

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO APPROVE SPECIAL LEGISLATION AND INTENT TO ADOPT
COUNTY ORDINANCE TO REGULATE 1- 4 DAY TEMPORARY ON-SALE LIQUOR LICENSE
FOR FOOD TRUCKS.

Please take notice that on the 6th day of October 2026 at 9:01a.m., Douglas County will hold a public hearing in the County Commissioner Board Room located on the main floor of the Douglas County Administration Building, 821 Cedar Street, Alexandria, Minnesota, 56308, to consider approval of special legislation and a county ordinance to regulate 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor Licenses for Food Trucks for private events held in Douglas County only. A copy of the special legislation and proposed county ordinance are available for public inspection in the Douglas County Auditor-Treasurer Office and on the County website at www.douglascountymn.gov.

Special Legislation Bill: [S2511A12](#)



Douglas County, Minnesota
Board of Commissioners

October 6, 2026

DRAFT COPY OF AN ORDINANCE REGULATING
1-4 DAY TEMPORARY ON-SALE LIQUOR LICENSES FOR FOOD TRUCKS
Ordinance No. 100626

Section 1. Purpose

To allow licensed **food trucks** operating under private event food catering contracts to serve alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, intoxicating liquor) through a **1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License**, ensuring compliance with public safety, health, and enforcement standards.

Section 2. Definitions

- **AGED:** Minnesota Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division (AGED)
- **Commissioner:** Minnesota Public Safety Commissioner
- **Food Truck:** A motorized vehicle or trailer licensed and inspected to prepare, serve and sell food under Douglas County regulations.

- **Private Event:** A contracted gathering – such as weddings, corporate events or private parties – to be held on private property, community center or town hall, and attendance is limited to invited guests via private invitation only.
- **Temporary Liquor License:** A short-term liquor permit issued under the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) “1-day to 4-day Temporary On-Sale Liquor Permit” framework.
- **Temporary Food and Beverage License:** The license issued to a food truck under Douglas County (MN) mobile food regulations.

Section 3. Authority

The Douglas County Board of County Commissioners enacts this ordinance under Minnesota special legislation enacted through the 2026 Omnibus Liquor Law (SF 2511 / Chapter 48) and MN Statutes § 340A.404, Subd. 10 to authorize issuance of 1-4 day temporary on-sale liquor licenses for food trucks at private events held at premises located in an unincorporated territory (township) or unorganized territory of the county.

Section 4. Eligibility

A food truck may apply for a temporary liquor license if:

1. It holds a valid **Mobile Food License** from the County of Douglas (MN).
2. It is under contract to provide catering at a **private event** within the county.
3. It carries general liability and liquor liability insurance compliant with state requirements (e.g., § 340A.409).
4. No license shall be issued to a food truck vendor whose primary residents lies outside Douglas County, Minnesota.

Section 5. Licensing Process

1. **Application** submitted to County Auditor-Treasurer, at least **60 days** prior to the event, including:
 - Food truck operator name, address, ID and license plate number(s) for food truck and/or trailer, including Make/Model/Color.
 - Douglas County Mobile Food License Number
 - Event details: name, date(s), time, location, estimated attendance.
 - Site plan indicating alcohol service area.
 - Copy of catering contract.
 - Proof of liquor liability insurance coverage listing Douglas County as the certificate holder.
2. **Optional Expedited Application Timeline:** Application as defined in Section 5.1 may be submitted to the Douglas County Auditor-Treasurer at least **45 Days** prior to an event if the food truck vendor previously received an **approved annual background check** in which the

County Sheriff and County Attorney run and verify a background check on an annual basis instead of prior to each event within the same calendar year. The annual fee for the pre-approved background check will be equivalent to the initial background fee for a newly licensed vendor or a renewal background fee for subsequent annual background check as per the Douglas County Fee Schedule.

3. **Fee:** Current license fee established in the Douglas County fee schedule for a 1-4 Day Temporary Liquor License, plus state processing fees (i.e. buyer's card) under Minnesota Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division (AGE) rules.
4. **County Review:** Auditor-Treasurer verifies Douglas County Mobile Food License with Horizon Public Health and then forwards completed application to County Sheriff and County Attorney, unless an annual background check has already been pre-approved under Section 5.2.
5. **Sheriff Approval:** Runs a background check to verify applicant(s) are in good standing within the community. County sheriff may verify security, site plan, and compliance prior to issuing approval to Auditor-Treasurer.
6. **County Attorney Approval:** Verifies compliance and background check; issues approval to Auditor-Treasurer.
7. **County Board Approval:** Auditor-Treasurer brings forth the application for county board approval at a regularly scheduled county board meeting.
8. **State Forwarding:** County submits approved application to Minnesota Alcohol & Gambling Enforcement Division (AGED) for final permit issuance.

Section 6. Service Rules

- Alcohol sales are limited to designated private event area described in site plan.
- Service starts no earlier than 8:00am and ends no later than 1:00am on the subsequent day.
- License valid for up to four (4) consecutive days per event with an additional limit of no more than twelve (12) days per calendar year per food truck vendor.
- Food truck servers must complete certified alcohol ServSafe® training.
- Food truck servers must verify age (valid ID) for all alcoholic beverage sales.
- Intoxicating liquor must be dispensed in a controlled manner (e.g., non-glass cups, bottles, covered containers).

Section 7. Storage

- Storage of intoxicating beverages must comply with Minnesota regulations through both statutes (Chapter 340A) and administrative rules (Minnesota Rules Chapter 7515).
- Licensee may not store excess stocks of intoxicating liquor in places other than the licensed premises without written approval of the state commissioner. If approved, the place of storage must be located in the same municipality as the licensed food truck.
- If the intoxicating beverages are disposed of, licensee must keep a record log of the date, quantity, and method of disposal.

Section 8. Security & Compliance

- Sheriff may require uniformed security for events based on event risk factors.
- Compliance inspections may occur before or during the event. Noncompliance actions may include warning, suspension, or revocation.
- Event operators and food trucks must comply with any sheriff or health department directives.

Section 9. Notification

Food truck operators must notify:

- Douglas County Sheriff, for events held outside municipal city boundaries.
- City police chief, for events inside municipality boundaries.

Notification must occur at least **10 days** prior to the event.

Section 10. Fees and Funding

- The fee for a 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for Food Trucks will be set within the County fee schedule.
- County license application fee is non-refundable.
- Per state regulations, the business will need to apply for a buyer's card and submit the state buyer's card fee every time they apply for a temporary permit and the buyer's card is only good for the days of the event only.

Section 11. Appeals

Denials or permit conditions may be appealed to the Board of County Commissioners within **15 calendar days**. The Board's decision is final.

Section 12. Enforcement and Penalties

- Unlicensed alcohol service by food trucks may result in:
 - Enforcement action and penalties per MN Statutes § 340A;
 - Suspension or revocation of food vending or liquor permits;
 - Criminal penalties and fines as defined by Minnesota Statutes for the food truck operator, event organizer, and property owner.

Section 13. Severability

If any section of this ordinance is invalidated by a court, other provisions remain enforceable.

Section 14. Adoption

The above ordinance regulating 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor Licenses for Food Trucks was approved by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners on the ____ day of _____, 2026 and shall be in full force and effect January 1, 2027.

Those voting for:

Those voting against:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Shane Schmidt, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Lenae Roeser
Clerk of the Board
Douglas County, Minnesota