The existence of the DORA;
2. Applicable rules and restrictions;
3. Prohibited conduct; and
4. Boundary limitations.

SECTION 9. RULES AND ENFORCEMENT

A. The Town Marshal, law enforcement officers, and authorized Town officials shall have authority to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

B. Any violation of this Ordinance may result in:

- Removal from the DORA;
- Civil penalties;
- Suspension of participation privileges for permittees; and/or
- Any other remedies authorized by law.

C. Participating businesses shall cooperate with the Town and law enforcement regarding public safety and compliance.

SECTION 10. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY

The Town Manager, Clerk-Treasurer, or their designee is authorized to develop administrative policies, maps, applications, operational rules, and procedures necessary for implementation of the DORA.

SECTION 11. DORA MAP (See Exhibit A)

Included Area:

Businesses with primary public access on Main Street between Jefferson Street and Madison Street.

The official DORA boundary map shall be maintained by the Town Clerk-Treasurer and may be amended administratively to reflect participating businesses, public areas, and signage locations consistent with this Ordinance.

SECTION 12. SEVERABILITY

If any section, provision, or part of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage by the Town Council, approval by the President of the Town Council, and publication as required by Indiana law.

RESOLVED this day of January 2026.

TOWN COUNCIL of TOWN OF CULVER of Culver, Indiana.

William Cleaveger, President

Sally Ricciardi, Vice President

Ginny Munroe, Member

Dana Neer, Member

Joe Day, Member

Karen Heim, Clerk-Treasurer (Attest)

Exhibit A: DORA LIMITS

