



Report
Staff Report
 The Corporation of the City of Brampton
 2/19/2025

Date: 2025-02-03

Subject: **Class C Refreshment Vehicles (Food Trucks) – Current Environment**

Contact: Kevin Lindegaard, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Enforcement and By-law Services, Legislative Services

Report number: Legislative Services-2025-130

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report from Kevin Lindegaard, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, to the Committee of Council Meeting of February 19, 2025, re: **City of Brampton Refreshment Vehicles (Food Trucks) – Current Environment**, be received.

OVERVIEW:

- On January 22, 2025, Council directed staff to report on the current state, of the Class C Refreshment Vehicle (also known as food truck) industry in Brampton.
- This report provides details on the application requirements, current locations of food trucks, the Downtown Brampton Development Corporation Industrial Area's (BIA) authority for operations in the downtown area, and includes information related to Peel Public Health requirements, zoning and bylaw restrictions regarding locating on private property, the complaint process and refreshment vehicle exemptions and special event licenses.
- Subsequent reports will present future-state options for Council's consideration, allowing Council to provide direction on necessary by-law and policy amendments to enable a locally informed future, with a final recommendation report on proposed amendments to the Mobile Licensing By-law and/or Zoning By-law(s) in Spring 2025.

BACKGROUND:

On January 22, 2025, City Council directed staff to bring a report that reviews the [Mobile Licensing By-law](#) related to food trucks including a review of **Downtown Brampton**

Development Corporation Industrial Area's (BIA) authority to permit food trucks in the downtown area. It was further requested that staff report on the 'current day' status of how the by-law is being administered. Direction was that a report on the current state be received prior to a forthcoming staff report that will recommend Mobile Licensing Bylaw 67-2014 updates to provide educational and informational details for council's benefit.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Enforcement and By-law Services oversees the application process and monitors and inspects the owners, operators and refreshment vehicles. The team is also responsible for conducting mandatory annual inspections, proactive inspections and investigating complaints related to the industry.

The relevant definition for this report is:

Class C - Refreshment Vehicle which is stationary in a permanent location and from which any food or refreshment sold is prepared or apportioned at the vehicle. For example, **a hot dog cart or food truck**.

Other classes include:

Class A – Refreshment vehicle from which the food or refreshments sold are prepared in a commissary or are prepared or apportioned at the Refreshment Vehicle, but which is not exclusively a vendor of factory pre-packaged food. For example, **a catering truck**

Class B - Refreshment vehicle which is non-motorized and does not require a health certificate from the Region's Medical Officer of Health because it is exclusively a vendor of factory pre-packaged frozen products. For example, **an ice cream bike**

Class D - Refreshment Vehicle which is motorized which sells soft or hard ice cream prepared or apportioned at the Vehicle but which is not stationary in a permanent location. For example, **an ice cream truck**.

While each class has its own licencing requirements and processes, the one specific to Class C (food trucks) is summarized below. This is the default process for ALL Class C vehicles.

1. For Class C **driver/operator** applications:
 - i. Level 2 Criminal Record Search obtained from municipality of residence
 - ii. Produce 2 of the following: Canadian Birth Certificate, Canadian Citizenship, Landed Immigrant Status, Permanent Residence Card, Refugee Status (accompanied by a Work Visa)
 - iii. May provide a valid Ontario Drivers Licence or Ontario Photo Card as 1 of the required pieces of identification

- iv. Application Fee
 - 1. Driver 1 year \$116.00
 - 2. Driver 2 year \$234.00
2. For Class C **Refreshment Vehicle Plate** applications:
- a. Business Information
 - i. From Articles of Incorporation
 - ii. Business Registration (required in addition to Articles of Incorporation, if operating name differs from Incorporation Name)
 - b. Certificate of Insurance
 - i. Certificate of Insurance, on City of Brampton Insurance form, not less than 2 million dollar liability (All vehicle serial numbers must be listed)
 - c. Vehicle Ownership (if applicable)
 - i. Original Vehicle Ownership. *Licence will be issued to the name on the plate portion of ownership*
 - d. Original Mechanical Safety
 - i. Mechanical Safety Certificate from the Ministry of Transportation (Valid for 36 days from date issued)
 - e. Documents provided by the property owner
 - i. A site plan indicating where the cart will be located on the property, including the distance from the property lines
 - ii. A letter of permission from the property owner or occupant clearly identifying the location of the cart and the zoning of the property. The letter from the occupant will confirm that the licensee has full access to the washroom facilities.
 - f. Zoning Approval
 - i. The site plan stamped and signed by a Zoning Plans Examiner (311) approving where the cart will be located
 - g. Health Approval
 - i. A Health Certificate from the [Region of Peel](#), Health Department (905-799-7700)
 - h. Propane Certificate
 - i. Certificate of Propane Inspection
 - ii. Ensure propane tanks are permanently affixed to the vehicle and sticker is affixed to the window of the Chip/Food Truck
 - iii. For Hot Dog Cart provide a propane inspection approval certificate valid within the current year
 - i. Cart ownership, registration, or bill of sale
 - j. Licenced Operator
 - i. Each plate must have one licensed operator. The City of Brampton Photo Licence must be provided on the day of the inspection
 - k. [Inspection](#)
 - i. Inspections occur once all paperwork has been submitted/approved and payment has been made.
 - ii. Requirement that all original documents be supplied. Photocopies will be made and originals will be returned.

