



Opening a Food Cart in Sandy

Introduction

Food and beverage carts are allowed in the city of Sandy in any zoning district that allows eating and drinking establishments (C-1, C-2, C-3, I-1 and I-2). The new standards adopted by the City Council contain application requirements and a review process in addition to standards for opening a food cart.

The adopted Ordinance 2014-05 is set to expire on January 1, 2015 unless the Council chooses to extend it.

Definition: *A food and beverage cart as allowed by the ordinance must be a mobile unit, but may not operate from a motorized vehicle. Trailers that are modified for the sale of food and beverage are allowed, but not a food truck or RV. Carts shall not exceed 20 feet in length, not including the trailer hitch, or be greater than 200 square feet.*

What permits are needed?

Food and beverage carts operating in the city of Sandy must have the following permits/licenses:

- City of Sandy Food and Beverage Cart Permit
- City of Sandy Business License
- Clackamas County Health Department License

Review Process

Food cart permits are reviewed through a Type II process and are valid for the calendar year in which they are issued. Renewal of a food cart permit is reviewed through a Type I process.

How to obtain a Food Cart Permit?

- The process for obtaining a food cart permit begins with a pre-application conference. This step is free of charge and involves setting up a meeting with city staff to discuss your project.
- Submit a Land Use Application and fee with the following information:
 1. Site plan drawn to scale including:
 - a. Site dimensions.



- b. Relationship of the site to adjoining properties, streets, alleys, structures, public utilities, and drainage ways.
 - c. Number and location of food carts on the site.
 - d. Individual square footage of all food carts.
 - e. Accessible pedestrian route clearances.
 - f. Size, location, and clearances of customer seating areas.
 - g. Vehicular circulation and access points.
 - h. Parking, maneuvering and loading areas.
 - i. Location and design elevation of all structures.
 - j. Location and specification of landscaped areas.
 - k. Location and specifications of food cart pads.
 - l. Location and design of fences and walls.
 - m. Number and location of trash and recycling areas.
 - n. Location and type of auxiliary storage.
2. Pictures or architectural elevations of proposed food cart(s).
 3. Proximity to bathroom and written permission, if applicable.
 4. Disposal plan for wastewater and gray water.
 5. Exterior lighting plan indicating location, size, height, typical design, material, color, and method of illumination.
 6. Written verification that the food cart has been inspected and meets applicable County Health regulations.



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7. Any additional information that may be required by the Director to properly evaluate the proposed site plan.
8. The Director may waive any of the requirements above where determined that the information required is unnecessary to properly evaluate the proposal.

- Parking areas needed to meet minimum vehicle and bicycle parking requirements.
- Fire lanes or drive aisles necessary for vehicular circulation or fire/emergency vehicle access.

Food Cart Standards

Exterior Conditions - Carts shall meet the following exterior requirements:

- Exterior surfaces shall be clean and free from dents, rust, peeling paint, and deterioration, and windows shall not be cracked or broken. Day-glo and highly reflective colors are prohibited.
- Tents and canopies shall not have tears, mold, or broken or non-functioning supports and shall be securely anchored.
- Carts shall provide an awning for shelter to customers with a minimum clearance of seven (7) feet between the ground and the awning.

Setbacks - Carts shall maintain the following setbacks:

- Minimum of three (3) feet from the public right-of-way or back of sidewalk, whichever provides the greater distance from the public right-of-way.
- Minimum of five (5) feet away from other carts.
- Not within 25 feet of an active driveway entrance as measured in all directions from where the driveway enters the site at the edge of the street right-of-way.
- Customer service windows shall be located at least five (5) feet from an active drive aisle used by cars.

Prohibited Locations - Carts shall not occupy the following areas:

- Pedestrian walkways or required landscape areas.

Parking - A minimum of one paved off-street parking space for employee use shall be provided or provide proof of written permission from an adjacent business or property owner within 1/4 mile of the subject site allowing the food cart operator to share parking facilities.

Screening - The visual effect of accessory items not used by customers, including tanks, barrels, etc. shall be limited. Screening with a site-obscuring fence or landscaping, or containing them within a small storage shed may be necessary.

Storage - Auxiliary storage shall be provided on site when there are four (4) or more food carts. The structure for auxiliary storage shall meet Chapter 17.90, Design Standards.

Seating Areas - Seating areas located on the subject property shall be at least 10 feet from a food cart and seating areas shall be separated from parking areas by an approved fence or barrier.

Signage - Signage shall comply with Chapter 15.32, Sign Code regulations. In addition, each cart is permitted one (1) A-Frame sign.

Fire Safety - Carts are required to meet Fire Code requirements regarding distances from other structures or combustible materials. Appropriate fire extinguishers are required and carts shall not have any internal floor space available to customers.

Certain Cooking Devices

Any cooking device within a food cart that creates grease-laden vapors shall provide an approved hood and extinguishing system, or be the type with a self-closing lid as approved by the Fire Marshall.



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Propane Tanks - Propane tanks shall be stored and handled properly and be located at least 10 feet from combustible vegetation and trash receptacles and 20 feet from a potential ignition source. Propane tanks shall remain outdoors and be secured from falling.

Trash & Recycling - Trash and recycle receptacles shall be provided on site, and must be emptied and maintained. Trash and recycle receptacles shall be provided at a rate of one (1) receptacle for every food cart. Where the food cart operator proposes to provide a common seating area a minimum of one (1) trash receptacle and one (1) recycle receptacle shall be provided in the common seating area.

Restrooms - Restrooms with handwashing facilities shall be provided for employees and customers. The restroom can be on-site or within one-quarter mile or a five-minute walk (such as at a neighboring business) and must be available during the cart's hours of operation. If the restroom is not on-site, the food cart operator shall submit written permission from an adjacent business or property owner where the facility is located. Sites containing more than one food cart shall provide a restroom facility on-site.

Wastewater - Wastewater and gray water shall be disposed of properly without harm to the environment or city infrastructure. An approved disposal plan shall detail storage and removal methods.

Utilities - Food carts that are fully contained; i.e., carts that provide their own water, power, and waste disposal, are permitted with no additional utility considerations beyond the permitting process and site plan approval described herein. Food carts that require a water source, power source, or waste disposal location are permitted only where the Director has approved site plans that show safe access and location of the aforementioned provisions. Such provisions may be subject to all applicable building permits and System Development Charge requirements.



This document provides a summary of the rules regarding setting up a food cart in the city of Sandy. For more details, please refer to adopted food cart standards contained in Chapter 17.74.90 of the Sandy Development Code available online at: www.cityofsandy.com.

For more information please contact the Planning Department at 503-489-2160.