

# Barlow's closes its Waterfront location

It will be replaced by Waterfront Taphouse, set to open by summer



The second-story patio at Barlow's Public House has a view of the Columbia River. (Alisha Jucevic/The Columbian)

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Barlow's Public House at The Waterfront Vancouver has announced it closed permanently over the weekend, and a new restaurant called The Waterfront Taphouse is due to open in the spot as soon as late spring.

The Waterfront Taphouse is owned by Five Spice Restaurant Group, which owns and operates four restaurants in Oregon. Its most recent restaurant, called The Murrayhill Taphouse in Beaverton, Ore., has a similar look and feel to the upcoming The Waterfront Taphouse, according to Jeff Skeelee, CEO at Five Spice Restaurant Group.

The new restaurant will go into the 5,613-square-foot eating space in the upper floor of The Don Building, 801 Waterfront Way, where Barlow's had been since opening on Labor Day weekend in 2019.

The food will be a little more upscale than you'd see in a brewpub or taphouse but also attempt to hit a broad demographic and be family-centered, as well. The company won't brew its own beer, but it will offer a wide variety of local beers.

The self-serve tap wall in Barlow's will not be included in The Waterfront Taphouse, Skeelee said.

"We're moving very, very fast to get us open in summer," Skeelee said. "Mid-May is optimistic, but hope to open in June."

Barry Cain, the president of Gramor Development, which leads The Waterfront Vancouver's development, owns Five Spice Restaurant Group. He will co-own The Waterfront Taphouse with his brother, Terry Cain.

Brian and Alicia Rummer, the former owners of Barlow's, could not be reached by The Columbian for a comment.

Barlow's second location, where brewers make beer, at 705 S.E.

Park Crest Ave., is not part of The Waterfront Taphouse deal, and it was not clear what would happen with the location.

Next door to The Waterfront Taphouse, Willamette Valley Vineyards has started tenant improvements, Cain said. The Salem, Ore.-based winery plans to open a tasting room later this year.

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