Mobile Food Trading

GUIDELINES 2026

CITY OF PERTH
City of Light

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Perth acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land we are situated on, the Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar nation and Aboriginal people from other lands. We celebrate the continuing traditions, living culture, and spiritual connections to Boorloo (Perth) and the Debarl Yerrigan (Swan River). We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

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The City of Perth encourages mobile food vendors to contribute to our food scene where the community can enjoy the economic, social and cultural benefits of mobile food trading. The City aims to ensure that the Mobile Food Trading Program runs alongside of an complements the hospitality across the city.

Introduction

The City of Perth recognises the contribution mobile food vendors make to the vibrancy of a city and its communities, and this is reflected in the Mobile Food Trading Policy (CP 4.4, August 2024).

The City encourages the use of parks and reserves for outdoor mobile food vehicles as a means of enhancing community activity that flows from this activation of our public spaces, while ensuring nearby businesses are not adversely impacted.

These guidelines have been developed as a framework within which the City of Perth and the community, can enjoy the economic, social and cultural benefits of mobile food trading.

Objectives

Perth is the home of wonderful weather (we have more sunny days than any other Australian city), and the City of Perth is home to beautiful parks, reserves and event spaces. These spaces are being utilised more and more within the community and we recognise that there is an opportunity to enhance user experience whilst also supporting local business. The Mobile Food Trading program aims to:

- Increase the use of the City's parks and reserves by making them available to food trucks providing interesting food experiences to the local community.
- Invite different audiences into public spaces by providing food trucks the opportunity to complement the offerings of existing bricks and mortar businesses.
- Facilitate and support great opportunities throughout the year for community interaction and enjoyment.

Definitions

Mobile food vendors are considered retail food businesses as they sell food to the public and need to comply with a range of requirements.

Mobile Food Vendor – a mobile food business trading from a self-contained vehicle that is registered under the *Food Act 2008*.

Food Stall* – a temporary business trading from a temporary set-up or installation that is registered under the *Food Act 2008*. i.e. tables and equipment installed under a marquee/tent.

Temporary Food Vendor* – a food business operating from a food stall or self-contained vehicle at an event in the City of Perth boundary.

Itinerant Food Vendor* – a mobile food vendor that moves to different locations, without prearrangement or contract, touting for business. e.g. an ice-cream van that drives around stopping intermittently.

*Vendor/s not covered by Mobile Food Trading Guidelines.

General Trading

If you would like to operate a food truck/trailer as part of the Mobile Food Trading Program, you will need to:

1. Operate self-sufficiently from a food truck or trailer (stalls are not permitted).
2. Hold a current **Certificate of Food Business Registration** from the local government where the business is located.
3. Hold a current **Temporary Food Vendor Permit** issued by the City of Perth.

   Further advice on submitting applications for Health approval within the City of Perth can be obtained from the Community Health Team at **environmental.health@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**.
4. Hold a **Public Trading Permit** issued by the City of Perth.

   Further advice on the City of Perth's Mobile Food Trading Program, or on submitting a Public Trading Permit application can be obtained from the Activity Approvals Team at **activity.approvals@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**.

Trading on City of Perth Land

Mobile Food Trading Program permit holders can trade from pre-approved locations owned and administered by the City of Perth. These locations have been carefully selected to ensure they are at least 100 metres away from any existing food and beverage business or public event.

The Program operates as a self-managed initiative, allowing permit holders to trade on a first-come, first-served basis during designated trading hours at the approved locations only. Trading times and location specific maps can be found in the Locations section on pages 12–14 of this guideline document.

Trading on Private Land

Mobile food vendors wishing to trade on privately-owned land does not fall under the Mobile Food Trading Program. They must:

1. Obtain permission from the landowner,
2. Depending on location, may need to obtain Development Approval from the City,
3. Hold a current **Certificate of Food Business Registration** from the local government where the business is located.
4. Hold a current **Temporary Food Vendor Permit** issued by the City of Perth.

To discuss if Development Approval is required, please enquire with the Development Approvals team at **planning@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**.

Trading at Events and Festivals

Trading at Events within the city, is not covered by the Mobile Food Trading Program. They Must:

1. Arrange trading / stall with individual event organisers.
2. Hold a current **Certificate of Food Business Registration** from the local government where the business is located.
3. Hold a current **Temporary Food Vendor Permit** issued by the City of Perth.

