

# STREET VENDOR CHECKLIST

## REQUIREMENTS

- Apply for an Employer Identification Number (EIN), also known as a Federal Tax ID Number from the IRS. If you are a sole proprietor without employees, you may choose to use your Social Security Number instead.
- File a Fictitious Business Name (FBN) Statement at the Office of the County Clerk if you will be using a name other than your given name.
- For vendors selling prepared or unwrapped food:
  - Apply for a Food Handler Card from the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health.
- For vendors selling wrapped food or non-food items (items that would ordinarily be subject to sales tax if sold at retail).
  - Apply for a Seller's Permit issued by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration
- Apply for a City Business License and Street Vending Permit.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

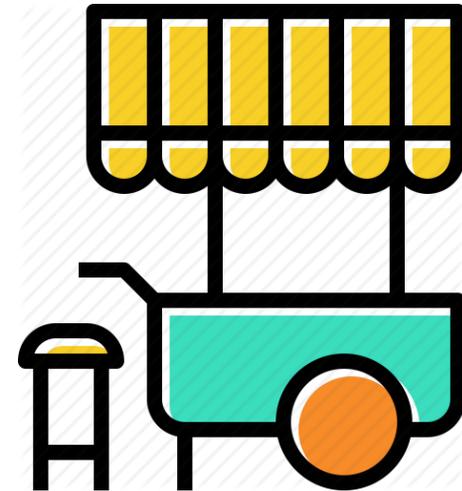
City of National City  
Finance Department  
1243 National City Blvd.  
National City, CA 91950  
619-336-4313  
[www.nationalcityca.gov](http://www.nationalcityca.gov)

Internal Revenue Service  
(Federal ID number)  
1-800-829-1040

San Diego County Clerk  
(Fictitious business name)  
619-236-3771

County Environmental Health  
(Food handling)  
619-338-2222  
<https://cdph.ca.gov>

State Board of Equalization  
(Seller's Permit)  
858-852-5711  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)



For information on operation regulations, including location and time, please see NCMC 13.30.040 or contact the Planning Department at [planning@nationalcityca.gov](mailto:planning@nationalcityca.gov) or 619-336-4310

# GENERAL GUIDELINES

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## Stationary Sidewalk Vendors:

Commercial areas on sidewalks at least **10 feet wide**. 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
No closer than 500 feet to schools *unless selling healthy food*.

## Roaming Sidewalk Vendors:

Residential areas on sidewalks at least **4 feet wide**. 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
No closer than 500 feet to schools *unless selling healthy food*.

## Sidewalk vending in City parks (Roaming Sidewalk Vendors only):

Sidewalk or pedestrian path only and only during park operating hours (7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.)

For allowable zoning districts see National City Municipal Code [Section 13.30.040](#).

The Zoning Map can be found on the City's website ([www.nationalcityca.gov/government/planning](http://www.nationalcityca.gov/government/planning))

## All vendors:

- Must yield to pedestrian traffic.
- Minimum of **20 feet** from other vendors.
- Minimum of **5 feet** from obstructions (bus stops, landscaping, driveways, etc.) – see NCMC [Section 13.30.040](#) for specific information.
- Keep area within **10 feet** clean.
- No vending allowed near any permitted farmers' market or swap meet, or event subject to a Temporary Use Permit.
- Sales of alcohol, tobacco or electronic smoking devices, cannabis, weapons, pharmaceuticals, or adult material are prohibited.
- Operation directly in front of a transparent window or within **3 feet** of an entry or exit is prohibited.

# NATIONAL CITY MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 13.30.040

## SIDEWALK VENDING OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

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All stationary sidewalk vendors or roaming sidewalk vendors shall comply with the following requirements:

