

Presentation to Boulder City  
Council  
May 20, 2014



**CHANGES TO MOBILE FOOD  
VEHICLE ORDINANCE  
SECTION 9-6-5**

# Recommendation to Council



- Adopt Ordinance 7971 amending Section 9-6-5, “Temporary Lodging, Dining, Entertainment and Cultural Uses,” BRC. 1981, by increasing the number of mobile food vehicles allowed on private property in designated zone districts and setting forth related details.
- Proposed Changes:
  - Increase the number of vehicles allowed on private property in commercial zones from 2 to 4
  - Administrative correction to change use modules to zoning districts.

# Background



- **Existing Ordinance**

- Adopted in 2011

- Goals

- ✦ Support Boulder's food culture

- ✦ Create a legal framework for operation and address operation impacts

- ✦ Balance the interests of brick and mortar restaurants, food trucks and neighborhoods

- ✦ Preserve "Main Street" pedestrian character

# Background



- **Allows mobile food vehicles sales on private property, public property or in the public right of way with the following conditions:**
  - 150 feet from any residential zone
  - 150 feet from any existing restaurant
  - 200 feet from another mobile food vehicle in the public right of way
  - Limit of two mobile food vehicles on private property in commercial zones
  - No limitation of number of food vehicles on private property in industrial
  - No limitations on number if part of an approved, organized event or street closure permit

# Pilot Program



- Requests received from MFV for additional opportunities to “pod” in the downtown area and access to neighborhood parks
- Pilot Program established in 2013:
  - MFV at select city parks: Tom Watson, Foothills Community Park, North Boulder, Harlow Platts and East Boulder Community Park
  - Podding event in Muni Parking Lot on Sunday afternoons
  - Late-night podding in the Park Central Lot

# Results of the Pilot Program



- **Sunday podding program was discontinued due to lack of sales – a need for a “draw” such as entertainment was identified as a possible solution**
- **Late night podding program was discontinued due to lack of interest**
- **MFV access to five specific parks will continue**

# Survey of MFV's



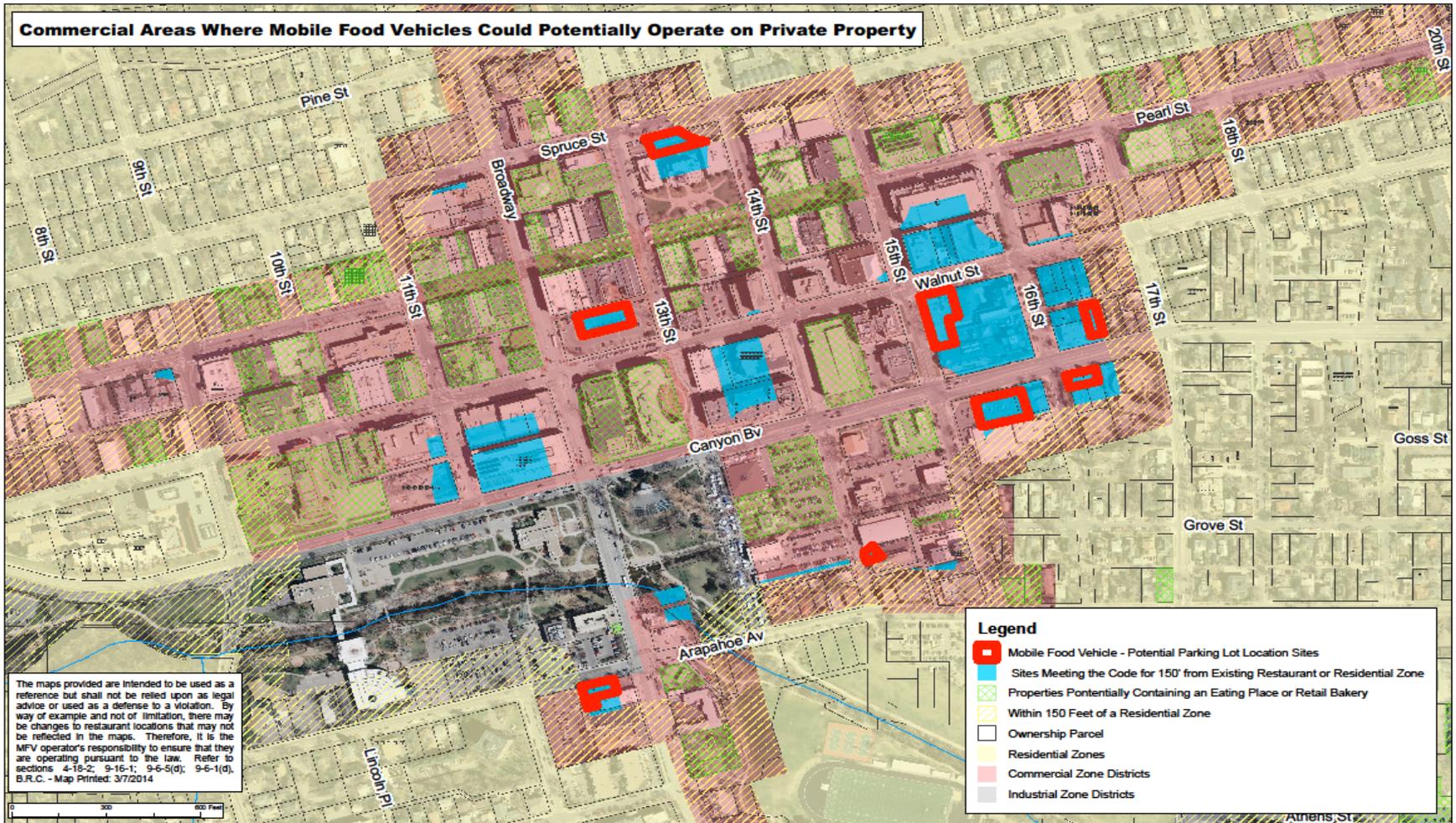
- **82% of licensed MFVs responded to the survey**
- **100% of the respondents support the proposed ordinance change increasing MFV limit in on private property from two to four**
- **100% of respondents indicated an interest in parking in designated city parks and 92% supported parking on streets adjacent to city parks**
- **45% wish to participate in late-night podding in the Park Central lot or other downtown location; need better lighting and earlier start time**

