

## Char Tim

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**From:** John Callaci <soundwize2018@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2023 1:09 PM  
**To:** Clerks Staff Email  
**Subject:** Food Trucks

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I can't believe the city wants to give these food trucks a hard time.

Am I back in California? I left that BLUE cancer state for a reason. I've been here 6 years and it sickens me to see the degradation of what Idaho was just a few short years ago.

Some of the best food, I have to say, actually comes from the trucks. The owners are just trying to survive and make an honest living.

If they have an agreement with the property owner, leave them alone. BIG government is what I thought I had left.

Its a sad day when a taco trucks future is at stake.

- John

" For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that has increased knowledge has increased sorrow." Ecclesiastes 1:18

## Char Tim

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**From:** David Gersten <dsgersten@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Mayor Email; Victor Rodriguez; Darl Bruner; Natalie Jangula; Dale Reynolds; Randy Haverfield; Clerks Staff Email  
**Cc:** David Gersten  
**Subject:** Food Truck Limitations

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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Mayor Kling, City Clerk and Council Members,

I am absolutely dumbfounded by the new ordinances and rules being put in place for food trucks throughout the City of Nampa. This is ridiculous and I question the intent and the supporters behind this change.

1. I came to Nampa about 18 months ago and thought how amazing it was that there are both mobile food trucks and those that are in permanent locations. The food served from them are amazing, and supported significantly by the members of our city.
2. I have even seen at least 1 turn into a brick and mortar shop since I have been here.
3. Unfortunately I have seen several leave Nampa all together because of this upcoming ordinance

I ask myself several things - Who is behind the funding and reasoning behind this?

There is no good explanation why you would take away the rights of successful businesses from hard working people. There is no good explanation why you would limit restaurant options for citizens of Nampa and surrounding cities that have people travel to Nampa for these establishments.

If there are concerns then perhaps you address them rather than force businesses to close and/or do something that they just can't do.

When will this matter be in front of the council to actually come in and present live? Until then I hope to hear back and better understand the reasoning behind this nonsense.

David Gersten  
11929 West Calais Drive  
Nampa ID

## Char Tim

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**From:** Perking Spot Coffee <theperkingspotllc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 10:34 PM  
**To:** Tom Points; Char Tim; Victor Rodriguez; Darl Bruner; Natalie Jangula; Dale Reynolds; Randy Haverfield; Mayor Email; Jonica Johnson; Kathryn Olson  
**Subject:** The Perking Spot

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To whom it may concern,

Which frankly, I hope includes all the addressees as it should extend beyond to so many more. I want to thank you for time and patience as I'm sure you are currently being bombarded with several emails a day from our community regarding the changes that are underway for food truck operations in our city.

I'm writing to you today, not only as a small business owner, but as a concerned citizen in your community. I'd like to take the time to introduce myself to you first though, so you have a better idea of who I am, what I stand for, and why it is I am fighting.

### Who We Are:

My name is Rae-Ann Birney, and I am single mom to three young boys (ages 12, 10, and 4). We moved to Nampa in December of 2019 from Las Vegas in hopes of finding our way to a better life after falling in love with everything the Treasure Valley had to offer. Together, with my best friend and business partner, Sonia Champlin, we packed up our lives, sold her house to purchase a food truck I found on eBay, and started making plans for actualizing this crazy dream of mine. I have been in the coffee industry for nearly twenty years and I cannot imagine a more fulfilling venture then the journey I am on now. For more on this I invite you to read through some of my testimonials and customers responses at: [Why the Perking Spot?](#), [To the \(almost\) Customer](#), [What it Means to Shop Local](#), [How it Works](#).

Sonia and I have been working side by side for nearly 8 years now and in business for ourselves a little over three. I can't even put into words what a dream come true it is to be able to have someone by your side, in your corner, who constantly pushes you to do better. To help you grow as a person. To believe in you. We joke around a lot about how this whole thing started, but the reality is—The Perking Spot only exists because a way over-enthused coffee lover was paired up with the right person who knew how to get things done. A dreamer and a doer. The heart and the soul of our business. We are The Perking Spot.

Our dynamic, our friendship—is just as much a part of our story as anything else. I haven't met many individuals who were able to hunker down two completely different families, forced to live together day in and day out, amid a pandemic mind you, while building and opening a new business. Let alone make it through to the other side still smiling and excited to show up every day. But we did it. For the first two years our families made sacrifice after sacrifice to see us get up and running to the place we are today.

### Our Position in the Community:

I also want you to have the best and most accurate representation of what our community thinks about us and what sets our business—The Perking Spot apart from the “competing” big box brands that remain seemingly unaffected by our existence and will always be there readily available to afford the ever-increasing high costs of commercial property rent.

