BUILDING DEPARTMENT
CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS

Mobile Food Vendor Operating Requirements

Mobile food vendors must adhere to the following operational requirements:

1. **Placement and Clearance:** Mobile food vending units must be parked legally on a paved or gravel surface, or another surface approved by the building department. The unit and its service/dining areas must not impede or obstruct vehicular, pedestrian, or non-motorized traffic. Placement in fire lanes or locations that create a visual obstruction for vehicular traffic is prohibited.
2. **Compliance:** All applicable noise and parking regulations must be followed.
3. **Customer Queueing:** Areas where customers queue for ordering or pick-up must not be located on any street, road, or within the road right-of-way. If situated in a parking lot, these areas must be a safe distance from active travel lanes.
4. **Seating Area:** Seating areas must not be located on any street, road, or within the road right-of-way. If located in a parking lot, seating must be placed a safe distance from active travel lanes. Additionally, no seating is permitted within ten feet of the mobile food vending unit.
5. **Waste Management:** Adequate waste receptacles must be provided.
6. **Disposal Prohibition:** Dumping of gray water, grease, or any other fluid onto the ground, street, or into any storm sewer is strictly forbidden.
7. **Distance from Restaurants:** Mobile food vending units are prohibited from operating within 200 feet of an existing restaurant offering a similar menu while that restaurant is open for business.

A Special Event permit is mandatory for all mobile food vending operations, in addition to any required licensing, with the following exceptions:

1. **Limited Operation:** Operating for a maximum of four hours at the same location within a 24-hour period, provided there is a minimum 30-day interval before the unit operates at that same location again.
2. **Neighborhood Events:** Operating in a residential zoned district as part of a neighborhood event.
3. **Private Events:** Operating on private property for a private event where no sales are made to the general public.
4. **City-Sponsored Events:** Operating at an event organized or sponsored by the city on municipal property.