



City of Atlanta Public Right of Way Food Truck Program

Program FAQs

What is the difference between the Right of Way Vending policy and the City's Public Property Food Truck policy?

The Right of Way vending policy is intended to regulate vending from the City's sidewalks and City owned kiosks whereas the Food Truck Ordinance is intended to regulate vending from City streets. The City's Public Property Food Truck Ordinance has been designed for motorized food trucks which must park in the City's right of way (e.g. not on sidewalks). To protect the safety of the public and the safety of the vendors, only motorized vehicles may participate, which meet the criteria set by Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness in the Movable Food Service Unit regulations.

Does the City's Public Property Vending Program allow for vending in Parks?

At present there are no designated food truck areas in City Parks; however, the Department of Parks and Recreation is pursuing opportunities to pilot food truck vending in select areas. To be eligible to participate in the Park vending program, food trucks must first be permitted through the City's Public Property Vending program.

Can I vend from a push cart or other mobile vending vehicle that is not motorized?

No. The City's Public Property Food Truck Ordinance has been designed for motorized food trucks which must park in the City's right of way (e.g. not on sidewalks). To protect the safety of the public and the safety of the vendors, only motorized vehicles may participate, which meet the criteria set by Fulton County Code of Ordinances and Code of Resolutions Article V entitled "Food Service."

Vendors who are interested in vending from push carts or other mobile vending units, are eligible to participate in the City's Right of Way Vending program which is also permitted through the City's Office of Revenue.

Do I have to apply for my vending permit in person?

Yes. At this point, all vending permit applications will need to be completed in person at the Office of Revenue. In the future, we hope to move this process online and allow for electronic applications and renewals. A business license can be renewed online.

Who enforces the City’s Public Property Food Truck Ordinance?

The City’s Public Property Food Truck Ordinance is monitored and enforced by the Atlanta Police Department. All Health Code enforcement will be managed by the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness, Environmental Health Services Division. Business license and tax regulations will be enforced by the Office of Revenue in partnership with the Police Department.

Do I need multiple Vending Permits or Business Licenses to vend from multiple locations?

No. A single Business License and vending permit may cover multiple food truck vending locations. However, the City’s Public Property Vending Permit does not enable vendors to vend on private property. Vending on private property requires a separate and distinct Private Property Food Truck Permit which is issued by the Atlanta Police Department. A Special Administrative Permit (SAP) approval from the Office of Planning is also required, prior to obtaining approval from the Police Department.

If I have multiple vending locations, what are the permit requirements?

A single Public Property Food Truck Permit can cover multiple locations. If a vendor is operating in multiple locations, it is the vendor’s responsibility to have visual evidence of permits (Food Truck Permit, Business License and Health Permit) on site at each location.

If my business is located in Georgia, but not in Atlanta, do I need a City of Atlanta Business Tax Certificate to operate in Atlanta?

No. Current state law mandates that you register your business in the municipality or jurisdiction where it is located. This registration allows your business to operate statewide. As long as you can provide proof of a valid Business Tax Certificate from the originating jurisdiction where your business is located, you will be eligible to apply for a food truck permit.

Is there a process to reserve vending locations in the designated food truck areas?

No. Under the current vending program, all vending locations are available on a first come, first served basis. In future iterations of the program, we will examine the possibility of creating other options.

Are Designated Food Truck Areas identified by signage or markings?

No. All trucks are required to display a valid permit visible from outside of the vehicle.

Are Food Trucks required to use a metered parking space?

Yes, all Food Truck vendors utilizing public property must be located at a metered parking space.

How many metered parking spaces can a single Food Truck occupy?

Food Truck vendors may only use up to two metered parking spaces per truck.

Does the Food Truck operator have to pay for the use of multiple (2) spaces if the Food Truck protrudes into a second metered space?

Yes. If Food Truck vendors use two metered parking spaces, payment must be made for both spaces at all times during use of the spaces.

Do maximum time limits for parking at the metered spaces apply to Food Truck operators?

Maximum time limits for parking do not apply to Food Truck vendors using metered parking spaces.

Is payment of the meter required during non-enforcement hours?

Food Truck vendors must pay for use of the metered spaces only during enforcement hours. Vendors should review parking-related signage in the designated areas to ensure compliance with rules for payment and enforcement times prior to parking and paying the meters.

NOTE: There is no enforcement of metered parking spaces located in the public right of way at any time on Sundays within the city of Atlanta.

Are Food Truck operators exempt from other parking and traffic violations while vending?

No. All traffic and safety rules apply to Food Truck vendors during their operations. In addition to parking violations, Food Truck vendors may be cited for traffic, safety or Food Truck program violations. Vendors should consult the City of Atlanta Public Right of Way Food Truck guidelines before parking.

Do staff who are working in and/or operating a Food Truck need to be permitted through the City of Atlanta?

No. Only the operator of the food truck must be permitted; however, the permitted operator is solely responsible and liable for the operations of the permitted truck. If a violation occurs when a staff member who is not permitted is working or operating the truck, the permitted operator will be cited.

What are the deadlines for payment?

To apply for a Public Property Food Truck Vending Permit with the City of Atlanta, all vendors must pay the full amount of application (\$145 for new permits, \$125 for renewals) at the time of application submission.

Vendors who are not able to pay all fees at the time of application submission will not be allowed to submit an application or be issued a permit.

Where is vending allowed?

Currently, public property food truck vending is only allowed in the designated Government Walk Zone which includes the following locations:

Central Avenue

- Four metered parking spaces (two Food Trucks) on the west side of Central Avenue between Trinity Ave and Mitchell Street.

Mitchell Street

- Six metered parking spaces (three Food Trucks) on the south side of Mitchell Street between Central Avenue and Washington Street.
- Six metered parking spaces (three Food Trucks) on the north side of Mitchell Street between Central Avenue and Washington Street.
- Four metered parking spaces (two Food Trucks) on the south side of Mitchell Street between Pryor Street and Central Avenue.

Martin Luther King Jr Drive

- Four metered parking spaces (two Food Trucks) on the south side of Martin Luther King Jr Drive between Washington Street and Central Avenue.

Pryor Street

- Six metered parking spaces (three Food Trucks) on the west side of Pryor Street between Martin Luther King Jr Drive and Mitchell Street. Food Trucks utilizing these spaces shall be subject to the posted rush hour parking restrictions.
- Four metered parking spaces (two Food Trucks) on the east side of Pryor Street between Mitchell Street and Trinity Avenue.

Trinity Street - Two metered parking spaces (one Food Truck) on the north side of Trinity Street between Central Avenue and Washington Street. Any Food Truck utilizing this space shall be subject to the posted rush hour parking restrictions.

Who do I call if I have a question about the Vending Program?

- For **general program questions**: Department of Planning & Community Development, *Economic Development*, Emily Giordano, vending@atlantaga.gov, 404-330-6103.
- Questions related to **permitting through the City of Atlanta**: *Office of Revenue*, biztax@atlantaga.gov, ATL311 at 404-330-6270
- Questions related to **background check, private property vending or to report a violation**: *Atlanta Police Department*, Ofc. Loreatha Cannon, lcannon@atlantaga.gov, 404-546-4470
If the issue creates an immediate threat to public safety, please contact 911.
- Questions regarding **the Fulton County health code or requirements for receiving the required health permits**:
Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness, Environmental Health:
Christopher Nichols 404-613-1303 or Christopher.Nichols@fultoncountyga.gov.