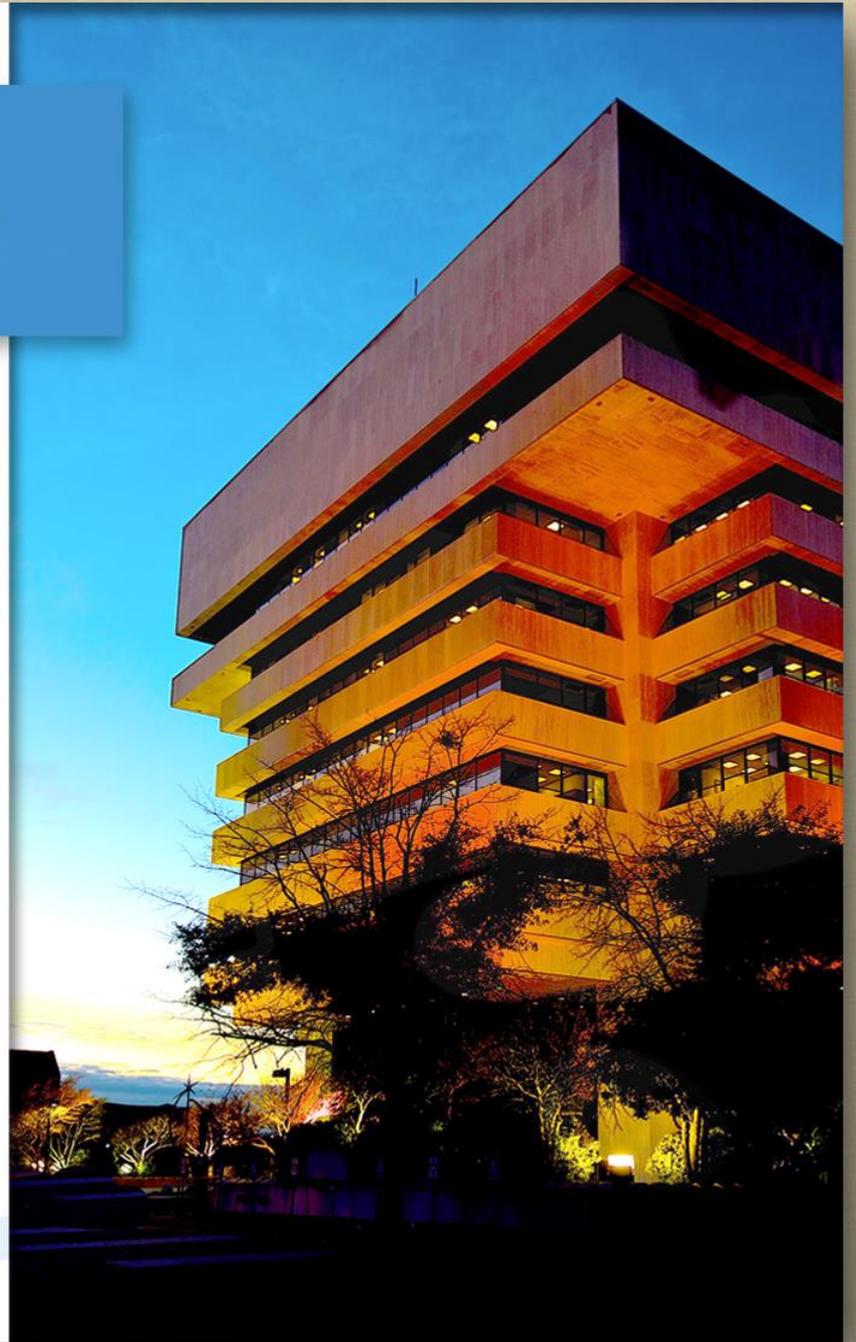


HAMPTON VA

**Food Trucks
Briefing**

**City Council
4/27/22**



Agenda

- Overview of current regulatory framework
 - Stakeholder outreach review
 - Policy options
- 

Regulatory Framework

- Multiple codes overlap to regulate food trucks
 - Mobile Unit Permit – Health Department
 - Peddler's License – Commissioner of Revenue
 - Peddler's Permit – Commissioner of Revenue
 - Zoning Review – only certain locations are permitted to have food trucks; setbacks
 - Fire inspection – Hampton Fire Division

Regulatory Framework

On public streets

- Essentially prohibited

On private property

- Permitted in limited circumstances:
 - Retail sales and outdoor sales are permitted under the zoning ordinance;
 - E.g., C-2, C-3, certain Buckroe districts, & PH-1
 - The primary use is religious facility, public or private school, governmental structure, community center, hospital, or private or fraternal club/lodge; or
 - A special event permit is obtained

