

CHAPTER 6
MOBILE FOOD VENDING

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§6-01 Scope and applicability.

All mobile food vendors and the mobile food vending units operated in the City of New York are subject to and must comply with all applicable provisions of Articles 5, 71, 81, 89 and all other applicable provisions of the New York City Health Code (the “Health Code”); Title 17 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York (the “Administrative Code”); Part 14 of the New York State Sanitary Code (the “Sanitary Code”); and the rules of the Department set forth in this Chapter and Chapters 20, 26 and other applicable provisions of Title 24 of the Rules of the City of New York.

§6-02 Definitions.

Words and terms used in this Chapter have the following meanings:

Acceptable to the Department means acceptable under conditions of use and being used in conformance with applicable regulatory, industrial or other safety standards.

Contaminated has the meaning set forth in Article 81 of the Health Code.

Detergent sanitizer means a solution used to wash and/or sanitize utensils and equipment.

Food has the meaning set forth in Article 71 of the Health Code.

Food grade material means material certified as meeting the standards of the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) or other organization utilizing a process approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), or that is otherwise acceptable to the Department in compliance with §81.17 of the Health Code or successor provision. During use with food products such material shall not react with such food products or food contact surfaces; and shall not contaminate or impart any odor, color or taste to such food products. No food additive, food equipment, lubricant or other similar substance used in food processing, preparation, storage or service shall expose food to physical debris, toxic chemicals, harmful substances or other contaminants. *Green cart* has the meaning set forth in §17-306(s) of the Administrative Code or successor provision.

Mobile food commissary or other facility approved by the Department means either

(i) A commissary that complies with the requirements of Articles 81 and §89.27 of the Health Code, or

(ii) Another facility providing storage and/or cleaning of no more than four Class D or Class E mobile food vending units, nor more than one food truck, in accordance with §6-08 of this Chapter.

Mobile food vending unit means a food service establishment as defined in Article 81 of the Health Code located in a pushcart or truck, self or otherwise propelled, used to store, prepare, display, serve or sell food, or distribute food free of charge to the public, for consumption in a place other than in or on the unit. Any such pushcart or food truck is deemed a mobile food vending unit whether operated indoors or outdoors, on public, private or restricted space. A mobile food vending unit does not mean a stand or a booth.

Potable water means drinking water that meets the drinking water requirements of subpart 5-1 of the State Sanitary Code and is thereby suitable for human consumption or use directly or indirectly in connection with the preparation of food for human consumption, including ice making and cleaning of utensils and equipment.

Potentially hazardous food has the meaning set forth in Article 81 of the Health Code.

Pre-permit inspection by the Department means the inspection of a mobile food vending unit in which the Department determines that the unit has been constructed and equipped in accordance with this Chapter. A pre-permit inspection by the Department is required:

- (i) Before the issuance of a new or renewed mobile food vending permit and decal;
- (ii) When a permittee seeks to replace a mobile food vending unit with another unit;
- (iii) When a permittee seeks to amend a permit classification from non-processing to processing or processing to non-processing;
- (iv) When a mobile food vending unit has sustained a material alteration, as defined in §89.03 (e) of the Health Code; or
- (v) When any permit decal has been removed.

Processing means transforming food into the form in which it is to be served to the mobile food vending unit patron, including, but not limited to, by means of slicing, dicing, grating, portioning, blending, mixing, combining, cooking and reheating, or otherwise treating food in such a way as to create a risk that it may become adulterated if improperly handled. Portioning by butchering is not allowed; food may be processed on a mobile food vending unit only in accordance with Article 89 of the Health Code. A person who processes food on a mobile food vending unit is not a manufacturer, as that term is defined in Administrative Code §17-306 (p), or successor provision of law.

Sanitization means effective treatment by heat or chemical means that destroys pathogens on surfaces treated and is acceptable to the Department, as defined in § 81.03(ii) of the Health Code, or successor provision.

Ware washing or multi-compartment sink means a sink, other than a hand wash, dedicated to washing cookware, kitchenware and utensils.

§6-03 Mobile food vending unit classifications.

Mobile food vending units shall be classified based on the foods, processing and packaging of foods served. Class A and Class B units are processing units and Class C, Class D and Class E units are non-processing units for the purpose of payment of the permit fees set forth in §17-308 (c) of the Administrative Code, or successor provision, and Article 5 of the Health Code.

