

Food Trucks/Mobile Food Vending

Summary

Food trucks and similar mobile food vendors operating within the City of Durango must receive approvals before opening to the public. This use may be allowed a few different ways, but is most often granted with a [Temporary Use Permit](#) (TUP) for Class C Temporary Commercial Sales. Vendors must apply for a TUP and submit some simple information to the Community Development Department prior to receiving approvals. Vendors must also obtain a Business License from the City Clerk's Office and approvals from the Durango Fire Protection District and San Juan Basin Public Health.

Food trucks and mobile food vending is only permitted on private, commercial sites in the Central Business, Mixed-Use, Commercial, or Light Industrial zones. **Mobile food vending is not allowed on public property or within City rights-of-way**, unless granted as part of a Parks and Recreation Special Events permit. If the vendor is operating on property that he/she does not own, then written permission from the property owner or property manager must be submitted to the City with the TUP application. **An approved TUP for this use is valid for a maximum of 180 days in a calendar year** at any given location.

In some circumstances, food trucks and mobile food vendors may be allowed to operate on a permanent basis as a major accessory use to bars, breweries/wineries/distilleries, and restaurants. This requires a review through the Special Use Permitting (SUP) process, and may also trigger a Site Plan Review. Both on-site and public improvements may be required with the approval of a SUP. Food truck and mobile food vendors will need to work with the principal business to apply for the Special Use Permit and should contact the Community Development Department prior to pursuing this option. Specific requirements are found in Section 2-3-2-2 of the Land Use and Development Code.

Applicable Sections of Code

[Section 2-3-3-3: Temporary Commercial Sales](#)

[Section 2-3-2-2: Commercial Use of Patios and Outdoor Dining Areas](#)

Required Materials for Temporary Use Permit

Required Submittal Materials Include:

- A completed Temporary Use Permit application.
- \$50 fee.
- A written narrative describing the use, proposed hours of operation, waste disposal, restroom access, proposed signage, and existing site conditions.
- A site plan showing the operation's location, property lines, existing parking/traffic flow, restroom facilities, trash/recycling facilities, proposed signage, and customer queuing area.
- Written permission from the property owner/manager, if applicable.
- Pictures or drawings of any proposed structures or signage.
- Any additional materials as deemed necessary by City Staff.

Signs

Procedural Summary

If a complete Temporary Use Permit application is submitted, staff will conduct a brief review prior to issuing the TUP. This review may include a site visit to confirm existing conditions. City staff will approve or deny the request within 30 calendar days, but standard approvals are typically completed in a much shorter period of time. An approved TUP will include conditions to which vendors must comply. Standard conditions are written on the back of the TUP application. These conditions may be amended or additional conditions may be included at the City's discretion.

Additional Information

Food trucks and mobile food vendors are required to properly dispose of all waste water as well as the fats, oils and grease associated with food preparation and cleaning. Please contact the City of Durango Fats, Oils, Grease (F.O.G.) Technician at (970)-375-4974 for information and requirements on the proper disposal of waste water.

Durango Fire Protection District

Food trucks may be subject to inspections by the Durango Fire Protection District and must comply with all applicable fire codes. The Fire Marshal will be notified of all approved Temporary Use Permits for this use. For more information on what is required to meet fire codes, please contact the Durango Fire Protection District or visit their website using the information provided below.

104 Sheppard Drive
Durango, CO 81303
(970) 382-6000

www.durangofirerescue.org/

San Juan Basin Public Health

Food trucks and mobile food vendors are also subject to standard Food Safety regulations as administered by San Juan Basin Public Health. For more information, please contact San Juan Basin Public Health or visit their website using the information below.

281 Sawyer Drive
Durango, CO 81303
(970) 247-5702

<https://sjbpublichealth.org/foodsafety>

City of Durango Community Development Department, River City Hall

For additional information on City of Durango requirements, please contact or visit the Community Development Department using the information below.

1235 Camino del Rio
Durango, CO, 81301
(970) 375-4850

www.durangogov.org