

Pittsburgh Vending Updates

February 23,
2026



THE CITY OF
PITTSBURGH

Introductions

- **Melissa Hill,
City Planning**
- **Monica Bender & Ashley Bryant,
Permits, Licenses & Inspections**
- **Rylan Seifert,
Mobility & Infrastructure**

Context: Building a more equitable Pittsburgh

- For many years, vendors have been required to navigate complex restrictions and to limit operations to few allowable locations.
- The City has set out to address these challenges and open up more economic opportunity and activate public space, collecting feedback from entrepreneurs, government officials, and every day residents.
- In 2025, the City of Pittsburgh passed two new ordinances related to vending.
 - Ordinance 34: Reduces zoning restrictions for vending on private property
 - Ordinance 35: Streamlined licenses, standard location criteria, more allowed locations

Today's Webinar

- Vending Licenses
- Vending Locations
- Operating Rules
- Next Steps

We will not be discussing the policy update process for time's sake, but learn more about the process at

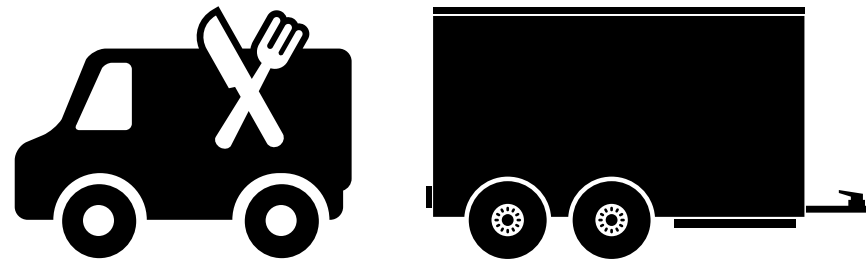
<https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/vending-program>

Vending Licenses

What is Vending?

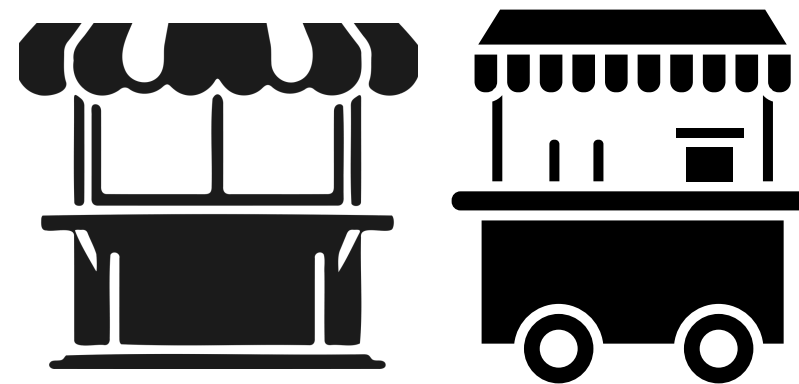
Vending is the sale of goods, services, wares, or merchandise from a non-permanent structure such as a cart, truck, trailer, kiosk, or tent.

Vending Vehicles and Large Trailers



Trucks and trailers wider than 4 ft must use legal **parallel parking spots** with service windows facing the sidewalk. They can also park on private property with the owner's permission.

Non-Vehicle Vending Units and Small Trailers



Pushcarts, small trailers (less than 4 ft wide), kiosks, stands, tents, and tables must use sidewalks or private property.



Peddlers

travel by foot and do not have a vending unit

Vending License

- Allows roaming on public and private property in the City of Pittsburgh
- Required for vending on public and private property, unless vending from a tent or table on private property
- As of 2026, this costs \$137

Make sure your paperwork, especially health permits, is all set before applying to reduce the time to obtain the license

Who does not need a Vending License?

- Vending at a permitted **Special Event** or City farmers market
- In the Strip District between 15th St, 24th St, Liberty Ave, and Waterfront Pl and Railroad St
 - approval from adjacent property owner required
- Vending from tents & tables on private property

Fire Safety

- With the program updates, there will be a fire safety checklist and permitting process. All vendors using heating elements must comply!
- Final details will be included with the program launch, and instructions will be shared out.