# Proposed Next Steps



- Continue option for late night podding in Park Central parking lot with lighting improvements and potential earlier start time
- Continue access to specific parks
- Parks Department special events on the Muni Lawn including MFV during the summer of 2014
- Change Ordinance 9-6-5 to allow four MFV on private properties meeting the distance limits and make administrative changes

# Map of Allowed Private Property for Podding Downtown



# Board Feedback



- **Downtown Management Commission** - unanimous support of staff recommendation
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** - unanimous support of staff recommendation
- **Planning Board** - unanimous support, and made suggestions for certain expanded locations (MU-4) and hours of operation for staff consideration
- **Boulder Junction Access Commissions** – lack of consensus for the Planning Board suggestion
- **Downtown Boulder Inc.** voted unanimously to remain neutral to the ordinance change and does not support the Planning Board's suggestions

# Staff Recommendation



- **Staff recommends that City Council move to adopt the proposed amendment to Section 9-6-5, “Temporary Lodging, Dining, Entertainment and Cultural Uses,” BRC 1981, to increase the number of mobile food vehicles on private property in designated zone districts and setting forth details.**

# Events with MFV's in other communities



- **Louisville “Trucks in the Park”**

- Biweekly, May – August
- In community park, .5 miles from downtown
- With movies in the park
- Sponsored by a community non-profit
- Charge a fee to participate

- **Longmont “Prospect Eats”**

- Weekly, April – September
- In private neighborhood (HOA) park, 2.5 miles from downtown
- With bands and alcohol for sale
- Charge a fee to participate



# Events with MFV's in other communities



- **Lafayette “Art Night Out”**
  - Monthly, May – September
  - In the downtown, two block road closure
  - With bands, art booths, vendors and brewery area
  - Sponsored by the city and non-profit arts organization
  
- **Niwot “Rock N’ Rails”**
  - Weekly, June – August
  - In a downtown park
  - With bands and beer garden
  - Sponsored by a non-profit arts organization
  - Charge a fee to participate

# Portland OR Food Trucks on Private Property

