



Ordinance 11, 2023

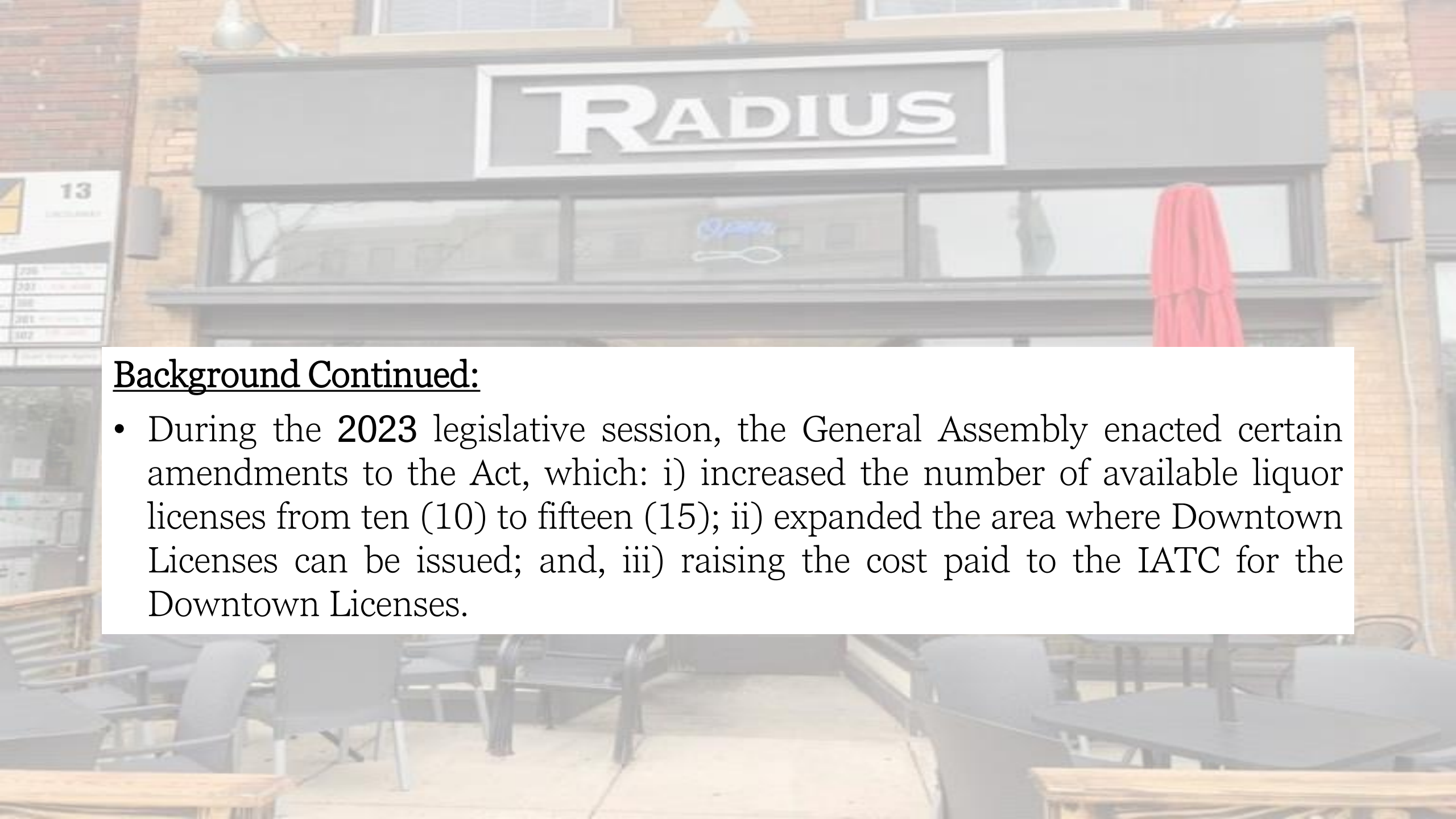
**ADOPTING SECOND AMENDED CRITERIA FOR LICENSE
ALLOCATION AND APPLICANT COMPLIANCE FOR A
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN LIQUOR LICENSE**

