



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Proposed Food Truck Pilot Project
(Temporary Food Truck Policy)

File #: [Required]

Doc #:

From: Carl Johannsen, RPP, MCIP
Director of Development Services

Date: May 26, 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council approve the attached Temporary Food Truck Policy.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to respond to a request, from representatives of Cascades Casino who appeared as a delegation at the April 12, 2021 Regular Council meeting, to amend the City of Langley Business Licence and Regulation Bylaw to allow food trucks in more areas of the City.

Council subsequently directed to staff to report back to Council on updating the City's business licensing to permit food trucks and topics regarding fixed business presence, recycling, garbage, sanitation and location requirements. In response staff are proposing to proceed with a temporary food truck 'pilot project', as detailed in this staff report and attached Temporary Food Truck Policy.

POLICY:

The City of Langley Business Licence and Regulation Bylaw No. 2916 currently limits the day-to-day operation of licenced food trucks to the I1 and I2 Industrial Zones, the C2 Service Commercial Zone and serving building construction sites. Food trucks are also able to operate in the City at 'one-day-only' events, such as special events, as permitted by the City's Parks, Culture and Community Services Department.

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

The request from Cascades Casino referenced the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on their business operations, as orders from the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) have closed the Casino and limited in-restaurant dining. Given this context Cascades Casino is seeking to operate their 'Match Restaurant' food truck in the City of Langley on a regular basis, in an effort to generate business activity, provide work opportunities for their employees and increase access to their products in more places within the City.

Noting that the PHO has issued public health orders that have limited or eliminated in-person dining at local restaurants and this in turn has reduced business activity levels at these restaurants, the City of Langley is already undertaking temporary initiatives that enable access to dining and food in outdoor environments in a manner that supports continued business activity and also respects PHO orders. This includes facilitating outdoor patios on City rights-of-way and private property in a timely manner.

Regarding the Cascades Casino request, staff support enabling additional outdoor dining opportunities, by way of permitting food trucks to operate on an ongoing basis in select locations in the City. However, this initiative should be undertaken on a temporary or 'pilot project' basis, and implemented in a timely manner similar to the other temporary outdoor dining initiatives noted above, and limited to businesses that already have a permanent business presence in the City (staff estimate there are at least three City-based businesses that have food trucks).

This approach limits competition with local restaurants that have been heavily impacted by the pandemic, and also enables the project to proceed without requiring further analysis and amendments to the Business Licence and Regulation Bylaw. Based on this, staff propose to enable food trucks to operate in the City on a temporary basis, guided by a proposed Temporary Food Truck Council Policy (attached).

Temporary Food Truck Policy

The proposed Temporary Food Truck Policy would enable local food trucks to operate in select locations on an ongoing basis, in addition to those identified in the Business Licence and Regulation Bylaw, as a pilot project that can be evaluated after 3 to 4 months to determine if this approach should be continued, modified or discontinued.

The core component of this approach is that food trucks must meet the requirements of this policy and the City's Business License and Regulation Bylaw in order to operate, and receive permission of the City's Recreation, Culture and Community Services Departments to operate in select City Parks. This policy does not apply to Special Events, should they be permitted to occur by the PHO and City.

The Temporary Food Truck Policy is also envisioned to remain in effect until Council modifies this policy, or terminates this policy in response to the PHO updating or rescinding public health orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Temporary Food Truck Policy: High-level Summary Points

- All food trucks must be operated by businesses that have a permanent location in the City of Langley. All food trucks operators must apply and receive a Business Licence Amendment from the City of Langley to operate (\$60 administration fee);
- All food truck operators are responsible for refuse, recyclables, food waste and cooking by-product disposal, and maintaining a clean area within 30 metres of the food truck. All utensils are to be compostable;
- No covered areas, tables or chairs are permitted adjacent to food trucks;
- Food trucks may operate on private property zoned for restaurant/food service use, provided the property owner has given written approval;
- Food trucks are not permitted in the Historic Downtown area, and must be located 200 metres apart from other food trucks and 100 metres away from restaurants serving similar cuisine; and
- Food trucks may operate on an ongoing basis at select City Parks, on non-event days, as identified in the Temporary Policy and as approved by the City.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The proposed Temporary Food Truck Policy will provide opportunities for businesses with a permanent location in the City of Langley to also operate a food truck in locations beyond those identified in the Business Licence and Regulation Bylaw, provided these businesses have a valid Business Licence (\$196) and a Business Licence Amendment (\$60) that enables operation of a food truck.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Direct staff to make changes to the proposed Temporary Food Truck Policy.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carl Johannsen, RPP, MCIP
Director of Development Services

Attachment:

1. Temporary Food Truck Policy

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

I support the recommendation.



Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer