The Town of Barnstable is seeking to promote a successful summer season in Barnstable, notably for the small and local businesses on Hyannis Main Street. In response to positive feedback from merchants regarding last year’s efforts, as well as the COVID social distancing restrictions that currently remain in place, the Town will be reinstalling the modified street configuration that allows for expanded outdoor public areas and dining space for summer 2021.

Consistent with last year’s layout, one of the two traffic lanes on the street will be available to pedestrians and outdoor business use. The southern lane and parking spaces will remain available for vehicle travel and parking. All intersections will remain open for traffic in all directions and driveways will remain open. The lane closure will begin at Center Street and extend to Sea Street and will remain in place through the summer. New this year will be the availability of on-street parking on the north side of the street in some locations where there is limited outdoor dining. Work to make this change will begin in the second week in May, between Monday the 10th and Thursday the 13th. Work will take place at night, weather permitting.

Also new this year will be aesthetic improvements to the barrier blocks used to implement the changes. The Town applied for and received funding from Massachusetts Department of Transportation ‘Shared Streets and Spaces’ program to enhance the environment on the street through barrier “wraps”, additional planters, strategic wayfinding, and other enhancements. The wraps will be installed after the barriers are in place and will be applied to both sides of the barriers.
In preparation for this season, the Planning & Development Department conducted various forms of outreach including a merchant meeting, as well as a comment period that allowed the public to communicate with staff directly on the draft street configuration. While a few businesses have shared concerns, the overwhelming majority of merchants on the street have expressed support for the modified configuration this season. This was confirmed by face-to-face or other direct communication with over 40 business owners or managers on the street.