Fire

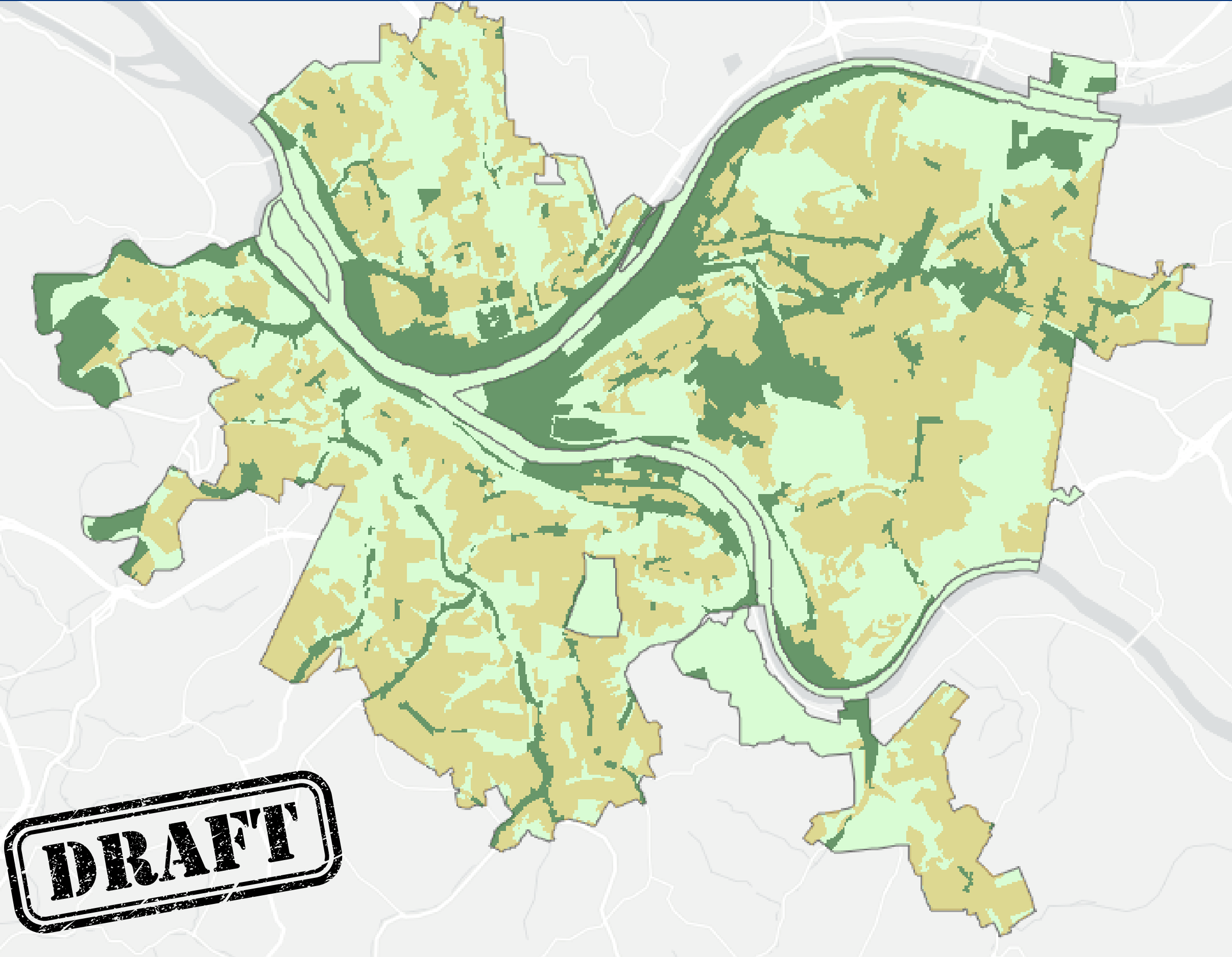
It is the mission of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire to protect life, property and the environment by providing effective customer and human services related to fire suppression, fire responder medical service, hazardous materials mitigation,...

 pittsburghpa.gov

Vending Locations

What can I do with a Vending License?

