

Ordinance No. 2026 - 5 Passed July 13, 2024

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A DESIGNATED OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (DORA) WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF GRAND RAPIDS, OHIO, SPECIFICALLY ALONG FRONT STREET FROM MILL STREET TO BEAVER STREET, INCLUDING THE OHIO & ERIE CANAL TOWPATH WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio, recognizes the potential benefits of a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) in enhancing the vibrancy of the downtown area, supporting local businesses, and promoting tourism; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.82 authorizes municipal corporations to establish DORAs, permitting the consumption of alcoholic beverages in open containers within designated outdoor areas; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a DORA along Front Street from Mill Street to Beaver Street, including the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath from Howard Park to the Boy Scout Cabin with Lincoln being the only access point.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF DORA.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.82, a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) is hereby established within the Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio, encompassing the following boundaries:

- (a) Front Street from Mill Street to Beaver Street; and
- (b) The Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath from Howard Park to the Boy Scout Cabin;
- (c) The Lincoln Street bridge will be the only means of ingress and egress.

SECTION 2. HOURS OF OPERATION.

(a) Monday through Sunday: 11:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M.

The Village Council may adjust these hours as deemed appropriate.

SECTION 3. PERMITTED ESTABLISHMENTS.

Only establishments holding a valid liquor permit issued by the Ohio Division of Liquor Control and located within the DORA boundaries are authorized to participate. Such establishments shall:

- (a) Obtain a DORA designation from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control;
- (b) Serve alcoholic beverages in official DORA cups; and
- (c) Comply with all applicable State and Village laws and regulations.

SECTION 4. DORA CUPS.

All alcoholic beverages consumed within the DORA must be served in official DORA cups, which shall:

- (a) Be clearly marked with the DORA logo;
- (b) Be made of plastic or another durable, non-breakable material; and
- (c) Be new and unused at the time of purchase.

SECTION 5. CONSUMPTION AND POSSESSION RULES.

Within the DORA boundaries:

- (a) Only alcoholic beverages purchased from participating establishments and served in official DORA cups may be consumed;
- (b) Patrons may not bring their own alcoholic beverages into the DORA;
- (c) Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in motor vehicles.

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SECTION 6. SIGNAGE AND BOUNDARY MARKERS.

The Village shall install and maintain clear signage and boundary markers delineating the DORA area. Such markers shall include:

- (a) Signs at all entrances to the DORA area indicating the boundaries and hours of operation; and
- (b) Temporary markers for special events.

SECTION 7. SANITATION AND MAINTENANCE.

Participating establishments shall:

- (a) Provide adequate trash receptacles for the disposal of DORA cups and other waste;
- (b) Ensure the DORA area is kept clean and free of litter during operating hours; and
- (c) Cooperate with Village authorities to promptly address any sanitation or maintenance issues.

SECTION 8. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES.

All violations are to be reported directly to the Wood County Sheriff's office.

Violations may result in:

- (a) Enforcement actions consistent with applicable Ohio laws governing open container violations and liquor control.

SECTION 9. SPECIAL EVENTS.

The Village may authorize special events within the DORA area, during which the hours of operation and other provisions may be adjusted, with exception of Applebutter Festival. DORA will be restricted during the festival.

Such events shall be subject to:

- (a) Approval by the Village Council;
- (b) Compliance with all applicable laws and regulations; and
- (c) Coordination with participating establishments and law enforcement.

SECTION 10. REVOCATION.

This Ordinance will expire one year after the effective date, unless Council votes to continue.

The Village reserves the right to revoke this Ordinance, should a recommendation be made by the Wood County Sheriff's Office.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13th day of July, 2026.

John R Berry
Mayor, Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio

ATTEST:

Kristel Beyer

Village Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF APPROVAL

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly passed by the Council of the Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio, on the 13th day of July, 2026.

Kristel Beyer
Village Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Village Solicitor