

ORIGINAL

ORDINANCE NO.: 2025-062

*Granting a Franchise to Michael J. Coombes, Jr. d/b/a Lissa's Dawgs
for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart at 1333 Main Street*

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, this 16th day of September, 2025, that pursuant to Sec. 11-256, 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, that Michael J. Coombes, Jr. d/b/a Lissa's Dawgs is granted a franchise for the operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart at 1333 Main Street for a period of one (1) year from the date of enactment hereof.


Requested by:

Assistant City Manager Palen




Mayor

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Introduced: 08/19/2025

Final Reading: 09/16/2025



Business Licensing Division, Finance Department
1136 Washington Street, First Floor, Columbia, SC 29201 | Phone 803-545-3345

MEMO

Date: July 22nd, 2025

To: Columbia City Council

CC: Kristine Githara, Finance Director; Jeff Palen, ACM

RE: Business Licensing – Sidewalk Vendor Franchise Agreement Process

The City of Columbia, Business Licensing Division has received an application for a Sidewalk Vendor permit/franchise agreement. A sidewalk vendor is “Any person engaged in the selling, or offering for sale, of food, beverages, or merchandise on the public streets or sidewalks, from a cart” (Ord. No. 2002-066,8-21-02, Sec. 11-252). Carts must be portable and non-motorized. Additionally, there are designated vending zones that the applicant selects one to request operations in.

Step 1 - Sidewalk Vendor and Business License Application is received, reviewed, and submitted for Council review.

Step 2 – (a) The franchise required by [section 11-254](#) shall be issued by ordinance in accordance with [section 2-81](#). Any franchise issued pursuant to this division shall be subject to modification by ordinance at any time deemed necessary by the council for protection of public interests. Any franchise shall be granted as a privilege and not as a matter of right. Vending at any location may be temporarily suspended or relocated by the city manager upon reasonable notice when private or public construction or activities of the city make it unsafe or impractical to allow vending.

(b) In determining the acceptability of an application, the council may consider any factors presented in the application, at a public hearing, or in any staff report or investigation of matters related to the past record and ability of the applicant to perform conditions of this division and the franchise agreement in a manner which serves the public interests.



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(c) Not later than 30 days after the filing of a completed application for a vendor's franchise, the applicant shall be notified by the city manager of the date of a public hearing before a decision on the issuance or denial of the franchise.

(d) It will be presumed that the owner of a food service business selling the same merchandise approved for a location within 50 feet of the principal public entrance to the food services business area can best serve the public convenience and interests. If two or more equally acceptable applications for the same location are received, the earliest application, if approved, shall be awarded the franchise. If the franchise is denied pursuant to [section 11-262](#), the applicant shall be provided with a statement of the reasons therefor entered in writing on the application.

Step 3 – If approved, customer is invoiced for Business License fee and franchise fee of \$300.00. Note: A Franchise agreement is granted for not more than one year unless, revoked or suspended prior to expiration. An application to renew shall be made not later than 60 days before expiration of the current franchise.

A denial for the following reasons: Any franchise granted under this division may be denied, suspended or revoked by the council for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Fraud or misrepresentation contained in the application for a franchise.
- (2) Fraud or misrepresentation made in the course of carrying on the business of vending.
- (3) Conduct of the franchised business in such manner as to create a public nuisance or constitute a danger to the public health, safety, welfare or morals.
- (4) Conduct which is contrary to the provisions of this division or the franchise.
- (5) Failure to use the franchise fully in accordance with its terms within 90 days after notice of the grant of franchise, or within 15 days after notice of non-use, during the term of the franchise.



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(6) Failure to qualify for a business license or determination that any condition in [section 11-44](#) or [11-45](#) exists.

(7) A determination that the applicant is not able or qualified, by reason of background, medical limitations, financial condition or conditions related to the vending business, to render acceptable service to the public pursuant to this division.

(8) A determination that a more qualified applicant for the same location will accept a franchise.

(9) A determination that no franchise should be granted to any applicant and that a location should be removed from the vending district approved list.

Details on this Franchise:

Mr. Michael J. Coombes is requesting to vend at the designated zone location 4, Mid-block pad near 1333 Main (attached)

The business would like to sell items in List A, however, this location can vend List C (attached)

All items for this application have been included for Council review.



1300 Block of Main Street

Columbia, SC

0 50 100 Feet



Washington St

Potential Vendor Location

Main St

Lady St

City of Columbia GIS Data Disclaimer

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This map was prepared by:
City of Columbia - GIS Division

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<https://gis.columbiasc.gov>

Wednesday, July 23, 2025



SIDEWALK VENDING

BUSINESS LICENSE DIVISION

Below is a list of the permitted locations for sidewalk vending (in accordance with Resolution R-2012-058) and the names of the businesses approved for those locations, if any.

| <u>Location No.</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Merchandise</u> | <u>Business Name</u> |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Mid block pad near 1701 Main | List A and C | Available |
| 2 | Mid block pad near 1423 Main | List A, B and C | Available |
| 3 | SE corner of Assembly & Hampton | List A, B and C | Available |
| 4 | Mid block pad near 1333 Main | List A and C | Available |
| 5 | Mid block, end of College, east side of Sumter (USC Horsehoe) | List A and C | Available |
| 6 | NW corner Main & Washington | List A, B and C | Available |
| 7 | NE corner Main & Lady | List A, B and C | Available |
| 8 | SW corner Assembly & Laurel | List C | Available |
| 9 | N corner Lincoln Street @ Finley Park | List A and C | Available |
| 10 | NW corner Sumter & Greene | List A and B | Available |
| 11 | Mid block pad N/S 1100 Gervais | List A and C | Available |

*Additional locations may be requested, but will require City Council approval.

**CITY OF COLUMBIA STREET VENDOR FRANCHISE
PERMITTED MERCHANDISE**

- LIST A Hot dogs, sausages, hamburgers, tacos, burritos, baked potatoes, prepackaged sandwiches, *and anything in a layered arrangement like a sandwich (i.e., Gyros, wraps, etc.)*, chips, hot and cold (non-alcoholic) beverages, peanuts, salads, vegetables, other packaged meals, and other related items specifically approved for this location which meet the provisions of the franchise ordinance.
- LIST B Bagels, chips, biscuits, popcorn, nuts, pretzels, hot and cold (non-alcoholic) beverages and other related items specifically approved for this location which meet the provisions of the franchise ordinance.
- LIST C Pastries, candy, ice products, ice cream, milk products, frozen yogurt, hot and cold (non-alcoholic) beverages and other related items specifically approved for this location which meet the provisions of the franchise ordinance.
- LIST D Flowers and other related items specifically approved for this location which meet the provisions of the franchise ordinance.