

Review of Toronto’s Street Vending & Artists By-laws – Attachment 8
Summary of Changes to Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 740 and Chapter 545

This document provides a high-level summary of key changes to Chapter 740, Street Vending, and Chapter 545, Licensing. It is provided for explanatory purposes only and summarizes the principal amendments reflected in the amended bylaws.

Table 1: Changes to Chapter 740

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
Chapter Name	Street Vending	Street Vending and Artists	Reflects inclusion of Artists in the Chapter
Article 1	Definitions	<p>General Provisions</p> <p><i>The new Article 1 contains definitions, as well as all general provisions under the Chapter, such as the types of Vending Permits available, general restrictions, restricted areas, requirements for permit issuance, permit renewal and terms, insurance requirements, permit holder agreement, suspension of permits, cancellation of permits, and refunds.</i></p>	Administrative edit – regulatory burden reduction

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
Definitions	BICYCLE - Includes a tricycle, a unicycle, a power-assisted bicycle and a motor assisted bicycle.	BICYCLE - Includes a tricycle, a unicycle, and a power-assisted bicycle. <i>Removal of 'motor assisted bicycle'</i>	Alignment with other bylaws and Provincial Regulations
Definitions	<i>[in former Municipal Code Chapter 313, Streets and Sidewalks]</i> BUSKER — A musician or other performer	BUSKER - A musician or other performer who performs for voluntary donations	Clarity and bylaw harmonization
Definitions	N/A	CARICATURE/PORTRAIT ARTIST – An individual that makes and sells caricatures or portraits on the sidewalk	Introduces a definition for caricature and portrait artists
Definition	N/A	CITY – means the City of Toronto and anyone lawfully authorized to act on its behalf.	Administrative edit
Definitions	EATING ESTABLISHMENT - A business which is licenced under Chapter 545, Licensing, as a B71 Eating Establishment.	EATING OR DRINKING ESTABLISHMENT - A business which is licensed under Chapter 545, Licensing, as an Eating or Drinking Establishment, or as an Expanded Eating or Drinking Establishment.	Alignment with new eating and drinking establishment categories.
Definitions	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - The Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards or his or her designate.	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - The Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards or their designate.	Administrative edit

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
Definitions	N/A	GENERAL MANAGER – The General Manager, Transportation Services, or their designate.	Administrative edit
Definition	MAIN ENTRANCE - The road level main entryway to an eating establishment where the eating establishment fronts on the road and is both visible from the road and clearly identifiable as an eating establishment from the road.	MAIN ENTRANCE - The road level main entryway to an eating or drinking establishment or other business where the eating or drinking establishment or business fronts on the road and is both visible from the road and clearly identifiable as an eating or drinking establishment or business from the road.	Supports expanded vending permit options
Definitions	MOBILE FOOD VENDING PERMIT - A permit which grants the permit holder the right to vend refreshments and food products from a motorized refreshment vehicle on a road in a Mobile Vending Zone in accordance with Article III.	MOBILE VENDING PERMIT - A permit which grants the permit holder the right to vend beverages, food, or non-food products from a motorized refreshment vehicle, motorized vehicle, non-motorized vehicle or a non-motorized refreshment vehicle which meets the requirements of Article 3, in a Mobile Vending Zone in accordance with Article 3.	Clarity and supports expanded vending permit options
Definitions	MOBILE VENDING ZONE - The areas set out in Schedule A and in Schedule B to this chapter.	MOBILE VENDING ZONE - The areas in which mobile vending permit holders can operate, as set	Clarity