August 28, 2023
Patrick Lyp, City Attorney



Background:

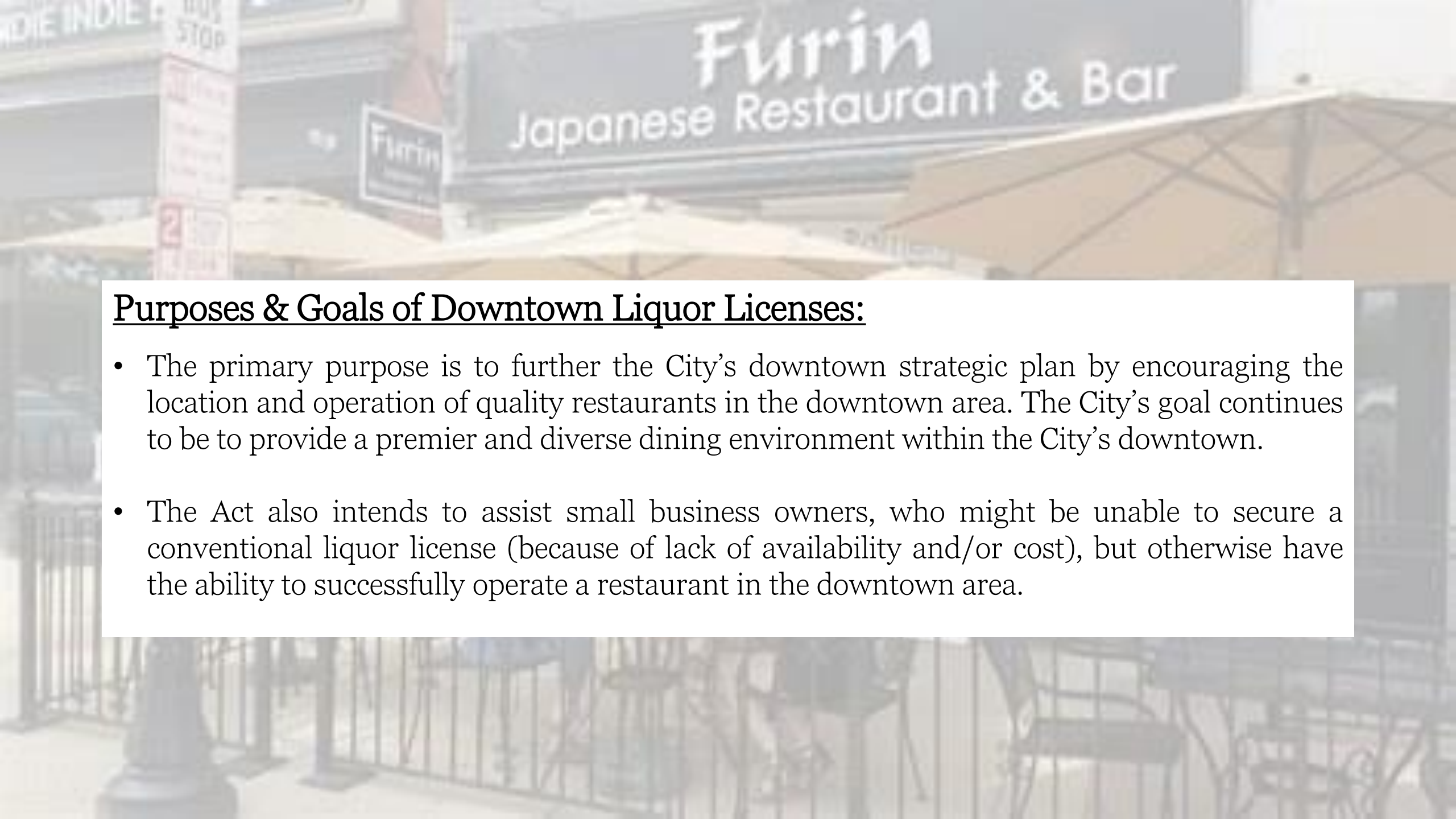
- During the **2005** legislative session, the General Assembly permitted the Indiana Alcoholic and Tobacco Commission (“IATC”) to issue ten 10 liquor licenses to restaurants in downtown Valparaiso.
- The Valparaiso City Council is responsible for making recommendations to IATC.
- During the **2015** legislative session, the General Assembly enacted certain amendments to the Act, which: i) further clarified the prohibition on the transfer of Downtown Licenses; ii) required a holder of a Downtown License to execute a Written Commitment with the City as to the “character and type” of restaurant; iii) afforded a greater oversight role to the City in the Downtown License renewal process and, iv) terminated a Downtown License if the holder ceases business operations for more than 6 months.

