



City Councillor
Dianne Saxe
Ward 11, University–Rosedale

February 24th, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you in support of EC18.4, a temporary pilot to allow Non-Motorized Mobile Food Vendors in my ward of University-Rosedale.

Mobile food vendors provide important access to lower-cost food. This access is highly valued by the public, especially on the downtown campus of the University of Toronto. However, our food vending by-law is dated, and is being thoroughly reviewed by Municipal Licencing and Standards. In the meantime, the current bylaw forbids food vendors to vend from a parked, on-road vehicle unless the vehicle is independently motorized.

Some food vendors would prefer to vend from on-road, parked, non-motorized trailers, which can be less polluting and cheaper to purchase. While MLS completes its review of the entire by-law, the proposed pilot would temporarily allow licensed food vending from on-road, parked, non-motorized trailers that are licenced under the Highway Traffic Act, on the same terms as food vending from trucks, in Ward 11.

Many of my constituents have expressed strong support for the proposed pilot, after learning of the challenges faced by Anastasiia Aliksieihuk, a refugee from Ukraine. Anastasiia operates a popular, attractive trailer selling coffee and baked goods but was denied a food vending licence simply because her trailer is not motorized.

No material municipal interest is served by requiring on-road mobile food vendors to operate exclusively from trucks. We are facing climate and affordability crises – our city should not unduly block greener, innovative solutions like Anasatasiia's. I urge you to support this pilot.

Councillor Dianne Saxe
Ward 11, University–Rosedale