

## Food Trucks Briefing

#### City Council 9/14/22



# Agenda

- Overview of efforts to date
- Staff recommended policy framework
  based upon stakeholder feedback
- Next steps

## **Existing Regulatory Framework**

- Multiple codes and ordinances
  overlap to regulate food trucks
  - Mobile Unit Permit Health Department
  - Peddler's License Commissioner of Revenue
  - Peddler's Permit Commissioner of Revenue
  - Fire inspection Hampton Fire Division
  - Zoning Ordinance Community Development Department

# **Previous Outreach**

#### Meetings & Survey

- Coliseum Central Business Improvement District
- Downtown Hampton Business Improvement District
- Partnership For A New Phoebus
- 757 Food Truckers United

#### Survey Responses

- Langley Research and Development Park
- Copeland Industrial Park
- Hampton Roads Center Parks

# Summary & Analysis of Previous Feedback

- Allow food trucks in additional areas identified by stakeholders under appropriate conditions
  - Coliseum Central, Downtown, business parks, apartment complexes, large employer sites
- Allow food trucks on public streets in additional areas identified by stakeholders
  - Cluster food trucks in areas with pedestrian traffic, infrastructure support, and less interference with existing restaurants
- Explore designated zones where no food trucks would be allowed to operate except through a special event permit
  - E.g., Prohibit food trucks within a certain distance of Queens Way
- Streamline permitting process
  - Create a more efficient and timely process by which food truck operators can request permission to operate in new locations and staff can ensure regulatory requirements are met

# Proposed Food Truck Policy Framework

- After feedback and Council input, an internal working team was assembled to identify next steps
  - Commissioner of Revenue
  - Hampton Fire Division
  - Hampton Police Division
  - Community Development Department
  - City Attorney's Office
  - Information Technology Department
  - Parks Department
  - Public Works Department

# Proposed Food Truck Policy Framework: Key Objectives

- Focus on streamlining process
  - "Live" updating on food truck location
  - Avoid long permitting delays
  - Avoid unnecessary costs and barriers
- Maintain safe conditions for citizens and businesses
  - Not pursue food trucks on streets at this time
- Ensure enforcement capabilities

# Proposed Food Truck Policy Framework

Our proposed framework addresses 4 main processes:

- 1. How food trucks are allowed to operate within Hampton
- 2. How properties are allowed to host food trucks
- 3. Rapid notification for approved food trucks to pick approved sites
- 4. Enforcement methods



- Roughly 2 week for license and inspection, separate from VDH (they have separate timeline)
- Existing food trucks likely to be quicker

## **Site Pre-approval**

Individual Locations for Food Truck Operation

Property owner wishing to host food trucks applies for authorization Zoning Review: -Applicable zoning restrictions -Verifies applicable Fire code restrictions are met COR Reporting: -Owners must send monthly reports on what food trucks were on site (after the fact) Public Mapping: -Zoning approved site shown -Contact info displayed, approved site maps available

- One time review and approval, no expiration unless revoked or change to site
- 1-2 week processing time, established locations will be quicker
- Allowed in all zoning districts except in single family and multi-family

## **48-hour Site Reservation**

Reservation of Approved Locations by Authorized Food Trucks

Authorized Food Truck uses Map to reserve an Approved Location 48 hours in advance



COR Reporting: -System sends monthly reports on what food trucks were where for taxes

Map of approved sites with contact information

#### Enforcement

Enforcement

Zoning Enforcement: -Owners failing to be approved or manage food trucks on site appropriately or provide COR required info HFD Enforcement: -Operating unsafely per Fire Code HPD Enforcement: -Food truck operating in ROW or not having sticker -Other safety issues COR Enforcement: -Food truck failing to provide taxes

#### NOTE: SPECIAL EVENTS HANDLED SEPARATELY

# Feedback on the Proposed Regulatory Framework

- Downtown Hampton and Phoebus business districts had no objections
- Coliseum Central some in favor and some opposed
  - Members present at briefing were amenable to allowing food trucks within Coliseum Central provided that:
    - Property owner control is maintained
    - The ordinance is enforced and food trucks do not proliferate without permission
  - Counter views expressed:
    - One property owner may permit food trucks next door to a property which has prohibited them
    - Competition with brick and mortar restaurants
    - Food trucks may have a financial advantage over restaurants in terms of taxes

# Summary of How This Proposal Responds to Initial Feedback

- Allow food trucks in additional areas identified by stakeholders under appropriate conditions
  - Food trucks would be allowed in all zoning districts except single family and multi-family zoning districts. (Could be allowed there with a special event permit)
- Explore designated zones where no food trucks would be allowed to operate except through a special event permit
  - Food tucks will not be permitted on public streets or public property without a special event permit plus food trucks will be permitted on private property only with the consent of the property owner.

#### Streamline permitting process

 Creation of an on-line site registration and site selection/notification process. Proposed elimination of the \$25 Peddler's Permit each time the food truck goes to a new location.

# Summary of How the Proposal Responds to Initial Feedback

- Allow food trucks on public streets in areas identified by the stakeholders.
  - Does not allow food trucks to locate on public streets unless under a special event permit.

## **Next Steps**

- If City Council concurs with this proposed regulatory framework, staff will prepare:
  - Necessary code and ordinance amendments: 3-6 months
  - Software for implementation: 6-8 week process
  - Materials for applications and education

#### **Request of City Council**

Based upon feedback received from our community stakeholders, are you comfortable moving forward with staff's proposed food truck regulatory framework?