

CCONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 25-0045

RESOLUTION NO. PC 13-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ORANGE APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 25-0045 TO ALLOW THE SALE OF BEER, WINE, AND DISTILLED SPIRITS FOR ON-SITE CONSUMPTION IN CONJUNCTION WITH A NEW STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) TYPE 47 LICENSE (ON SALE GENERAL – EATING PLACE), LOCATED AT 763 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 200A

APPLICANT: RBC ORANGE LLC AND LP ORANGE LLC.

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has authority per Orange Municipal Code (OMC) Table 17.08.020 and Sections 17.10.030.C and 17.30.030 to take action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-0045, for an California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Type 47 License (On-Sale General-Eating Place) allowing the sale of distilled spirits for a 3,184 square foot new restaurant and outdoor patio located at 763 S. Main Street, Suite 200A; and

WHEREAS, the application for Conditional Use Permit No. 25-0045 was filed by the applicant in accordance with the provisions of the OMC; and

WHEREAS, the application for Conditional Use Permit No. 25-0045 was processed in the time and manner prescribed by state and local law; and

WHEREAS, Conditional Use Permit 25-0045 is Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1 – Existing Facilities), as the project consists of licensing the sale of alcoholic beverages at an existing tenant space that results in negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the City’s determination; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted one duly advertised public hearing on December 1, 2025, at which time interested persons had an opportunity to testify either in support of or opposition to Conditional Use Permit No. 25-0045 upon property described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission approves Conditional Use Permit No. 25-0045, for an ABC Type 47 License (On-Sale General-Eating Place) at a proposed 3,184 square foot restaurant and outdoor patio located at 763 S. Main Street, Suite 200A based on the following findings:

SECTION 1 – FINDINGS

General Plan Finding:

1. *The project must be consistent with the goals and policies stated within the City's General Plan.*

The project is consistent with the goals and policies stated in the City's General Plan Land Use and Economic Development Elements in that the service of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for on-site consumption within a restaurant promotes commercial enterprise, supports a revenue-generating business, and encourages the creation of successful commercial businesses at the Orange Town and Country shopping center. Permitting an existing restaurant to serve general alcohol in conjunction with meals allows the establishment to be competitive with other restaurants in the area that are already permitted to sell alcoholic beverages. Authorizing general alcohol service within the restaurant and outdoor patio may help to retain the restaurant, thereby maintaining the economic vitality of the area. Police Department review of the license and recommended conditions support the General Plan Public Safety Element Goals that require the City to maintain an adequately manned and equipped police force, maintain crime prevention programs designed to protect residents and property from crime, and involve the Police Department in the development review process.

Conditional Use Permit Findings:

1. *A Conditional Use Permit shall be granted upon sound principles of land use and in response to services required by the community.*

Consideration has been given as to whether the proposed use will detrimentally affect adjacent land uses. The proposed use provides an opportunity to those residents and visitors desiring to purchase alcohol with food at a restaurant. It will occur on a site that has been zoned for a mix of restaurant, retail, service and residential uses, and the subject property is adjacent to similar uses around a commercial destination that serves City residents as well as visitors. The sale of alcohol including distilled spirits is accessory to the restaurant and will occur only when a complete restaurant menu is available. This is a service typically expected by the public in association with a restaurant.

Strong consideration was given to the manner in which the business will operate under the provisions of this Conditional Use Permit. As conditioned, its operation is not anticipated to create a nuisance to the community or a burden on police services. Consideration was given to the fact the census tract exceeds the allowed number of licenses for on-sale establishments, and the location of the restaurant is in a high crime area and conditions have been placed on the project to compensate for potential detrimental effects that could be caused by alcohol service. As conditioned, service of an on-sale general alcohol license should not contribute to the crime rate in the Reporting District.

