



**Resolution #: 2021-001**

## **MOBILE FOOD UNITS (MFU) VENDING REQUIREMENTS**

**\*\* Effective June 1, 2021, an operational permit is required for mobile food preparation vehicles equipped with appliances that produce smoke or grease-laden vapors.**

*The \$125.00 permit fee will cover (1) the inspection process, (2) the documentation process, and (3) the annual operational permit for the operation of any mobile food unit (MFU) vending food that produce smoke or grease-laden vapors from a food truck, food cart, food trailer, etc. within the EPC ESD #1's jurisdiction.*

### **PERMITS**

- An “Operational Permit” is required for **mobile food preparation vehicles equipped with appliances that produce smoke or grease-laden vapors**. Any other MFU’s at the same property address or location will be required to have their own individual permit. Permits are renewed on an annual basis, after passing the required annual fire safety inspection and documentation process.
- It shall be unlawful to operate a mobile food unit (MFU) without the required permit.
- Annual MFU operational permits must be displayed in a binder with all other local AHJ credentials and shall be located within the mobile food unit’s binder.
- MFU’s left on site for more than 24 hours at carnivals, fairs, festivals, or other public events will be subject to Food Booth permit requirements, inspections, and fees in addition to any fees associated with the annual MFU permits.

### **APPLIANCES**

- All appliances shall be **UL or FM** listed specifically for gas-fueled service.
- An approved inspection sticker and/or documentation shall be displayed on all gas-fueled appliances (Stoves, Fryers, etc.) indicating that a licensed gas-fueled company has inspected the equipment, excluding accessories. A valid annual receipt from a licensed person or company for the inspection of the gas-fuel system will be honored.
- An approved ventilation system shall be installed over cooking equipment. Hoods shall be operated at the required rate of air movement. Classified grease filters shall be in place and cleaned as required, per code.
- The operator of the MFU that uses any amount of gas-fueled service to prepare food shall not operate such unit within 60 feet of another MFU, except at festivals or events as approved by the Fire Marshal.
- The exhaust system on a MFU shall be inspected and maintained based on 2015 International Fire Code (Table 609.3.3.1).

### **TENTS (if applicable)**

- Tents, canopies, membrane structures shall be anchored, braced, and secured.

## **ELECTRICAL**

- All electrical wiring shall comply with the Electrical Codes: NEC; NFPA 70; and the 2015 International Fire Code.

## **BAFFLES AND CLOSURES**

- All deep-fat fryers shall have a steel baffle between the fryer and surface flames of an adjacent appliance. The baffle / barrier shall be 8 inches in height.
- A closing lid shall be required on the fryer with latching mechanisms that secure it in the open & closed positions. (*Exception: fryers installed under a fixed pipe extinguishing system*).

## **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

- A fire extinguisher is required in all MFU's.
- A minimum one **3A10BC** portable fire extinguisher mounted in a conspicuous place within the kitchen area (*for the kitchen area and the portable generator*).
- All portable fire extinguishers shall be serviced, inspected, and tagged annually.
- In addition to any other required fire extinguisher, all MFU's that have a deep fryer in place shall have a **Class K** portable fire extinguisher for up to four fryers having a maximum cooking medium capacity of 80 pounds each. For every additional group of four fryers having a maximum cooking capacity of 80 pounds each, an additional class K extinguisher will be required. For individual fryers exceeding 6 square feet in surface area, class K extinguishers will be installed in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

## **EMERGENCY EGRESS WITHIN THE MFU**

- Emergency egress shall comply.
- MFU's shall have a clear, unobstructed height over the aisle-way portion of the unit of at least 74 inches from floor to ceiling, and a minimum of 30 inches of unobstructed horizontal aisle space.
- Should travel distance from any portion of the interior exceed 15 feet, the mobile food units shall have a minimum of two exits located remote from each other and so arranged as to provide a means of unobstructed travel to the outside of the vehicle.
- ❖ A secondary means of egress shall be located remote of the main exit door, with an unobstructed minimum passage of 24" X 24 " to the outside. The bottom of this secondary means of egress shall not be more than four (4) feet above the vehicle floor or a readily accessible horizontal surface capable of supporting a weight of 300 pounds minimum opening to the outside.
- ❖ The latch mechanism of any exit facility shall be operable by hand, and shall not require the use of a key or special knowledge for operation from the inside. The secondary exit shall be labeled with the word "**EXIT**" with 2 inch minimum letters on contrasting background.

