
Proposed Consideration for CZB Bylaws 4.14

From Reana Hope [REDACTED]
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To legislativeservices <legislativeservices@cprd.bc.ca>; Zoning <zoning@cprd.bc.ca>
Cc [REDACTED]

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Dear CVRD Board and Staff,

I am writing to express my serious concern regarding the conditions proposed for food trucks in Section 4.14 of the new bylaws.

As a resident and small business owner in the CVRD, I operate Drifters Creamery in Cobble Hill Village. Like many others, I waited patiently for the release of these new bylaws following the public engagement process, during which 98% of the community expressed support for food trucks. I was pleased to see the high volume and overwhelmingly positive comments submitted by residents.

While I understand that food trucks and trailers are intended to be mobile, the requirement that a truck must be moved off the premises every day was not discussed at the previous meeting. This condition creates significant operational challenges for certain vendors. For example, transporting a truck equipped with liquid soft serve mix in an active machine is comparable to driving with a bathtub full of water without spilling a drop. This makes daily relocation impractical and, in some cases, unfeasible.

Would it not be feasible to allow a seasonal mobile food vendor to remain parked on an approved parcel for the duration of a valid seasonal operating permit (maximum seven consecutive months per year), provided the unit is fully removed from the site outside the permitted season and complies with all other regulations? Our four years of responsible operation demonstrate that long-term seasonal parking —combined with complete removal of the truck during the winter months—creates no ongoing nuisance while meaningfully supporting the local economy and community.

I recognize that staff's primary concerns, such as limiting hours of operation and restricting food trucks from operating near existing restaurants, are intended to protect brick-and-mortar businesses. This is a valid and important consideration. However, I would encourage the Board to consider a more balanced approach, similar to the one successfully implemented by the City of Duncan. Under that model, a food truck wishing to operate in a specific location must obtain written permission from any restaurants located within 50 metres (or another appropriate distance determined by staff).

Feedback from local business owners indicates that many support the presence of food trucks, as they often increase overall foot traffic and benefit surrounding businesses.

Finally, I ask that the community — and particularly its younger members — remain at the forefront of this discussion. Drifters Creamery has become a beloved destination where children ride their bikes, pool their change, and enjoy an ice cream cone. These simple experiences create lasting memories and serve as gathering places for families to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other milestones. At a

time when community connection is more important than ever, many other communities on Vancouver Island have embraced food trucks, including dedicated food truck hubs that further strengthen local vibrancy.

I respectfully urge you to reconsider the more restrictive conditions in Section 4.14 and to keep the needs of the community, including its children, as a top priority.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Reana Borthwick Owner, Drifters Creamery Cobble Hill Village