

December 28, 2012

My name is John Flanagan and I am a resident of the Georgetown neighborhood in Ward Two.

I have been a tax-paying voter in the District of Columbia since I started at Georgetown University in Fall 2010. When I worked downtown, food trucks provide much-needed variety and choice when I was in a hurry running between work and class. They have also been very helpful in promoting good town-gown relations by keeping students on campus on weekend nights. To that end, I hope that DCRA will consider my comments as to the following sections of the proposed regulations.

#### Section 508 (Vending Site Permit)

I uncategorically oppose this section as it relates to food trucks or Mobile Roadway Vending (MRV). Part of the genius of food trucks is that they are flexible and can go where the consumer demand is. Also, I have not seen any disorderly jockeying for space that would even necessitate such a rule.

#### Section 523.2 (Sidewalk Vending - Georgetown)

There should be an exemption added for areas near and within Georgetown University. Having vendors on-campus during the weekend nights has helped keep neighborhood noise complaints to a minimum this past semester.

#### Section 530 (MRV - DDOT's Discretion to Create MRV Sites)

This section is overly broad and gives too much power to DDOT. The regs should designate where vending is NOT allowed and then allow it everywhere else, except when MPD or DDOT close the street for public safety/maintenance purposes.

#### Section 531.2(c) (MRV - 10-ft. Easement Requirement)

In my experience, food truck owners have been very good about keeping the sidewalk free and clear. Therefore, I think this regulation is largely unnecessary. Also, this section would eliminate many popular vending locations, including Franklin Square, Farragut Square, and 21st/Virginia Avenue. In the latter location, food trucks are the only dining option on that strip.

#### Section 533.1 (MRV - DDOT's Discretion to Remove MRV Sites)

See comments on section 530.

Section 535 (MRV - Assignment of MRV Sites)

See comments on section 508.

Thank you for allowing me to provide my comments on this matter. I hope you will find them helpful in crafting your new regulations.

Yours truly,

John Flanagan