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:

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?nodeId=PTICOOR_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 PUSHCART OR VENDING VEHICLE

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-a547-44ddfd3795f6
- **TITLE 15. COMMERCE AND TRADE**
  Commerce and Trade, 15 USCS §§ 1--3
- 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-bc13-0f8d72d69f00

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](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
- **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.