- I. Application Fees
 - i. Class C Plate (Hot Dog Cart/Chip Truck) \$285.00

Conditions of operation that are consistent across all Refreshment vehicle classes include:

Owner responsibilities include:

- a) Every Refreshment Vehicle Owner shall: take out a separate Licence for each Refreshment Vehicle owned, which is to be used in the City; and ensure that the Owner's Plate is properly affixed to the rear of the Refreshment Vehicle for which it is issued
- b) No Refreshment Vehicle Owner shall permit an unlicensed Person to operate their Refreshment Vehicle.
- c) All refreshments sold from a Refreshment Vehicle shall be clean, fresh and wholesome.
- d) Every Refreshment Vehicle shall be equipped with either of the following containers that are to be used for the disposal of all refuse: a metal refuse container with a self-closing lid which shall be kept at all times in a clean and sanitary condition and emptied at least once daily; or a disposable litter container which shall be replaced daily.
- e) Every Refreshment Vehicle and all parts and equipment for use in the dispensing of refreshments shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition and in good repair.
- f) No Person shall solicit business to a Refreshment Vehicle through the use of any noise-making device.

No Refreshment Vehicle Driver shall:

- a) operate a Refreshment Vehicle that has not been issued a valid and current Owner's Licence under authority of this By-law;
- b) stop any Refreshment Vehicle to sell refreshments within 100 metres of the entrance or exit to any school grounds, public park, or intersection, or within 30 metres of any school ground, or public park.
- c) sell any alcohol or tobacco products from the Refreshment Vehicle; or
- d) stop any Refreshment Vehicle within 50 meters of a Fixed Food Premise, as defined in the Business Licensing By-law 332-2013 or its successor.

Conditions of operation that are unique to Class C Refreshment vehicles include:

No Refreshment Vehicle Driver of a Class C Refreshment Vehicle shall:

- a) locate, or sell refreshments, on any property without the written permission of the property owner or occupant, clearly identifying the location and zoning of the property and confirmation from the occupant of the property that the licensee has full access to the washroom facilities; or
- b) sell refreshments on any property located within the area identified as the Brampton Downtown Development Corporation Area, as indicated on Appendix G,

unless a written consent from the Brampton Downtown Development Corporation or its successor is provided to the Licence Issuer.

Every Owner of a Class C Refreshment Vehicle shall:

- a) ensure that the registered business name of the Refreshment Vehicle Owner is displayed on both sides of the Refreshment Vehicle or on another location as approved in advance by the Licence Issuer in letters and numbers at least 18 centimetres in height and in a colour that contrasts with the background colour so as to be plainly visible in its entirety at all times.
- b) shall ensure that: all condiments, shall be dispensed from approved containers approved by the Licence Issuer;
- c) use only single-service disposable cups, plates, containers, forks approved by the licence issuer
- d) all milk and any cold perishable foodstuffs sold from the Vehicle shall be kept in dry storage at a temperature no higher than 5 degrees Celsius and shall be sold only in individual, disposable containers;
- e) the Vehicle shall be equipped so as to maintain hot prepared foods at a temperature of not less than 66 degrees Celsius and such foods shall be kept so heated;
- f) no prepared foods other than those kept in unopened cans shall be sold more than 24 hours after their preparation; and
- g) when requested by the Licence Issuer, submit the Vehicle for inspection at any time and at an appointed place.

Exceptions to the default process:

Mobile Licensing Bylaw 67-2014 Authority as relates to Downtown Brampton Development Corporation (BIA)

In addition to all the requirements of the 'default' process; Refreshment Vehicles Class A (Catering Trucks) and Class C (Hot Dog Cart or Food Truck) are able to obtain a letter of permission to operate in the defined downtown area from the Downtown Brampton Business Improvement Association (DBBIA). If permission is granted, this letter must also be included in the application package before a licence is issued.

City of Brampton Sponsored Events – “Special Events”

A “Special Event” is defined as an event which is sponsored, authorized or conducted by the City of Brampton, or on behalf of the City of Brampton, or on behalf of a registered not-for-profit, charity or community group with the approval of the City of Brampton.

Organizers of a Special Event can utilize food trucks provided they are properly licensed by the City of Brampton. The selected food trucks would be identified during the Special Event application process. The only additional requirement for the food truck owner is that they have in their possession, and made available upon request, written permission of the Special Events organizers to participate in the event.

Organizers of a Special Event can utilize food trucks that are not properly licensed by the City of Brampton, if they are currently properly licensed with another Ontario municipality. When this definition is met, the owner of the food truck must apply for a Special Events licence.