Vending Map: Private Property

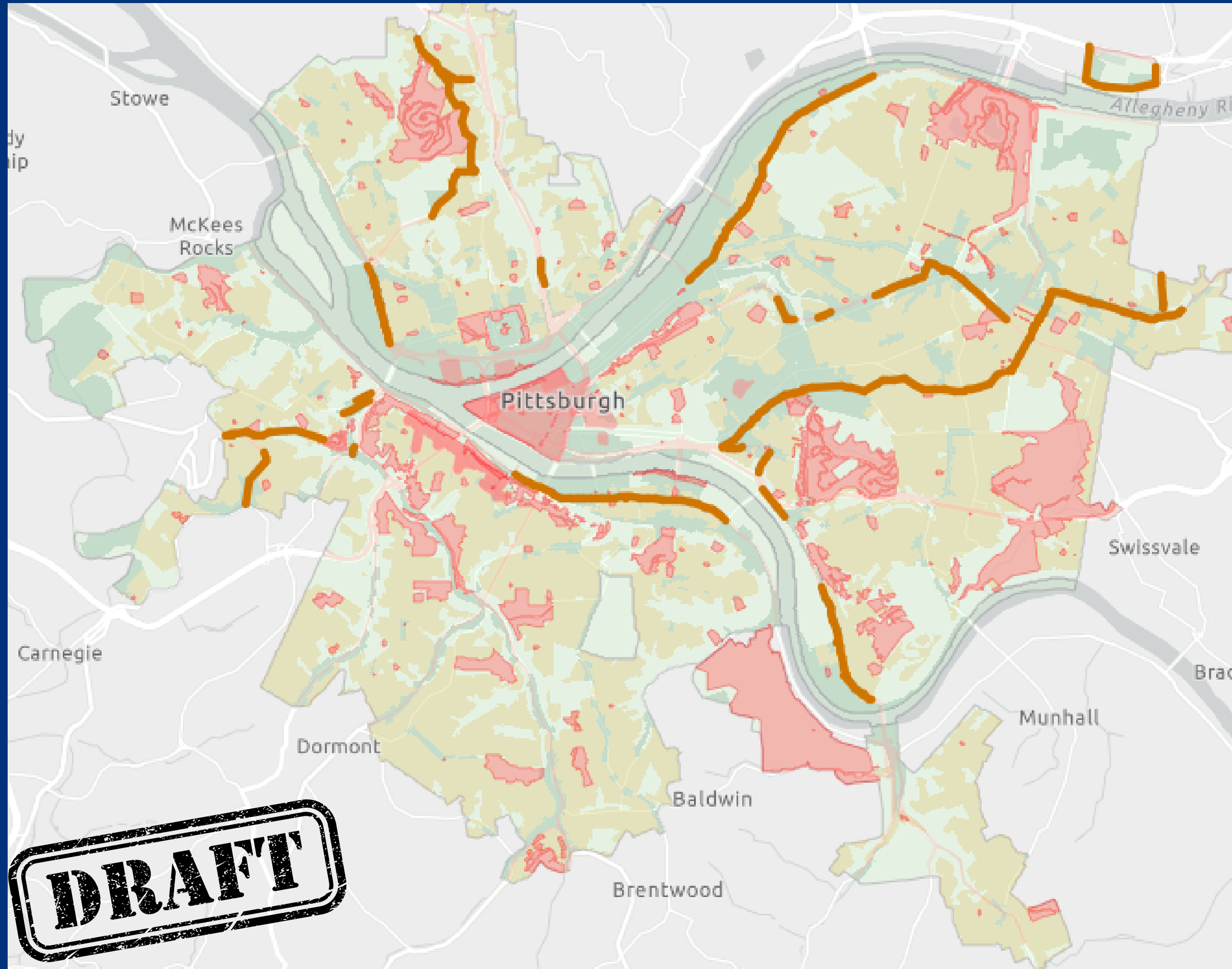
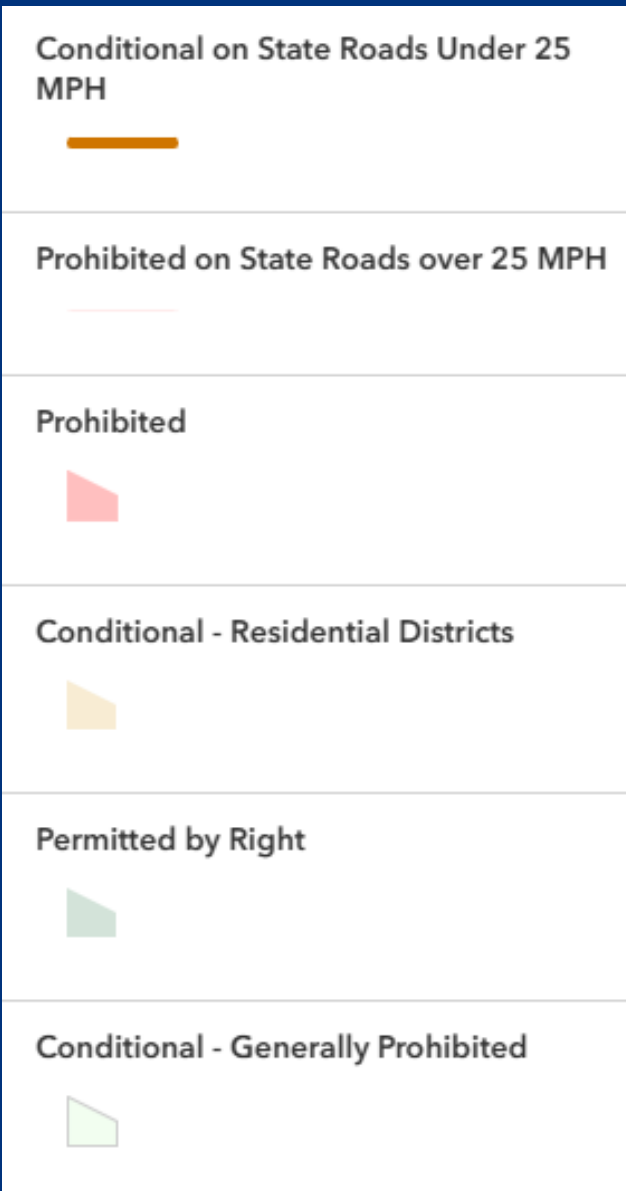


