

**ORDINANCE NO.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 25-2 TO ADOPT REGULATIONS FOR MOBILE RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1.** Chapter 25-2 of the City Code is amended to add a new Section 25-2-818 to read as follows:

**§ 25-2-818 MOBILE RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS.**

(A) **Definitions.** In this section:

- (1) **MOBILE RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT** means a retail establishment that sells non-food items and services to an end used consumer from a movable vehicle or trailer that routinely changes locations.
- (2) **OPERATOR** means a person who operates a mobile food establishment.
- (3) **RIGHT-OF-WAY** means a public roadway and property dedicated or reserved for public pedestrian or vehicular travel.
- (4) **SOUND EQUIPMENT** has the meaning established in Section 9-2-1 (*Definitions*) of the City Code.

(B) **Applicability.** This section does not apply to a mobile food establishment defined in Section 25-2-812 (*Mobile Food Establishments*) of the City Code or to a mobile retail establishment that is located on private property for three hours or less between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 p.m.

(C) **Time Limit.** A mobile retail establishment may not remain at the same location for more than 180 consecutive days.

(D) **Required Approvals.**

- (1) A person may not operate a mobile retail establishment until the director of the Planning and Development Review Department approves the establishment.

- 1 (2) The director of the Planning and Development Review Department  
2 shall approve an establishment if all of the following is provided by  
3 the operator:
- 4 (a) the name and address of the mobile retail establishment owner;
  - 5 (b) proof of motor vehicle or trailer registration;
  - 6 (c) a description of the items that the mobile retail establishment  
7 sells;
  - 8 (d) proof of sales tax and use permit;
  - 9 (e) proof of Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation  
10 license(s), if applicable for Personal Services use;
  - 11 (f) an itinerary of the locations where sales occur;
  - 12 (g) if at one location more than two hours, a written agreement  
13 from a business within 150 feet of the location to allow  
14 employees of the mobile retail establishment to use flushable  
15 restrooms or other facilities approved by the health authority  
16 during hours of operation;
  - 17 (h) a fee, as established by separate ordinance; and
  - 18 (i) any other information reasonably required by the director of the  
19 Planning and Development Review Department to enforce this  
20 section.
- 21 (3) A site plan, site plan exemption, or temporary use permit is not  
22 required for the operation of a mobile food establishment.
- 23 (E) **Items and Services to be Sold.** An operator may only sell non-food retail  
24 items or services. Mobile retail establishments may only sell items or  
25 services permitted under a general retail sales (convenience) use, pet  
26 services use, and personal services use. All sales items and supplies must be  
27 stored within the mobile unit.
- 28 (F) **Zoning.** A mobile retail establishment shall comply with the regulations in  
29 this section.

- 1 (1) A mobile retail establishment is permitted in all commercial and  
2 industrial zoning districts except in a neighborhood office (NO),  
3 limited office (LO), or general office (GO) zoning district.
- 4 (2) Unless located in a central business district (CBD) zoning district, a  
5 mobile retail establishment may not be located less than fifty feet  
6 from a lot with a building that contains both a residential and  
7 commercial use.
- 8 (3) A mobile retail establishment may not be less than fifty feet from  
9 property:
  - 10 (i) in an SF-5 or more restrictive district; or
  - 11 (ii) on which a residential use permitted in an SF-5 or more  
12 restrictive district is located.
- 13 (4) A person may not operate a mobile retail establishment between the  
14 hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- 15 (5) A mobile retail establishment may not be located less than twenty feet  
16 from a general retail sales (convenience) use, general retail sales  
17 (general) use, pet services use, or personal services use.
- 18 (6) A drive-in service is not permitted.
- 19 (7) Exterior lighting must be hooded or shielded so that the light source is  
20 not directly visible to a residential use.
- 21 (8) A mobile retail establishment may not be located within the right-of-  
22 way unless the mobile retail establishment obtains and possesses the  
23 permission required under Sections 14-8-2 (*Permit Required; Waiver*  
24 *of Deadlines*) and 14-9-21 (*Street Vendor License Authorized*) of the  
25 City Code.
- 26 (9) A mobile retail establishment may not occupy or impede required  
27 parking for another use.

28 (G) **Noise Level.** The noise level of mechanical equipment or outside sound  
29 equipment used in association with a mobile retail establishment may not  
30 exceed seventy decibels when measured at the property line that is across the  
31 street from or abutting a residential use.

- 1 (H) **Signs.** A mobile retail establishment is limited to signs attached to the  
2 exterior of the mobile retail establishment. The signs:
- 3 (1) must be secured and mounted flat against the mobile retail  
4 establishment;
- 5 (2) may not project more than six inches from the exterior of the mobile  
6 retail establishment;
- 7 (3) may not use a flashing light source; and
- 8 (4) may not use an LED message board.
- 9 (I) **Debris and Litter.** During business hours a mobile retail establishment  
10 shall provide a trash receptacle for use by customers. The mobile retail  
11 establishment shall also keep the area around the mobile retail establishment  
12 clear of litter and debris at all times.
- 13 (J) **Utilities.** A permanent water or wastewater connection is prohibited.  
14 Electrical service may be provided only by a temporary service or other  
15 connection provided by an electric utility or by an onboard generator.
- 16 (K) **Waste and Disposal.** An operator must dispose of all waste generated by  
17 the mobile retail establishment in accordance with City Code regulations.
- 18 (L) **Mobility.** An operator must demonstrate that the vehicle or trailer is readily  
19 moveable if requested by the directors of the Planning and Development  
20 Review Department or the Code Compliance Department.
- 21
- 22 (M) **Operations.** An operator may not place sales items, equipment, or supplies  
23 that are part of its operations outside of the permitted unit and must conduct  
24 all of its operational activities within the mobile retail establishment.
- 25
- 26 (N) **Bad Actor.** Repeated Code violations may result in rescission of approval  
27 to operate.
- 28
- 29 (O) **Compliance Required; Offense.** An operator shall comply with this  
30 section. A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor.
- 31

1 **PART 2.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

2 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

3  
4 §  
5 §  
6 \_\_\_\_\_, 2014 § \_\_\_\_\_

7 Lee Leffingwell  
8 Mayor

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10  
11 **APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
12 Karen M. Kennard  
13 City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk

