

Request for Committee Action

To: Community Development & Regulatory Services
Date: 1/19/2016
From: Community Planning & Economic Development
Prepared by: Linda Roberts
Presented by: Linda Roberts
File type: Ordinance
Subcategory: Code Amendment

Subject:

Mobile Food Vehicle Vendor Regulations

Description:

Amending Title 10, Chapter 188 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Food Code: Administration and Licensing, regulations for mobile food vehicle vendors.

Previous Actions:

This item was referred to the Minneapolis City Council on November 6, 2015.

Ward/Neighborhood/Address:

All Wards

Background/Analysis:

In 2010, the Minneapolis City Council created the Mobile Food Vehicle Vendor license to encourage small business opportunities and create a new opportunity for our diverse and edgy food scene. Since 2010 these food trucks have made partnerships with local businesses and events city wide including the farmers markets and small breweries that have enhanced the experience of these events. Of the 96 food trucks that are currently licensed in this city, 18 also have related brick and mortar businesses which demonstrates economic development success for these small businesses.

There are some improvements that could be made to the ordinance that we have heard from business owners, at listening sessions for the business made simple initiative, farmers market operators, and from the food truck industry. The improvements are captured in the amendments before the council.

- Increase the number of food trucks allowed to operate from private parking lots outside of downtown from one to three.
 - “Downtown” is defined in Chapter 465.10 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.
 - These vehicles will not be required to obtain additional permits (such as a Short Term Food Permit, for example) for events in close proximity to the parking lot.
- Clarify street parking to 20’ away from an intersection and 30’ away from a traffic sign or signal. (MN Statute 169.34)
- Remove food truck operations on sidewalks.
- Eliminate the minimum number of days per year a licensed food truck must operate.

This ordinance change has been requested to reflect the lessons that we have learned from the relatively new food experience. The amendments will improve safety, streamline permit and

licensing requirements and will support the natural entrepreneurial relationship between food trucks and farmers markets.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

Attachments:

1. Mobile Food Vehicle RCA.doc
2. Chapter 188.485 Amendment.doc