



**City of Racine, Wisconsin  
Common Council**

**AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

**COMMITTEE:** Public Safety and Licensing

**LEGISLATION ITEM:** Ordinance 007-24

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**AGENDA DATE:** October 9, 2024

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**DEPARTMENT:** City Attorney's Office

**Drafted By:** Nhu H. Arn

**Reviewed By:** Scott R. Letteney

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**SUBJECT:** Hours of operation for mobile food establishments.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The enactment of this ordinance would prohibit all mobile food establishments (more commonly known as food trucks) from operating between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m.

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**BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

Currently, there are no local ordinances that regulate the hours of operation for mobile food establishments. While most restaurants and bars close at 2:00 a.m./2:30 a.m. every night, many mobile food establishments continue to operate beyond those hours. The vast majority of these mobile food establishments operate either in parking lots or within the public right of way, with no indoor dining option for its customers. The formation of large crowds gathering in parking lots and city sidewalks immediately after bar closing time leads to a host of public safety concerns.

This ordinance would prohibit any mobile food establishments from operating between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. Specifically, it defines a mobile food establishment as any place wherein food is served or sold from a movable vehicle, pushcart, stand, trailer, truck, boat or any other unit which may periodically or continuously change locations. Additionally, the ordinance seeks to adopt all state regulations related to mobile food establishments. Substantively, this would not create any new laws but would allow city staff to cite for any violations under state law.

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**BUDGETARY IMPACT:** N/A

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**OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES:** Reject the ordinance as proposed or amend the proposal.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** This is a policy decision to be made by the council.

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**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.