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
		out in Schedule A and in Schedule B to this chapter.	
Definitions	MOTOR-ASSISTED BICYCLE	Removed	Definition not required
Definitions	MOTORIZED REFRESHMENT VEHICLE - A motorized vehicle from which refreshments, including foodstuffs, are sold for consumption.	MOTORIZED REFRESHMENT VEHICLE - A motorized vehicle from which food and/or beverages , are sold for consumption.	Clarity
Definitions	NON-MOTORIZED REFRESHMENT VEHICLE - A non-motorized vehicle from which refreshments, including foodstuffs, are sold for consumption.	NON-MOTORIZED REFRESHMENT VEHICLE - A non-motorized vehicle from which food and/or beverages , are sold for consumption.	Clarity
Definitions	PERMIT YEAR - The annual period for which the permit holder is permitted, through a permit issued by the City, to vend	Removed	Definition not required
Definitions	POWER-ASSISTED BICYCLE	Removed	Definition not required
Definitions	PUBLIC SQUARE - means: (5) Yonge-Dundas Square as defined in Chapter 636, Public Squares	PUBLIC SQUARE - means: (5) Sankofa Square as defined in Chapter 636, Public Squares	Administrative edit
Definitions	RESTRICTED ZONE - An area that may be designated, from time to time, as an area within a Mobile Vending Zone where Mobile Food	RESTRICTED ZONE - An area as set out in Schedule C that may be designated, from time to time, as an area where sidewalk vending permit holders, Mobile Vending Permit	Updated to include all vendor types and sidewalks as well as highways

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	Vending Permit holders are not permitted to vend.	holders, and/or short stop vending permit holders under this chapter are not permitted to vend despite any other permissions in this chapter.	
Definitions	N/A	SHORT STOP VENDOR - A traveling vendor who goes from place to place selling food, beverages and/or non-food items from a vehicle, cart or on foot.	Introduces a definition for Short Stop Vendors
Definitions	<i>[in former Municipal Code Chapter 313, Streets and Sidewalks]</i> SIDEWALK ARTIST – An individual who occupies a sidewalk area to create works of art for viewing by the public	SIDEWALK ARTIST – A chalk artist who performs for voluntary donations.	Clarity on activity allowed by Sidewalk Artists (note: installations and paint are not allowed on sidewalks)
Definitions	VEND - To sell or offer to sell by retail or to manufacture, display, place or expose for the purposes of sale by retail any service or any goods, wares, merchandise, products, crafts, jewellery, refreshments, foodstuffs, flowers or any other items whatsoever, and "vending" shall have a corresponding meaning.	VEND - To sell or offer to sell by retail or to manufacture, display, place or expose for the purposes of sale by retail any service or any goods, wares, merchandise, products, crafts, jewellery, food, beverages , flowers or any other items whatsoever, and "vending" shall have a corresponding meaning. Without limiting the foregoing, vending shall include performing	Clarity and supports expanded options under this Chapter

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
		as a busker, or carrying on activities as a caricature/portrait artist or sidewalk artist.	
Definitions	WORK STATION - The chairs, portfolio, waste receptacle and any other chattel used by a caricature/portrait artist for making and selling on-site portraits.	WORK STATION - The chairs, portfolio, waste receptacle and any other items used by a caricature/portrait artist for making and selling on-site portraits.	Administrative edit
Restrictions	Vending Restricted: No person shall occupy and vend on a road, sidewalk or boulevard unless issued a permit under this chapter by the Executive Director to vend from that location.	Vending without permit prohibited: No person shall occupy and vend on a road, sidewalk or boulevard unless they have been issued a valid permit under this chapter by the Executive Director to vend from that location.	Administrative edit
Vending Permits	A. Any person may, in accordance with this chapter, apply for: (1) A Sidewalk Vending Permit; (2) A Mobile Food Vending Permit; or (3) An Ice Cream Vending Permit. B. The permit holder must comply with the terms and conditions prescribed by the permit and any	A. Any person may, in accordance with this chapter, apply for: (1) A Sidewalk Vending Permit; (2) A Mobile Vending Permit; (3) A Short Stop Vending Permit; or (4) An Artist Permit B. A permit holder shall comply with the terms and conditions prescribed	Alignment with new permit options