2. *A Conditional Use Permit shall not be granted if it will cause deterioration of bordering land uses or create special problems for the area in which it is located.*

The request to serve general alcohol with food at the restaurant is not anticipated to have adverse impacts on surrounding land uses or create a special problem, because the site is located in the Urban Mixed-Use (UMU) zone, which is intended to function as a mixed-use

restaurant, retail, service and residential district. While there are apartment residences within 600 feet of the site, these residents do not have direct access to the restaurant service area and the sale of alcohol would be accessory to the primary function of the restaurant. Specific project features combined with conditions of approval address potential detrimental effects that could be caused by modified alcohol service. Project conditions require food service with alcohol service at all times, restrict areas of consumption to the dining areas and outdoor patio, limit alcoholic beverage promotions, restrain certain methods of dispensing alcoholic beverages, address graffiti and litter removal, and require employee training. Potential undesired side effects of overconsumption of alcohol are not anticipated to occur at a restaurant where food service is the primary function.

3. *A Conditional Use Permit must be considered in relationship to its effect on the community or neighborhood plan for the area in which it is located.*

The location of the restaurant is in the Orange Town and Country shopping center and near the intersection of South Main Street and Town and Country Road, a main commercial corridor near the Main Place Mall in the City of Santa Ana, where entertainment, shopping and dining establishments are expected to be concentrated. The proposed accessory alcohol service at the restaurant will support the success of the restaurant and the continuation of an active mixed-use district. The proposed alcohol service is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on neighboring land uses and the community, because conditions of approval have been designed to minimize the potential for adverse effects on sensitive land uses in the immediate area.

4. *A Conditional Use Permit, if granted, shall be made subject to those conditions necessary to preserve the general welfare, not the individual welfare of any particular applicant.*

The conditions of approval for the Conditional Use Permit are put forth with the purpose of preserving the general welfare of the community. The Orange Police Department conditions include a review of the restaurant operation and police records for excessive calls one year after the beginning of the sale of alcoholic beverages. If the Police Department finds that the restaurant is not operating as required, or if there is a history of criminal or nuisance behavior, the Department will recommend that the Planning Commission reconsider this application. Other conditions have been placed on the project to reduce crime-inducing activities by requiring food service with alcohol service at all times, prohibiting alcoholic beverage promotions, restraining certain methods of dispensing alcoholic beverages, addressing graffiti and litter removal, and requiring employee training.

SECTION 2 – ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA per State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1 – Existing Facilities) because the request consists of licensing the sale of distilled spirits in addition to beer and wine within an existing tenant space and outdoor patio and results in no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the City's determination. No public review is required for a categorical exemption.

SECTION 3 – CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following conditions are imposed with approval:

General Conditions:

1. Any future change in the nature and operation of the use approved by Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 25-0045 shall require an application for a new or amended CUP.
2. The applicant agrees, as a condition of City's approval of CUP No. 25-0045, to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, at applicant's expense, the City, its officers, agents, and employees (City) from and against any claim, action, or proceeding brought against the City, including, but not limited to, any claim, action or proceeding commenced within the time period provided in Government Code Section 66499.37 to attack, review, set aside, void or annul the City's approval, to challenge the determination made by the City under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or to challenge the reasonableness, legality or validity of any condition attached hereto. City shall promptly notify applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding to which the City receives notice and to cooperate fully with the applicant in the defense thereof. Applicant shall reimburse the City for any and all costs and expenses, including, but not limited to, court costs and attorney's fees that the City may be required to pay, including any expenses ordered by a court or expenses incurred through the Office of the City Attorney in connection with said claim, action or proceeding. City may, in its sole discretion, participate in the defense of any claim, action or proceeding but such participation shall not relieve applicant of the obligations of this condition. In the event the applicant is required to defend City in connection with such claim, action or proceeding, City shall have the right to approve counsel to so defend the City, approve all significant decisions concerning the manner in which the defense is conducted and approve any all settlements, which approval(s) shall not be unreasonably withheld. The obligations set forth herein remain in full force and effect throughout all stages of litigation including any and all appeals of any lower court judgment rendered in the proceeding. Further, applicant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City for all costs and expenses incurred in enforcing this provision.
3. The applicant shall comply with all federal, state, and local municipal laws, including local City ordinances and regulations. Any violations of these laws in conjunction with this use may be a cause for revocation of this permit.
4. Prior to the operation of the business, the applicant shall file for, or if applicable, amend a business license with the Business License Division. Failure to obtain the required business license may be cause for revocation of this approval.