The background image shows the exterior of a brick building. A large, dark rectangular sign with the word 'RADIUS' in white, stylized capital letters is mounted above a large window. To the left of the sign, a small white sign with the number '13' is visible. Below the main window, there is an outdoor patio area with several tables and chairs. A red patio umbrella is partially visible on the right side of the patio. The overall scene is slightly faded, suggesting a background image for a presentation or document.

RADIUS

Background Continued:

- During the **2023** legislative session, the General Assembly enacted certain amendments to the Act, which: i) increased the number of available liquor licenses from ten (10) to fifteen (15); ii) expanded the area where Downtown Licenses can be issued; and, iii) raising the cost paid to the IATC for the Downtown Licenses.



Purposes & Goals of Downtown Liquor Licenses:

- The primary purpose is to further the City's downtown strategic plan by encouraging the location and operation of quality restaurants in the downtown area. The City's goal continues to be to provide a premier and diverse dining environment within the City's downtown.
- The Act also intends to assist small business owners, who might be unable to secure a conventional liquor license (because of lack of availability and/or cost), but otherwise have the ability to successfully operate a restaurant in the downtown area.



Purposes & Goals of Downtown Liquor Licenses Continued:

- Increase the number and variety of distinctive and unique restaurants that operate in Valparaiso's downtown.
- Use the license allocation program to encourage recipients to make improvements to their buildings, participate in unified marketing efforts, encourage a healthy and fun atmosphere in the downtown, and to generally improve downtown commercial activity.

PIKK'S
TAVERN

As of August 2023, nine Downtown Licenses are in use.

- Blockhead Beerworks
- Blue Point Oyster & Sushi Bar
- Don Quijote
- Furin
- Main & Lincoln
- Pikk's Tavern
- Peddlers Pizza Pub
- Radius
- Ricochet