To register interest in trading at a City of Perth run event email **perth.events@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**.

No-Go Zones

Those trading under the Mobile Food Trading Program must not:

1. Trade in locations outside of the Pre-Approved Trading Locations
2. Trade at or near Events, without the Event Organisers permission
3. Trade within 100m of an existing food and beverage business.

Waste Reduction

Mobile food vendors are to use fully compostable serving ware (certified as compostable according to Australian Standards AS 4736-2006), including all plates, bowls, food containers, cups straws and cutlery.

Avoiding waste requires us to change the practices which create unnecessary waste. Single use plastics should be avoided as per the WA State Government's Plan for Plastics. Reusable items (that

can be washed and used again) should be used where possible, or suitable compostable alternatives.

The table below outlines some of the ways in which vendors can avoid or minimise waste.

Food Trader Waste Reduction Guide

Avoid	Alternatives
Non-recyclable plastics	• Re-useable items. • Compostable items. • Recyclable plastics.
Coffee cup lids	• Provide only on request.
Individual sugar, salt and pepper, sauce sachets	• Provide bulk shakers or bulk dispensers.
All polystyrene including clam shells, plates, bowls and cups	• Reusable items, provide wash stations. • Provide a serviette on request. • Paper or sugarcane plates, palm leaf plates, paper noodle boxes, cardboard food trays, corn-starch containers, cardboard clams, paper cups, paper bags.
Aluminium food containers / bags	• Cardboard trays or paper bags.
Plastic cutlery	• Reusable cutlery. • Wooden or corn-starch cutlery.
Pre-wrapped straws	• Keep in covered dispenser. • Provide only on request or not at all.
Stirrers or spoons for hot drinks	• Provide only on request. • Provide washable spoons for use at stall.
Plastic bags	• Ask customers to bring own bag or sell/provide paper/reusable/corn-starch bags.
Cling Wrap	• Cellophane Wrap (made from cellulose). • Reusable beeswax wraps.

The City of Perth does not permit any commercial waste or waste generated by vendors to be disposed of in public rubbish or recycling bins. Suitable waste disposal receptacles are to be provided by the vendor, near the vehicle for the public to use.

The City of Perth continually strives to provide the most efficient, effective, and contemporary waste services to align with the State Waste Strategy 2030, 'to protect the environment by managing waste responsibly'. To ensure this, the City can provide ongoing support and education to all vendors, so that together we can make a difference.

Sustainability

A sustainable city is one of the aspirations held by the City of Perth, and sustainable practices are becoming commonplace as public expectations increase for lower carbon emissions and less environmental impact. As such, the City requires applicants for the Mobile Food Trading Program to address their sustainability practices using the table below as a guide.

Area	Possible considerations to address
Waste	• Use reusable or compostable serving ware, utensils, and packaging (see Waste Reduction tips). • Donate excess edible food to local food banks or shelters. • Dispose of used cooking oil responsibly (off-site). • Manage waste and responsible disposal off-site i.e. suitable receptables for recycling, compost, containers for change and general waste • Encourage customers to bring their own keep cups by charging less for drinks.
Products	• Use recycled and sustainably sourced paper products. • Use environmentally friendly and non-toxic cleaning products and supplies. • Low impact food and beverages by selecting suppliers that source locally and that offer sustainable products. • Buy environmental and socially responsible products and services.
Energy	• Minimise energy consumption and use energy efficient lighting, equipment and vehicles. • Use renewable energy such as solar where possible. • Minimise or avoid the use of fossil fuels where possible i.e. gas cooking / heating, diesel generators and fuel. • Regularly maintain equipment to ensure optimal energy performance i.e. fridge seals.
Water	• Minimise water consumption and use water efficient fixtures and equipment. • Use environmentally friendly cleaning products. • Provide free drink water for patrons. • Manage wastewater and responsibly dispose off-site.
Education and Awareness (optional)	• Foster and promote a culture of environmental responsibility.

The City has a responsibility to consider the impact any activity may have on the environment when approving vendors for the program, including the City's natural environment and existing bricks and mortar businesses.

Inspections

Ad-hoc inspections may be conducted by an authorised officer across the duration of the permit to ensure compliance with environmental health and food safety guidelines. For a full list of fees and charges, visit **Licenses and permits | City of Perth** or contact our Community Health Team at **environmental.health@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**.