Operational Conditions:

5. In conjunction with the ongoing operation of the business, the premises shall comply with all requirements placed upon it by the State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board.
6. This CUP shall be reviewed one year from the date of approval and may be reviewed each year thereafter. The review shall be conducted jointly by the community Development director and Police Chief or designees. The purpose of this review shall be to identify uniquely adverse issues such as curfew, loitering, vandalism, criminal activity, noise, or nuisance resulting from approval of the CUP. If such issues are identified, the CUP shall be presented to the Planning Commission for Their consideration of conditions, modifications or revocation.

7. The activity level of the business shall be monitored by the Police Department to establish the level of police services used for the business. Should the of police services demonstrate that the applicant has not controlled excessive, or unnecessary activity resulting in high use of police services then the Conditional Use Permit shall be reviewed for consideration of further conditions, modifications or revocation.
8. The quarterly gross sales of alcoholic beverages shall not exceed the gross sales of merchant items that include food within the convenience store during the same time period. The license shall at all times maintain records which reflect separately the gross sales of food and the gross sales of alcoholic beverages of the licensed business. Said records shall be kept no less frequently than on a quarterly basis and shall be made available.
9. The use of the business is considered a restaurant. No changes to the floor plan will occur unless a revised floor plan is approved by the Community Development Department.
10. The sale of beer and/or wine for consumption off the premises shall be prohibited.
11. All alcohol shall be consumed on the subject site within the defined licensed premises.
12. Signs shall be posted on all exits of the premises, which prohibit alcoholic beverages from leaving the confines of the premises.
13. The premises shall be maintained as a bona fide restaurant and shall provide a menu containing an assortment of foods normally offered in such restaurants.
14. The business indoor hours shall be limited to Sunday – Thursday 7:00am to 10:00pm and Friday and Saturday 7:00am to 12:00am. The hours of the outdoor area shall be limited to 7:00am to 10:00pm daily. These hours do not restrict employees from being on the premises before opening for preparations and deliveries or after closing for clean-up. Clean-up may not be conducted by patrons.
15. At no time shall there be a fee for entrance/admittance into the premises.
16. Employees and/or contract security personnel shall not consume any alcoholic beverages prior to or during their work shift. Any and all security officers provided shall comply with all state and local ordinances regulating their services, including, without limitation, Chapter 11.5 of Division 3 of the California Business and Profession Code.
17. The applicant agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the City, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all liability or claims that may be brought against the City arising out of its approval of this permit, save and except that caused by the City's active negligence.

Alcohol and Food Service Conditions:

18. Food service, with an available menu, shall be made available until closing time on each day of operation.
19. Alcoholic beverages shall be served by restaurant employees permitted by law to serve alcohol.
20. Alcoholic beverages shall be sold and served in containers, which are distinguishable from other non-alcoholic beverages sold at the premise.

21. There shall be no bar or lounge area upon the licensed premises maintained for the purposes of the sale, service, or consumption of alcoholic beverages directly to patrons for consumption.
22. There should be no time when alcoholic beverages are sold at a ratio of two for one; no “stacking” of beverages, which means the serving of two alcoholic beverages at one time to the same customer; and no sales to an “empty chair”, which means that each customer must be physically present at the time of the order of any alcoholic beverage.
23. There shall be no promotions encouraging intoxication or drinking contests.
24. There shall be no requirement to purchase a minimum number of drinks.
25. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold from any temporary locations on the premises such as ice tubs, barrels, or any other such containers.
26. The petitioner shall not employ or permit any persons to solicit or encourage others, directly or indirectly, to buy them drinks in the licensed premises under any commission percentage salary or other profit.

