



Riverside County Law Library Street Vendor Resource Guide

What is a street vendor?

A **vendor** is “a seller of goods, services, or something for sale,” a **vendee** is “a buyer of goods, services, or something for sale,” and a **street** is “a roadway in an urban area, owned and maintained by the municipality for public use. A private road cannot be a street,” according to [Nolo’s Plain-English Law Dictionary](#). [Government Code, Section 51036](#) contains definitions of various types of “**sidewalk vendors**.” It states that, “‘Sidewalk vendor’ means a person who sells food or merchandise from a pushcart, stand, display, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other nonmotorized conveyance, or from one’s person, upon a public sidewalk or other pedestrian path.”

Be sure to obtain all necessary permits, which may not all be listed here

Check for state, county, and city requirements.

California Seller’s Permit

<https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/services/permits-licenses.htm>

“[California Seller’s Permit](#): If you are doing business in California and intend to sell or lease tangible personal property subject to sales tax sold at retail, you are required to have a seller’s permit and prominently display it at your place of business. Read our [Seller’s Permit FAQ](#) for more information.”

Riverside County

BUSINESS LICENSES AND PERMITS

<https://rivco.org/business/business-licenses-and-permits>

How to get a Sidewalk Vending Permit, Riverside County

<https://rctlma.org/trans/Land-Development/Permits/Sidewalk-Vending-Permit>

“How to get a Sidewalk Vending Permit?”

- Riverside County Ordinance 853 requires sidewalk vendors to have a valid Sidewalk Vending Permit with the County of Riverside Transportation Department.
- To apply for a Sidewalk Vending Permit, provide the following:
 - Completed application and \$79 permit fee,
 - CA Driver’s License or ID card, individual taxpayer ID number, or Social Security Card (this information is not a public record and will remain confidential),
 - Riverside County Business Registration Certificate,
 - Valid Mobile Food Facility Permit from Riverside County Environmental Health, if selling unpackaged or perishable food.”

California Health and Safety Code, Riverside County

“Mobile Food Facilities are inspected to ensure safe food handling practices, sanitation, and compliance with California Health and Safety Code and Riverside County Ordinances, just like fixed food facilities. Construction inspections, routine inspections, and complaint investigations, including foodborne illness complaints, are conducted.”

<https://www.rivcoeh.org/OurServices/Foods>

State Laws and Local Ordinances



California Law

[Government Code, Sections 51036-50139](#) previously known as [SB-946](#)

The senate bill contains information about the freedoms and limitations of local authorities to regulate vendors in California and states a requirement of “the dismissal of any criminal prosecutions under any local ordinance or resolution regulating or prohibiting sidewalk vendors that have not reached final judgment. The bill would also authorize a person who is currently serving, or who completed, a sentence, or who is subject to a fine, for a conviction of a misdemeanor or infraction for sidewalk vending, as specified, to petition for dismissal of the sentence, fine, or conviction.”

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=5.&part=1.&chapter=6.2.&article=

SB 946 Guide:

<https://dcba.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Sidewalk-Vending-FACT-SHEET.pdf>

California City Codes

Find the city you will work in and review their codes in one of the following links:

<https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/regions/ca>

<https://library.municode.com/ca>

Some examples:

City of Riverside Municipal Code

Chapter 5.38 - PEDESTRIAN FOOD VENDORS

https://library.municode.com/ca/riverside/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodemd=PTIICOOR_TIT5BU_TALIRE_CH5.38PEFOVE

City of Temecula Municipal Code

Chapter 8.60 OUTDOOR VENDING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

Chapter 8.61 OUTDOOR VENDING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

<http://qcode.us/codes/temecula/?view=desktop>

City of Indio Municipal Code

CHAPTER 110: LICENSES; CLOSING OUT SALES

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/indio/latest/indio_ca/0-0-0-36889

CHAPTER 114: VENDING BY PUSH CART OR VENDING VEHICLE

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/indio/latest/indio_ca/0-0-0-38022

Riverside Superior Court Forms

<https://www.riverside.courts.ca.gov/FormsFiling/LocalForms/local-forms.php>

Advocates for Street Vendors

Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice

<https://ic4ij.org/issues/street-vendors>

California Librarians Small Business Toolkit

<https://www.calsbt.org/patron-resources-1>

Extra Reading

Racial Justice for Street Vendors, by Stephen Lee

<https://www.californialawreview.org/racial-justice-for-street-vendors/>



E-books (LexisNexis Digital Library)

