



Business Registration and Vendors at City Events

Update | Nov. 14, 2023

1. Background on the conversation
2. Proposal developed by city staff and impacted stakeholders
3. Proposed next steps
4. Questions

BACKGROUND

- **Spring 2023:** Question about business registration requirements arose when permitting First Friday event
- Milwaukie Municipal Code states:
“No person shall maintain, operate, engage in, conduct, or carry on any business within the City without first having paid the business tax”
- City Manager waived registration fees for Farmers Market and First Friday, but still asked vendors to register with the city
- **July 18, 2023:** Council directed staff to meet with impacted stakeholders and prepare a proposal for next steps





Photography by Hamid Rihata Bennett

STAFF-STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION

- **August 29, 2023:** City staff met with representatives from Farmers Market, First Friday, and North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce
- Discussed barriers faced by event organizers
- Discussed objectives of the city



JOINT PROPOSAL

Proposed path forward:

- Amend the MMC (*Chapter 5.08.110 – Exclusions*) to exempt vendors at city permitted events from having to obtain a business license
- Update temporary event permitting process so applicants indicate whether there will be vendors at their event selling goods or services
 - If yes, applicant and city would agree to a schedule for the applicant to provide contact information to the city for these vendors
- No fee would be associated

NEXT STEPS

- If Council supports this direction, staff will prepare a code amendment
- On Council agenda for January 16, 2024
- Temporary event permit process will be updated in January 2024



Questions



Contact Us

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