



**CITY COLLECTOR'S
OFFICE CITY OF
CHARLESTON**

VENDOR STANDARDS

Pursuant to Section 18 of the Municipal Code of the City of Charleston, the following standards apply to Street Vendors:

DIVISION 2. VENDOR STANDARDS.

Sec. 18-1061. Requirements and Regulations of Vendors.

(a) It shall be unlawful to leave any Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle unattended on an approved public right of way or remain on an approved public right of way outside of the allowed hours of operation, unless the Mobilized Vending Vehicle is legally parked in a manner consistent with all parking and traffic regulations. If any Nonmotorized Vending Unit is left unattended for more than 30 minutes, it will be considered abandoned and may be removed by the City. A Mobilized Vending Vehicle left unattended in violation of this subsection shall be subject to citation(s) for traffic/parking violations and may be towed by the City. If removed or towed by the City consistent with this subsection, the Vendor shall be liable for all reasonable removal, towing, and storage charges. The City may also require additional restrictions to abate nuisances.

(b) A Vendor may not operate a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle within two hundred (200) feet of any event that is authorized by the City, unless the Vendor is an approved participant in such event.

(c) A Vendor operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle may not make or cause to be made any unreasonable or excessive noise in violation of Section 78-212 of this Code, including noise from generators. Any Vendor operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle in conjunction with an operational generator may not operate within 50 feet from any outdoor dining area as defined in this Article. A Vendor may not use or maintain any outside sound amplifying equipment, lights, or noisemakers, such as bells, horns or whistles or similar devices. A Vendor engaging in food service shall take all reasonable steps to prevent activity akin to a nuisance, including but not limited to smoke and steam emissions.

(d) With the exception of trash bins and signage authorized by this section, a Vendor operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle may not use or place on the approved public right-of-way any tables, seating, or any other equipment not contained within or

upon the Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle.

(e) A Vendor operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle may not have any exclusive and/or perpetual right to use any location upon the streets, alleys, or public grounds of the City. All locations designated as approved public rights-of-way for Nonmotorized Vending Units shall be available on a first come, first served basis with no particular location(s) assigned to any particular Vendor(s). Notwithstanding, the City may assign locations for Vendors during city-sponsored events.

(f) A Vendor operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle may not conduct business on an approved public right-of-way between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6 a.m. nor may any Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle be permitted to remain on an approved public right-of-way between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6 a.m., unless the Mobilized Vending Vehicle is parked in conformance with all applicable parking and traffic regulations. Mobilized Vending Vehicles shall be parked at all times in conformance with applicable parking and traffic regulations, including but not limited to payment of parking meters during hours of operation, and may not hinder the lawful parking or operation of other vehicles. Mobilized Vending Vehicles may not bag parking meters to conduct street vending operations. Mobilized Vending Vehicles shall be permitted to park in loading zones between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. Any opening or window from which business is conducted for all Mobilized Vending Vehicle must open toward the sidewalk, walkway or parking area. No window or opening from which business is conducted may open toward the street or traffic area.

(g) A Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle operating within the designated locations may not be of a size or configuration as to interfere with City or public use of any public right-of-way or impede ingress or egress by vehicles or pedestrians.

(h) An unobstructed clearance for pedestrian travel consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act must be maintained around any Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle.

(i) An unobstructed clearance of 42 inches, must be maintained between a fire hydrant and any Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle.

(j) A Vendor operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle may not park such Unit on a utility/manhole cover located upon an approved public right-of-way.

(k) Vendors shall obey any lawful order of a police officer to move a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle to a different approved location, or to remove it entirely, if necessary to avoid congestion or obstruction of a public right-of-way, or for the City's use of such right-of-way for emergency purposes, construction or any other public benefit deemed necessary or appropriate at the discretion of the officer including but not limited to nuisance abatement.

(l) Any power required for a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle located on an approved public right-of-way shall be self-contained and it may not draw its power from the public right-of-way, except where approved by the city manager. Power cables or equipment may not extend across any public street, alley or sidewalk.

(m) Vendors operating a Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle shall contain all refuse, trash, and litter within the Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle, or provide a small moveable trash can maintained by the Street Vendor and located adjacent to the Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle in such a manner as not to block or otherwise obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic. The operator of the Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle shall be responsible for properly disposing of such refuse, trash, and litter as would any business, and shall not place it in any public trash container, or in any private container without proper permission. Spills of food or food by-products shall be cleaned up by the Vendor operating the Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle, and no dumping of gray water on the streets is allowed.

(n) Any signage or advertising signs shall be maintained by the Vendor and located adjacent to the Nonmotorized Vending Unit or Mobilized Vending Vehicle in such a manner as not to block or otherwise obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

(o) The Vendor's permit shall be displayed conspicuously at all times upon the vendor's vehicle, table, cart or container. Any and all additional licenses or permits required pursuant to law and this article shall be displayed conspicuously at all times upon the vendor's vehicle, table, cart or container.

(p) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit the distribution or the sale of newspapers on the sidewalks or from a vehicle.