

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 125, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.14.17 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, ENTITLED “MOBILE FOOD VENDORS,” TO UPDATE REGULATIONS GOVERNING MOBILE FOOD VENDOR OPERATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, PUBLICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of League City, Texas is a home rule municipality authorized to regulate land use, zoning, traffic circulation, fire lanes, public safety, and the use of property within the City, except where limited by state or federal law; and

WHEREAS, the 89th Texas Legislature adopted House Bill 2844, which added Chapter 437B to the Texas Health and Safety Code and established a statewide licensing framework for mobile food vendors; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 437B preempts conflicting local regulation but preserves non-conflicting local laws, including fire codes, location restrictions, and zoning codes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this Ordinance removes City-issued mobile food vendor permit requirements while preserving the City’s lawful authority to regulate zoning, land use, parking, fire lanes, traffic safety, noise, alcohol compliance, event duration, and property-owner consent; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and recommended approval of the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing and finds that adoption of this Ordinance is in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the City and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS, as follows:

Section 1. The facts and matters set forth in the recitals above are found to be true and correct and are incorporated into this Ordinance for all purposes.

Section 2. Chapter 125, Article 3, Section 3.14.17 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, Texas, entitled “Mobile Food Vendors,” is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.14.17 Mobile Food Vendors

(a) Authorized Locations and Circumstances. Mobile food vendor operations are authorized only in the following locations and circumstances, subject to compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws:

- (1) within a Food Truck Park, as permitted by Section 3.13; or
- (2) as part of a Food Truck Special Event conducted in accordance with this section.

(b) Food Truck Special Events. A Food Truck Special Event is a temporary use of property that allows one or more mobile food vendors to operate and that meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) Owner Permission. A mobile food vendor operating on private property shall have the consent of the property owner or lawful occupant and shall maintain documentation of such consent at the site during operations and make the documentation available upon request by the City.
- (2) Noise. Mobile food vendors at a special event must comply with Chapter 42, Article II, Noise.
- (3) Alcohol Sales. Subject to a valid TABC license, mobile food vendors at a special event may serve alcohol.
- (4) Duration of a Special Event. Unless approved by the City Manager, a mobile food vendor cannot operate at a special event for more than three (3) consecutive days.
- (5) Parking. Mobile food vendors shall not occupy or eliminate off-street parking spaces required to meet the minimum parking requirements for the principal use on the property, except that they may utilize required parking spaces at community facilities or parks for neighborhood (HOA) special events.
- (6) Fire Lanes. Mobile food vendors shall not obstruct fire lanes or circulation or otherwise create traffic hazards or unsafe conditions.
- (7) Primary Use. The event is incidental and secondary to the principal use of the property.
- (8) Reoccurrence. The event is not intended to establish a recurring or permanent location for mobile food vendor operations.

Section 3. Savings. All rights and remedies which have accrued in favor of the City under this Ordinance and amendments thereto shall be and are preserved for the benefit of the City.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 5. Repealer. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed but only to the extent of such conflict.

Section 6. Codification. It is the intent of the City Council of the City of League City, Texas, that the provisions of this Ordinance shall be codified in the City's official Code of Ordinances as provided hereinabove.

Section 7. Publication and Effective Date. The City Secretary shall cause this Ordinance, or its caption, to be published in the official newspaper of the City of League City, upon passage of such Ordinance. This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage.

PASSED first reading the ____ day of _____, 2026.

PASSED AND ADOPTED the ____ day of _____, 2026.

NICK LONG
Mayor

ATTEST:

DIANA M. STAPP
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MICHELLE L. VILLARREAL
City Attorney (mv)