

December 26, 2012

This memo is to let you know my take on DC food truck and it's regulations. I am a small fast food owner close to the Union Station. Please see my comments and concerns below:

Comments & Concerns:

- It almost appears that no one in DC Government office ever evaluated the fact that the food truck will have a severe negative impact on the small “mom & pop” and small fast food restaurants.
- When the fast food restaurant owner/franchisee rented the store they never took under consideration that food truck will be in the area. So they signed a lease for high rent and borrowed money from bank.
- Each of these small restaurant employs about 8-10 employee. If they are driven into bankruptcy then all 10 employees will lose their job in addition to the bankruptcy of the small business owner. Lots of them just borrowed money from bank to open up a fast food store. Each food truck employs about 2-3 people so their stake is much lower than small business.
- If it was level field where with the existence of the food trucks and a small fast food restaurant owner opened up stores then I understand it is the risk he/she took. But one fine morning 14-15 food trucks showing up (union station location) and running the fast food restaurant out of business is not a fair game.
- There about 15-16 trucks during lunch time on North Capitol Street (close to union station). This situation is driving us out of business as a small fast food restaurant owner. How is this fair? There is a limit to everything. This is out of limit and fair game.

Solutions:

- We still can have food truck in DC. That is only fair but there has to be some limitation to one single spot. Lots of business owner signed up for the store with high rent when there were no food trucks. So now there 15 trucks in-front of his store how is he going to employ 7 full time employee?
- I think food truck has to be regulated and there has to be a limit on number of trucks that can stay in the same spot.

Regards,

Mohammad A. Khan