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	<p>agreement entered into with the City as a condition of receiving and/or continuing to have the permit.</p> <p>C. No person shall acquire a Sidewalk Vending Permit, a Mobile Food Vending Permit or an Ice Cream Vending Permit except under this chapter.</p>	<p>in a permit and any agreement entered into with the City.</p> <p>C. No person shall acquire a Sidewalk Vending Permit, a Mobile Vending Permit, a Short Stop Vending Permit or an Artist Permit except under this chapter.</p>	
Restriction on number and issuance or renewal of permits.	No person shall be issued a Sidewalk Vending Permit under this chapter where that person, on the date on which the application is approved, already holds a Sidewalk Vending Permit issued under this chapter or already holds either a R53 Sidewalk Vending Permit or a R55 Curb Lane Vending Permit grand parented under this chapter.	<p>No person shall be issued a Sidewalk Vending Permit under this chapter where that person, on the date on which the application is approved, already holds a:</p> <p>(1) R55 Curb Lane Vending Permit transitioned under this chapter; (2) R53 Sidewalk Vending Permit transitioned under this chapter; or a (3) Short Stop Vending Permit.</p> <p>No person shall be issued a Mobile Vending Permit under this chapter where that person, on the date on which the application is approved, already holds a: (1) R55 Curb Lane Vending Permit transitioned under this chapter;</p>	Limit the same vendor conducting multiple activities, to prevent overlap of activity

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
		<p>No person shall be issued a Short Stop Vending Permit under this chapter where that person, on the date on which the application is approved, already holds a:</p> <p>(1) R55 Curb Lane Vending Permit transitioned under this chapter;</p> <p>(2) R53 Sidewalk Vending Permit transitioned under this chapter; or</p> <p>a</p> <p>(3) Sidewalk Vending Permit</p>	
Requirements for permit issuance	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Permit term; renewal	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Restrictions on acquisition and use of permit	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Permit transfer	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Insurance	<i>Provisions used to be individually detailed for each permit type.</i>	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions.</i>	Administrative changes and clarity

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	<i>Insurance requirement of \$1M</i>	<i>Insurance requirement has been increased to \$2M for all permit types (except artists), as advised by corporate risk management</i>	
Permit holder agreement; requirements	Permit terms and conditions under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Suspension of permits	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Cancellation of permits	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Refund of permit fee	Under Article V, Permit Issuance	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i>	Administrative changes and clarity
Designating restricted zones	<i>Provisions under Mobile Food Vending</i>	<i>Requirements have been amended and moved to Article I, General Provisions</i> <i>Additionally, the requirement that vendors cannot be in a restricted zone has been added to all relevant articles</i>	Administrative changes and clarity

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
Article 2	<p>Sidewalk Vending Permits</p> <p><i>Included food and non-food vending, with a moratorium on vending downtown, as well as a moratorium on non-food vending. Also included provisions for sidewalk portrait artists.</i></p>	<p>Sidewalk Vending Permits</p> <p><i>Updated to remove moratoriums on vending downtown and non-food vending. All provisions for sidewalk portrait artists removed and added to Article 5, Artists Permits.</i></p>	<p>Expands opportunities for vending while maintaining safety, accessibility and business competition concerns.</p>
Sidewalk Vending Permit application process.	<p>The following process shall be applicable to applications for Sidewalk Vending Permits:</p> <p>A. The applicant shall determine the proposed location for the designated area.</p> <p>B. Application fee.</p> <p>(1) The applicant shall pay to the City a non-refundable application fee, as prescribed in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges.</p> <p>C. The applicant shall complete an application for the permit in a form required by the</p>	<p>The applicant shall complete an application for a Sidewalk Vending Permit in a form required by the Executive Director and detailing the following:</p> <p>(1) The name, address and contact information of the applicant;</p> <p>(2) A detailed description of the location proposed to be a designated area;</p> <p>(3) A drawing or photograph including dimensions of the non-motorized refreshment vehicle or portable display unit which will be used to vend and a detailed drawing</p>	<p>Administrative changes and clarity</p>

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	<p>Executive Director and detailing the following:</p> <p>(1) The name and address of the applicant;</p> <p>(2) A detailed description of the location requested to be a designated area, with the exception of an application to vend portraits created at a work station where such a description is not required;</p> <p>(3) A drawing or photograph, including dimensions, of the non-motorized refreshment vehicle, portable display unit, or work station, including a detailed drawing of waste receptacles, food storage areas and heating, cooling or other equipment as may be</p>	<p>of waste receptacles, food storage areas and heating, cooling or other equipment as may be required by the Medical Officer of Health and their location within the proposed designated area;</p> <p>(4) Where the applicant is a corporation, a list of all directors and officers of the corporation;</p> <p>(5) A description of what the applicant proposes to vend; and</p> <p>(6) Any other information required by the Executive Director.</p>	