<https://www.rclawlibrary.org/research/ebooks/>

United States Code Service

<https://lexisdl.com/library/rclawlibrary/set/501973>

- TITLE 42. PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE
Public Health and Welfare, 42 USCS § 1983 (notes 2174--3406)
<https://lexisdl.com/library/rclawlibrary/open/1369070?a=17b3f0be-fd1d-4972-a547-44ddf3795f6>
- TITLE 15. COMMERCE AND TRADE
Commerce and Trade, 15 USCS §§ 1--3
<https://lexisdl.com/library/rclawlibrary/open/1369137?a=d59f24c1-e5bf-4a40-9688-9f137fe18022>
- Amendment 14
Constitution, Amendments 13, 14 (notes 1--1807)
<https://lexisdl.com/library/rclawlibrary/open/1368995?a=05261bc9-7971-4f75-ab49-cd091bf1b139>
- § 32. Earned income [Caution: For the inflation adjustment of certain items in this section, see the Revenue Procedure which appears as 26 USCS § 1 note.].
Internal Revenue Code, 26 USCS §§ 1--167
<https://lexisdl.com/library/rclawlibrary/open/1210138?a=5ed1e80e-df45-4c1f-bc13-0f8d72969f00>

Physical Collection

- **Your California seller's permit. by** California. State Board of Equalization.
Call Number E2050.P3 N.73 CALDOC
Shelf Location Main branch, Compact Shelving-Cal Docs
- **Closing out your seller's permit by** California. State Board of Equalization.
Call Number E2050.P3 N.74 CALDOC
Shelf Location Main branch, Compact Shelving
- **California seller's permit application. Individuals/partners by** California. State Board of Equalization.
Call Number E2050 .P47I CALDOC
Shelf Location Main branch, Compact Shelving-Cal Docs
- **Health and safety code : official California health and safety code classification.**
by California.
Call Number KFC30.5.W4 H4
Shelf Location Main and Desert branches, General Shelving
- **Health and safety code annotated of the State of California : adopted April 7, 1939**
by California.
Call Number KFC30.5.D4 H4 v.1
Shelf Location Main and Desert branches, General Shelving



- **Riverside municipal code : a codification of the general ordinances of the City of Riverside, California by** Riverside (Calif.).
Call Number KFX2231.R5 A35 v.1 REF
Shelf Location Main branch, Reference Collection
- Other Municipal Codes for the cities of Riverside County available:
 - Riverside Branch: Calimesa, Hemet, Canyon Lake, Banning, Perris, Wildomar, Norco, Moreno Valley, Murrieta.
 - Indio Branch: Desert Hot Springs, Indio, Cathedral City, Palm Desert, La Quinta, Palm Springs, Indian Wells, Rancho Mirage.
 - Internet: San Jacinto: <https://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SanJacinto/?f>
- **Riverside County code, 2000 : a codification of the general ordinances of Riverside County, California by** Riverside County (Calif.).
Call Number KFC1199 .R42 A352 v.1 REF
Shelf Location Main branch, Reference Collection
- Other county codes available (Main Branch): San Bernardino, San Diego, Orange.
- **Legal guide for starting & running a small business by** Steingold, Fred S., 1936-author.
Call Number KF1659 .S745 2021 REF
Shelf Location Main branch, Reference Collection
- **Legal forms for starting & running a small business by** Steingold, Fred S., 1936-
Call Number KF1659 .A65 S74 2020 REF
Shelf Location Main and Desert branches, Reference Collection
- **The small business start-up kit for California by** Pakroo, Peri.
Call Number KFC379 .P3 2008 REF
Shelf Location Main and Desert branches, Reference Collection
- **Taller de impuestos para pequeños negocios. Cuaderno de trabajo.** (Small business tax workshop. Work notebook.) **by** United States. Internal Revenue Service.
Call Number KF6491 .Z9 S63SP
Shelf Location Main branch, General Shelving
<http://ftp.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1066sp.pdf>
- **How to write a business plan by** McKeever, Mike P., author.
Call Number KF1659 .M4 2019 REF
Shelf Location Main branch, Reference Collection

Please Note: The information presented in this research guide is intended to provide a foundation for legal research. For information pertaining to your case please consult with an attorney, court facilitator or specialist.