

DISCUSSION MOBILE FOOD VENDING (MFV) IN LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

Council Presentation
February 8, 2022

PROCESS

- Seek Council Direction on MFV Ordinance
- Planning Staff to Write Text Amendment
- Council to Review and Approve Proposed Text Amendment



PURPOSE

- Staff is seeking Council feedback to include provisions within the County Code to allow and regulate mobile food vending in Los Alamos County.
- Establish a mechanism to allow MFV on private land, public land, and public right-of-way.
- Establish guidelines that are favorable to both brick and mortar food establishments and mobile food vendors.



GOALS

- Create an ordinance to support MFV throughout Los Alamos County.
- Provide clear regulations to operate a MFV business in Los Alamos County.
- Provide simple guidelines to obtain a MFV business license in Los Alamos County.

MFV & Future Alignments

- **COMP PLAN CORE THEMES:**
Goals, Policies & Strategies. Diversify the economic base & promote growth in the downtown.
- **2022 COUNCIL PRIORITY AREAS (draft)**
Enhancing support and opportunities for the local business environment. Appropriately supporting existing businesses and growing new small businesses.

NEARBY COMMUNITIES

- **Comparable Jurisdictions in New Mexico:**

- Santa Fe – 2015

- Ruidoso – 2011

- Lovington – 2016

- Las Vegas 2017

- **Comparable Neighboring Jurisdictions:**

- Durango, CO

- Boulder, CO

- Sedona, AZ



CURRENT ORDINANCE CHALLENGES

- Ordinance is silent on this issue
- No mechanism to allow MFV effectively
- Prospect vendors don't have clear direction on where MFV is allowed



LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

- Difficult to find quality restaurant spaces
- Difficult to find right-fit for restaurant spaces
- Difficult to find quality, well-trained employees due to impact of COVID-19

MOBILE FOOD VENDING ADVANTAGES

- **Low cost to establish a new business**
- **Minimum risk to test out new concepts**
- **Flexibility in set up and operations**
- **Access to various local venues and festivals**
- **Availability in variety of food options to local community**

CONCERNS TO CONSIDER

- Addressing a proximity prohibition to established restaurant storefronts
- Allowing MFV vehicles to temporarily park at public places such as parks/trailheads
- Providing on-site power, refuse and grey water services on public land and right-of-way locations.
- Addressing adherence to noise ordinance on public and private land locations.

Questions and Feedback