## **GENERATOR REFUELING**

- Refueling of generators shall be performed in an approved location **not less than 20-feet** from the MFU. Fuel shall be stored in a **UL or FM** approved flammable liquid safety container in an approved location. Generators shall be grounded in an approved method. Generators shall not be refueled in areas occupied by the public.

## **GAS-FUELED APPLIANCE**

- Shall comply with the appropriate gas-fueled code.
  - International Fuel Gas Code, NFPA 58 & NFPA 54.

- All gas-fueled containers shall be limited to 60 pounds gas capacity. Two 30-lb containers may be manifold when equipment is approved in advance.
- All gas-fueled containers shall be located & secured on the exterior of the MFU, open to atmosphere or if containers are kept in compartment, said compartment must be separate from the interior food preparation area. Access must be from the exterior of the unit and compartment floor and exterior door must be vented to the atmosphere.
- All gas-fueled containers (*empty or full*) shall be stored & secured in an upright position in such a manner as not to fall or tip over. All MFU's shall be positioned in a manner that will reduce the exposure of the gas-fueled cylinder to vehicle impact. Do not park MFUs with gas-fueled cylinders facing oncoming traffic. Always utilize available protection for gas-fueled cylinders such as fences or barricades.
- All MFU's with gas-fueled containers shall post a visible **"NO SMOKING"** sign next to or directly above the gas-fueled container(s) and visible to the public. Such sign shall be posted with a **minimum of 4-inch** lettering on contrasting background.
- An NFPA 704 hazard placard shall be posted near the gas-fueled tank(s).
- Any hose used for the gas-fueled system to a device/appliance shall be **UL or FM** listed specifically for gas-fueled service. All couplings, fittings, and any other devices shall meet the requirements for gas-fueled service as outlined in the International Fuel Gas Code, NFPA 58 & NFPA 54. (*marked 350 PSI working pressure*)
- Cylinders/containers shall not be located near exit access doors, exits, stairways, or in areas normally used, or intended to be used, as a means of egress.
- Cylinders/containers shall be located outside the mobile food unit a **minimum of 5-feet** from the primary means of egress.
- Cylinders/containers shall not be placed where they can be exposed to vehicular damage.
- All cylinders/containers shall be located outside of the unit, with the safety release valves pointed away from the unit.
- Cylinders/containers shall not be located: on the roof of vehicle; inside the unit; nor can it extend further than the rear bumper; and is to be protected from vehicle collision.

### **ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS**

- Annual fire safety inspections are required for the renewal of the operational permit.
- MFU's shall contact E.P.C. E.S.D. #1 – Fire Marshal's Office to schedule an appointment to bring their units to our location for the annual fire safety inspection.
- All decorative material, including umbrellas or small canopies over the equipment, shall be nonflammable or be treated flame-retardant.
- If the MFU has an approved Type I hood and fire extinguishing system installed, it shall be maintained, as required by fire code.
- Portable open flame devices fueled by flammable or combustible gases or liquids shall be enclosed or installed in such a manner as to prevent the flame from contacting combustible material.

### **COMPLIANCE WITH ORDINANCE # 0092** (*Within the Town of Horizon City*)

- Mobile food units shall comply with the Town of Horizon City's Ordinance # 0092 when vending within the Town of Horizon City.

***If you have any questions, please contact our office at 915-852-3204. Thank you for your cooperation and compliance.***