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Street-Food Vending

What is Street-Food Vending?

Mobile food vending can be a variety of carts, stands or converted vehicles from which food is prepared and served.

What Do I Need Before Operating a Food Cart or Truck?

Before starting your Street-Food Vending business, review this checklist of what is required.

Where Would You Like To Vend?

- Street/Sidewalk/Public Plaza
- Private Property
- City Park

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FAQs

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Street-Food Vending

What is Street-Food Vending?

- A food cart on the sidewalk;
- A vehicle from which food is prepared and served;
- A mobile truck that drives through the city and vends on the sidewalk.

What do I need before operating a food cart or truck in the city of Seattle?

1. Are you a registered business in the State of Washington? All businesses are required to register their trade name and obtain a state business license (or Unified Business Identifier (UBI) number) prior to operating in Washington state.
2. **Do you have a City of Seattle business license?** Every food cart or truck vendor is **required** to have a City business license. Click here to apply online.
3. **Do you have a Mobile Food Unit Permit? or exemption from Public Health - Seattle & King County?** A permit or exemption must be obtained from Public Health to operate a food vending cart or food vehicle in the city of Seattle. **Note: All food vendors are required to be within 200 feet from a useable restroom.**
   a. **Do you plan to operate a converted food truck?** Washington State Department of Labor & Industries approval must be provided for food vehicles before Health Department plan review. Click here for more information.
4. **Are you planning on using liquid petroleum gas (i.e. Propane) or Open Flame (i.e. Wood or Charcoal) to prepare the food?** A permit from the Seattle Fire Marshal is required for use of propane or an open flame. Click here for more information.
5. **Where would you like to vend?**
   a. Street/Sidewalk/Public Plaza - City right-of-way (i.e. curbspace, sidewalk, public plaza, etc.)
   b. Private Property - Privately owned property (i.e. parking lots, private plaza etc.)
   c. City Park - Property owned by the Parks Department

STREET/SIDEWALK/PUBLIC PLAZA

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