

December 17, 2012

I work downtown and frequent food trucks, sit down and fast food restaurants. Generally, I eat around Federal Triangle, Metro Center, Gallery Place, Farragut West and occasionally L'Enfant. As a customer I want variety and options for my meals. Food truck operators are small business owners who should be encouraged, not stifled because brick and mortar restaurants feel threatened. What about competition? What about fairness? Food truck regulations should not be so burdensome that it forces the operators into a losing position from the outset. If bricks and mortar stores are losing customers they need to ask themselves why and improve their business/offerings. They should not be placated by eliminating fair competition.

I also believe there are some food truck operators who have bricks and mortar stores or have recently opened bricks and mortar stores thanks in part to building up a base with their food truck. That's the kind of small business success that should be applauded and nurtured.

Please be fair in the rules for street vending. I believe the food trucks serve a need and their popularity with DC residents, workers and tourists should be considered when making rules.

Thank you,

Lori Hunt