- (a) *Class A* mobile food vending unit means a processing unit on which raw, pre-cooked and/or manufactured potentially hazardous foods requiring temperature control as specified in Health Code §81.09 are stored, prepared and provided for individual service. Such foods include, but are not limited to, grilled or fried meats, sausages, poultry, shish kebab, hamburgers, eggs and gyros.
- (b) *Class B* mobile food vending unit means a processing unit in or on which pre-cooked and/or manufactured potentially hazardous foods requiring temperature control as specified in §81.09 of the Health Code are stored, prepared and provided for individual service. Such foods include, but are not limited to, sandwiches prepared on the unit, raw fruits, vegetables and salads, breads, bagels and rolls buttered or topped with cream cheese on the unit, smoothies and soft serve ice cream.
- (c) *Class C* mobile food vending unit means a non-processing unit in or on which only intact, prepackaged potentially hazardous foods requiring temperature control as specified in Health Code §81.09 are provided for individual service. Such foods include, but are not be limited to, prepackaged frozen desserts, prepackaged sandwiches, and prepackaged and presliced fruits and vegetables.
- (d) *Class D* mobile food vending unit means a non-processing unit in or on which non-potentially hazardous packaged or unpackaged foods not requiring temperature control for safety are provided or served. Such foods include, but are not limited to, brewed coffee and tea, donuts, pastries, rolls and bagels buttered or topped with cream cheese at a commissary, popcorn, cotton candy, nuts, candied nuts, soft pretzels, and chestnuts, regardless of whether such foods are heated for aesthetic purposes. However, mobile food vending units that prepare and serve any potentially hazardous foods, including but not limited to, dairy products, pre-cooked or manufactured knishes, boiled frankfurters and sausages are Class D mobile food units that require equipment or other means of holding potentially hazardous foods at the temperatures required by Articles 81 and 89 of the Health Code.
- (e) *Class E* mobile food vending unit means a green cart or other non-processing mobile food vending unit in or on which only non-potentially hazardous uncut fruits and vegetables are sold or held for sale or service.
- (f) *Only food to be served or sold.* A permit to distribute or sell food from a mobile food vending unit does not authorize the sale of any other product or merchandise from such unit.

- (g) If a vendor serves or prepares foods included in more than one Class of operation, the unit must be equipped in accordance with the classification that reflects the greater degree of food protection.

§6-04 Mobile food vending units: pre-permit construction and equipment requirements for all classes of mobile food vending units.

Mobile food vending units must be constructed and equipped so that they may be maintained and operated in a clean and sanitary manner, in accordance with all applicable law, so as to protect foods from contamination by dust, dirt and toxic and other substances, and the public from risk of injury, and must be equipped in accordance with the requirements set forth in Table 1 in §6-05 of this Chapter. Units and equipment must be manufactured from easily cleanable, durable, hard, smooth, non-porous, non-absorbent, non-reactive and non-toxic materials. All equipment must be fastened securely to the mobile food vending unit. No mobile food vending unit or truck may be used as a dwelling, or for sleeping or other residential purposes for any period of time.

- (a) *Food contact surfaces.* Food contact surfaces, as defined in Health Code §81.03(p) or successor provision, shall be constructed of easily cleanable, non-toxic commercial food grade materials; kept free of cracks, chips, holes, pits and sharp edges; and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Upon request of the Department, a permittee shall provide proof acceptable to the Department that a material used in construction or equipping of a mobile food unit is certified as food grade.
 - (1) *Lubricants.* Equipment for processing foods that contain bearings and gears maintained and operated with non-food grade lubricants must be designed and constructed so that lubricants can not leak, drip, or contaminate food or food contact surfaces.
 - (2) *Cooking surfaces.* Cooking surfaces within a mobile food vending unit shall be placed and configured so as to minimize the risks of food contamination and injury to patrons, vendors, and the public.
- (b) *Non-food contact surfaces.* All non-food contact surfaces must be smooth, easily cleanable, maintained in good repair and kept clean. If solder is used in construction or repairs, it shall be made of non-toxic materials, corrosion resistant, and contain less than 0.2% lead.
 - (1) *Interior non-food contact surfaces.* Interiors of mobile food vending units, including floors, walls and ceilings of food trucks, and non-food contact surfaces of equipment that are exposed to food splash or debris, or that otherwise require frequent cleaning shall be designed and constructed of smooth, non-toxic and washable materials, free of unnecessary ledges, projections, or crevices, readily accessible for cleaning and sanitizing and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
 - (2) *Exterior non-food contact surfaces.* Exterior non-food contact surfaces shall be constructed of smooth, durable, non-porous, non-toxic materials, without any open seams and joints.
 - (3) *Permit decal to be visible and unobstructed.* No ornamentation, advertisement, menu, price list, other display, sign or printed matter may cover or obscure the permit decal. A six (6) inch space shall be left clear on all sides of the decal. The decal may be covered by a hinged, hard, transparent plastic or glass cover no thicker than one-sixteenth of an inch. The cover shall not be secured by a lock, but installed so that the decal may be directly accessible for examination and inspection at all times.

