



SIDEWALK VENDING INFORMATION GUIDE

City of Santa Barbara – Proposed Regulations

July 27, 2021

All Sidewalk Vendors That Operate In the City of Santa Barbara Must Have the Following:

- City of Santa Barbara Vendor's License
- California Department of Tax and Fee Seller's Permit

All Sidewalk Food Vendors Must Also Have: County of Santa Barbara Health Permit

Summary of Operation and Location Regulations

- Vending carts cannot be longer than 74 inches, wider than 34 inches or taller than 80 inches. Umbrellas attached to a cart are allowed up to 72 inches in diameter or 94 inches in height. The City's Business License and Health Department permit, if selling food, must be displayed on the vending cart.
- Sidewalk Vending is not allowed/permitted:**
 1. Within 500 feet of any school between 7:30 am and 4 pm when school is in session
 2. That reduces the path of travel to less than 4 feet or impedes access to residences/businesses
 3. Within 500 feet of a City-permitted special event that includes:
 - Certified Farmers' Market venues
 - SB Arts and Crafts Show
 - Parades
 4. Within 5 feet of a crosswalk, fire hydrant, bus bench, driveway or within 10 feet of public transit shelter
 5. Within 100 feet of an outdoor dining area or within 10 feet to any business entrance in operation
 6. Within 200 feet of the entrance to a government building or hospital
 7. Within 50 feet from another sidewalk vendor
 8. In front of a transparent window or within 4 feet of a business entry or exit on a public street
 9. In commercial zones between midnight and 6 a.m.
 10. Stationary sidewalk vendors are prohibited in residential zones
 11. Roaming Sidewalk Vendors are allowed in residential zones only between the hours of 8 am and ½ hour after sunset-not allowed to stay in same location for more than 5 minutes, except to complete a sale
 12. Sidewalk vending is prohibited entirely on the 500 block of Downtown State Street
- Sidewalk Vending in City parks or beach is prohibited where there is a lease concession, when the park or beach is closed, in playgrounds, recreational fields, ball courts, designated parking stalls, and in areas set aside for special events or reserved use. Vending carts cannot impede pedestrian traffic or reduce the path of travel on a sidewalk or pedestrian pathway to less than 4 feet
- Sidewalk Vendors cannot sell alcoholic beverages, tobacco/cannabis or related products or smoking devices, weapons, or pharmaceuticals
- Vending carts cannot be left overnight or locked, chained or secured to any pole, sign, tree, or other object in the public right of way. Vendors must maintain a clean and trash-free 10-foot radius from a stationary cart
- Sidewalk vendors who sell food must provide a trash receptacle for customers, if they are a stationary vendor that sells food must be within 200 feet of a readily available toilet with handwashing facilities
- Free standing signs are prohibited and vendors cannot use or set up tables, chairs, or other structures for their customers. Stationary vendors may use a stool or chair for personal use
- Vending carts must be self-contained, including any power source. Gas powered generators are prohibited and vendors cannot connect to or use a water or electricity source without owner consent
- Exemptions to this ordinance include traveling salespersons who solicit orders for future delivery; occasional sales of goods and services to local events by local students or fund raising sales by service clubs or groups; peddlers operating pursuant to a permit; and solicitation of charitable or political contributions that do not involve the exchange of merchandise or food in exchange for the donation
- No Seller's Permit requirement if the vendor is serving: cold food products such as cold sandwiches, milkshakes, smoothies, ice cream, and cold salads; fruits and vegetables; and fruit/vegetable juices, other beverages, whether liquid or frozen, including all beverages composed in part of fruit or vegetable juice and concentrates, powders, or other bases for such beverages, and non-carbonated and non-effervescent bottled water intended for human consumption regardless the method of delivery
- No Health Permit requirement if the vendor is serving small amounts of whole/uncut produce and shelf-stable, commercially packaged and fully labeled foods (commercially bottled water, soda or bags of chips for example)
- The City also prohibits any food or beverage vendor from distributing polystyrene (Styrofoam) food and beverage containers, plastic and compostable plant-based (corn, sugarcane, etc.) plastic straws and stirrers. All plastic cutlery, compostable plastic cutlery, and other single use straws are required to be requested by the customer