Regulatory Framework

- Coliseum Central and Downtown zoning districts completely prohibit food trucks
- Additional criteria:
 - 50 foot setback from sidewalk or street
 - Must have exclusive control of 800 ft² area for traffic circulation
 - Written permission from owner required
 - Not permitted on vacant lots

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

Feedback – Coliseum Central BID

- **Generally open to having food trucks in the district**
 - Can bring excitement, “buzz,” and more foot traffic when done correctly
 - City should work with food trucks to determine where they want to be
- **Consider clustering food trucks in specific areas with high volume of pedestrian traffic and appropriate infrastructure rather than allowing them district-wide**
 - Maintain property owner discretion as to whether to allow them on-site
- **Food trucks have the potential to take business away from restaurants already in existence**
 - Potential financial and regulatory advantage for food trucks
 - COVID-19 hit restaurants hard
- **Potential locations discussed:**
 - Peninsula Town Center
 - Pinewood Plaza / other office buildings
 - Apartment complexes
 - Car dealerships
 - Shopping centers

Feedback – Downtown BID

- **DHDP performed a survey of its members**
 - 45 responses
 - 87% of respondents open to allowing food trucks in Downtown
 - DHDP reached out directly to restaurant owners – spoke with 14 of 18
 - 12 were OK with allowing food trucks if regulations required them to be in a defined area some distance from restaurants
 - 2 negative responses
- **Other feedback:**
 - Generally open to having food trucks in the district
 - Food trucks have the potential to take business away from restaurants already in existence; regulations should balance this
- **Potential locations discussed:**
 - Rudd Lane
 - Not in close proximity to brick and mortar restaurants

Additional City Survey

- **26 respondents**
 - Coliseum Central (6)
 - Langley Research & Development Park (5)
 - Hampton Roads Center Parks (3)
 - Phoebus Partnership (3)
 - Copeland Industrial Park (1)
 - Sentara Hospital (1)
 - Misc. (1)
 - Undesignated (7)

City Survey Responses

- **84% open to food trucks in additional places**
 - Langley Speedway
 - Business Parks (Langley, Hampton Roads Center South and Central, Copeland Industrial Park)
 - Buckroe Beach during the summer/special events
 - Phoebus
 - Fort Monroe
 - Coliseum and HRCC parking lots
 - Near City event venues (HRCC, Coliseum, Aquaplex, Boo Williams, and Buckroe)
- **Areas respondents prefer to avoid for food trucks**
 - Areas with high concentration of restaurants
 - Queen Street and Mellen Street
 - Within 100' of a restaurant
 - “Random” street locations – prefer clusters instead
 - Residential areas
 - Areas that may cause a traffic/safety issue

City Survey Responses

- **Slight majority did not want to expand sidewalk carts (57%)**
- Comments included:
 - Crowding sidewalks and businesses
 - Attraction of panhandlers
 - Distraction of drivers
 - Harder to manage appearance vs. food trucks
 - Trash generated
- Potential locations for sidewalk carts:
 - Phoebus, Fort Monroe, Buckroe Beach, Downtown
 - VA Hospital
 - Hampton University
 - Business Parks

Feedback – Food Truck Operators

- **Food truck owners welcomed opportunity to expand operation in Hampton**
- **Locations discussed:**
 - Downtown Hampton
 - City Hall - excited about Food Truck Fridays
 - Public Safety building
 - Court buildings
 - City operations yard on Armistead Avenue
 - Franklin Street building
 - Coliseum Central
 - Buckroe Beach
 - Industrial parks
 - Apartment complexes
 - Residential neighborhood common areas
 - E.g. swimming pool at Riverdale
- **Practical considerations:**
 - Takes hours to prepare food truck and set up

Feedback – Food Truck Operators

- **Regulatory feedback**

- Strong desire to operate in Hampton, but the current regulatory framework prevents them from operating in financially viable places
 - Apartment complexes and office buildings are frequent requestors
- The \$25 permit fee required for every location every year is out of step with other localities

- **Feedback about other localities' systems**

- Newport News, York County, Hampton have similar permitting systems
- Do not want to see Hampton turn into Washington, D.C. where food trucks are lined on streets

Summary & Analysis of 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

Questions for City Council

- Would you like to pursue any or all of the options?
- If yes, next steps:
 - City staff will draft zoning and city code amendments and review language with stakeholders
 - Staff will return to City Council with recommended amendments

Potential Areas for Focusing Food Trucks

