City of Newport Food Truck and Food Cart Amendments
Summary of Proposed Changes

Overview

Newport’s existing laws limit food carts and food trucks to privately owned commercial or industrial properties that are at least a ½ mile from permanent eating and drinking establishments. Vending of this nature on public property is limited to special events or specifically designated areas, and the City offers a very narrow set of licensing options for mobile operators who want to vend from parking areas along public streets, requiring they move every 15 minutes. One of the City Council’s goals is to update these laws to provide additional options for individuals that wish to setup a food cart or operate a food truck within the City. A draft set of rule changes have been developed by the Planning Commission, the key elements of which are as follows:

Private Property

- Food Trucks and Food Carts (called “Mobile Food Units”) will be allowed in commercial and industrial areas regardless of how close they might be to permanent eating and drinking establishments, subject to a City issued temporary use permit.
- Applicants must show that their unit has been licensed by the Lincoln County Health Department and that the location they have selected, and manner in which they will be operating, satisfies standards designed to promote health and safety and avoid nuisance impacts.
- If four (4) or more trucks or carts locate on a property, the development becomes a Mobile Food Unit Pod. Additional standards apply to Pods that are akin to what is required of permanent eating and drinking establishments, such as providing sheltered guest seating, restroom facilities, and off-street parking. Pods will also be required to have city sewer connections and permanent power for each mobile food unit and will be subject to the same City impact fees as permanent eating and drinking establishments.
- Mobile Food Units must be at least 500-ft from schools and will be allowed only as Pods in Nye Beach and the Bayfront.

Public Property (including streets)

- Size allowances for fixed based vending at City designated locations (e.g. the Nye Beach Turnaround) may be set by City Council resolution with some locations being large enough to accommodate mobile food units.
- Vendors interested in setting up in street parking areas will be allowed to stay up to 2 hours in commercial or industrial areas, except for Nye Beach and the Bayfront where vending will be limited to designated locations. The 15-minute limit will continue to apply in residential areas. Mobile Food Units will continue to be prohibited within 500-feet of schools.
- Insurance requirements will be increased for persons obtaining a business license to vend on public property.
- Use of City property other than streets that are not specifically designated for vending will continue to be limited to special events.

Additional Information

Detailed information about the proposed changes is available on the City of Newport website at: https://www.newportoregon.gov/dept/cdd/default.asp. Questions or concerns may be directed to Derrick Tokos, Community Development Director at 541-574-0626 or d.tokos@newportoregon.gov.