

November 13, 2012

To: City Administrator

Fr: Mike Pappas on behalf of sidewalk vendors in Washington, DC

Please download the attached document a critique of the proposed vending regulations. While these comments were drafted upon review of the second proposed rulemaking very little changes regarding our concerns were addressed in the Notice of Third Proposed Rulemaking and we are submitting them to be included as part of the formal record of this rulemaking.

Additionally, we would like to emphasis that the sidewalk vendors representatives have expressed concerns with the proposed so-called lottery system that is being proposed. Their representatives have expressed these concerns since the work of the Vending Task Force as well in each of these proposed vending rulemakings.

Sidewalk vendors have been largely ignored in the dialogue of how to "fit" in the new mobile vending trucks. The balance of concerned has been to appease the mobile vending trucks at the economic loss to the sidewalk vendor, many of whom have been vending from the same location for many years and perhaps over a decade or more.

DCRA must ensure that all the vending community has equal protection and fairness. A mobile vending truck with similar product should not be allowed to be within economic proximity of a sidewalk vendor. DCRA must stop ignoring or moving sidewalk vendors without due process. The so called lottery is not fair to the sidewalk vendor who is self employed and does not have the clout of a corporation. There is very little trust between the sidewalk vendor and DCRA and DCRA must work to repair this trust.

We welcome an opportunity to meet to further discuss these concerns and work towards an equitable outcome.

The genesis of the vending program in DC was to provide a gateway to the independent low financed business person to become self sufficient; not to provide favorable treatment to corporations.

Thank you,

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