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	<p>required by the Medical Officer of Health;</p> <p>(4) In the case of a non-motorized refreshment vehicle, the hours of operation requested; and</p> <p>(5) All other required information.</p> <p>D. Multiple Portrait Artists.</p> <p>(1) In the case of an application for a work station, the application may list up to three portrait artists who may, under the issued Sidewalk Vending Permit, use the designated area on an alternate basis.</p> <p>(2) Despite Subsection D(1), only one portrait artist authorized under Subsection D(1) shall</p>		

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	occupy the designated area at a time.		
Review and processing of permit application; notice to neighbouring property owners; issuance or denial of permits; appeals.	<p><i>The section describes that when an application received complies with the Chapter, MLS will notify building owners and business occupants within 25 metres of the designated space, as well as the BIA and local Councillor.</i></p> <p><i>If any person notified objects, the application is denied, but it can be appealed within 30 days.</i></p>	<p><i>The updated section describes that when an application received complies with the Chapter, MLS will notify building owners and business occupants within 25 metres of the designated space, as well as the BIA and local Councillor.</i></p> <p><i>If 25% or more of those notified object, the application is denied, but can be appealed within 30 days.</i></p>	Alignment with sidewalk cafe permit process for public objections
Application for expanded designated area for non-motorized refreshment vehicles.	<i>The section describes that an applicant can apply for an addition 1.16 square metres of area.</i>	<i>The update describes how an applicant can apply for more space, up to a total of 3.48 square metres</i>	Clarity
Change in corporate shareholders, directors or officers.	n/a	A. Where a Sidewalk Vending Permit holder is a corporation, the permit	Administrative edit and clarity, to prevent unofficial secondary market of permits

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
		<p>holder shall immediately notify the City where any changes to the corporation's directors or officers takes place.</p> <p>B. Where the City receives notice of such changes to the directors or officers of the corporation, the Executive Director shall revoke the Sidewalk Vending Permit.</p>	
Article 3	Mobile Food Vending Permit	Mobile Vending Permit	Update permit scope
General	A person may apply for a Mobile Food Vending Permit which will grant to the permit holder the right to vend refreshments and food products from only the motorized refreshment vehicle identified in the permit in Mobile Vending Zones.	<p>Any person may apply for a Mobile Vending Permit which will grant to the permit holder the right to vend one of the following in Mobile Vending Zones:</p> <p>(1) Beverages and food from only the motorized refreshment vehicle or non-motorized refreshment vehicle meeting the requirements in subsection</p>	Updated to permit sale of non-food and allow non-motorized trailers to operate with a mobile vending permit City-wide

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
		<p>C identified in the permit; or</p> <p>(2) Goods, wares, merchandise, products, crafts, jewellery or any other non-food items from the motorized vehicle or non-motorized vehicle meeting the requirements in subsection C identified in the permit.</p> <p>A Mobile Vending Permit may only be granted for a non-motorized vehicle or a non-motorized refreshment vehicle, that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a trailer; (b) no more than 10 metres in length; (c) no more than 3 metres in width; and (d) displaying a valid number plate issued by the Province for the trailer. 	
Conditions of operation	Despite anything in this chapter to the contrary, and despite a location being designated a Mobile Vending Zone, no Mobile Food Vending Permit holder shall:	Despite anything in this chapter to the contrary, and despite a location being designated a Mobile Vending	Increase vending time limit to support businesses and language clarity

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	<p>(6) Vend for more than five hours on the same block within a 24 hour period;</p> <p>(10) Orient the service windows other than towards the sidewalk. Service windows that face the street are not permitted;</p>	<p>Zone, no Mobile Vending Permit holder shall:</p> <p>(6) Vend on a block at any time after 12 hours have elapsed since the permit holder first began to vend on the block within the preceding 24 hours;</p> <p>(10) Face the service windows other than towards the sidewalk. Service windows that face the street, bicycle paths, bicycle lanes or cycle tracks are not permitted;</p> <p>(14) Where a non-motorized refreshment vehicle or non-motorized vehicle is attached to another vehicle, ensure the attached vehicle is compliant with all requirements for parking in that location, including, without limitation, being compliant with all by-law requirements and paying any fee required for parking.</p>	
Review and processing of permit application;	Where the Executive Director determines that the application for a Mobile Food Vending Permit as received does not comply with this	Where the Executive Director determines that the applicant has outstanding fees or fines with the City with respect to this chapter	Clarification on conditions of not approving an application