- (4) *Doors and windows.* In a food truck a partition or a partition with a self-closing door shall be installed between the driver's seat and the food processing and service area. To protect foods from potential contamination in all units, no service window may be installed over or behind cooking or food preparation equipment.
- (c) *Lighting.* A mobile food vending unit shall be equipped with artificial lighting fixtures providing a minimum of 540 lux (50 foot candles) of light at all food contact surfaces and ware washing sinks whenever natural lighting conditions do not meet that standard. When artificial lighting is used, shatter-proof or shatter-guarded lighting shall be installed. Lighting fixtures located over or near food storage, preparation and service equipment shall be shielded to prevent broken glass from falling into food or onto food contact surfaces.
- (d) *Ventilation.* Cooking equipment shall be mechanically ventilated to prevent a nuisance from heat, smoke, odors or fumes. Mechanical ventilation hoods and equipment shall be installed and used to prevent grease, steam, smoke, and odors from collecting on interior surfaces, contaminating food and creating a nuisance. If filters and other grease extracting equipment are not designed to be cleaned in place, they must be readily removable for cleaning and replacement, and must be removed and cleaned to prevent accumulations of grease. Power generators shall be used and vented in accordance with manufacturers' specifications.
- (e) *Insect and rodent control.* Mobile food vending units shall be maintained so as to be free of insects, rodents, and conditions promoting harborage, as defined in Article 151 of the Health Code, and breeding of insects and rodents.
- (f) *Potable water supply.* Mobile food vending units that are required to maintain a potable water supply in accordance with Table 1 of §6-05 shall be equipped with plumbing and plumbing fixtures that provide adequate supplies of potable hot and cold water during all times of operation. Individuals operating mobile food vending units shall maintain sufficient supplies of potable water to allow for hand, ware and food washing and food preparation. Plumbing and fixtures shall be properly connected, vented and drained to prevent contamination of the City water supply or any other potable water supply. Water supply outlets and connections to water supply fixtures or equipment shall be designed and constructed to prevent back-flow into the water supply. Bottled and packaged potable water certified by the New York State Department of Health for sale in New York State may be used to supplement the potable water supply, if handled and stored in a way that protects it from contamination. If used, bottled and packaged potable water shall only be poured into tanks from the original containers. Failure to provide and maintain potable water supplies required by this Chapter is an imminent health hazard requiring immediate cessation of operation of any mobile food vending unit.
- (1) *Tank capacity.* When a potable water supply is required by Table 1 of §6-05 of this Chapter, a food truck shall be equipped with a tank or tanks with a total capacity of no less than 40 gallons; other mobile food vending units shall be equipped with a tank or tanks with a total capacity of no less than 10 gallons. All tanks shall be filled to capacity prior to beginning operation or operating, as defined in Health Code §89.03 (j). On and after January 1, 2018, all water tanks shall be equipped with a water level indicator visible from outside the tanks.
- (2) *Water tanks and inlet pipes.* Water tanks shall be constructed of food grade materials that are corrosion resistant, durable and non-absorbent. Water inlet pipes shall be

- made of flexible, food-grade material. The fitting for hose connections shall be capped except when tanks are being filled.
- (g) *Plumbing.* Plumbing fixtures shall be constructed of food grade material; piping and distribution piping shall be installed and maintained to protect the water from contamination. All piping shall be easily accessible for inspection and repair.
- (1) *Tank drainage.* Potable water tanks shall be fitted with a faucet or valve and tilted to allow complete drainage. The entire system shall be constructed to be drained by gravity or other means acceptable to the Department.
- (A) Potable and waste water connections on a mobile food vending unit shall be designed and constructed so as to prevent backflow and/or cross-connection with the water supply.
- (B) Equipment and fixtures used for storage, preparation, or processing of food that are drained into the waste water tanks shall be equipped with a readily accessible vented check valve on the waste line.
- (C) No equipment may be directly attached to the potable water supply unless an approved backflow device is installed.
- (2) *Pressure.* Potable water, when required by Table of §6-05 of this Chapter, shall be dispensed at sufficient pressure to provide a constant adequate flow.
- (h) *Waste water system.* Waste water shall be stored and disposed of in accordance with §89.25 of the Health Code.
- (1) Waste water storage tanks and pipes shall be designed and maintained so as not to leak or spill on sidewalks or public streets.
- (2) When required by Table 1 of §6-05 of this Chapter, waste water tanks shall have a minimum capacity that is at least 15% greater than the potable water supply capacity and be clearly and permanently labeled “waste water.”
- (3) Mobile food vending units creating liquid waste, including but not limited to units serving beverages such as coffee or tea or boiling frankfurters or holding melting ice, shall be equipped with a waste water tank with a minimum capacity that is at least 15% greater than the amount of water used for brewing coffee, processing food or for other liquid waste.
- (4) Mechanically refrigerated equipment and containers where ice is used must be equipped with an indirect waste connection, in accordance with Health Code §81.20, that drains into the waste tank.
- (i) *Hand washing, ware washing and food washing.*
- (1) *Hand wash sink.* When required by Table 1 of §6-05 of this Chapter, mobile food vending units must be equipped with a separate hand wash sink or with one compartment of a multi-compartment sink that is used only for hand washing and no other purpose. The hand wash sink must:
- (A) Be located in the food preparation area, accessible for immediate use at all times, at a convenient height, and not obstructed by or used to store supplies or other equipment;
- (B) Dispense potable running water;
- (C) Have a dispenser valve or faucet which provides a constant flow of water when opened;
- (D) Be supplied by a potable water storage tank constructed of food grade material that holds at least five (5) gallons of water;