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, stationary sidewalk vendors and roaming sidewalk vendors may only conduct transactions on public sidewalks in the public right-of-way, and on pedestrian paths in parks owned or operated by the city.
- B. Stationary sidewalk vendors shall only be located on public sidewalks and pedestrian paths of not less than ten (10) feet in width measured from the streetside edge of the sidewalk or from edge to edge of the path.
- C. Roaming sidewalk vendors may travel on public sidewalks and pedestrian paths of not less than four (4) feet in width measured from the street-side edge of the sidewalk or from edge to edge of the path while moving. Roaming sidewalk vendors stopping to conduct a transaction must do so only where the sidewalk or path is ten (10) feet in width or must yield to pedestrian traffic in conflict with the conduct of their business.
- D. Operations of stationary sidewalk vendors on a public sidewalk shall only occur during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- E. Vending food or merchandise on City sidewalks shall be prohibited:
  - 1. Within 5 feet of a marked crosswalk.
  - 2. Within 5 feet of the beginning of curb return of an unmarked crosswalk.
  - 3. Within 5 feet of any fire hydrant or other emergency facility.
  - 4. Within 5 feet ahead and 45 feet to the rear of a sign designating a bus stop.
  - 5. Within a marked bus zone.
  - 6. Within 5 feet of a bus bench.
  - 7. Within 10 feet of a transit shelter.
  - 8. Within 5 feet of an area improved with lawn, flowers, shrubs, trees or street tree well.
  - 9. Within 5 feet of a driveway or driveway apron.
  - 10. Within 4 feet of an outdoor dining or patio dining area.
  - 11. Within 18 inches from the edge of the curb.
  - 12. Where placement impedes the flow of pedestrian traffic by reducing the clear space to less than 6 feet, or impedes access to or the use of abutting property, including, but not limited to, residences and places of business.
- F. Notwithstanding any specific prohibitions in this subsection, no vendor shall be located where operation endangers the safety of persons or property.
- G. Operations of stationary sidewalk vendors are prohibited in the OS, OSR, RS-1, RS-2, RS-3, RS-4, RM-1, RM-2, RM-3 zones, and in the CZ and MHP overlays.

- H. Operations of roaming sidewalk vendors may occur in the OS, OSR, RS-1, RS-2, RS-3, RS-4, RM-1, RM-2, RM-3 zones, and in the CZ and MHP overlays, but only occur during the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- I. Vending within 500 feet of any K-12 school is prohibited from 6:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m., unless the vendor is selling exclusively Healthy Food.
- J. Operations of sidewalk vendors in public parks shall only occur on the pedestrian path, or a public sidewalk, and only during the period that the park is open. In order to protect the fragile nature of greenspace in parks, sidewalk vendors shall conduct all activities from a public sidewalk or pedestrian path.
- K. In order to limit obstructions caused by a congregation of customers during periods of operations, and to clearly delineate responsibilities in operation, sidewalk vendors shall be located not closer than twenty (20) feet from another sidewalk vendor.
- L. In order to reduce vector, rodent, and other pest infestations, stationary sidewalk vendors shall be responsible for the cleanliness of the area within ten (10) feet of their operations. Stationary sidewalk vendors shall provide a means to collect and properly dispose of all trash and recycling materials, including owning and making available appropriate trash and recycling receptacles. Roaming sidewalk vendors shall have trash bags attached to their cart or carried by the vendor sufficient to provide for the collection of such trash or recycling materials generated by the type of goods, produce, pre-packaged goods, etc., being sold from the vendor. All sidewalk vendors shall provide the city with an acceptable plan for collection and disposal of wastes at the time that an application for those permits required by this chapter, which plan must be approved by the Director of Public Works or such person designated by the Director of Public Works. Such plans must include the means for avoiding the use of city-owned trash and recycling receptacles.
- M. No sidewalk vending is allowed within the immediate vicinity of any permitted certified farmers' market or permitted swap meet in the city. No sidewalk vending is allowed within the immediate vicinity of any street or alley, park, plaza, parking lot, or city-owned property, in any event that is being used by the city or a third party under a Temporary Use Permit. No sidewalk vending is allowed in any park where the city has signed an agreement with a concessionaire for the exclusive right to sell food or merchandise in the park.
- N. No sidewalk vendor shall sell any alcohol-related beverage; tobacco or electronic smoking devices; cannabis products; weapons, including knives, guns, or explosive devices; pharmaceuticals; items described in the definition of adult entertainment activities in Section 18.30.030 of Chapter 18.30 of this code; or such other products identified in a list adopted by resolution or ordinance of the City Council as prohibited for sidewalk vending based on public health, safety, or welfare concerns.
- O. In order to maintain public safety and visibility in front of buildings which front directly on a public street, stationary sidewalk vendors shall not occupy the area directly in front of a transparent window or within three feet of an entry or exit.