



March 15, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

The Downtown Association of San Marcos applauds this Work Session regarding the new Environmental Health Code Amendments.

The DTA recommends and requests your agreement with the following:

- 1) A maximum of 12 events per year,
- 2) A Food Handler certificate holder required for each business participating in the event,
- 3) Ready to eat foods only with no preparation onsite. A non-exhaustive listing of example acceptable foods would be so welcome!
- 4) Any food served must be from a fixed food establishment or mobile food unit with a valid city permit. No homemade food items.
- 5) Single service articles only and they must be disposable including plates, utensils, cups, platters.
- 6) All food must be discarded at the end of a 4-hour period.
- 7) Participants must have a hand wash station.

The DTA requests that the permit be issued on an annual basis for a \$50 fee. Once the permit is issued, the business would not have to resubmit any paperwork for the year. The permit holder would email the Environmental Health Dept no less than one (1) business day before the event to self-report their event. This reduction in paperwork would be beneficial for both the business owner and the city department.

Many of our downtown businesses rely on the vibrancy of an active, pedestrian environment. Special event programming with light refreshment is often a meaningful catalyst for creating that atmosphere.

To maintain and build on the vitality of our downtown, our downtown businesses must have support from the top. A business cannot survive without vitality and it must come from the top.

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We are thankful for your attention in this matter that is so important to many of our members.

Please consider the above permit conditions and fee for the downtown businesses.

Sincerely,

Jean Baggett

Jean Baggett, President

Downtown Association of San Marcos