- (E) Be equipped with supplies of soap and paper towels or other single-use hand drying device; and
 - (F) Be equipped with “Wash Hands” signs in accordance with Health Code §81.21 (c).
- (2) *Ware washing and sanitizing sink.*
- (A) All equipment and utensils must be cleaned and sanitized at least once daily at the mobile vending unit commissary in accordance with Health Code §89.19(1). When required by Table 1 of §6-05 of this Chapter, a sink with a swivel faucet must be provided to wash and sanitize utensils and equipment that have become contaminated while the unit is in operation before being re-used.
 - (B) Utensils being used to serve or dispense ready to eat foods may be stored in a container of water heated to and maintained at 135 degrees Fahrenheit (57 degrees Celsius) or higher. The container must be cleaned and sanitized at least once every 24 hours at the permittee’s commissary, and be large enough to allow immersion of the largest sized utensils.
 - (C) A sink used for ware washing and sanitizing may be used for washing foods, but may not be used for washing hands or as a slop or utility sink.
- (3) *Washing foods in a separate food washing sink or food grade container.* When required by Table 1 of §6-05, a separate dedicated sink, or a food grade container placed in a compartment of a ware washing sink may be used for washing food that requires washing while the unit is in operation.
- (A) The sink and the colander in which food is washed must not contain any other equipment or supplies when food is being washed, and must be cleaned and sanitized before and after washing any food.
 - (B) Any sink in which food is washed must be indirectly drained as defined in §81.03(z) of the Health Code or successor provision.
- (4) No sink used for washing hands, wares or food may be used as a slop or utility sink.
- (1) *Hot and cold storage.* When required by Table 1 of §6-05 of this Chapter, mechanical or other holding equipment shall be provided and used to hold potentially hazardous hot foods at or above 140 degrees Fahrenheit (60 degrees Celsius) and cold foods at or below 41 degrees Fahrenheit (five degrees Celsius).
- (1) *Thermometers.* Each hot and cold storage unit shall be equipped with a numerically scaled or other indicating thermometer, accurate to plus or minus two degrees Fahrenheit (one degree Celsius).
 - (2) *Placement of thermometers.* Thermometers in cold holding equipment shall be placed in such equipment or cold holding containers to measure air temperature in the warmest part of the unit. Thermometers used to measure the temperature of food in hot holding equipment shall be placed so that they measure the temperature in the coolest part of such equipment.
- (m) *Compliance with fire safety requirements.* In addition to the other requirements of this section, all mobile food vending units and commissaries shall comply with the New York City Fire Code (Title 29 of the Administrative Code) and rules of the Fire Department found in Chapter 38 of Title 3 of the Rules of the City of New York, or successor provisions, regulating the use of any flammable gas, and governing the storage, handling and use of propane and other liquefied petroleum gases (“LPG”). As set forth in Chapter 38 of the Fire Code and Chapter 38 of the Fire Department rules, such provisions prohibit

the use of any flammable gas other than LPG for cooking and heating on a mobile food vending unit. The provisions also prohibit the placement of any unit with propane or other LPGs on a subway grate, and among other things regulate:

- (1) Design of the cooking grills and other heating equipment;
 - (2) Size, number, location and securing of the LPG containers;
 - (3) Securing of container valves; and
 - (4) Size, type, location and mounting of required portable fire extinguishers.
- (n) *Ice cream trucks.* No decal may be issued for any food truck to be used to vend ice cream and other frozen desserts unless such truck is equipped with fully operational warning beepers and signage arm as required by the State Vehicle and Traffic law and the rules promulgated under such law.
- (o) *Overhead structure.* Every mobile food vending unit shall be equipped or constructed with an overhead structure such as an overhang, roof, canopy, umbrella or similar device adequate to protect food and equipment from contamination.
- (p) *Food security.* All mobile food vending units shall be equipped with appropriate food grade coverings, tamper-proof locks or other mechanisms. Vendors shall secure such units when it is necessary to leave mobile food vending units unattended on a street for no more than one-half hour. Units left unattended for periods longer than one-half hour shall be deemed abandoned and an imminent health hazard, in accordance with Health Code §89.31(c).

§6-05 Mobile food vending units: supplies and equipment required for different classes of mobile food vending units.

- (a) In addition to the general requirements for construction and design of mobile food vending units and their equipment in §6-04 of this Chapter, each class of vending units shall be supplied and equipped in accordance with Table 1 of this section. The minimum equipment required is determined by the class of the unit and the foods that are processed and/or sold on the unit.
- (b) *Permit subject to revocation; mobile food vending units subject to seizure.* Persons who prepare, process or serve foods from a mobile food vending unit that is not equipped in accordance with the requirements specified for the unit's permit classification as set forth in this section will be deemed to be vending without a permit. Such units and their contents are subject to seizure, removal of the permit decal or insignia, and any other sanctions prescribed by applicable law, including but not limited to, provisions of Article 89 of the Health Code.

