

Request for Proposals (RFP)
Stamford Downtown – Outdoor Sidewalk Dining Fencing System

1. Introduction

Stamford Downtown Special Services District (“Stamford Downtown”) is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to design, supply, and potentially install a high-quality, modular fencing system for outdoor sidewalk dining areas within the downtown district.

The goal of this initiative is to create a cohesive, durable, and aesthetically elevated streetscape that supports local restaurants while ensuring safety, flexibility, and long-term performance in a challenging urban environment.

2. Project Background & Objectives

Stamford Downtown supports a vibrant restaurant community with outdoor dining along key corridors. Certain streets within the district experience significant wind tunnel conditions due to building height, street orientation, and seasonal weather patterns.

This RFP seeks a fencing solution that:

- Withstands high wind conditions and heavy pedestrian traffic
- Enhances the visual consistency and appeal of downtown
- Provides safe, clearly defined dining areas
- Offers flexibility for seasonal or evolving layouts

3. Scope of Work

The selected vendor will be responsible for:

- Designing and/or supplying modular fencing systems for sidewalk dining
- Providing specifications for installation, anchoring, and stabilization
- Supplying optional accessories (planters, signage panels, lighting integration, etc.)
- Offering guidance on layout configurations across multiple restaurant locations
- Providing maintenance recommendations and lifecycle expectations
- Optional: Installation services and/or training for installation

4. Product Requirements

A. Structural Integrity & Wind Resistance

- Engineered to perform in high-wind urban environments
- Incorporates stabilizers, weighted components, or anchoring systems
- Rigid, non-flimsy construction

B. Durable Materials

- Corrosion-resistant materials (e.g., powder-coated steel or equivalent)
- Weather-resistant finishes suitable for year-round outdoor exposure
- Long lifecycle with minimal maintenance requirements
- Ability to withstand daily wear and environmental exposure

C. Modular & Flexible Design

- Tool-less or low-effort assembly/disassembly
- Configurable panels for varying sidewalk layouts
- Ability to reconfigure or relocate as needed
- Expandable system for future growth

D. Stability & Safety Features

- Integrated stabilizers or weighted bases
- Clear delineation between pedestrian and dining spaces
- ADA compliance
- Emergency access options if applicable

E. Aesthetic & Customization

- Clean, modern design
- Customizable panel infill options
- Powder coat color options
- Ability to incorporate branding elements

F. Accessories & Enhancements (Preferred)

- Integrated or attachable planters
- Lighting or seasonal feature compatibility
- Integration with other outdoor dining infrastructure

5. Design Considerations

Proposals should:

- Maintain open sightlines while providing enclosure
- Complement surrounding architecture
- Avoid visual clutter
- Support placemaking and a cohesive identity

6. Deliverables

Proposals should include:

- Product specifications and drawings
- Material descriptions and finishes
- Wind resistance details
- Installation methodology
- Sample layout configurations
- Cost estimates
- Timeline
- Maintenance expectations
- Relevant project portfolio

7. Vendor Qualifications

Vendors should demonstrate:

- Experience with municipal or urban projects
- Hospitality or outdoor dining installations
- Durable infrastructure delivery
- Strong design capabilities
- Positive references

8. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Durability and wind performance
- Material quality
- System flexibility
- Aesthetic alignment

- Cost-effectiveness
- Vendor experience

9. Timeline

RFP Issued: May 6, 2026

Questions Due: May 15, 2026

Proposals Due: May 22, 2026

Vendor Selection: June 16, 2026

Project Kickoff: July 3, 2026

10. Submission Instructions

Submit questions or proposals electronically to:

Stamford Downtown Special Services District

Attn: Michael Little, Director of Public Realm Operations

Email: little@stamford-downtown.com