City of Grand Rapids

Transient Merchant Checklist

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

- Transient Merchants are not permitted in the Downtown area.
- May not obstruct any street, alley, sidewalk or driveway or cause customers to do so.
- Fixed stands are prohibited. No person will stop or remain in any one (1) location for longer than is necessary to make a sale.
- Door to door sales may only be made between the hours of 9am and 9pm.
- Exemptions:
  - Persons under eighteen (18) on foot in the neighborhood of their residence under supervision of school or recognized charity or religious organization.
  - Persons exempt by State or Federal law.
  - Duly authorized representative of a church, charitable organization, education or fraternal organization, political group.
  - Doing business at a City-operated market.

CHECKLIST

☐ A Food Permit must be acquired through the Kent County Health Department or Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for all merchants selling food and/or beverages.
  - Kent County Health Department – (616) 632-7100
  - Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – (517) 284-5771

☐ Completed Transient Merchant Application (part I and part II).

☐ Non-refundable application fee.

☐ After the license is issued, merchants must have their ID cards on hand while operating.

*Rules and regulations associated with a Transient Merchant license can be found in Chapter 99 of the Grand Rapids City Code entitled “Transient Merchants.”

**General Licensing Regulations can be found in Chapter 91 of the Grand Rapids City Code entitled “Licensing and Regulation Generally.”