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Wednesday Evening Market Proposed Vendor Definition Change

Currently, the Wednesday Evening Market Operating Rules Section II.1 defines a vendor as: “Vendor: A Vendor is a person or business entity that has a complete and approved application on file with the Market Manager. Venders can grow and offer for sale one or more of the following items: edible grains, fruits, vegetables; live plants, trees, shrubs, cut flowers; apiary products; maple syrup and sugar; general farm products such as eggs and poultry; and, food prepared from such produce, including baked goods, jams, and jellies. A vendor can also sell food items for immediate consumption that are made or prepared at the Market or prior to the Market by the vendor and offered for sale at the Market from a licensed cart.”

The Market’s purpose, as stated in Section I of the operating rules is:

“The Wednesday Evening Market of the City of Ann Arbor Public Market is dedicated to supporting small-scale growers and producers through the creation of a vibrant marketplace that is welcoming to all members of our community. The market aims to preserve both the region’s rich agricultural history and foster innovation, while meeting the demands of area residents for additional opportunities to purchase local, fresh food.”

In order to further the Market’s purpose, staff propose the following definition be substituted for the market’s current vendor definition:

“A Vendor is a person or business entity that has a complete and approved application on file with the Market Manager. Vendors must produce and may offer for sale local, fresh food products and/or items that support food preparation, food consumption and our region’s agricultural history. A vendor can also sell food items for immediate consumption that are made or prepared at the Market or prior to the Market by the vendor and offered for sale at the Market from a licensed cart.”

These changes will allow for a more diverse product mix and greater vendor participation while

furthering the Market's purpose of supporting local producers and offering a vibrant marketplace.

The proposed change has been shared with and endorsed by the Public Market Advisory Commission.

Per Chapter 31 of the City Code, the Community Services Administrator may promulgate Market operating rules relating to the operation and management of the Market. The operating rules shall take effect 30 days after they are filed with the City Clerk, unless City Council acts by resolution to change the operating rules. The updated rules for the Wednesday Evening Market were filed with the City Clerk on July 1, 2013, and have been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.

Prepared by: Sarah DeWitt, Farmer's Market Manager, Jeff Straw, Deputy Manager of Parks and Recreation Services

Reviewed by: Colin Smith, Manager of Parks and Recreation Services and Sumedh Bahl, Community Services Area Administrator