

Mobile Food Units

Rules for MFU Operation in City Parks

- I. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of these rules is to administer the Mobile Food Unit ordinance adopted by the City Council on February 16, 2016 and included in the City Code at Chapter 16, Article XIV, at City of Knoxville for parks and recreation centers in accordance with Section [SECTION] of the City Code.

- II. **POLICY.** It will be the policy of the City through its Parks and Recreation Department to allow MFUs to vend in certain City parks and recreation centers in accordance with City Code, Chapter 16, as applicable, and in accordance with these rules.

- III. **REQUIREMENTS.** All MFUs shall comply with City Code, Chapter 16, Article XIV to the extent applicable, including, but not limited to, obtaining a Mobile Food Unit Permit and complying with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Mobile Food Units (MFUs) shall be allowed in parking lots of certain City of Knoxville public parks and recreation centers with the following limitations.
 1. **Approved Parks and Maximum Numbers.** MFUs may operate at approved parks and recreation centers. Approved parks and recreation centers are listed in Appendix 1 to these Rules. The maximum number of MFUs allowed to operate at one time at an approved park or recreation center is found in Appendix; however, the Parks and Recreation Department may increase or decrease the allowable number in the Department's discretion. The Parks and Recreation Department may also allow MFUs to operate in other City parks for one-time, special events, such as the grand opening of a new greenway or park.

 2. **Reservations Required.** MFUs are allowed to operate in the approved parks and recreation centers only by reserving a space through the Parks and Recreation Department. If a concessionaire is scheduled to operate at the park or recreation center, the MFU will not be allowed to reserve a space at the park or recreation center. At any one time, MFU Vendors may have only two (2) reservations at all approved parks or recreation centers. When a Vendor makes a reservation, the Parks and Recreation Department will place cones in the designated MFU area on the day of the reservation in order to reserve the space for the MFU. While the MFU is operating, the Vendor shall use these cones provided by the Parks and Recreation Department and place one cone at each corner of the MFU.

 3. **Hours of Operation.** MFUs are limited to vending in parks or recreation centers only when the facility is open, and MFUs may not operate or vend for longer than four (4) continuous hours, unless the Parks and Recreation Department grants written permission otherwise.

4. **Designated Areas.** MFUs shall operate only within the designated area at approved parks and recreation centers. MFUs and Vendors are prohibited from using a push cart or circulating throughout the premises of parks or recreation centers in any manner. MFUs shall not provide or allow any dining area, including but not limited to tables, chairs, booths, bar stools, benches, tents, and standup counters.
5. **Removal of Equipment.** MFUs and all associated equipment must be removed from the park at the end of each day. The Unit and any equipment are not permitted in the park overnight at any time.
6. **Noise.** MFUs are prohibited from using sound amplification. MFUs and Vendors shall comply with the City Code with respect noise when vending. Any required measurement for compliance with such regulations shall be taken from the edge of the parking lot within which the MFU is parked.
7. **Waste Collection.** MFUs shall provide a trash receptacle for the collection of waste material. Trash collected or generated by MFUs shall not be placed or disposed of in park or community center trash receptacles. Vendors shall remove all trash and litter from park grounds within fifty (50) feet of their MFU.
8. **Electrical Service.** Any power required for MFUs shall be self-contained and MFUs shall not use utilities drawn from the park or recreation center unless specifically authorized in writing by the Parks and Recreation Department.

IV. RIGHTS RESERVED. Notwithstanding the authorizations made herein:

1. The City reserves the right to prohibit a MFU from vending at City parks and recreation centers based on public health, safety, and welfare concerns.
2. The City reserves the right to prohibit MFUs from vending at City parks and recreation centers if a special event, permitted sport/league activities, or other permitted activities are taking place at such park. If the MFU is affiliated with or solicited by an event host, the Vendor shall obtain express written consent from the event host demonstrating that the MFU has permission to vend at a special event, permitted sport/league activity, or other permitted park or recreation center activity.