Regarding location, food trucks properly attending a Special Event are exempted from the clause that prohibits any Refreshment Vehicle from selling refreshments within 100 metres of the entrance or exit of any school grounds, public park, or intersection, or within 30 metres of any school ground, or public park. They are also exempt from the requirements specific to written pre-approval of the Downtown Brampton BIA.

The Region of Peel has jurisdiction over health regulations conditions and food handler criteria. They administer all programs and proof of completion is a requirement of the application process.

Public Health Information

The various refreshment vehicle class licenses require the Region of Peel Health Certificate. <https://peelregion.ca/business/business-owners-operators/food-operators>

This outlines requirements to operate a food premises and details about food handler certification.

Food Handler Certification (required for Refreshment Vehicles Class A,C,D)

Under Ontario's [O. Reg. 493/17: FOOD PREMISES](#), every operator of a food service premises must ensure there is at least one person on the premise who has completed the food handler training while it is open.

Peel Public Health offers a food handler certification course and home study exam for people who prepare food in food premises and for those interested in working in food premises. This course covers safe food handling practices and administers the food handler certification exam,

Current Zoning and Bylaw restrictions that outline refreshment vehicle placement on private property

Currently, the number of refreshment vehicles that are allowable on private property (i.e. strip malls/plazas) is governed by zoning restrictions. A site plan stamped and signed by a Zoning Plans Examiner (311) which approves the location of where the cart is required prior to the issuance of the licence.

Zoning reviews the plan to ensure the location is within a permitted zone (commercial or industrial) and that it does not impact drive aisles, loading spaces, required parking spaces, or required landscape strips and if storage (i.e. trailers) is permitted.

Sight lines, visibility triangles or proximity to roadways or other businesses are not part of the zoning review. However, these factors may be considered if staff identify issues with them.

Complaint Process

Any individual can file a complaint in relation to; refreshment vehicle operation, licensing status, location or any person operating the refreshment vehicle. Complaints can be submitted by contacting Service Brampton by phone, online, or attending the Enforcement & By-law Services office, or by directly reaching out to an officer.

Current Refreshment Vehicle Industry Statistics:

There are currently 18 Class C (Food Truck) license plates issued and 60 Refreshment Driver/Operator licenses issued.

The 18 Hub locations in operation:

- 2 Diplock Lane (7 food trucks)
- 72 Orenda Rd (4 food trucks)
- 2 Orenda Rd (1 food truck)
- 260 Queen St E (0 food truck)
- 350 Rutherford Rd S (4 food trucks)
- 351 Rutherford Rd S (1 food trucks)
- 1055 Clark Blvd (4 food trucks)
- 134 Kennedy Rd S (2 food trucks)
- 180 Bovaird Dr W (1 food truck)
- 35 Cherrycrest Dr (1 food truck)
- 14 Lisa St (1 food truck)
- 7965 Mississauga Rd (1 food truck)
- 510-520 Charolais Blvd (2 food trucks)
- 114 Kennedy Rd S (1 food truck)
- 83 Kennedy Rd S (1 food truck)
- 31 Melanie Drive (2 food trucks)
- 1300 Steeles Ave E (5 food trucks)
- 1300B Steeles Ave E (1 food truck)

NEXT STEPS

The Legislative Services department is preparing draft amendments to the Mobile Licensing By-law to meet the evolving needs of the local community and the refreshment vehicle industry.

Additionally, the Planning, Building and Growth Management department is preparing a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law to implement Brampton Plan, our new Official Plan, and to better regulate land use and development in the City.

Working collaboratively, these two teams are preparing a report containing options for a potential future-state environment for Council's consideration, that will consider jurisdictional best practices and future uses in areas such as key corridors intended for higher order uses. This report can be expected during March 2025.

Council at this time will have an opportunity to inform staff on the direction of key by-law and policy amendments required enable a locally informed future state by Summer 2025. This will enable coordination of the changes to the Mobile Licensing By-law with the new Comprehensive Zoning By-law.

Later, staff will present a recommendation report with the proposed amendments to the Mobile Licensing By-law and/or current/future Zoning By-law(s) in Spring 2025.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

The refreshment vehicle industry is experiencing ongoing changes. It is anticipated that the number of applications from refreshment vehicle owners to create additional food truck 'hubs' will increase.

Financial Implications:

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:

Government & Leadership: Focusing on service excellence with equity, innovation, efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, and transparency.

CONCLUSION:

With increasing interest in food truck operations and the evolving needs of the refreshment vehicle industry, the Licensing Enforcement unit is proactively reviewing regulations to ensure they remain effective, balanced, and aligned with broader municipal planning objectives. Collaboration with key stakeholders, including the Planning, Building, and Growth Management department, will help shape amendments that support business innovation while maintaining public safety. A forthcoming staff report will provide City Council with future-state options for consideration to enhance the administration and enforcement of the by-law.

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