STREET VENDOR FAQ's

*DISCLAIMER*

This document is intended to provide answers to the most asked questions about street vending within the City of Sacramento. The answers provided are for informational purposes only and are NOT intended to be comprehensive. Comprehensive permit application instructions are included in the Street Vendor Permit Application Packet which is distributed to those individuals who are successful in the lottery, select a corner and pay the application fee. Nothing in this document shall be construed as to superseding any requirements of the permit process as set out in the city code or other city regulations or procedures regarding Street Vendor Permits. Sacramento City Code Chapter 5.88 (Outdoor Vending)

WHAT IS A STREET VENDOR?

A street vendor is a person selling or distributing food or flowers upon any street or public sidewalk utilizing a cart. The cart shall not be motorized or attached to any vehicle using a trailer.

WHERE ARE STREET VENDORS ALLOWED IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO?

No person shall sell or distribute goods, wares, merchandise, food or beverages on public sidewalks in the “central business district”, unless such person has first been issued a street vendor’s permit by the city manager designee for each street vendor cart or business location.

WHAT AREAS ARE INCLUDED IN THE “CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT”?  

The “central business district” means all that area within the city of Sacramento bound by lines described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the centerline of Third and Q Streets; then, easterly along the centerline of Q Street to the intersection of the centerline of Ninth and Q Streets; thence, northerly along the centerline of Ninth Street to the intersection of the centerline of Ninth and N Streets; thence, easterly along the centerline on N Street to the intersection of the centerline of N Street and the easterly right-of-way line of Tenth Street; thence, northerly along the easterly right-of-way line of Tenth Street to the intersection of the easterly right-of-way line of Tenth Street and the centerline of L Street; thence, easterly along the centerline of L Street to the intersection of the centerline of Fourteenth and L Streets; thence, northerly along the centerline of Fourteenth Street to the intersection of the centerline of Fourteenth Street and the alley between G and H Streets; thence, westerly along the centerline of the G/H Alley to the intersection of the centerline of the G/H Alley and Sixth Street; thence, southerly along the

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ARE STREET VENDORS ALLOWED IN OLD SACRAMENTO?
No person shall sell or attempt to sell or distribute any goods, wares, merchandise, food or beverages by means of vending or distributing such goods, wares, merchandise, food or beverages upon any street, boardwalk, or sidewalk in the Old Sacramento business district.

WHAT ABOUT THE VENDORS SEEN IN OLD SACRAMENTO?
These are businesses that have a fixed business location within the Old Sacramento business district and street vend their business.

WHAT AREAS ARE INCLUDED IN THE “OLD SACRAMENTO BUSINESS DISTRICT”?
The “Old Sacramento business district” is described as follows:
Beginning at the intersection of the westerly city limits of the City of Sacramento and the center line of the “I” Street Bridge; thence easterly along the centerline of the Street Bridge and Viaduct to its intersection with the continuation of the easterly line of Third Street; thence southerly along said easterly line of Third Street to the point of intersection with the northerly line of Capitol Mall; thence, westerly along said northerly line of Capitol Mall to the point of intersection with the westerly city limits of the City of Sacramento; thence northerly along said westerly city limits to the point of beginning.

WHAT ABOUT THE VENDORS SEEN OPERATING OUTSIDE OF THE SELECTED AREAS?
These vendors are operating illegally, they are subject to a citation and/or fine by the City of Sacramento Code Enforcement Department.

HOW ARE STREET VENDORS SELECTED?
If any previously utilized or assigned location shall become available by abandonment, revocation, attempted transfer, or through any other action or cause, that location shall be included among those locations which may be selected at the next regularly scheduled lottery.

The city manager designee shall conduct a lottery among all those expressing interest in the additional locations, the purpose of the lottery is to establish the order in which potential applicants may select a location from those locations available.

HOW CAN I BE NOTIFIED ABOUT THE NEXT LOTTERY?
Call the City of Sacramento Business Permits Office at (916) 808-5852 to be added to the street vendor lottery contact list.