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Proposed Food Truck Regulations Find Little Public Support *Nearly 95% of Comments Submitted Reject Mayor Gray's Proposal*

WASHINGTON, DC – Mayor Vincent Gray's proposed new food truck regulations received weak support in letters submitted during the public comment period that ended last week.

"The people have spoken. Nearly 95 percent of the comments submitted reject these job-killing regulations," said Doug Povich, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Food Truck Association and Co-owner of Red Hook Lobster Pound-DC.

If adopted by City Council, the proposed regulations will assign trucks to a limited number of spaces in popular locations by lottery (which will leave many trucks without a spot for a month at a time), ban food trucks that are not lucky enough to win the lottery from operating within 500 feet of lottery-assigned spaces and prohibit food trucks from serving customers Downtown on streets with less than 10 feet of unobstructed sidewalk space.

Of the 225 comments submitted, just 13 – 5.78 percent -- supported Mayor Gray's proposal. A total of 212 comments – 94.22 percent – opposed it.

The weak support for the current proposed regulations stands in sharp contrast to the more than 2,500 comments submitted in favor of a previous food truck proposal issued in January 2012 that would have allowed food trucks to continue to serve all of their customers in the Central Business District and throughout the city. According to one commenter, those earlier regulations would have given DC one of the "best regulatory frameworks for food trucks in the country."

"The vast majority of the public does not sound happy with the rules that could limit food trucks in the Central Business District," the [Washington Post](#) reported this week along with excerpts from District residents and workers' letters.

In case you missed it, here is the latest news about Mayor Gray's proposed food truck regulations:

- [City Paper: Why Didn't the Restaurant Assoc. Submit Comments on Food Truck Regs?](#)

The restaurant association submitted lengthy public comments to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs in the past three rounds of rulemaking. But the group's comment was notably missing this time around.

- **[GWU: Proposed regulations could kick several food trucks off H Street](#)**
The latest proposal in a string of possible D.C. food truck regulations threatens to cut down on the number of vendors that dot the Foggy Bottom Campus.
- **[The Hilltop: New Regulations May End Some Food Truck Businesses](#)**
The hype over food trucks may prove to be short-lived if new proposed regulations pass, which may force many food truck owners to go out of business.
- **[Ian Lang: If You Want to Outsell Food Trucks, Make Better Food](#)**
If you want people to choose your food over a competitor's, start making better food than them.
- **[Washington Post: Public is hungry for better vending regulations for food trucks](#)**
The vast majority of the public does not sound happy with the rules that could limit food trucks in the Central Business District.
- **[Washington Post Opinion: Could Arlington steal D.C.'s food trucks?](#)**
In recent debates over tax policy, local legislators have admitted that when it comes to everything from capital gains taxes to ease of setting up a business, D.C. lags behind its southern neighbor. Well, those advantages may now encourage the city's food trucks to head straight across the Potomac.

The Food Truck Association is a group of more than 60 local food truck owner-operators. We seek to sustain the wellbeing of our industry, foster a sense of community and work in partnership to improve food truck regulations. We are engaged community members who deeply care about our city and believe in working together to make a positive impact. The Food Truck Association's signature event is the Curbside Cookoff food truck festival series. For more information visit www.DCFoodTrucks.org.

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