MAIN + LINCOLN

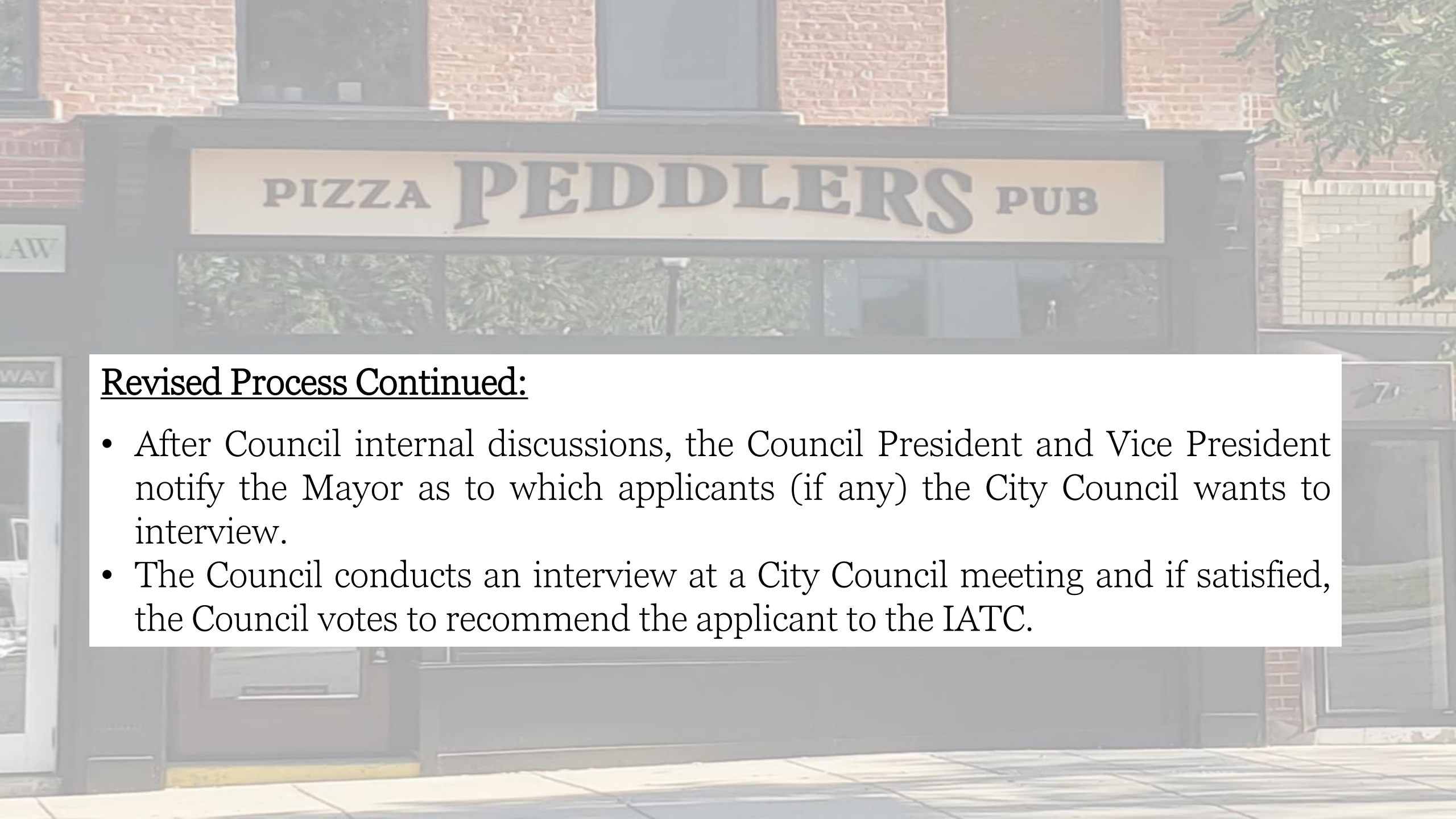
Primary Change:

- Prior references to “upscale” have been removed, but the general sentiment that applicants must operate a food-focused restaurant remains.

A photograph of a restaurant sign for 'Don Quijote Restaurant and' mounted on a brick building. The sign is illuminated and features a small logo on the left. A red awning is visible below the sign, and green foliage is on the right side of the frame.

Revised Process:

- The City Council provides notice that it is accepting Applications and establishes a deadline to apply.
- Upon receipt of Applications, City Staff conducts an initial review.
- The City Council may appoint a Council member as a liaison to participate in the City Staff review process.
- Once the review is complete, City Staff comments (with all submitted materials) are shared with the entire Council.



PIZZA PEDDLERS PUB

Revised Process Continued:

- After Council internal discussions, the Council President and Vice President notify the Mayor as to which applicants (if any) the City Council wants to interview.
- The Council conducts an interview at a City Council meeting and if satisfied, the Council votes to recommend the applicant to the IATC.

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RICOCHET

Questions?

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