Permits and Fees

Mobile food vendors who would like to participate in the City of Perth's Mobile Food Trading Program must obtain a Public Trading Permit. Applicants can complete the Public Trading Permit Application forms online at **Public trading permits | City of Perth**.

Public Trading Permit fees (incl. GST) are:

- $100 application fee; and
- $1,250 annual fee (pro-rata to apply if less than 1 year, minimum of 3 months).

Annual Permit

Annual permits are issued throughout the year and are valid for 12 months until the expiry date on the permit.

Public Trading Permits can be issued for between 3 and 12 months with fees on a pro-rata basis (minimum 3 months).

Applying for a Permit

When submitting a **Public Trading Permit** application, applicants will need to provide evidence of the following:

- A current Certificate of Food Business Registration from the local government where the business is located.
- Vehicle or Trailer Registration (if the food truck vehicle is road-registered).
- Food Vendor Notification, submitted to the City.
- Certificate of Currency for at least $20 million public liability insurance.
- Image of the food truck set up for trade.

Approvals are issued on a per vehicle basis for the time requested, as per the application. These permits are not transferable between vehicles.

Permit Renewal

Public Trading Permits are not renewed. The applicant will need to submit a new Public Trading Permit application each year (or part-thereof), as detailed above.

Some health approvals are renewed automatically, you will need to discuss renewal processes with our Community Health Team at **environmental.health@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**.

Trading

Mobile Food Trading Program submissions for Public Trading Permits will be assessed and measured against the following criteria:

- Quality of operation/service/presentation.
- Variety of offering.
- Sustainable practices/operations.

Trading is subject to any conditions stipulated within the Permit.

Trading Times and Locations

Mobile Food Trading Program participants can trade at any one of the following seven (7) pre-approved locations once they have obtained their Public Trading Permit:

1. Wellington Square
2. Victoria Gardens
3. Mardalup Park
4. Russell Square
5. JH Abrahams
6. Swan River Foreshore (opposite Terrace Rd car park)
7. Mounts Bay Road (**Mounts Bay Rd Parking 2**)

Trading times and location specific maps can be found in the Locations section on pages 12–14 of this guideline document. Approved locations may either provide for individual or cluster trading as per the area maps.

Alternate Trading Locations and Times

Alternative trading locations and times are only permitted with written consent from the City. Requests for alternative locations and times can be made in writing to **Activity.Approvals@cityofperth.wa.gov.au.**

Alternative locations will be considered on a case-by-case basis, pending a written request from an interested mobile food vendor. Approval for alternate trading times or locations will be given in writing and must be available on request.

Trading Requirements

All permits will be subject to the permit holder complying with all requirements of the City's Mobile Food Trading Guideline (this guideline) and the City of Perth Public Trading Local Law 2005.

Administration

1. Mobile Food Trading Program vendors must keep a valid and current Public Trading Permit with them, issued by the City of Perth.
2. The Mobile Food Trading Program vendor must produce their permit and accompanying documents upon request by an authorised City officer.
3. Mobile Food Trading Program vendors must maintain a current *Food Act 2008* Registration while trading within the City of Perth.
4. The City reserves the right to review and amend these guidelines in accordance with public and participant feedback.
5. The City may seek feedback from vendors, stakeholders and the community from time to time.
6. The City reserves the right to revoke any permit where the vendor fails to comply with the conditions on their permit or these guidelines.

Location Restrictions

1. Mobile Food Trading Program vendor trading sites will not be permitted within 100m of an open 'bricks and mortar' food business.
2. Mobile food trading on privately owned land requires written approval from both the owner of the land, and the City of Perth.
3. The Perth Mobile Food Trading Program was developed with the objective of activating public spaces within the city. The use of delivery partners does not serve this objective and is not permitted.
4. Mobile Food Trading Program vendors must always trade on hard stand or concrete surface. Where this is not possible vendors are asked to spread the load and move slightly to each side each time they attend the site.

Furniture

1. Temporary furniture may only be used where space allows, and where it is safe to do so.
2. Use of temporary furniture must not obstruct pedestrian, cyclist or vehicle movement or access to and use of Council infrastructure such as park furniture, recreation facilities, signage, playgrounds, footpaths, and public toilets.
3. All temporary furniture is required to be removed from site at the completion of service.

