

This is in response to the Councillor Information Request on May 5, 2020, wherein Council asked that Administration provide a report on the guidelines governing the establishment of food trucks on County property, along with options for allowing restaurants to expand their patio space to maintain social distancing while allowing them to relaunch business.

Information regarding options for allowing restaurants to expand their patio space to maintain social distancing was provided through a Councillor Information Request sent on May 13, 2020.

The following information is specifically in response to food trucks.

**Are there any land use bylaws governing food trucks in Strathcona County?**

A development permit is not required for mobile food truck vendors to operate on private property in Strathcona County. Permission is required from the landowner.

**Is there an opportunity to allow food trucks on County land through the covid situation?**

Food truck vendors are not permitted to operate within roads or road rights-of-way.

We currently allow food trucks on County land only for special events (Canada Day, New Year's Eve, etc.) and by agreement. In order to consider the use of municipal land to support food truck vendors outside of a special event, we would need to take into account the following factors:

1. Open, fair, and transparent Process
2. Vendor selection
3. Suitable locations
4. Information

**Item 1 – Ensuring an open, fair and transparent process**

To allow this temporary measure to support food truck vendors during the pandemic, administration would likely use a short-term method by posting an Expression of Interest. This Expression of Interest would outline potential locations, the required short-term license, any restrictions (ie product, hours of operation, outdoor seating area, music volumes etc.) and the selection process.

**Item 2 – Selecting vendors**

Depending on the number of proponents, the use of a lottery system may provide the most fair method. In essence, a site would be drawn from the list of properties in conjunction with a proponent. The proponent would have the option of accepting the location or turning it back. A new proponent would be drawn and the previous proponent would have their name put back into the lottery.

**Item 3 – Potential site locations**

A list of potential site locations would need to be reviewed to determine suitability. This review will need to consider the current use of the parcel. For example, there may be tenant rights already granted under other arrangements or proposed municipal activities planned.

Once the site selection is complete, only these municipally owned sites will allow the awarded food truck vendors.

This will not impact the existing process for special events.

***Item 4 - What considerations need to be provided to the County?***

The County would require the food truck vendor to enter into a short-term License Agreement that would define the:

1. Term (ie July 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020)
2. Rental fee
3. Hours of operation
4. Insurance and indemnity
5. Termination.

The acceptance of the License Agreement would need to accompany the submission to the Expression of Interest.

**Other considerations**

Food truck vendors currently attend County facilities like the Firehall or the RCMP who may host a lunchtime get together and invite a food trucks to participate. Establishing this process may prevent this from continuing.

The allowance of food truck vendors on municipal lands may have adverse impacts to current operating businesses within our community. These are business owners that pay considerable rent and property taxes.

If the intent is to consider allowing food truck vendors on municipal lands on a long-term basis, the above process will need to be evaluated. In addition, bylaw amendments may be required and may include public engagement with the community.

Please direct any inquires to Planning and Development Services at 780-464-8080 or [planninganddevelopment@strathcona.ca](mailto:planninganddevelopment@strathcona.ca)