

FACT SHEET: FOOD TRUCKS AND CARTS



JULY 2020



In order to support local “foodpreneurs,” various options for food truck and food cart vending are available through the City of Orlando. There are even on-street parking spaces available downtown around-the-clock so you can feed hungry Orlandoans from morning until late night.

This sheet is a summary only. Any conflict with City Code is unintentional, and code prevails in all instances. Read it at <https://library.municode.com/fl/orlando>

WHAT IS YOUR CLASSIFICATION?



Food Truck

A vehicle (including trailers) operated by a mobile food vendor to prepare and sell food at multiple locations, typically operating at one location for more than 30 minutes.



Lunch Truck

A vehicle operated by a mobile food vendor to sell pre-packaged food, such as ice cream and sandwiches, at multiple locations, typically operating at one location for less than 30 minutes.



Food Cart

A mobile food vendor that sells pre-packaged food, such as hot dogs or boiled peanuts, from a movable, non-motorized cart.

CHECKLIST:

To operate a food truck, food trailer, lunch cart or food cart in Orlando, Florida, all of the following credentials are required:

STATE OF FLORIDA:

- State of Florida business license (sunbiz.org)
- Food safety permits
 - Prepared foods: Florida Dept. Business and Professional Regulation, 850.487.1395 or myfloridalicense.com (Hotels and Restaurants).
 - Prepackaged, cottage, or fresh foods: Florida Dept. Agriculture and Consumer Services, fdacs.gov or 850.245.5520.

CITY OF ORLANDO:

- City of Orlando Business Tax Receipt (orlando.gov/permits)
Make an appointment with Permitting Services and bring:
 - FL business license
 - Written permission from property owner(s)
- Optional, for trucks only, no trailers: Downtown Mobile Food Vending Zone Permit (Follow instructions at orlando.gov/food-truck-parking). Must provide a certificate of liability indemnifying the City of Orlando.

ORANGE COUNTY:

- Orange County Business Tax Receipt (octaxcol.com)
Bring proof of City of Orlando Business Tax Receipt.

Mobile Food Vending (Food Truck) Summary

	LOCATIONS	FREQUENCY	COST
	Off-street, private property unless listed below		State licenses and City and County BTRs apply to all below; fees vary
	Find a property's zoning district at orlando.gov/zoning . Note: Zoning laws specifically prohibit mobile vending in Downtown Orlando (with some exceptions), Semoran Boulevard, and International Drive. See Page 4 for maps.		
FOOD TRUCK One full-sized truck or trailer per property	Zoning districts that allow Eating and Drinking use (MU-, AC-, IC) OR Schools, religious and benevolent institutions, malls, Town Centers, Main Street districts	2 times per week, per site, 6 a.m.-midnight 2 times per year if school, religious institution, etc., is in residential zoning (R-) zoning Permanent placement requires Planning Division approval	No cost beyond valid licenses and BTRs If permanent, restaurant costs apply: Administrative Master Plan (\$500), impact fees, construction of restrooms and ADA access
	Downtown Food Truck Program Multiple Locations For more info: orlando.gov/food-truck-parking (Trucks only; no trailers)	Daily, Hours vary by location first-come, first-served	Free until September 1, 2020, courtesy of DDB/CRA Downtown Mobile Food Vending Zone Permit
	City property, including parks	By city invitation only	Vendor agreement
LUNCH TRUCK	All commercial, office, and industrial zoning districts (cannot locate in R-, P, C, H, UR)	Daily; under 30 minutes per site, every 6 hours (e.g., a truck may locate at the same site up to 4 times per day)	No cost beyond valid licenses and BTRs
FOOD CART	AC zoning districts at home improvement and similar stores, under a covered structure such as an arcade Downtown Core: Paved private plazas	Daily, 6 a.m.-midnight Must remove cart from site when it is not in operation	Planning Official Determination (\$50): provide site plan and operation details
FOOD TRUCK EVENT Two or more trucks, trailers, or carts	Same zoning districts and areas as a single truck Public property: Obtain 18A permit from Orlando Police	2 times per week, per site 6 a.m.-midnight	Planning Official Determination (\$50): provide site plan and operation details
FOOD TRUCK POD Permanent location for two or more trucks	Zoning districts that allow Eating and Drinking or Intensive Retail uses (MU-, AC-, I-C and I-G)	Daily; hours of operation determined by Planning approval	Administrative Master Plan (\$500), 1-4 trucks Master Plan (\$2,000), 5 or more trucks Restaurant costs apply: Alcohol license, impact fees, construction of restrooms and ADA access

REGULATIONS "Renewal and Expansion of the City's Mobile Food Vending Pilot Program," memorandum accepted by City Council, April 22, 2019. Expansion of the Downtown Food Truck Program as part of the Mobile Food Vending Pilot Program (Covid-19 Economic Recovery Initiative)," memorandum accepted by City Council, June 15, 2020.