Power and water

1. The Mobile Food Trading Program vendor must provide their own on-board power and water.
2. The Mobile Food Trading Program vendor must ensure any power cords are protected with appropriate workplace health and safety requirements.

Waste management

1. Mobile Food Trading Program vendors are responsible for all waste materials generated during a trading period and must keep the site and the immediate area in a clean and tidy condition while undertaking the activity.
2. Waste materials must be collected in bins or suitable receptacles, removed from the site by the vendor and disposed of lawfully at the end of a trading period. Waste materials generated by the activity must not be placed in park or street bins, or in the bins of nearby businesses or Council facilities.
3. Under no circumstances is food waste, liquid waste, water, oil or ice are to be discharged onto the ground, into a stormwater drain or a body of water.
4. The Mobile Food Trading Program vendors must clean the site immediately after last service and before leaving the site. Traders must also keep the site clean and free from rubbish during their period of trade. Council may give directions in relation to cleaning standards and requirements.

Amenity and Appearance

1. The location and operation of a Mobile Food Trading Program vendor must not obstruct normal public, maintenance or emergency access to and use of City infrastructure such as park furniture, shelters, recreation facilities, signage, playgrounds and public toilets.
2. Advertising signage is limited to one (1) standard free standing “A” frame sign.
3. Council works such as park upgrades, maintenance and mowing take precedence over trading activity.

Noise

1. Mobile Food Vendors are to be able to be self-sufficient for trade and have a generator that caters their needs.
2. Generators must not have a manufacturer specified operational volume greater than 75dB.
3. All mobile food vehicle noise (including the generator) must not cause a noise nuisance and must comply with the assigned noise levels specified under the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997.

Maintenance and Cleaning

1. The vendors vehicle and its fixtures must be kept in a clean, safe and well-maintained condition.
2. Vendors must ensure that the vehicle and food handling activities comply with the requirements of the *WA Food Act 2008* and the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.
3. Vendor vehicles must be equipped with their own source of power and water, and an appropriately sized wastewater storage tank.
4. Waste resulting from the vendor operations (oil, cardboard etc) must be removed by vendor. Use of City bins will incur a fee.
5. Empty crates and containers are not to be placed on the reserve and must be taken with the vendor when they leave.

Safety

1. Vendors need to consider and preserve public safety and accessibility for all people.
2. The amenity of an area must not be compromised by noise, tripping hazards or advertising.
3. Vendor setup must be integrated into the site in a way that does not compromise the flow of pedestrian movement or access to amenities.
4. Any fixtures relating to the mobile food trading (for example, umbrellas, signs, waste bins etc.) should be sturdy and windproof, made of quality materials and be well designed and constructed to be safe to use, without sharp edges or other features likely to cause injury.
5. Fixtures must not be placed where they present a barrier and subsequent danger to pedestrians crossing the street or kerbside usage by motorists.
6. Vehicle movement on parks and reserves must be kept under 8kmph with the use of hazard lights while travelling.

Management on Site

1. Following trade, the vendors vehicle and all related fixtures must be removed from the site.
2. The installation of permanent fixtures or alteration of public infrastructure is prohibited.
3. All items belonging to the Permit Holder are the Permit Holder’s responsibility.
4. Only permitted mobile food vendors who are trading or in the process of packing up/down, are allowed at the site.
5. All food products shall be kept secured at all times should the food unit be unattended (for example, for bathroom breaks)
6. When a City approved event is being held at a location, mobile food vendors are not permitted at the location unless as an approved food vendor at the event.
7. Vehicle movement must remain on trafficable pathways where possible. Vehicles are not permitted within the dripline of tree canopies.

Location Guide

Mobile Food Trading Program permit holders can trade across six (6) pre-approved trading locations and are to trade in the locations as indicated in the specific area maps below.

Event Permits and Wedding Licences take priority over Public Trading Permits in the City's Parks & Gardens.

Alternative trading hours and locations are only permitted with written consent from the City. Requests for alternative times can be made in writing to **Activity.Approvals@cityofperth.wa.gov.au**

Wellington Square – East Perth

Wellington Square is a hub for residents, visitors and families. Featuring a multi-generational playground, barbecues and a basketball court, this reserve is especially popular during long weekends and school holidays!