Review after review, you will see real people in your city raving about the importance of supporting local. You will come across photos of our truck out in the community giving back—Nampa Boys & Girls Club, Teacher Appreciation Week, PTO fundraisers, high school sporting events, Nampa’s Coffee with the Cops, etc. as well helping to raise and match donations ranging from a customer’s child to attend cheer camp to GoFundMe campaigns to help recoup medical expenses for an unexpected surgery after tragedy. You will find these stories and tagged posts across social media because this is who are, who we’ve always been, and who we chose to be going forward. It means an incredible deal to us to be recognized by our customers—our neighbors turned friends and family, for the work we’ve put in to be considered a trusted Idaho born business.

[Reviews on Facebook](#)  
[Google Reviews](#)

If needed, I can compile a list of elaborate first time impressions captured through the lens of strangers who took a chance on us to help paint the interaction customers receive when they visit. There’s no shortage of comments with themes of “they remembered my name and my drink!” “they made me feel welcomed and valued.” “They get it right the first time, every time,” “finally... a coffee that actually takes like coffee!” I don’t know about you, but to me, this sounds like the kind of local business you want to keep in your city.

Unfortunately, a lot of these proposed changes would result in us losing our registered, privately leased, and properly permitted (somewhat-permanent) location which plays such a huge factor in our business model and largely attributes to our operating success. While I cannot speak to all types of trucks or cuisine, I can speak to the importance of consistency and routine in coffee. Losing our location would cost us our business and ultimately, everything.

### **Next Steps and Where Do We Go From Here:**

Going forward, I would like to acknowledge that I am aware of the importance attached to the proposed rule changes as well as the enforcement of rules that were possibly (and probably) overlooked when we first opened. I understand Nampa was smaller then and the number of food trucks was also considerably less. The idea of having better drafted regulations and more transparent requirements is important not just for the city, but for all the trucks and all the members of community as well. To have been so welcomed and well received within the city is really what sold us on making Nampa our home in the first place. As a part of this community, we truly want what’s best for everyone.

It has been suggested by several others in the food truck community that these changes are being brought on by brick-and-mortar business owners complaining about the increased number of food trucks. I would invite you to take a look at some of the research collected and documented by the Institute for Justice found at [The War on Food Trucks - Institute for Justice \(ij.org\)](http://TheWaronFoodTrucks.org) which documents how food trucks have actually been beneficial to local economies. They cite “...with low start up costs, food trucks offer first-time entrepreneurs the opportunity to experiment, accumulate capital and build businesses. For established restaurateurs they are a means to expand, build their brands and compliment their brick-and-mortar locations. For residents, food trucks enrich communities by increasing access to food and cultures. For governments, food trucks stimulate growth. They create jobs, pay state and local taxes, and make towns and cities better places to live.” As a contributing member of our community, these sound like incredibly valid arguments to vote towards working together with the food truck owners to find a compromise that benefits us all.

We at The Perking Spot (as well as so many others) pride ourselves in supporting other local businesses—our

bakery, our breakfast food items, our cakepop supplier, and our roaster are all small, local brick-and-mortar wholesale businesses who depend on shops such as us to stay in business. Being able to bring these locally sourced items to other parts of the Treasure Valley is as equally important as providing our city's consumers with more locally owned options when it comes to where they'd like to spend their money. Which is why we would love to be able to keep the commerce local going forward.

I would like to offer a potential starting place for solutions by looking into adapting a set of regulations similar to the Mobile-Food Vendor Freedom Act drafted by the Institute for Justice available at this website: [Mobile Food Vendor Freedom Act - Institute for Justice \(ij.org\)](https://www.instituteforjustice.org/mobile-food-vendor-freedom-act) which proposes an option to streamline regulations. "It ensures that state and cities are not enforcing burdensome laws under the guise of protecting brick-and-mortar businesses from competition..." by creating a simple state license that allows food trucks to operate statewide communicating clear standards about where and how food trucks may operate without imposing additional roadblocks such as "requiring entrepreneurs to apply for multiple licenses that require operators to complete redundant applications, undergo plan reviews and pay hundreds of dollars in fees," only to face restrictions on where and how they may operate.

It is our hope going forward that we are able to open a dialogue about upcoming changings and to have active voice in working together for what's best for all involved. And so, I am grateful to you all today for giving us a chance to showcase the reason our community benefits by continuing to allow us (and others) to operate as we are. I look forward to reading any response and feedback you may have to help guide us through our next steps in this endeavor.

And if you need anything from me, I'm the one behind the machine, slinging espresso, doing happy dances over perfect pours just trying to make your day with a fantastic cup of coffee. Because I love what I do and there's no one I'd rather do it for then this community.

Thank you again.

Rae-Ann Birney  
Co-Owner of The Perking Spot  
208.606.6430 | Trailer  
208.606.5027 | Events

perkingspotcoffee.com  
Facebook.com/perkingspotcoffee