



8367 Snouffer School Rd. Gaithersburg, MD 20879Mr. Helder Gil

Legislative Affairs Specialist
Dept. of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
1100 Fourth St. SW
Room 5164
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Gil,

My name is Craig Barsi and I am the owner of Sweetz Cheesecake, which runs the "That Cheesecake Truck" in Washington.

Sweetz Cheesecake has been in business since 1989 and started as a wholesaler of desserts to restaurants and hotels mainly in the District. We then branched out to a retail location in Gaithersburg, Md. And on to fundraising for many schools, churches and sports associations. Our mobile food truck started in Washington in 2011 and is the latest addition to our company. Our next phase of expansion is a retail market in Washington.

I was pleased to see that new regs had been released last month as the regs we currently operate under certainly are not for the times we live in. Certain aspects of the new proposal such as the elimination of the "ice cream rule" are welcome changes.

There are, however, many parts of the proposed regs that threaten the viability and survival of food trucks in the city. The vagueness of the entire proposal is of great concern to a business owner with plans of expansion in the city. The sidewalk restriction for all intents and purposes prohibits our truck from the most popular areas of the city. The suggested "MRV" zones are left up to the whims of DDOT since the regs haven't any details on how, where, how many spots or rules for the rest of the parking near these zones have been established. Hoping that these details worked out in the future to the extent that they support food trucks is difficult to support now.

Our motto on our truck is "Where giving comes full circle". We give 10% of our truck sales back to charities primarily located in DC. This percentage is truly a sacrifice for us in any economy, let alone this one, but it is the right thing to do for a city that has been generous to us over the past 20+ years. Miriam's Kitchen and Bread for the City are examples of the organizations we have donated to.

We all want new regulations for the food truck industry, but we expect fair ones as well. This allows everyone to move forward and expand in a city we enjoy being a part of.

Thank You,

Craig A. Barsi
That Cheesecake Truck
Sweetz Cheesecake
www.sweetzcheesecake.com