Features

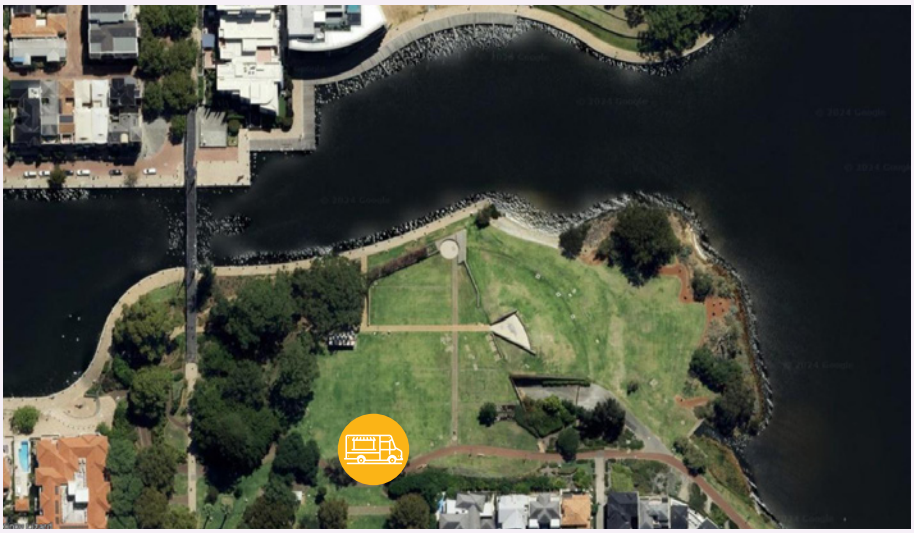
- Playground
- Toilets nearby
- Picnic tables
- Undercover areas
- BBQ facilities
- Basketball court

Permitted trading times

Everyday 7am – 7pm
Limited to 3 vendors operating at any one time.

Victoria Gardens – East Perth

Victoria Gardens is one of Perth's first gardens, planted in early 1800s. Elevated riverside position with views of Optus Stadium make Victoria Gardens a popular event location.



Features

- Toilets nearby
- Picnic tables
- Undercover areas
- BBQ facilities

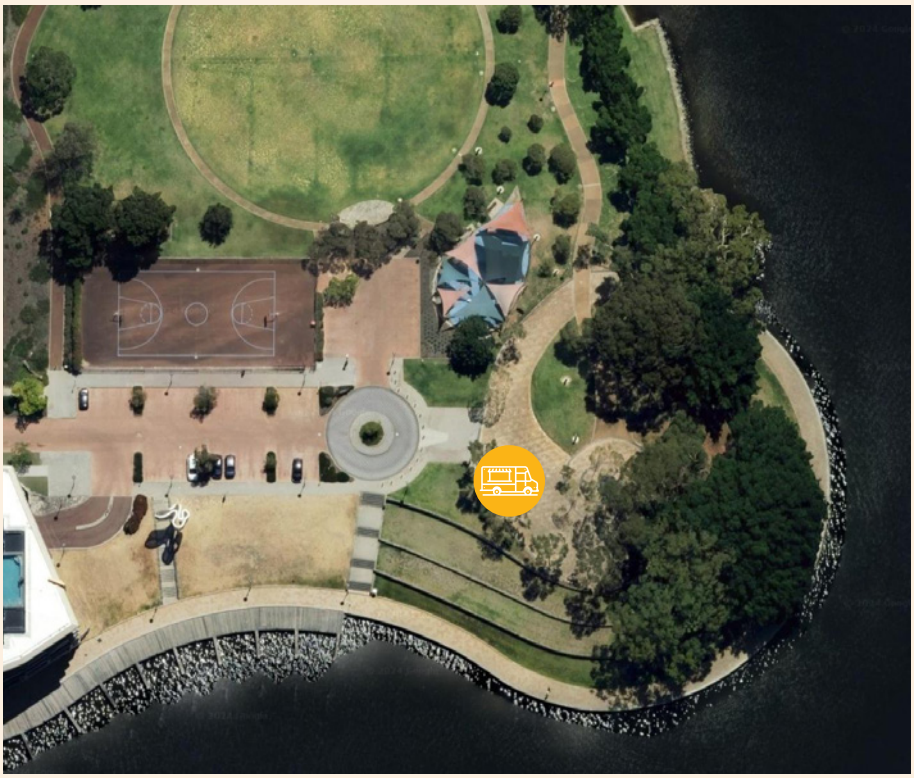
Permitted trading times*

Everyday 7am – 7pm
Limited to 1 vendor operating at any one time.