"Mobile Food Vendors," LDC2012-00308, Temporary Use Permit accepted by City Council, May 20, 2013.

Questions? Contact: 407.246.2269, Press "1" to reach the Planner on Call, or cityplanning@orlando.gov.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **What if I'm joining an established event, like a food truck roundup, block party, or festival?**

A City of Orlando Business Tax Receipt is still required. Bring permission from the event organizer – such as an Orlando Police 18A permit or a letter from the food truck management company – to Permitting Services to obtain your BTR.

To host an event that requires blocking off streets, using amplified noise (speakers or microphones), or that will contain 100 or more people, contact the Orlando Police. A neighborhood block party hosted by a group registered with the City is free.

- **Can I host a food truck at my home for a party?**

Generally, no; operating a food truck in residential-only zoning (R districts, e.g., R-1, R-1N, R-2A) is prohibited. However, if your home is in non-residential zoning, and if all other standards are met (such as not blocking sidewalks), it is permitted.

DO'S AND DON'TS

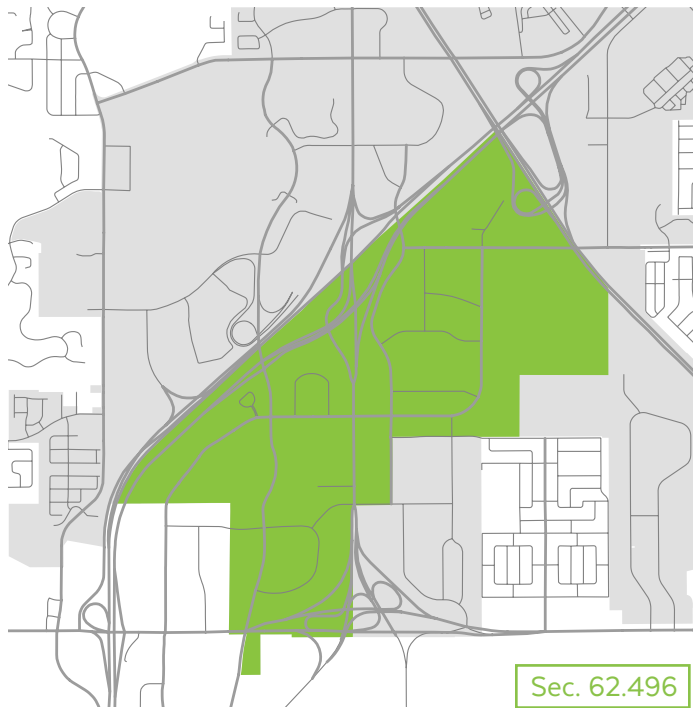
For the Downtown Food Truck Program, additional standards apply such as size, appearance, and generator standards. Check out the Downtown Food Truck Program regulations at orlando.gov/food-truck-parking.

To vend outside of Downtown the following standards apply:

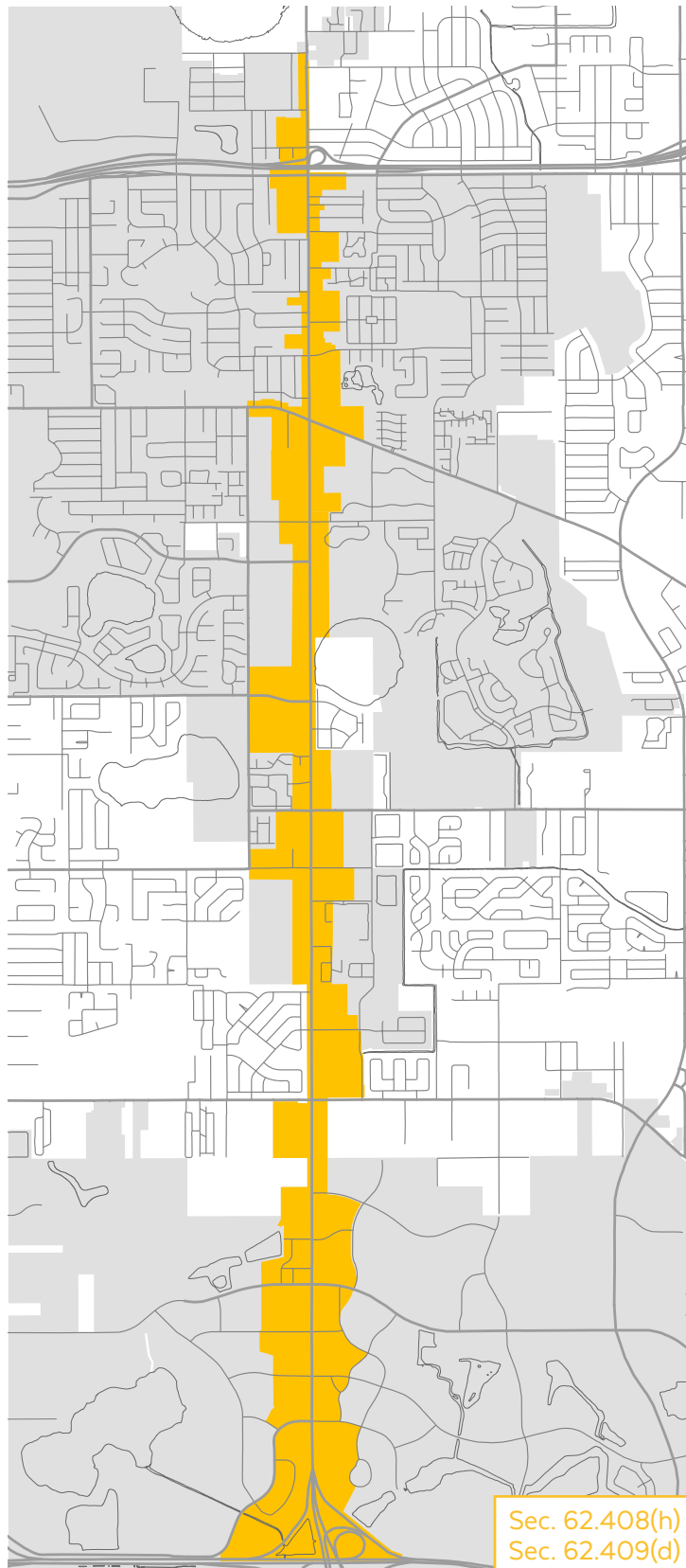
- ✓ DO locate on private, paved property
- ✗ DO NOT park on, obstruct or damage streets, sidewalks, public property, or Downtown Food Truck Parking Zones (orlando.gov/food-truck-parking)
- ✗ DO NOT park on, obstruct, or damage required parking and landscaping for the on-site or adjacent businesses
- ✗ DO NOT locate on an unpaved surface
- ✓ DO locate the truck or cart at least 5 ft. from the right-of-way (i.e., from the sidewalk and street)
- ✓ DO locate the truck or cart at least 50 ft. from a residential-only district (zoned R) without a bufferwall, and at least 15 ft. with a bufferwall
- ✓ DO create one A-frame sign, if desired. No other additional signage is permitted
- ✓ DO provide minimum 48-gallon trash and recycling receptacles, and proper disposal of grease and liquid waste
- ✗ DO NOT pour grease and liquid waste down storm drain or into vegetation
- ✗ DO NOT use foam (“styrofoam”) packaging and cups if operating on City property
- ✗ DO NOT create additional noise, such amplified music
- ✗ DO NOT sell alcohol. The only exception is for permanent food truck pods, which function similarly to restaurants; these may be subject to distance separation and other requirements (Ch. 58 Part 4B—Alcoholic Beverages).
- ✓ DO comply with all state and federal laws, such as for vehicle maintenance

FOOD TRUCK PROHIBITED AREAS

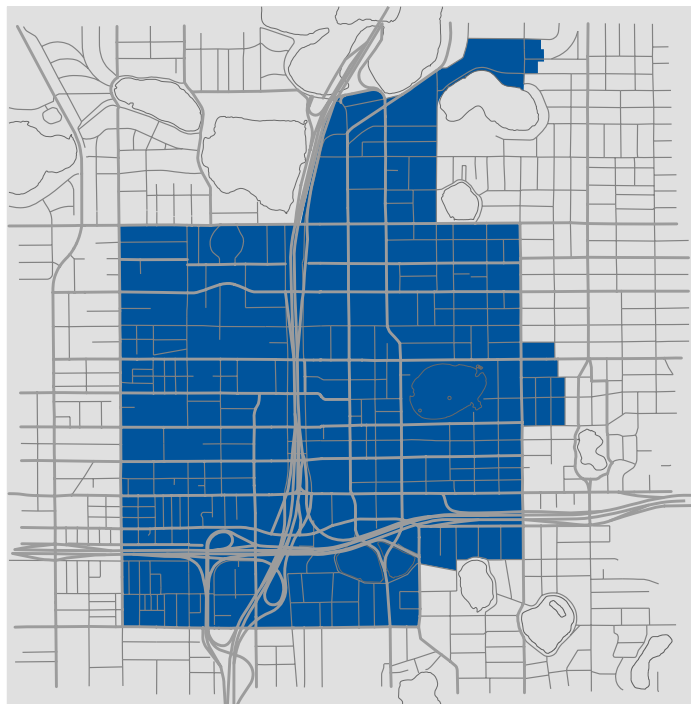
INTERNATIONAL DRIVE



SEMORAN BOULEVARD



DOWNTOWN*



*See Page 2 for exceptions. Register for a Downtown Mobile Food Vending Zone permit at orlando.gov/food-truck-parking.

Orlando City Hall
400 South Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801



407.246.2269
Press "1" to reach the
Planner on Call
cityplanning@orlando.gov