Compact Mobile Food Operations (CMFO)
CMFO Home Storage Requirements

Effective January 1, 2023, the California Retail Food Code was amended with the passage of SB972 to allow a Compact Mobile Food Operation (i.e., food cart) to be stored in a private home when endorsed by the Environmental Health Division. If endorsed by Environmental Health, a private home may be able to store up to two CMFOs in a private home.

To provide an endorsement, an inspector will visit the home to review the sanitary and safe storage of the CMFO unit and review the storage area of prepackaged non-potentially hazardous foods. A home may be endorsed for cart storage only. Depending on the CMFO approval, a permitted food facility may also be required to support food preparation, food storage, cart cleaning, wastewater disposal, and potable water requirements for the compact mobile food operation.

Below is a checklist to help you prepare for the endorsement visit.

FOOD STORAGE	
	☐ Only prepackaged nonperishable foods (e.g., candy, soda, packaged chips) and raw whole produce may be stored in a private home. ☐ Prepackaged food must be properly labeled with manufacturer name, address, ingredients, and nutritional information. ☐ All food must be from an approved source. ☐ Food must be stored so that it is elevated 6" off the floor and protected from any contamination. ☐ Identify the location within the home that will be used for food storage. ☐ Food must be protected from contamination, rodents, and other vermin at all times.

CART STORAGE AREA	
	☐ Identify the storage area where the food cart(s) will be stored. ☐ Space must be fully enclosed, vermin proofed and maintained clean. ☐ Submit a procedure on how the cart will be cleaned prior to storage.

To get more information or if you are interested in getting an endorsement to utilize your home for storage of a food cart, contact the Plan Check Program at (626) 430-5560.

A local ordinance may prohibit the storage of CMFOs in a private home. Please check with your local city for any restrictions or additional requirements.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Public Health