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
issuance or denial of permits; appeals.	chapter, the Executive Director shall, in writing, notify the applicant that the application is refused with no right of appeal.	and/or the application for a Mobile Vending Permit as received does not comply with this chapter or contains false, misleading or fraudulent information , the Executive Director shall, in writing, notify the applicant that the application is refused with no right of appeal.	
Grand Parenting	If, immediately prior to the coming into force of this chapter, a R55 Curb Lane Vending Permit is in effect under a former City of Toronto by-law or Code Chapter, the R55 Curb Lane Vending Permit shall, until December 31, 2026, be governed by the regulations in effect on May 14, 2014 as long as those conditions and § 740-20.1 continue to be complied with and any required fees are paid in accordance with Chapter 441, Fees and Charges. As at January 1, 2027, the R55 Curb Lane Vending Permits will, without notice, automatically be cancelled	Remove expiry and replace with transitioning the licence to the new Chapter 740, Street Vending & Artists	Remove expiry for Legacy permits to allow them to continue operating
Article IV	Ice Cream Vending Permits	Short Stop Vending Permits	Name change; expansion of scope

Chapter 740 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
	<i>Contains provisions for ice cream vendors</i>	<i>Provisions for vendors in motorized, cart and on foot</i>	
Article V	N/a <i>Busking and sidewalk artist provisions exist in Former City of Toronto Chapter 313, Streets and Sidewalks</i>	Artist Permits <i>Provisions for Buskers, Sidewalk Artists and Portrait / Caricature Artists</i>	Bylaw harmonization
Article 6 – Enforcement and Penalties	<i>Offences and seizures outlined in this section</i>	<i>Offences and seizures outlined in this section; some clarifications made.</i>	Updated with new maximum penalties and clarification of old language

Several updates to wording have been made to the Chapter that are not necessarily captured in the table above:

- Changing out-dated or unclear language, for example removing the term ‘grand-parenting’.
- Re-ordering, minor language amendments for clarification purposes
- All reference to ‘foodstuffs’, ‘refreshments’ or other like terms have been replaced by ‘food’, ‘beverages’ or ‘food and beverages’ for clarity
- Where applicable, the bylaw has been updated to take into account that a permit type can sell food, beverages and also non-food items
- All references to ‘places of worship’ and the associated distance requirements have been removed, as the requirement is out-dated and does not reflect attitudes towards vending today
- All references to ‘Pay-and-display’ have been updated to reflect ‘parking machines’ to align with parking by-laws, recognizing that parking machine technology has evolved

- The amended version of Chapter 740, Street Vending and Artists has standardized all distance requirements – from schools or other businesses – to 25 metres. In the current bylaw, the distances vary between 25 metres and 30 metres across different vendor and location types

Table 2: Changes to Chapter 545

Chapter 545 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
Article IV	<p>Refreshments Sold from Vehicles</p> <p><i>Outlined separate requirements for food trucks and ice cream trucks, detailed public health and other operational requirements.</i></p>	<p>Refreshment Vehicles</p> <p><i>Consolidated requirements for ice cream trucks and food trucks, removed out-dated requirements including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Specific requirements for dispensing equipment and wrapping removed and replaced with general requirement for cleanliness</i> - <i>Requirement for ice cream vendors to wear light-coloured clothing</i> - <i>Requirement for vendor's address to be displayed</i> - <i>Other requirements under the purview of Toronto Public Health, which will be assessed directly with TPH</i> 	Regulatory burden reduction
Article XVII	Hawkers and Pedlars	Removed	Licence type to be replaced with other licences and permits

Chapter 545 Section	Current Text	Updated Text (Changes denoted in bold or explained)	Rationale
<i>New Article</i>	<i>N/A</i>	Refreshment Vendor on Foot	Allows salespeople on foot, selling food or beverages, to get a Public Health check and obtain a licence