

DATE: August 29, 2016  
TO: City Council  
FROM: Planning Director *LA*  
SUBJECT: Zoning Policy Update | Food Trucks

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**Continue research and schedule public hearings in consideration of zoning ordinance amendments to address mobile food service operations in the City.**

## ISSUE

Food trucks have become highly popular in many places. Sugar Hill's zoning ordinance does not allow regular operation of mobile food service on private property more than a couple times a year separate from City sponsored events. Recently we've received requests to allow more food trucks from operators wishing to set up at local businesses on a more regular basis.

## DISCUSSION

- Multiple layers of regulations at State, County and City level. Georgia Department of Agriculture regulates Food Establishments but not Food Service Establishments which are covered by Gwinnett County Environmental Health (GCEH).
- GCEH requires a Mobile Food Service Permit and Commissary Permit for food truck operations not associated with a temporary event.
- Mobile Food Service Permits from other Environmental Health Agencies are recognized by GCEH.
- Mobile Food Service businesses are subject to local zoning policies.
- Sugar Hill's Zoning Ordinance classifies this type of use as a Temporary Use and is only allowed once every six months for a period not to exceed 20 days.
- Some operators and local business owners have expressed a desire to allow more opportunity for mobile food service outside of City sponsored or other temporary events on private property.
- Planning staff is seeking direction to proceed with research and public hearings to consider zoning and licensing policies which would allow more mobile food service in the City.