

2026 Amendments to the Apache Junction City Code Volume 1, Chapter 8: Business,
Article 8-10: Mobile and Temporary Food and Beverage Vendors

ARTICLE 8-10: MOBILE AND TEMPORARY FOOD AND BEVERAGE VENDORS

Section

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§ 8-10-1 DEFINITIONS.

COUNTY HEALTH PERMIT. A Pinal or Maricopa County special event health permit for on-site inspection of temporary food booths, food trucks and mobile food vendors on the day of the event or an annual food service permit as outlined in Pinal County Environmental Health Services Substantive Policy Statements, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department Substantive Policy Statements, the Pinal County Environmental Health Code, or the Maricopa County Environmental Health Code.

FOOD VENDING CART. Any wheeled device moved by human power.

MOBILE FOOD VENDING VEHICLE. A licensed concession trailer or motorized vehicle suitable for use on a public highway which is equipped and primarily used for the sale of food and beverage of any kind including prepared, pre-packaged or unprepared, unpackaged food and nonfood sundries specifically related to the mobile food vendor's business.

MOBILE FOOD VENDOR. Any person or entity, as defined in this chapter, who:

- (1) Owns, controls, manages, operates and/or leases a mobile food vending vehicle or food vending cart;
- (2) Contracts or employs any person to drive, operate, prepare foods, and/or vend from a mobile food vending vehicle or food vending cart.

OPERATOR. Any person who prepares food and/or sells food, beverages or sundries from a mobile food vending vehicle or food vending cart or any individual that operates such a vehicle or cart.

§ 8-10-2 REQUIREMENTS.

(A) It is unlawful for any mobile food vendor to conduct business without first obtaining and maintaining a City of Apache Junction Business License and all other required licenses, including a privilege or use tax license, the applicable county environmental health services permit as determined by Pinal or Maricopa County, and a current food handler's card and identification cards as may be required

by this chapter. If a mobile food vendor has more than one food vending vehicle or food vending cart, multiple licenses shall be required.

(B) A mobile food vendor who conducts business on public property, city right-of-way, or at a city-sponsored special event, shall provide a certificate of insurance naming the "City of Apache Junction and its elected officials, officers, employees and agents" as additionally insured parties.

§ 8-10-3 MOBILE FOOD AND VENDING OPERATING CONDITIONS.

Mobile and temporary food and beverage vendors who have obtained a business license shall be subject to the following limitations and conditions:

(A) Mobile vending shall only be permitted to operate on developed, commercially zoned property and shall not be authorized to operate on vacant lots and shall not impede access to adjacent businesses;

(B) The hours of operation for the vendors shall be limited to the hours that the on-site, permanent business is open;

(C) The vendor shall secure the permission of the sponsoring business owner;

(D) Vendors/operators of food vending vehicles shall arrange for trash receptacles and will dispose of all trash during operations and shall keep the area surrounding the mobile food vending vehicles free of debris, litter and waste;

(E) The temporary food and beverage vendors shall not store the vehicle or cart when the permanent on-site business is not open unless the operator has the sponsoring business owner's permission;

(F) Mobile food vending vehicles or carts shall not be stored on the sponsoring business' property, when not in use, in lieu of placing it in a storage lot or similar facility regardless of the sponsoring business owner's permission;

(G) Mobile food and beverage vending shall be limited to 96 consecutive hours maximum at each temporary location except as applies to parking regulations listed in Section 8-10-4 (D);

(H) Signage attached to a mobile food vending vehicle shall not require a sign permit, but must conform to the signage regulations in the City of Apache Junction Zoning Ordinance. One A-frame sign or menu board per vehicle or cart is also permitted;

(I) A mobile food vendor or operator shall carry at all times the following: a current business license, county health department permit, food handling card and proof of property owner approval to be on a given property;

(J) A mobile food vendor or operator may operate on city-owned or leased property, public right-of-way or city park as part of a special event approved by a city representative or within any legal parking space on city-owned property as described in Section 8-10-4;

(K) Mobile food vending shall not be permitted on any city street or public right-of-way unless it is part of a special event approved by an authorized city representative;

(L) Mobile food vendors shall be permitted to operate on private property at any location within the city when catering a private function and shall not stage the vehicle on public property or right-of-way, unless given specific permission from the city to do so.

(M) If the mobile food vendor is charged a fee for the food truck space, the sponsoring business owner shall comply with city tax code requirements.

§ 8-10-4 PARKING.

A mobile food vendor shall comply with this subsection and applicable law as it pertains to parking,

(A) A mobile food vendor shall only operate in a legal parking space.

(B) A mobile food vendor, including any semi-permanent structure used or associated with the mobile food vendor, may use no more than one (1) legal parking space, unless the mobile food vendor has a separate agreement with the City to use additional legal parking spaces or parking spaces on City property other than right-of-way.

(C) No mobile food vendor shall operate with the serving window facing street traffic.

(D) A mobile food vendor shall abide by all parking regulations, including posted time limits. If there are no other time restrictions on the use of a legal parking space, a mobile food vendor shall not occupy a legal parking space for more than six (6) hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period. "Occupy" within this subsection means within one hundred (100) feet of the place in which the mobile food vendor was initially parked.

(E) A mobile food vendor shall not occupy a legal parking space with insufficient parking capacity as prescribed by Section 1-7-3 Parking Standards of the City code and applicable law, and includes occupying a legal parking space that reduces the number of available parking spaces surrounding the area which is required for the principal use or uses of the property associated with the parking spaces as set forth in A.R.S. Title 9, Chapter 4, Article 7.2. 7. A mobile food vendor shall not claim or attempt to establish any exclusive right to park at a particular street location, unless the parking space is part of a permitted special event.

§ 8-10-5 REVOCATION AND APPEALS.

(A) A mobile food vendor's City of Apache Junction business license shall be revoked by the city clerk's office for any of the following reasons:

(1) The licensee notifies the city in writing with appropriate signature that the business has been closed, sold or is no longer operating in the city; or

(2) Fraud, misrepresentation or false statement contained in the application for a license;

(3) Any violation of this chapter or the Apache Junction Tax Code; or

(4) Conducting a business activity in violation of the Arizona Revised Statutes.

(B) Revoked licenses may be reinstated only after the cause of such revocation has been fully corrected;

(C) A person whose license has been revoked shall be issued a notice to cease mobile food vending operations within the city;

(D) Applicants may appeal the denial or revocation of a permit to the City Manager or his/her designee in writing within five (5) calendar days after being notified by the city of a denial or revocation of an event permit. The City Manager or his/her designee shall hold a hearing with the appellant and city staff

within five (5) calendar days of the filing of the appeal notice. The city manager or his or her designee shall issue a written decision to the appellant within five (5) calendar days after the hearing. The decision of the City Manager or his/her designee shall be final, subject only to judicial review pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-904;

(E) No person may reapply for any permit after revocation unless the cause for such revocation has been corrected.

§ 8-10-6 PENALTIES.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter, shall be deemed guilty of a class one misdemeanor and, shall upon conviction, be punished pursuant to the provisions of the Apache Junction City Code, Volume 1, § 8-1-4 Penalty.