



MOBILE VENDING

The following is a summary of Sunnyvale’s vending regulations for the vending of food and goods in the public right-of-way and on private property. These regulations protect the public health and safety and ensure safe pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Vending regulations are found in the Sunnyvale Municipal Code (SMC 5.26).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

All vendors shall comply with the following general requirements.

I. PERMIT AND LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Vendors shall maintain and display the following permits and licenses at all times during operation:

- Business License from the City of Sunnyvale;
- Vendor’s Permit from Santa Clara County, Department of Environmental Health;
- Peddler License from the City of Sunnyvale, Department of Public Safety, if the vendor enters the premises of any residential property; and
- Other permits, licenses and certification of compliance with all state and federal food vending laws, if applicable.

II. LOCATION RESTRICTIONS

The following table lists the locations where vending is prohibited or allowed with restrictions.

LOCATION	VENDING RESTRICTION
Block 2 Properties in Downtown Specific Plan District	Not allowed on sidewalks and on-street parking areas
Residential property	Not allowed without peddler license (SMC 5.28)
Public park	Not allowed without permit for exclusive use (SMC 9.62)
Parkway strip, Landscaped area, and Unpaved lot	Not allowed
Driveway	Not allowed within 15 feet
Fire hydrant	Not allowed within 15 feet
Designated fire lane	Not allowed within 25 feet
Pedestrian Crosswalk	Not allowed within 50 feet
Intersection	Not allowed within 50 feet
Bus stop sign	Not allowed within 100 feet
Within Vision Triangle	Not allowed (SMC 19.34.06)
Roadway	Not allowed to solicit standing in a roadway (SMC 9.56.04). Allowed from legally parked vehicle.
Commercial parking area	Not allowed unless authorized in advance by the property owner (SMC 9.56.05)

III. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- **Cleanup:** All vendors must maintain clearly designated trash receptacles and a clean surrounding area. Collect and dispose waste consistent with applicable state and local standards. The vending facility should be removed immediately after operations.
- **Self-Sufficient:** Vendors should be self-sufficient with all utilities during operations.
- **Noise:** No amplified speech or live music is allowed while parked or standing.
- **Signs:** All signage must be painted or affixed flat on the vehicle.

VENDOR means a person who sells food, goods, or services in any public area from a stand, pushcart, motor vehicle, or by person.

DELIVERIES of ordered merchandise are NOT considered vending.

DISPLAY of items in the public right-of-way, on a fence, or any other location other than the vendor or vending facility is prohibited.

VENDING IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

NO PERMIT is required if the following requirements are met:

- **Vehicle or Trailer Required:** Vendors must use a vehicle or trailer that meet all state and federal requirements, including licensing and registration; No person may vend in a roadway except from a vehicle;
- **Parking:** Vending can occur only when the vehicle is legally parked.
- **Hours of Operation:** Vending shall occur only between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.
- **Sidewalk Clearance:** Vendors must manage customer queuing to ensure that customers do not block the public sidewalk. Only trash receptacles are allowed to be placed on the public sidewalk, maintaining 4 feet of clearance on public sidewalks for pedestrian accessibility.

PUSHCART VENDING IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

A PERMIT is required to vend from a pushcart on the sidewalk. For more information call the Planning Division at 408-730-7444 or visit the [E-OneStop webpage](#).

VENDING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

NO PERMIT is required if authorization from the property owner is obtained and the following conditions are met:

- **Allowed in Non-residential Property:** Vending shall only be conducted on a non-residential property (except permitted by Peddlers License - SMC 5.28);
- **Written Approval:** The vendor shall have written approval from the property owner indicating the approved location and operation schedule;
- **Hours of Operation:** Vending shall occur only between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Vendors are limited to a maximum of 4 hours per day and no more than 3 vendors may be at one location at a time;
- **Parking:** Vendors cannot be located on parking spaces required to meet minimum parking standards. Vendors cannot park on landscapes areas, and shall not obstruct required loading, circulation or fire access;
- **Furniture:** Tables and chairs for food vendors may be allowed only if they occupy excess parking spaces or non-vehicular areas, and are removed after operation; and
- **Private Event:** Vendors shall obtain the property owner's written approval to cater for a private event on a private property and shall not open the event to the public.

PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY means land which is dedicated to the public use for sidewalk, roadway and highway purposes, or other transportation purposes.

PUSHCART means any nonmotorized mobile device used in the sale, barter, or offer for sale of food, goods, or services.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS will apply, when a vendor is included in a community event and authorized by the city by a Special Event Permit pursuant to SMC 9.45 or other entitlements.

PERMIT REQUIRED when it appears that vending activities are having an adverse impact on the properties, including traffic, circulation, parking availability, noise, trash, or other reasons of public health or safety.