A GUIDE FOR THE SIDEWALK VENDING PERMIT PROGRAM

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

"No person may perform any sidewalk vending activities in the Unincorporated Areas of Alameda County, including a public right-of-way or any other street sidewalk, alley, walkway, or pedestrian path available to the public, without first having obtained a sidewalk vendor permit pursuant to this Chapter."

WHO IS A SIDEWALK VENDOR?

"Sidewalk Vendor" means a person who Vends food or merchandise from a pushcart, stand, display, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other non-motorized conveyance, or from one's person, upon the public right-of-way.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

1. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Before applying, gather the following required documents below:

- ☐ *CA State Seller's Permit*
- ☐ *Proof of General Liability Insurance*
- ☐ *Photo of Vending Unit*
- ☐ *Site Plan of Proposed Hours & Location*

If you intend to sell food, an additional permit is required. *Food vendors must first contact the Alameda County Department of Environmental Health at 510-567-6700 to obtain the appropriate health permit.*

2. APPLY FOR A SIDEWALK VENDING PERMIT

With the documents listed above, submit your completed application in person to:

Alameda County Planning Department
224 West Winton Avenue., Suite 111
Hayward, CA 94544

3. APPLY FOR A BUSINESS LICENSE

For more information call 510-670-6400 or visit https://buslictax.acgov.org/

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County of Alameda
BUSINESS LICENSING
510-670-6400
https://buslictax.acgov.org/

CA Dept. of Tax & Fee Administration
SELLERS PERMIT
1-800-400-7115
www.cdtfa.gov

County of Alameda
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
510-567-6700
https://buslictax.acgov.org/

ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact Alameda County Code Enforcement
510-670-5460 | PlanningCode.Enforcement@acgov.org

Sidewalk Vending Enforcement Program

Enforcement Program

Code enforcement officers are looking for compliance with Sidewalk Vending Ordinance Section 3.36 and regulations.

Scan for Rules and Regulations

To avoid enforcement action:

- Obtain a Sidewalk Vending Permit ***before*** beginning sales.
- Do not sell in unapproved areas.
- Do not leave your cart unattended.
- Do not violate the terms and conditions of the permit.

What is being inspected?

- **Permit Display**: Vendors must have a valid and properly displayed Sidewalk Vending Permit.
- **Inventory**: Items for sale must match what was approved on their permit, and must be carried, stored inside, or affixed to the vendor unit.
- **Location**: Vendors must not sell in unapproved areas, such as next to crosswalks, schools, or anywhere prohibited by the Regulation Operating Conditions.
- **Nuisance Conditions**: Vendors must comply with all other generally applicable local, state, and federal laws.

Get in Touch

Have questions about the regulations?
Contact Alameda County Code Enforcment by phone or email:
510-670-5460 | PlanningCode.Enforcement@acgov.org

What does Sidewalk Vending Enforcement look like?

1

Level 1: Warnings

Vendors found in violation of the regulations will be provided written warnings of violations.

2

Level 2: Citations

Code Enforcement Officers may issue citations in accordance with Sidewalk Vending Ordinance Section 3.36. Vendors who received citations have the right to appeal within 10 calendar days. If an appeal is not received the right to appeal will be waived. Vendors also have the right to request an ability-to-pay determination at any time before the assessed fine has been paid.

3

Level 3: Additional Penalties

Repeated violations and will result in escalating fines and fees in accordance with Section 3.36.