

Government of the District of Columbia
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS



OFFICE OF ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

PROCEDURE TO OPERATE A MOBILE VEHICLE/CART ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Please be advised these recommendations must be complied with to obtain a review and approval of an application submitted to operate a mobile/vehicle cart of private property.

1. Register with [Corporations Division](#);
2. Register with the [Office of Tax and Revenue](#);
3. Submit an [Application for a Certificate of Occupancy](#) to the Permit Center for review and approval by the [Office of Zoning Administrator](#) and the Structural Review Discipline of the Permitting Division:
 - a. Application must include an authorized letter from the property owner allowing the cart/vehicle on the property.
 - b. Submit a scaled site plan or *Surveyor's Plat* clearly identifying the location of all structures on the property, all required parking spaces, and the proposed mobile/vehicle cart. All structures and parking spaces should be clearly dimensioned and labeled. No required off-street parking spaces may be occupied.
 - c. The mobile/vehicle cart shall be no greater than 200 sq. ft. and cannot exceed height of 14 feet.
 - d. No external plumbing or electrical connection site is allowed.
 - e. No external signs, appurtenances, tables and chairs allowed separate from structure.
 - f. Operation shall be restricted to daylight hours only.
 - g. Use of the mobile/vehicle cart on private property may only be established in the applicable commercial or manufacturing zones where the use is allowed as a matter of right.
 - h. The C of O category for the cart use shall be called out, and in the case of Mobile Cart Eating Establishment use, the use would be a **Fast Food Establishment**, which is not allowed as a matter of right in C-1, nor in C-2-A districts.
 - i. A *Certificate of Occupancy* will be issued either for the Mobile Vehicle/Cart only, or an amended C of O to add it as an accessory use to building's use already on the site. OZA will approve and stamp the site plan/plat.
4. Obtain a health inspection DOH.
5. Obtain and submit a [Basic Business License Application](#).

Note: Any variance to these conditions shall subject the application to additional reviews and approvals.