

Refreshment Vehicle Cat 7 Food Trucks – Goodah GastroTruck **Observations/Recommendations**

License Cap

We support removing the cap. It will allow prospective truck owners to initiate a truck build without worrying if there would be an available license when the truck was complete.

Parking Fees

The proposed flat rate parking pass will definitely add simplicity to managing parking while food trucks are curbside. That being said, food trucks employ individualized business strategies around how often they are curbside.

If a food truck is planning on long hours curbside – then the \$1095 parking pass is a great cost-effective option. However, if a food truck is more focused on festivals and private events and only limited curbside – then it would be in their best interest to pay as they go.

Recommendations:

- Make flat rate pass optional to recognize different business strategies
- Make monthly instead of seasonal. This allows for trucks with different operating seasons to control when they need a pass.

School Setback

We have no concerns with the existing setback of 100m. However, we will take the opportunity to ask if the setback rationale is applied to the issuance of restaurant licenses? Also, what if a foodtruck comes to London that exceeds the “Healthy Food for Healthy Schools” Act?

Restaurant Setback

We have no concerns with the existing 25m setback from restaurants that are open. However, the current proposal requiring written negotiation with a Restaurant Owner to park within the 25m on a Public Street when their business is closed would be complicated to navigate.

Recommendations:

- Require written permission from the restaurant during hours of operation – but NOT when restaurant is closed. If restaurant is closed and other cat 7 criteria are met - a foodtruck would be able to park within the 25m

License Fees

Current initial fee for a Cat 7 license - \$1225 Current initial fee for a midsized restaurant - \$315

Current renewal fee for a Cat 7 license - \$1225 Current renewal fee for a midsized restaurant - \$135

That is a 74% disparity for the first year and an 89% disparity for subsequent years.

As far as costs incurred by the City to manage food trucks - We are subject to the same inspections as restaurants, conducted with the same frequency.

The past couple years has seen “Higher fees” put forward as a response to concerns around having a “level playing field” between food trucks and restaurants. As the latest report indicates, those concerns have been by in large unfounded. The business model of food trucks has advantages and disadvantages no different than any business model.

Absent additional costs to the City to issue/manage these licenses, there is no reason a Cat 7 business license fee should be different than that of a restaurant.

Recommendation:

Change Cat 7 Business License fees (\$1225) to match Midsized Restaurant Business Licence fees (\$315)

Change Cat 7 Business License renewal (\$1225) to match Midsized Restaurant renewal (\$135)

I would ask that if the fee structure is to remain different to that of a restaurant, a breakdown of the additional fee allocations be provided, so we can better understand where the money is going.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chris Bunting

Owner

Goodah Inc.

foodies@goodah.ca

519-630-5825