



# **Health, Business and Tax Regulations, Public Health Codes - Compact Mobile Food Operation Definitions and Fees File # 250967**

**BOS Budget & Finance Committee**

**Philips Ossai - Senior Environmental Health Inspector**

**February 4, 2026**

**SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

# Compact Mobile Food Operations Background



- California Senate Bill SB 972 – Enhancing Safety of Sidewalk Food Vending
  - Modified California Retail Food Code
  - **Approved by Governor Newsom on Sept 23, 2022 and into effect Jan 1, 2023**
- **What is a Compact Mobile Food Operation (CMFO)?**
  - Mobile Food Facility
  - Operates from an individual or from a pushcart, stand, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other nonmotorized conveyance.



# Compact Mobile Food Operations Overview



- SF BOS File #250967 - Health, Business and Tax Regulations, Public Health Codes - Compact Mobile Food Operation Definitions and Fees
  - Amends Article 8 of the Health Code which defines various types of food preparation and service establishments
  - **Ordinance Brings San Francisco's local codes into alignment with state-level changes.**
  - The ordinance is designed to support public health, economic opportunity, and regulatory clarity for vendors and enforcement agencies alike



# CMFO Defined - SF Health Code, Article 8



- **“CMFO – Low Risk”** means a Compact Mobile Food Operation that is approved for the sale of more than 25 square feet of prepackaged non-potentially hazardous food and/or whole uncut produce.
- **“CMFO – Moderate Risk”** means a Compact Mobile Food Operation that is approved for sale of prepackaged potentially hazardous foods and/or Limited food preparation that does not include preparing raw meat, raw poultry or raw fish.
- **“CMFO – High Risk”** means a Compact Mobile Food Operation that is approved for limited food preparation including the preparation of raw meat, raw poultry or raw fish and meets the requirements for mobile food facilities as defined in Division 104, Part 7, Chapter 10 of the California Health and Safety Code.

# Other Ordinance Amendments



- Other definition updates in alignment with State Code amendments
  - Mobile Support Unit
  - Permitted Auxiliary Conveyance - required handwashing and/or warewashing sinks when operating a CMFO at a site-specific location.
- **Enforcement**
  - Clarifies the joint authority to enforce CMFOs by DPH and DPW, in partnership.



# Permitting



- CMFO requires permits from DPH, DPW and SF Fire (if applicable)

Application



Structural  
Inspection



Permit Issued

A sample "PERMIT TO OPERATE AND CERTIFICATE OF SANITARY INSPECTION" form. The form is issued by the Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Branch, City and County of San Francisco. It authorizes the conduct of a "FOOD PREPARATION AND SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT" (Type of Operation: Compact Mobile Food Facility 1). The form includes fields for Owner, DBA, and Street Address (32 20TH St, San Francisco, CA 94132). It also includes a signature line for the Director of Environmental Health and a date field (ISSUED: 6/15/2022).



# Fees



Created New Fee Category	Permit Fee
Compact Mobile Food Operation – Low Risk	\$188
Compact Mobile Food Operation – Moderate Risk	\$377
Compact Mobile Food Operation – High Risk	\$502
Auxiliary Conveyance	\$188
Mobile Support Unit	\$502



# Conclusion

Thank you!