§6-05. TABLE 1. SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR MOBILE FOOD VENDING UNITS	Potable water	Food and ware washing sinks ¹	Hand wash sink	Waste water tank	Overhead structure	Ventilation	Cold holding	Hot holding	Thermometers
Class A: Potentially hazardous raw foods cooked on unit; e.g., fried and grilled sausages, poultry, shish kebab, hamburgers, eggs and gyros	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Class B: Potentially hazardous prepared foods combined on the unit; e.g., sandwiches raw fruits, vegetables and salads, breads, bagels and rolls buttered or topped with cream cheese on the unit, smoothies and soft serve ice cream	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Class C: Potentially hazardous prepackaged foods; e.g., prepackaged frozen desserts, prepackaged sandwiches, and prepackaged and presliced fruits and vegetables	No	No	No	Yes ³	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Class D: Non-potentially hazardous unpackaged or packaged foods; e.g., boiled frankfurters and sausages, brewed coffee and tea, donuts, pastries, rolls and bagels buttered or topped with cream cheese at a commissary, popcorn, cotton candy, nuts, candied nuts, soft pretzels, chestnuts	Yes ²	No	No	Yes ³	Yes	Yes	Yes ³	Yes ³	Yes ³

Class E: Non-potentially hazardous uncut fruit and vegetables (including Green Carts)	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Notes:									
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food and ware washing sinks may be separate or multi-compartment. A single sink is acceptable for food and ware washing if food is washed in a food-grade colander. 2. Waste water tanks are required when generating liquid waste from brewing coffee or tea, boiling frankfurters, or serving or using ice. See, §6-04(h) (3) of this Chapter. 3. Hot and cold holding equipment or methods required for potentially hazardous foods such as hot dogs, sausages and knishes. 									

§6-06 Size and placement of mobile food vending units.

- (a) *Non-truck units.* No new permit shall be issued after October 31, 2013 for any mobile food vending unit pushcart that exceeds ten (10) feet in length and five (5) feet in width, including wheels, axles and other appurtenances to such wheels. When vending on a sidewalk, the operator must place the unit so that the longer side is adjacent and parallel to the curb abutting the sidewalk.
 - (1) Current permits for units that exceed the size restrictions, and that expire on or before October 31, 2013, shall be renewed only once. Subsequent renewal permits shall be approved only for units that comply with these size restrictions.
 - (2) Current permits that expire on or after November 1, 2013 shall be approved for renewal only for units that comply with these size restrictions.
- (b) *Food trucks.* These size restrictions do not apply to food trucks.

§6-07 Green carts.

- (a) The Department will permanently affix on two sides of each green cart, as that term is defined in §17-306 (s) of the Administrative Code, either identical permit plates or identical permit decals that are easily identifiable and distinguishable from all other plates or decals on the green cart. Such plates or decals shall contain the fresh fruits and vegetables permit number issued to the owner of each such green cart and the borough and police precincts in which the green cart is authorized to operate. Permit decals may not be removed or transferred to any other mobile food vending unit.
- (b) At the time an initial green cart permit is issued, the Department will provide a distinctive and readily recognizable “green cart” umbrella to each green cart permittee. The umbrella must be safely secured to the green cart and maintained in good condition and repair at all times by the permit holder, and must be displayed in an open position above the green cart whenever the green cart is being used to vend. For any replacement umbrella, the green cart permittee must pay a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) reimbursing the Department for the cost of the umbrella. In addition to the above requirements specific to green carts, green carts must comply with all other applicable requirements pertaining to Class E mobile food vending units.
- (c) *Exemption of police precincts where green carts may vend.* Notwithstanding any provision in §17-307(b)(4)(b) of the Administrative Code, no fresh fruits and vegetables permit may be designated for use within either the 45th or 72nd police precincts of the City of New York.

§6-08 Facilities for servicing Class D and Class E mobile food vending units.

- (a) Use of a facility that services four or fewer Class D and/or Class E mobile food vending units that are not food trucks, or one Class D or Class E food truck, may be approved by the Department at or prior to the pre-permit inspection of such Class D and/or Class E units.
- (b) A person holding a permit for a Class D or Class E mobile food vending unit who requests approval from the Department for use of a facility other than a commissary shall identify the location of such facility, and provide the Department with the individual or business name, address, telephone number(s), and e-mail contact information, if available, for the owner of the facility. The owner of the facility, or the permittee, if the

permittee is the owner of the property where the facility is located, shall certify to the Department that the facility complies with all of the following conditions:

