

# Consent Agenda

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	1A
<b>Meeting Date</b>	November 5, 2012
<b>Prepared By</b>	Rosalind Grigsby Community Development Coordinator
<b>Approved By</b>	Suzanne R. Ludlow Acting City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Resolution Extending the Food Truck Pilot Program until February 28, 2013 and Expanding the Hours and Days of the Program
<b>Background</b>	<p>On July 9, 2012, the Council passed a resolution authorizing the establishment of a three-month pilot program for mobile food service in the city-owned lot at the Takoma Junction, with possible continuation until December 21, 2012. On September 18, 2012, the Old Takoma Business Association (OTBA), which has been coordinating the project, made a progress report to Council on the program and received approval to continue the program through the end of the year.</p> <p>The pilot program has been very successful in terms of the enthusiasm of the community and the sales for the vendors. The experience has highlighted some differences between Takoma Park's City Code regarding Transient Merchants (Chapter 8.12) and the requirements of other jurisdictions. In addition to the Montgomery County Health Department permit, Takoma Park Code requires that a transient merchant obtain a solicitor's permit for a period of one year (with a fee of \$300) or 6 months (with a fee of \$175). There is no option of a permit of shorter duration. The application requires a criminal background check but no liability coverage. In order to continue to have a variety of food trucks, the Code needs to be reviewed and perhaps amended to allow for vendors who would be interested in selling in Takoma Park on a one-time or occasional basis.</p> <p>One popular vendor, Go Fish, has inquired about a more permanent location, with sales seven days a week and the option to sub-contract out their space to another food truck on occasion. Other food truck vendors may be interested in a similar arrangement.</p> <p>By extending the pilot program until the end of February with expanded hours and days of operation, Council would allow OTBA to continue to organize food trucks at the Junction, at their discretion, while staff reviews the City Code and considers possible changes for presentation to the City Council in January. OTBA has requested expanded hours to allow for lunch and possibly breakfast sales as well.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	<p>"To create and maintain a livable community that is vibrant, healthy, and safe for all of its residents."</p> <p><i>City of Takoma Park Strategic Plan (FY2010-FY2015)</i></p>
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	N/A

<b>Attachments</b>	Resolution Extending the Food Truck Pilot Program through February 28, 2013 and to Expand the Hours and Days of the Program
<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve the accompanying resolution. Note that the resolution has been revised since it was prepared for the October 29, 2012 meeting.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	The City's FY13 budget includes \$15,000 for programming designed to enhance the economic vitality of the businesses located in the Takoma Junction, to activate the street, and create a sense of community among area business and adjacent residential areas. In support of OTBA and the Food Truck project, City staff has purchased picnic tables with these funds as requested by OTBA, cleared a green area to accommodate picnickers, provided for the restriction of parking in spaces used by food trucks, and authorized the towing of illegally parked vehicles.

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
RESOLUTION 2012-**

**EXTENDING THE FOOD TRUCK PILOT PROGRAM AS ESTABLISHED  
BY RESOLUTION 2012-42 AND AMENDING HOURS OF OPERATION**

**WHEREAS,** Council established the Takoma Junction Food Truck Pilot Program (Pilot Program) by Resolution 2012-42 on July 9, 2012 to allow for the programming of a variety of food trucks in the Junction that would improve the visibility of the area while encouraging community support of existing businesses; and

**WHEREAS,** the Old Takoma Business Association (OTBA), through an agreement with the City of Takoma Park, has successfully organized food trucks at the Junction on Friday nights since July and at a second location in DC; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council, in the interests of facilitating the continued operation of a variety of food trucks in Takoma Park, has expressed a desire to extend the Pilot Program and to explore options for the continued operation of the program on a permanent basis.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND** authorizes the extension of the Takoma Junction Food Truck Pilot Program through February 28, 2013 with the same general terms and conditions as set forth in Resolution 2012-42.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Takoma Junction Food Truck Pilot Program may operate on an expanded schedule, seven days a week between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. or sunset, whichever is later.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Acting City Manager is directed to present for Council consideration in January 2013, recommendations for the establishment of the Takoma Junction Food Truck Pilot Program on a permanent basis, city-wide.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Old Takoma Business Association shall provide a written report of food-truck pilot statistics to the Council, in early January 2013, for the period between its September report and the December 21, 2012 end of the initial pilot period, and in early March, 2013, covering the December 22, 2012 to February 28, 2013 extended pilot period.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessie Carpenter, CMC  
City Clerk