Permitted by Right

Conditional - Residential Districts

Conditional - Generally Prohibited


Vending Map: Street & Sidewalk



***This map does not show where City roads have speed limits over 25mph
Be sure to check before vending!***

Vending Downtown and in Parks

- Choose from approved locations
- Propose a new location
- Group Vending Sites



Commissions and Boards

City Planning hosts various commissions, boards, and panels for reviewing development, design, public art, historic review, and zoning proposals.

 pittsburghpa.gov

**Public Art and Civic
Design Commission**

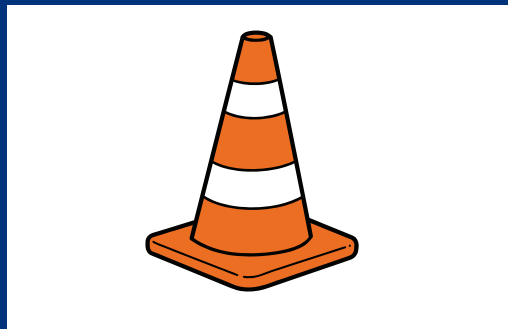
Operating Rules

Some Rules to Keep in Mind

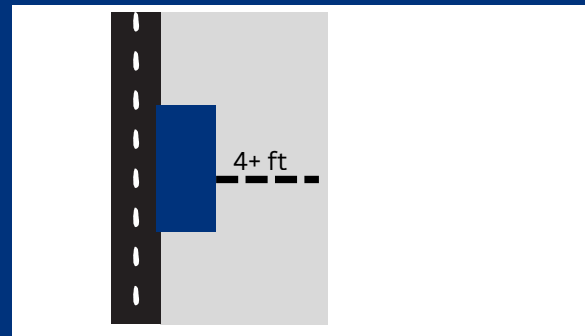
Be sure to read the full Rules & Regulations!

Vendors on both public and private property must ensure that customers do not queue, order, wait, or sit in the street or any vehicle path.