- (1) The facility is not used to store or discard food.
- (2) The facility is constructed of materials whose surfaces are easily cleanable, non-toxic, non-absorbent and smooth and designed to protect the mobile food vending unit at all times from environmental contamination.
- (3) The facility is adequately lighted; equipped with potable hot and cold running water and drainage for liquid wastes; provides adequate space and facilities for cleaning and storing the unit; and is located entirely on private property.
- (4) The facility has all required permits other than a commissary permit and its use complies with all applicable fire safety, zoning and building laws. At the request of the Department, the user shall provide copies of any required permits.
- (5) No more than four Class D and/or Class E mobile food vending units are serviced at the facility.
- (6) Any mobile food vending units stored in the facility and the facility must be kept in a sanitary condition.
- (7) No units may be cleaned on public streets or sidewalks.
- (8) No live animals shall be kept or allowed within any storage or cleaning facility.
- (9) Garbage, refuse and other solid and liquid wastes shall be collected and stored at the mobile food vending unit while the unit is in use, and removed from the unit and disposed of at a commissary or other approved facility so as not to create a nuisance in accordance with Health Code §89.25.

§6-09 Manufacturer or exclusive distributor lease agreements.

- (a) "Lease" or "Lease agreement" submitted for Department approval pursuant to Administrative Code §17-314.1(d)(2), as used in this section, means a written agreement between an exclusive distributor or a manufacturer (lessor) holding more than one temporary mobile food unit permit and a mobile food vendor licensee (lessee). The agreement is for the transfer, for a stated period of time and for a fixed amount as set forth in such written agreement, the possession of a mobile food unit owned by such exclusive distributor or manufacturer with such exclusive distributor's or manufacturer's temporary mobile food unit permit attached to the mobile food unit.
- (b) All lease agreements involving the leasing of multiple temporary mobile food unit pushcarts and food trucks by manufacturers and exclusive distributors and licensed mobile food vendors that are submitted to the Department for review and approval pursuant to §17-314.1(d)(2) of the Administrative Code must contain a rider to such lease agreements, in a form provided or approved by the Department, that is dated and signed by both parties. The department will maintain copies of an approved lease agreement form on its website and make copies available to any person on request.
- (c) The provisions of §17-314.1(d)(2) of the Administrative Code and this section apply to only the manufacturers and exclusive distributors of food products who held multiple temporary or seasonal permits prior to 1995, were authorized to renew up to 60 of those multiple temporary permits, and were exempted from application of Administrative Code §17-307(b)(2)(f), that provides that a person (an individual or any other entity) may renew or obtain only one permit.

§6-10 Violations.

- (a) *“A” violations defined.* For the purposes of mobile vending permit or license renewal, or issuance of a new license or permit, “A” violations are all violations of the Health Code, the State Sanitary Code, these rules and the violations of the Administrative Code listed in subdivision (d) of this section where the licensee, permittee or applicant is found in violation as a result of a hearing on the merits or by default.
- (b) *“A” violation penalties to be paid.* Every person renewing a mobile food vending license or a mobile food unit permit, or applying for a new mobile food vending license or mobile food unit permit shall pay all fines and penalties for all “A” violations as defined by subdivision (b) of this section that have been adjudicated, or for which the licensee, permittee or applicant for a license or permit has been found in default. Proof of payment of all such fines and penalties must be submitted prior to issuance of a new or renewal license or permit, notwithstanding the provisions of New York City Charter §1049-a (d)(1)(i).
- (c) *Basis for revocation, suspension, or denial of new or renewal permit or license.* The Commissioner may refuse to issue a mobile food vending license or a mobile food unit permit and may, after due notice and an opportunity to be heard, in addition to any other penalties, refuse to renew, suspend or revoke such a license or permit. Such action may be taken when the applicant, licensee, permittee, its officers, directors, shareholders, members, managers or employees (i) have been found to be in violation of four or more of the provisions of subchapter 2 of chapter 3 of title 17 of the Administrative Code that are classified as “A” violations in subdivision (d) of this section within a two-year period, (ii) have been found to be in violation of any of the provisions of part fourteen of the State Sanitary Code or of the Health Code, or (iii) the applicant, licensee, permittee, its officers, directors, shareholders, members, managers or employees have pending any unanswered summonses for a violation of a provision of subchapter 2 of chapter 3 of title 17 of the Administrative Code that is classified as an “A” violation in subdivision (d) of this section.
- (d) *Administrative Code “A” violations.* For the purposes of revocation or suspension of mobile food vending permits or licenses, or of determining whether such permits or licenses may be renewed or new licenses and permits issued, “A” violations mean violations of the following provisions of subchapter 2 (“Food Vendors”) of chapter 3 (“Licenses and Permits”) of title 17 of the Administrative Code or successor provisions, as listed below in §6-10 Table 1, where the licensee, permittee or applicant is found in violation as a result of a hearing on the merits or by default:

§6-10 Table 1. Administrative Code “A” Violations

Section	Description
§17-307(a)	Unlicensed mobile food vendor.
§17-307(b)	Unpermitted mobile food unit.