*Entry from Nile Street
(Key required - bollard access)

Mardalup Park – East Perth

Situated on the Swan River/Derbarl Yerrigan across from Optus Stadium, Mardalup Park is a picturesque destination. With winding pathways, exercise equipment, a playground, and basketball court make it popular amongst families.



Features

- Playground
- Toilets nearby
- Picnic tables
- BBQ facilities
- Basketball court
- Exercise equipment

Permitted trading times*

Everyday 7am – 7pm
Limited to 1 vendor operating at any one time.

*Entry from Nile Street
(Key required - bollard access)

Russell Square – Northbridge

Widely known for its transformation into the Fringe World Pleasure Garden during the summer months, Russell Square is perfectly located in the centre of the entertainment precinct that is Northbridge. A beautiful green space that offers a unique opportunity for night- trading.

Features

- Playground
- Toilets nearby
- Undercover areas
- Park benches

Permitted trading times*

Everyday 7am – 12am
Limited to 2 vendors operating at any one time.

*Entry from Nile Street
(Key required - bollard access)

JH Abrahams – Crawley

A popular picnicking and recreation location right on the shores of the Swan River/Derbarl Yerrigan, JH Abrahams Reserve has extensive grassed and shade areas with play equipment and BBQ facilities. Expect to see families, birthday parties, sports events and a steady flow of foot traffic on riverside footpaths.

Features

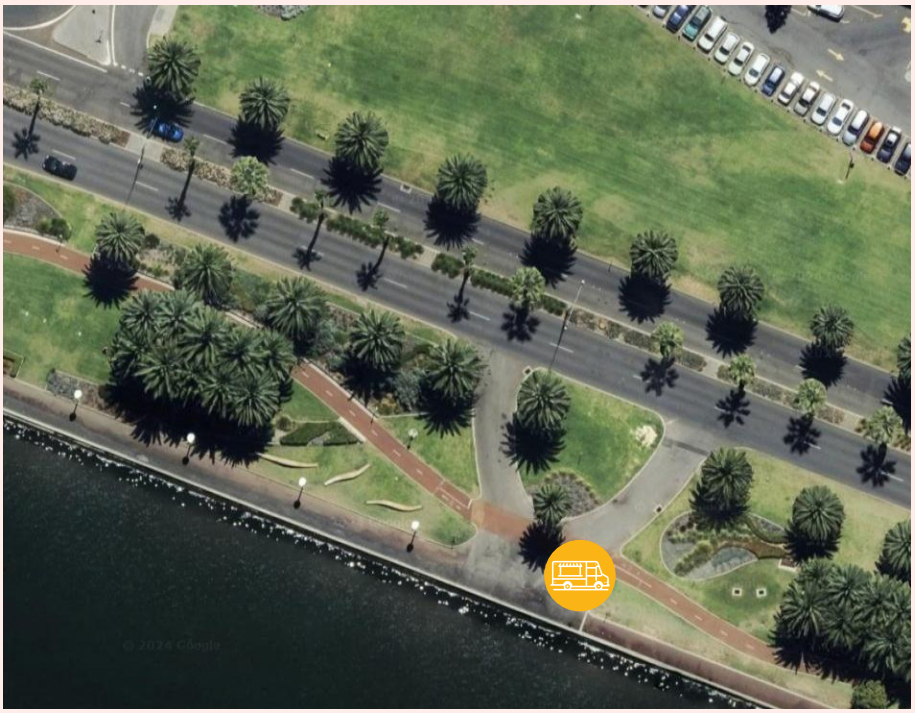
- Playground
- Toilets nearby
- Picnic tables
- BBQ facilities
- Basketball court
- Exercise equipment

Permitted trading times

Everyday 7am – 7pm
Limited to 2 vendors operating at any one time.

Riverside Drive Foreshore

Pristine views and a popular footpath for morning walks and activity. Steady flow of foot traffic into and out of the city. Most suitable for a coffee/juice van.