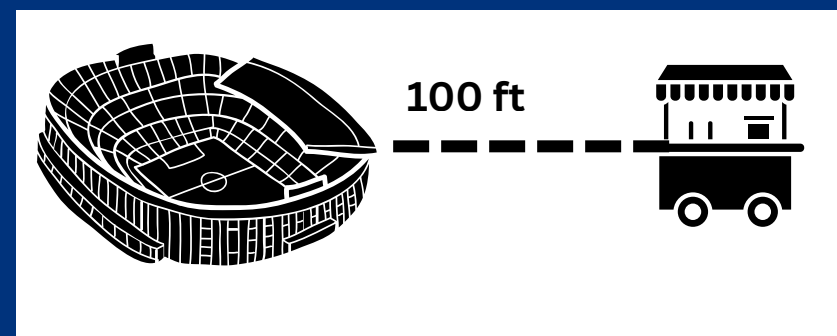
No service facing the street



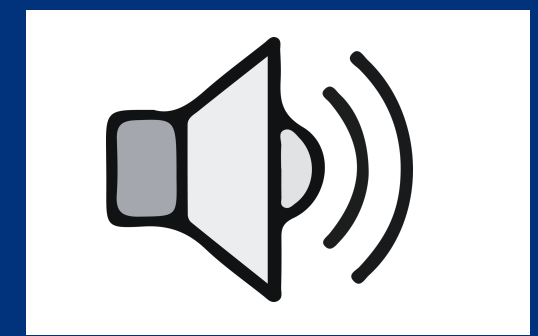
Clear Path & Containment



Stadiums & Convention Center



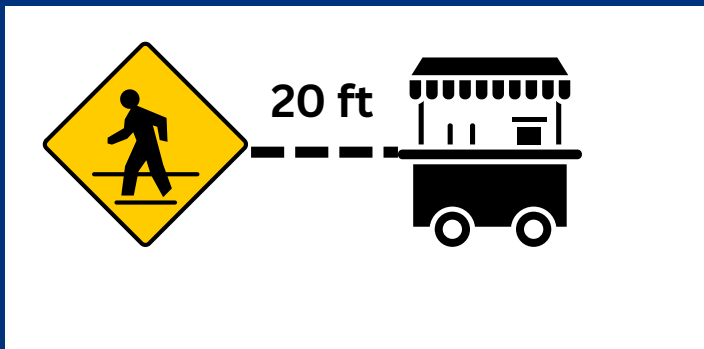
Sound



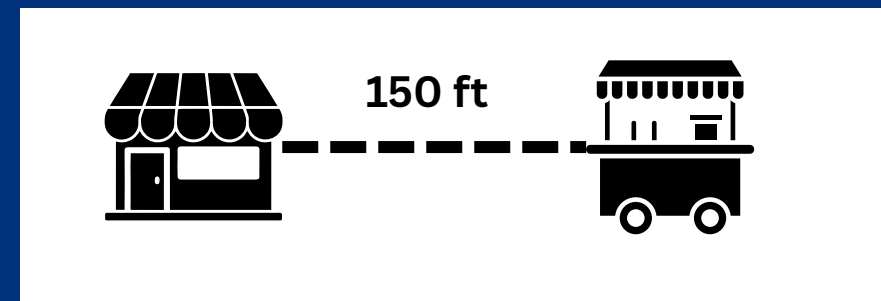
Speed Limits



Intsersecions and Croswalks



Competition



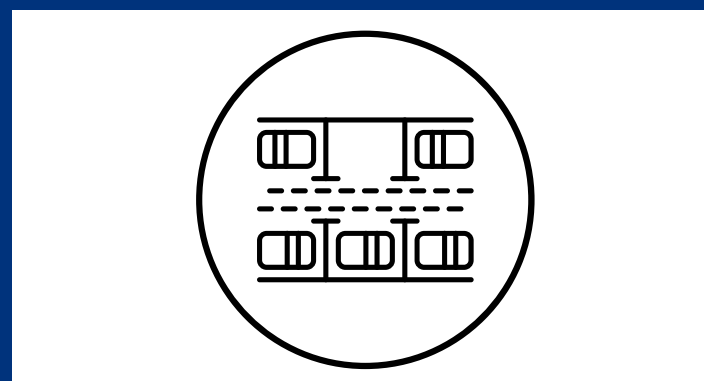
Garbage



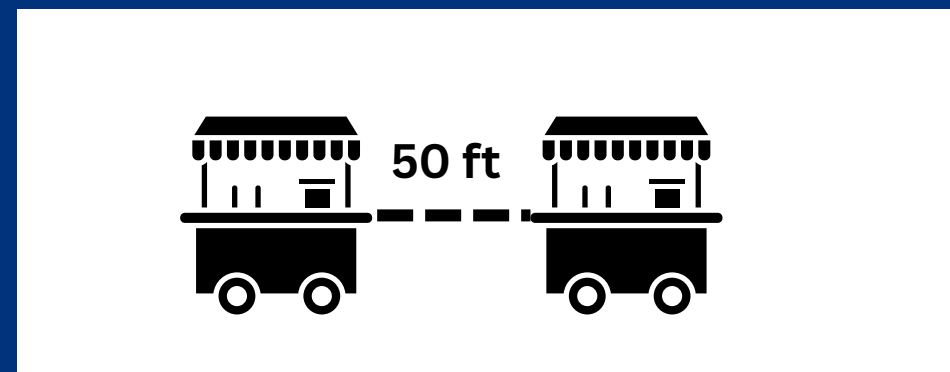
Tripping Hazards and other Obstructions



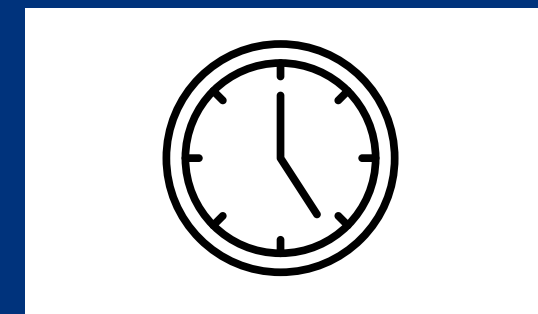
Parallel Parking only



General Spacing



Operating Hours





Location-Specific Permits

Stationary Vendor Permit - reserves a particular location for you. Required to use locations in parks.

Group Vending Site - allows the use of the street or sidewalk where the 50-foot spacing rule is waived

Record of Zoning Approval - Required in some cases on private property

Next Steps

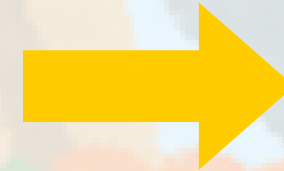
How will existing licenses and permits transition to the new program?

Stationary Vending Licenses



Vending License + Stationary
Vending Permit

Mobile Vending License



Vending License

Peddler License



Vending License

Stationary Vending Licenses Downtown and in Parks will carry over.

Where do I get licenses and permits?



OneStopPGH

OneStopPGH is the central hub for Pittsburgh residents to apply, pay for, and receive business licenses, permits, and track violation notices. Create an account online for easy...

 pittsburghpa.gov

Welcome to OneStopPGH

OneStopPGH Customer Portal Login

 Email address

 Password

[Forgot password?](#)

SIGN IN



Register for a OneStopPGH Account

