

# Best Practices for DORAs

As your city or town may be thinking about authorizing a DORA, these best practices can help ensure that alcohol is being sold responsibly and that public health and safety are priorities. These best practices can be shared with your municipal body that will make decisions:

-  **Limit the DORA to a specific geographical area**  
by limiting the size of a DORA, the boundaries are a manageable size for compliance monitoring, law enforcement and public safety, traffic control, and noise mitigation
-  **Limit the DORA to public spaces that do NOT include any residential areas**  
this will lessen the possibility that residents could use the “DORA cup” to fill with their own alcohol as many times as they want and walk around the DORA or pass on an official cup to a minor
-  **Mandatory, non-transferable wrist bands**  
to identify minors who are not permitted to drink OR adults 21+ – a different color each week or month will lessen the possibility that wrist bands can be removed and shared
-  **Routine compliance checks by ATC excise police**  
to monitor for underage drinking and sales to minors and over service
-  **Mandatory signage throughout**  
signs with information on carding, underage drinking, drinking and driving, and health and safety warnings about drinking while pregnant or with certain medical conditions or medication
-  **Implement prevention measures**  
voluntary breathalyzer stations, inclusion of non-alcoholic vendors (sno cones, mocktails, juices, coffee, etc.), free tabling space for substance use prevention organizations, an alcohol-free area, signs promoting responsible alcohol consumption
-  **Routine review of DORA policies**  
Policies should be reviewed no less than every 2 years to update alcohol regulations as well as plans for public health and safety

