



## SIDEWALK VENDOR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Development Service Department • 777 B Street Hayward, CA 94541

<https://www.hayward-ca.gov/content/sidewalk-vending-ordinance-update>

### **What is a sidewalk vendor?**

According to State law and the City's Sidewalk Vendor Ordinance, a sidewalk vendor is a person who sells food or merchandise on a sidewalk or pedestrian path. It does not apply to food trucks or anything with a motor.

### **What is the City's Sidewalk Vendor Ordinance?**

The City's Sidewalk Vendor Ordinance are all the laws in the City that apply to sidewalk vending. The laws are found in the Hayward Municipal Code. The Sidewalk Vendor Ordinance was adopted on October 17, 2023, and became effective November 17, 2023. A copy of the ordinance in English can be found [here](#). A copy of the ordinance in Spanish can be found [here](#).

### **Does a sidewalk vendor need a permit to operate in the City of Hayward?**

Yes, all sidewalk vendors must obtain a Sidewalk Vending Permit prior to operating on public property/in the public right-of-way within the City. A business license issued by the City of Hayward is also required. Additional permits issued by the County of Alameda Department of Health and/or the State of California may also be required, depending on the types of items sold.

### **How do I apply for a Sidewalk Vending Permit?**

All Sidewalk Vending Permit applications shall be submitted directly through the [Hayward e-Permit](#)<sup>OBJ</sup><sub>OBJ</sub>. All applications are reviewed for compliance with the City of Hayward Sidewalk Vending Ordinance Municipal Code. Required materials to apply include:

- City of Hayward Business License
- Mobile Food Facility Permit issued by Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (ACDEH) (if applicable)
- Seller's Permit issued by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (if applicable)
- Proof of general liability insurance
- Site Plan (if a stationary sidewalk vendor).

### **How can I get assistance applying for a Sidewalk Vending Permit?**

The City of Hayward is holding monthly Sidewalk Vending Permit workshops the last Thursday of each month at the Hayward Public Library in the Tech Center room. No registration necessary. Each workshop is two sessions.

#### Session 1: Sidewalk Vending Permit Introduction (10:00 - 11:00 a.m.)

Learn about the regulations and the process for obtaining a Sidewalk Vending Permit.

#### Session 2: Applying for the Sidewalk Vending Permit (1:30 - 2:30 p.m.)

Receive assistance in completing the application for the Sidewalk Vending Permit. Computers will be available.

For information on the next workshop please visit: <https://www.hayward-ca.gov/content/sidewalk-vending-ordinance-update>.

### **What is the cost to obtain a Sidewalk Vending Permit?**

The fee for the Sidewalk Vending Permit is \$0. However, Sidewalk Vendors shall be responsible for City of Hayward

Updated February 2024

Business License fees and applicable Mobile Food Facility Permit and Seller's Permit fees.

**Are there different types of Sidewalk Vendors?**

Yes. There are two types of sidewalk vendors: roaming sidewalk vendors and stationary sidewalk vendors.

- Roaming Sidewalk Vendor - A sidewalk vendor who moves from place to place and stops only to complete a transaction.
- Stationary Sidewalk Vendor – Sidewalk vendor who vends from a fixed location.

**Do I need a permit to sell food on private property?**

Yes. You would need a Food Vendor Permit and not a Sidewalk Vendor Permit. Motorized vehicles such as food trucks are not subject to a Sidewalk Vending Permit, but instead must obtain a Food Vendor Permit to operate within certain zoning districts and subject to compliance with all the regulations in the Hayward Municipal Code. For more information on the FVP please visit: <https://www.hayward-ca.gov/services/permits/food-vendor-permit-fvp>.

**When does Sidewalk Vending Permit expire?**

The Sidewalk Vending Permit is valid for a one (1) year period, beginning from the date of permit issuance.

**What if I don't obtain a Sidewalk Vending Permit?**

Vendors found to operating without a current Sidewalk Vending Permit will be forced to cease vending and be subject to fines up to \$1,000.00.

**Can some of my equipment be on the private property next to the sidewalk?**

No. The sidewalk vending permit only allows vending on the sidewalk and not on private property.

**How can I file a complaint about a sidewalk vendor?**

To submit a complaint about a sidewalk vendor please email [community.preservation@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:community.preservation@hayward-ca.gov) or call 510-583-4143. For health and safety complaints (i.e. food safety concerns) please contact Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (ACDEH) by phone at (510) 567-6700 or by using the General Complaint Form available here: <https://deh.acgov.org/complaint-form.page?>