

A food cart, also known as a mobile food unit, is a vehicle that is self-propelled or that can be pulled or pushed down a sidewalk, street, or highway, on which food is prepared or processed and is used in selling and dispensing food to the consumer. (OAR 333-150-0000)

## Are building permits required?

A building permit is not required for a mobile food unit as defined in the Oregon Vehicle Code, as long as:

- The vehicle is on wheels at all times. (There is no requirement that it *be* moved at any specific time interval only that it be *able* to be moved.)
- It is not enclosed by a structure, attached to a structure, or otherwise restricted from being able to be moved at all times.
- It does not require a special permit from the Oregon Department of Transportation to be moved.
- Connection to onsite electrical is via a flexible cord plugged into a receptacle; no hard-wired connection allowed.
- There is no piped connection to water service or wastewater piping.

## Where are mobile food units allowed?

**Downtown:** Permits are required for food vending on public property in the downtown area. This includes:

- Kesey Square (corner of Willamette St. & E. Broadway)
- The Park Blocks (E. 8th Ave. between W. Park Ave. and E. Park Ave.)
- Other locations considered by request

For more information visit [www.eugene-or.gov/dazpermits](http://www.eugene-or.gov/dazpermits).

**Public Parks:** Food units are not allowed in City parks unless associated with an approved event. Authorization by the organizer of the event must be obtained.

**13<sup>th</sup> Ave. near the University:** There is an area between Kincaid St. and Ferry St. where food vending is allowed in the public right-of-way with

*Note: This document should not be used as a substitute for codes and regulations. The applicant is responsible for compliance with all code and rule requirements, whether or not described in this document.*

a permit. Please contact the Eugene Chamber of Commerce at 541-484-1314 for details.

**Public Sidewalks:** Food vending is not allowed on public sidewalks with the exceptions noted above under Downtown and 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. near the University.

**Private Property:** Food vending is allowed in Commercial zones (C-1, C-2, C-3), Employment & Industrial zones (E-1, E-2, I-2) subject to special use limitations, and in the Walnut (S-WS) and Whiteaker (S-W) Special Area zones. To determine the zoning of a particular property you can visit our website at [www.eugene-or.gov/zoningmap](http://www.eugene-or.gov/zoningmap). The following are things to consider when vending on private property:

- Property owner approval
- Units cannot take up parking spaces required by other businesses at the location.
- Units are not allowed to block motor vehicle access or pedestrian ways.
- Pedestrian (walk-up) traffic only is allowed (no drive-thru service).
- Units should not be parked in required landscape areas.

## Are there any other regulations I should be aware of?

Yes, because the unit is selling food to the public it must be inspected and licensed by Lane County Health and Human Services:

151 W. 7th Avenue, Eugene, OR  
(541) 682-4051 (Se habla Español)  
Website: [www.lanecounty.org/HHS](http://www.lanecounty.org/HHS)

See details about the City's single-use ordinances at [www.eugene-or.gov/singleuse](http://www.eugene-or.gov/singleuse).

Please contact Land Use staff at 541-682-8336 or [landuseinfo@eugene-or.gov](mailto:landuseinfo@eugene-or.gov) for information related to these standards.