Features

- Foot traffic

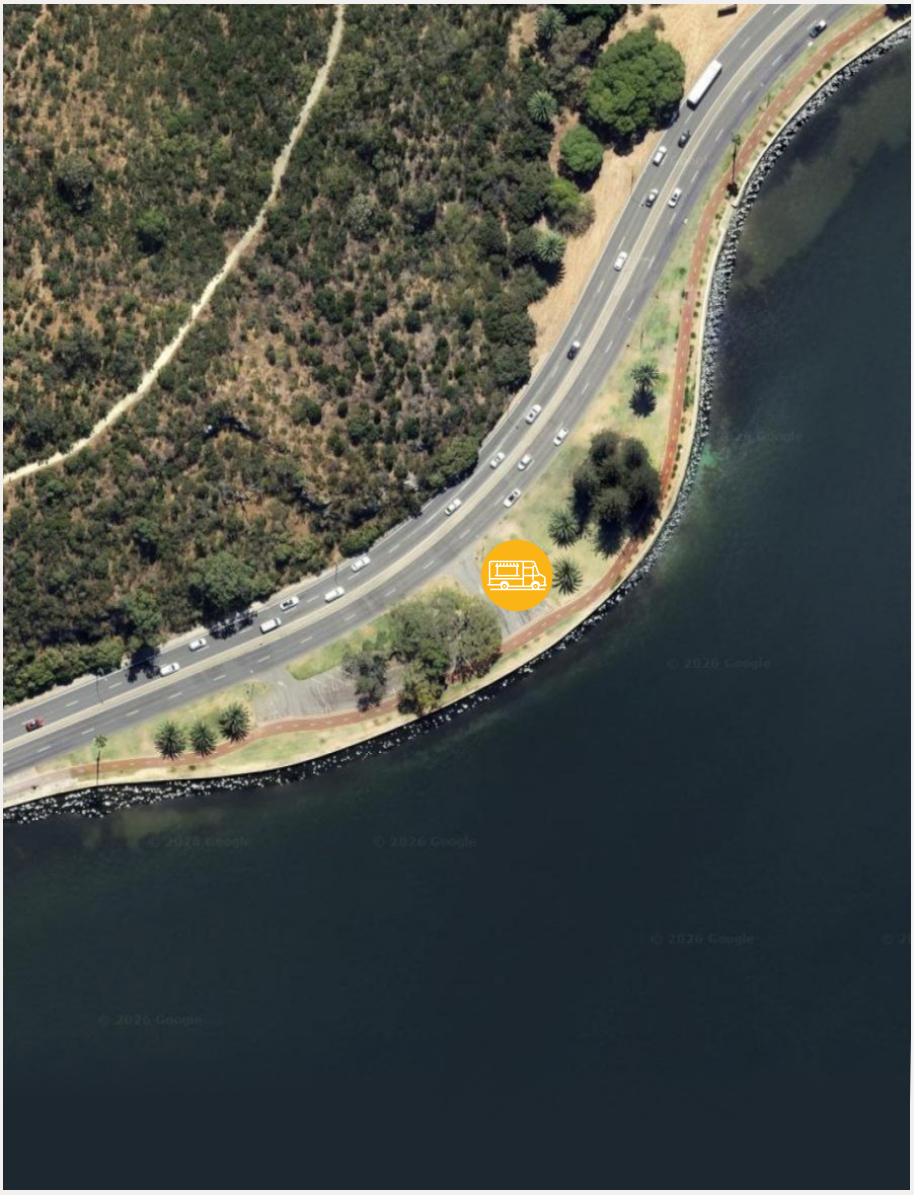
Permitted trading times*

Everyday 7am – 7pm
Limited to 1 vendor operating at any one time.

*Coffee vendor preferred

Mounts Bay Road

Pristine views of the city and a popular footpath for morning walks and activity. Steady flow of foot traffic into and out of the city. Most suitable for a coffee/juice van.



Features

- Foot traffic
- Close to tourist attractions

Permitted trading times

Everyday 7am – 7pm
Limited to 1 vendor operating at any one time.

*Vendor must park in the pictured bay, serving people approaching from the grass only

This publication can be requested in alternative formats: audio, braille, Word or accessible PDF.

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CITY OF PERTH
City of Light

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