Patio Conditions:

27. The patio shall be enclosed and any gates located on the patio shall remain closed during business hours and used as an emergency exit only. Sign(s) shall be posted on all patio gate(s) indicating “Emergency Exit Only”.
28. An employee shall be able to monitor the patio from inside the business at all times to monitor alcohol.

Special Events:

29. No portion of the premises shall be deemed to be “private” for the purposes of dispensing alcoholic beverages to selected patrons, where the permittee recognizes any form of membership cards, keys, or passes which would entitle the holder entry or preferential admittance or exclusive use of any portion of the mentioned premises.
30. The use of a promoter (such as a night-club operator) or sub-leasing the premises to be used in conjunction with dancing and/or live entertainment is prohibited.
31. There shall be no live entertainment (including karaoke), disc jockey, or dancing permitted on the premises at any time. Amplified sound over a built-in system designed for background music shall not be audible in such a manner to disturb the peace, quiet, and comfort of neighboring occupants, or any reasonable person residing or working in the area.
32. There shall be no special promotional events held on the property, unless a written request for such is received and approved by the Community Development Director and the Police Department’s Vice Unit at least one week in advance of the event.

Coin Operated Machines:

33. There shall be no pool tables or coin-operated games or machines maintained on the premises at any time.

Security and Exterior:

34. The parking lot of the premises shall be equipped with lighting of sufficient power to illuminate and make easily discernable the appearance and conduct of all persons on or about the parking lot.
35. Any music or amplified sound on the premises, including an outdoor patio area, shall not be audible beyond the premises in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of neighboring occupants or any reasonable person residing or working in the area.
36. The permittee shall be responsible for maintaining free of litter the area adjacent to the premises over which they have control.
37. There shall be no exterior advertising for alcoholic beverages of any kind or type. This includes advertising directly to the exterior from within, promoting or indicating the availability of alcoholic beverages. Interior displays of alcoholic beverages that are clearly visible to the exterior shall constitute a violation of this condition.
38. Exterior doors and windows, as well as the interior of the business, shall be protected by an approved alarm system, which shall detect an attempted entry or presence of people within the business during closing hours.
39. The premises shall be provided with an interior night light to illuminate the interior and an unobstructed view shall be maintained through storefront windows to provide police patrol officers the ability to observe unlawful activity within the business.
40. The permittee shall maintain on the premises a written security policy and procedures manual addressing at a minimum the following items: handling obviously intoxicated persons; establishing a reasonable ratio of employees to patrons, based upon activity level, in order to monitor alcoholic beverage sales and patron behavior; handling patrons involved in fighting or arguing; handling loitering about the building and in the immediate adjacent area that is owned, leased, rented, or used under agreement by the permittee(s); verifying age/checking identification of patrons; warning patrons of reaching their drinking limit/potential intoxication and refusing to serve; calling the police regarding observed or reported criminal activity.
41. The applicant shall comply with all federal, state, municipal laws and/ or ordinances. Any violations of these laws in connection with this use may be a cause for revocation of this permit.

Training:

42. All employees of the permittee who sell or serve alcoholic beverage products shall be required to complete a training program in alcoholic beverage compliance, crime prevention techniques, and the handling of violence. For new employees, such training program must be completed within 30 days of the date of hire. The permittee shall maintain an active list of the employees who have completed the training. The list shall be furnished, upon request, to any sworn police officer or member of the Community Development Department. The employees must provide the Orange Police Department a copy of the completed Alcohol Management Program certificate.

Miscellaneous:

43. Graffiti shall be removed from the exterior walls, doors, windows, and any additional part of the property (including signage, etc.) within 72 hours of the time the City of Orange Notice of Violation is received by the business operator.

ADOPTED this 1st day of December 2025

Alison Vejar, Planning Commission Chair

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Orange at a regular meeting thereof held on the 1st day of December 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

RECUSED:

ABSENT:

Hayden Beckman
Planning Manager