

8/15/2023, 5pm-7pm - Food Truck Courts Meeting 2 Summary

The meeting addresses various aspects of the proposed code amendments to allow for Food Truck Courts, including parking, sanitation facilities, commissaries, and the use of generators on site. The meeting seeks feedback from food truck operators and stakeholders regarding the proposed definition and regulations for food truck courts. Participants provide feedback and ask questions about how the amendments will affect food truck operations and customer experiences. The focus is on creating regulations that accommodate the changing landscape of food truck operations while addressing safety and community concerns.

Proposed Food Court Definition

Food Court: A unified establishment which serves food consumption on or off premises for multiple eateries or vendors. Food Courts may be developed to include any combination of indoor or outdoor operations.

Key use specific standards:

- Outdoor activities allowed, loudspeakers or music prohibited within 600-feet or residentially zoned property
- Retail sales permitted but not to exceed 50% of vendor stalls
- Must have permanent power pedestals and central grease interceptor
- Outdoor generators are prohibited
- Hours of operation are limited to 7am-10pm
- Permanent or temporary accessible restrooms are required
- 1 parking space per vendor required + 1/100 sqft for designated outdoor seating area
- A dust-proof surface may be permitted as exceptions to the standard requirements
- Additional landscaping is not required if within an existing developed site
- If permanent paving is not provided, then landscaping and stormwater retention and detention standards do not apply.

Meeting Highlights

- The discussion also touches on the potential financial implications for food truck operators due to the new regulations, considering that congregating food trucks could require additional infrastructure. There's a suggestion that this might not align with the cost-effective nature of food truck operations
- Use of generators on site. Discussion around two-stroke gas generator or inverter generators and mitigating concerns of poor air quality and noise. Most importantly, trucks must have adequate and reliable power supply.

Comments and Questions taken during meeting

- What is the definition of multiple?

More than 1. 2 would be multiple.

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- No language about permanent or moving structures? Will this be added later?

This is something that will be looked into.

- Will this change. Health code locations have standards on time frame and length of time on site. Will this facilitate bathroom facilities?

Health Department requirements will continue as is for food trucks.

- Is the dust proof for parking areas as well? Consumer parking areas. Parking 1/100, power poles, etc..start to add expenses to infrastructure for self-containing trucks takes away from the lost cost nature of food trucks.

Yes, correct.

- Retail sales, what exactly is this..food or cookies? Or is this jewelry?

Non-food items that can be hold out of a small mobile unit. Something seen at a craft fair or farmers market.

- Maintenance on cleaning crews throughout the site. Lack of commitment from the owners to support vendors on site. What ensures they will maintain the site.

This is between the vendor and owner of the site. The city will be involved unless there is a zoning issue.

- Why would grease interceptors be required if they are required at a commissary. Do food trucks have grease interceptors on their trucks? Will there is multiple locations for dumping waste on site?

Food trucks need to dump waste at a commissary. Having options to dump at food courts will be beneficial for the food truck owners as it saves on gas and time. Amenities are very helpful and welcome.

- Comida Park – commissary space is available there. Generators – noise and fuel pollution? Power drops and services is essential for food truck operations and if there are options to get power the better. Sometimes onsite electrical is not adequate. Can an inverter generator be used?

Thank you for the feedback. Generator concerns are the noise and fuel pollution potential. There are generators that mitigate the noise and fuel pollution concerns.

- Generators in general. The quiet inverter style generators mitigate the concerns listed. These should be allowed on site not the two-stroke gas generators.

Thank you.

- Live music allowed? Will this align with hours of day and night?

They would be able to occur until 10pm. Same as regulation for restaurants.

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- Alcohol sales? Allowed or not allowed?

This is permitted by the state.

- Love conversation about the generators. This helps to reconsider the size of the location and consider the quantity of food trucks on site given the current electrical grid. – Bring TEP into the conversation and more research on generators. Help with streamlining the permitting process.

Thank you for the comments.

- It was brought up earlier, what is considered as congregating and what is a court and private owned.

Thank you, great observation.

- Not clear about a food park? Her definition is Comida Park...Is this going to affect a one time food gathering? Is there a division there?

Food courts are more long term uses of food truck at the same location. One time events will not be affected by this ordinance.

- Please try to be as flexible as possible. What brought this to be changed?

An existing park was not allowed to function. This is meant to allow for the use.

- Will the recording be made available to the public?

Yes. Correct this will be uploaded to the website.

- What zoning is needed for the food court.

Commercial zone. C-1 or better.