- §17-307(d) Vending unapproved items.
- §17-311 Failure to display mobile food vending license, mobile food vending unit permit, or mobile food vending unit decal, plate or insignia.
- §17-314(a) Failure to permit regular inspections.
- §17-314(b) Failure to give supplier/depot/commissary information.
- §17-314(c) Sale of unauthorized foods without written approval.
- §17-314.1 Sale, loan, lease or transfer of license, permit or decal, plate or insignia.
- §17-315(a) Vendor on sidewalk that allows less than 12 feet as pedestrian path; or unit not at, or abutting curb.
- §17-315(e) Vendor within bus stop, within 10 feet of any driveway, any subway entrance or exit, or any crosswalk at any intersection.

(e) *Permittees liable for mobile food vending unit operation; service of notices of violation.* In accordance with Health Code §§5.13 and 89.13, permittees are jointly and severally liable for violations of the Health Code, the State Sanitary Code, the Administrative Code and any other applicable law that occur in the course of operation of mobile food vending units bearing their permits. A person operating a mobile food vending unit who is not the permittee shall be deemed an agent of the permittee, and the mobile food vending unit being operated by such person shall be deemed the place of business of the permittee, for the purpose of service of any notice of violation issued to the permittee by the Department. The notice of violation may also be issued by any other agency of the City authorized to issue notices of violation in the course of enforcement of any law applicable to mobile food vending. If, in the course of operation of a mobile food vending unit, a person other than the permittee is served with such notice of violation or order issued to the permittee, the person other than the permittee shall deliver the notice of violation or order to the permittee within two business days of receiving such notice of violation, and the Department or other agency issuing the notice of violation shall mail such notice of violation to the permittee by first class mail, maintaining and submitting a record of the mailing to the Environmental Control Board as proof of service.

§6-11 Inspections; permit issuance and renewal.

No unit shall be approved for use unless such unit has passed a pre-permit inspection by the Department and found to be constructed and equipped in compliance with this Chapter and Article 81 and Article 89 of the Health Code.

- (a) *Renewal applications to be submitted timely.* An application for renewal of any permit shall not be accepted unless the applicant submits a complete renewal application, the tax clearance certificates required by §17-310 of the Administrative Code, and proof of payment of all fines and penalties owing for notices of violation as required by §17-317(b) and §6-10 of this Chapter, no later than thirty (30) days before the date of

expiration of the permit. The Department may accept a late renewal application only if the applicant submits proof that may be verified by the Department that the delay in submission of the completed application and clearances resulted because of delays in issuing the clearances. In such cases, the permittee must show that applications for tax and penalty clearances were submitted at least sixty (60) days before the date of renewal of the permit.

- (b) *Inspections to be scheduled timely.* In accordance with §17-307(e) of the Administrative Code, a new or renewal permit shall not be issued if the applicant's mobile food vending unit fails to pass a pre-permit inspection by the Department within six (6) months after the permit application has been certified or accepted by the Department. The Department may conduct such an inspection more than six (6) months after the application has been submitted only if Department records indicate that the Department caused the delay in scheduling the inspection.
- (c) *Permit holder photographs.* All individual applicants for a new or renewed permit, and persons who require a replacement or substitute permit or decal for a mobile food vending unit, shall personally appear at a location designated by the Department so that a current identifying photograph may be taken.
- (d) *Pre permit inspections and reinspections.* Permit applicants or permittees must bring the mobile food vending unit in for inspection, at a place designated by the Department, and present (i) a currently valid mobile food vendor's license, and (ii) another government issued photo identification acceptable to the Department in the following circumstances:
 - (1) Before the issuance of a new or renewed mobile food vending permit and decal;
 - (2) When a permittee seeks to replace a mobile food vending unit with another unit;
 - (3) When a permittee seeks to amend a permit classification from non-processing to processing or processing to non-processing;
 - (4) When a mobile food vending unit has sustained a material alteration, as defined in §89.03 (e) of the Health Code; or
 - (5) When any permit decal has been removed.
- (e) *Applicants other than natural persons.* If an entity other than a natural person is an applicant or permittee, such as a corporation or limited liability company, the person who brings a mobile food vending unit in for inspection on behalf of such entity must be a person authorized by law to accept service of process on behalf of such entity pursuant to Article 3 of the New York CPLR. Such persons may include an officer, director or managing agent of a corporation; a partner of a partnership or limited partnership; or a member of a limited liability company. No other person may bring any mobile food vending unit to the Department for the non-operational inspections required by this section.
- (f) *Identifying operators of mobile food vending units.* The applicant for a new or renewal permit must (1) complete a form provided by the Department listing the name(s), address(es), telephone number(s) and the currently valid mobile food vending unit license number(s) of each person who will be operating the mobile food vending unit, and (2) provide a statement describing the legal relationship of such person to the permit holder, in accordance with §17-309(b)(1) of the Administrative Code. The completed form shall be signed and notarized by the permit applicant.
- (g) *Service contract or agreement from a commissary or other approved facility.* At the pre-permit inspection, the permittee or permit applicant must provide an original agreement

or contract signed by a commissary operator, or a person in charge of a facility other than a commissary that provides services to no more than four Class D or Class E units that are not food trucks, or one Class D or Class E food truck, indicating the specific goods and services provided for the permittee's mobile food vending unit. The permittee must maintain a copy of such agreement on the mobile food vending unit at all times of operation and make it available for inspection by the Department. Such goods and services must include, but are not be limited to:

