



Leaksville Social District FAQs:

What is a social district?

A social district is a defined outdoor area where alcoholic beverages, sold by a licensed establishment, may be consumed.

Why create one in Eden?

The social district has been designed to be an economic development tool to create foot traffic for our local retail businesses. In fact, the days and times for the social district are based on the times when there are the most people out shopping in the area.

Why use the name Leaksville?

The social district will not encompass the entire Uptown Eden shopping area, but will be confined to a smaller portion within the area. The term Leaksville Social District was chosen by the Eden Downtown Development Inc. (EDDI) and the area merchants.

Does this encourage public drunkenness?

This district does not create a right to break laws, nor does it encourage drunkenness or over-consumption in public. Patrons are not allowed to bring their own alcohol. If individuals leave the social district with an alcoholic beverage, they can be criminally charged.

How will the social district be enforced?

Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) and local law enforcement have jurisdiction over the social district.

Why haven't we heard about the social district before now?

All Eden City Council meetings are advertised, open to the public, recorded by video (available on Facebook and YouTube), and transcribed minutes are published to the City's website.

- Creating a Leaksville Social District was first mentioned by Council at their July 18, 2023 meeting when staff was asked to investigate the possibility after merchants asked for it be considered. You can read these minutes [here](#).
- After extensive research and consultations with cities who had already adopted social districts, staff presented their findings to the City Council at the November 21, 2023 meeting. Read the discussion from the minutes [here](#).
- On January 8, the EDDI held a public meeting for merchants and citizens to voice their opinions on the issue. Letters were sent to every property owner/merchant in the proposed area providing notification of the meeting.
- On February 20, after advertising the public hearing and the meeting, Council heard from the public at the regular Eden City Council meeting and voted to create the Leaksville Social District.