Click here to register for a OneStopPGH account. An account allows you to manage your businesses and licenses, submit and track permit and land use applications, and request inspections and view results.

REGISTER



More Information

Contact Us

Click here for more information about OneStopPGH including contact information & instructional videos.

[More Information](#)



Search Online OneStopPGH

Click here to search Online OneStopPGH for Building Permits, Planning Applications, and Business Licenses.

SEARCH ONESTOPPGH



Who can help me with this process?

OneStopPGH - Permitting Specifics

In person customer service at 412
Boulevard of the Allies 9am-3pm, Monday-
Friday

Remote customer service 9am-3pm,
Monday-Friday:

- Live Text Chat in the OneStopPGH portal
- Phone at 412-255-2175
- Email at pliapptech@pittsburghpa.gov

<https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/Business-Development/Permits-Licenses-and-Inspections/OneStopPGH>

Ashley Bryant - General Information and Support

Permits, Licenses, & Inspections
Neighborhood Engagement
Coordinator

vending@pittsburghpa.gov

412-738-9316

Full Rules & Regulations, guidance documents, and the vending map will be available at <https://www.pittsburghpa.gov/Business-Development/Permits-Licenses-and-Inspections/Licenses> once finalized!

Stay in Touch!

- **Monday, March 2 - Webinar with Food21**
 - Register by emailing rick@food21.org
- **Thursday, March 12- New Rules go into effect**
- **Monday, May 18 - Vendor Permit Day**
 - 412 Boulevard of the Allies, drop in between 10am and 2pm

Learn more about the process, find the full rules, and follow for updates at <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/vending-program>

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and X
@PlanPGH

Q & A