- (1) Storage of the unit and foods.
 - (2) Cleaning and sanitizing of the unit, equipment and utensils.
 - (3) Disposing of liquid and solid waste and refuse generated by operation of a unit.
 - (4) Amount of potable water supplied.
 - (5) Foods provided, including those prepared at the commissary and prepackaged; and name of person preparing foods.
 - (6) Non-food supplies provided by the commissary.
- (h) *Reinspection of damaged, repaired or materially altered mobile food vending units.* Any mobile food vending unit that has been damaged and repaired, or materially altered so as to change or result in a change in the size of the unit, or has undergone replacement of any part of the body structure or equipment of the unit shall be brought to the Department for reinspection prior to reuse or continued use of the unit. Repair or replacement of a tire or an axle, and straightening a dent in a panel are not considered material alterations.
- (i) *Decals.* No decal may be placed on any mobile food vending unit unless a Department inspector has determined at a pre-permit inspection that the unit is constructed and equipped in accordance with this Chapter, and that the person renewing or applying for a permit has completed and submitted all forms required by this section.
- (j) *Units to be photographed.* The Department may take photographs of mobile food units at any time, so that the Department may verify that the unit has passed a pre-permit inspection.
- (k) *Notification of changes in operations.* Permittees must notify the Department, in writing, on forms approved or provided by the Department, no later than ten business days after any there has been a change in:
- (1) Persons operating each unit as indicated on the form described in Section 6-12(c) of these Rules, or
 - (2) Commissary used. Permittees must provide a copy of an agreement from the new commissary with such notice.
- (l) *Enforcement.* A new or renewal decal and permit may be denied for:
- (1) Failing to allow photographs of the permittee or the unit.
 - (2) Failing to appear in person for pre-permit inspections of a mobile food vending unit.
 - (3) Failing to provide information about the operators of the units or foods sold on the unit, or
 - (4) Failing to maintain and submit an agreement with a commissary.

§6-12 Records of commissaries and other approved facilities.

Commissaries and other approved facilities providing services to four or fewer Class D or Class E units that are not food trucks, or one Class D or Class E food truck, shall keep records in a daily log, in a form provided or approved by the Department, documenting the daily use of commissary services and facilities by mobile food vendors in accordance with §89.27 (b) of the

Health Code. The log must indicate the date and time of day each unit is brought in and leaves the commissary.

§6-13 Disabled veterans mobile food unit vending permits.

Disabled veterans who hold currently valid (i) specialized vendor licenses issued pursuant to General Business Law §35-a, (ii) general vendor licenses issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs and (iii) mobile food vending licenses issued by the Commissioner, may apply for and be issued permits to operate mobile food vending units on sidewalks surrounding parks within the jurisdiction of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, or successor City agency, in accordance with the following conditions:

- (a) An applicant for such a restricted area permit may not hold any other currently valid mobile food vending unit permit, and only one such permit may be issued to any applicant.
- (b) In accordance with General Business Law §35-a, such permit authorizes vending only on sidewalks surrounding park lands.
- (c) Operation of the mobile vending unit is subject to all provisions of General Business Law §35-a.
- (d) During all times that a mobile food vending unit issued a permit under this section is in operation, as the term “operation” is defined in Health Code §89.03 (j) or successor provision, a disabled veteran shall be present, but may be assisted by an employee who is a licensed mobile food vendor. Department inspection reports which note the absence of a disabled veteran licensee are deemed proof that a disabled veteran is not operating the unit, in violation of General Business Law §35-a.

§6-14 Government agency and charitable organization exemptions.

In accordance with §17-320 (a) of the Administrative Code, the Commissioner may exempt any area within the control of a government agency or charitable organization from provisions of Title 17 of the Administrative Code that limit the total number of full-term or temporary mobile food vending permits that may be issued, or the number of permits that may be issued to any one person. The Commissioner may make this exemption provided that (i) the request for issuance is made in writing by the agency or organization and (ii) permittees comply with all other applicable provisions, limitations and conditions imposed by the New York City Administrative Code, the Health Code, the State Sanitary Code and these rules.

§6-15 Modification.

When the strict applicability of any provision of this Chapter presents practical difficulties or unusual or unreasonable hardships, the Department, in a specific instance, may modify the application of such provision consistent with the general purpose of this Chapter and upon such conditions as are deemed necessary.