

DATE November 9, 2023

TO Development Services Department

FROM Andrew Espinoza, CBO, MCP, CFM, CCEA, Director/Chief Building Official

Code Interpretation Number: CI2023-100

Title: Fat Rendering

Purpose: To provide an interpretation and definition by the Development Services Department (DSD) of "Fat Rendering".

Code Edition: Dallas Development Code Section [51A-4.203\(a\)](#) identifies "Potentially Incompatible Industrial Uses" and includes "Fat Rendering" as a designated use in Industrial Manufacturing (IM) districts by Specific Use Permit (SUP) only.

Question 1: What is "Fat Rendering"?

Answer: "Fat Rendering" is the industrial process of extracting and refining fats from animal by-products to produce substances such as tallow, grease, and oils to be used in applications such as animal feed, cosmetics, industry, and biofuel production. This process is further defined and regulated under [Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 144](#), which provides operational standards to minimize environmental impact and prevent public nuisances like, but not limited to odors, hazardous material, and potential pollution.

Question 2: What is potentially incompatible?

Answer: "Potentially Incompatible" refers to industrial uses that carry a higher risk of creating nuisances or hazards, including odors, noise, or increased traffic, all of which can detrimentally affect surrounding areas if not properly managed or regulated.

Question 3: Why is "Fat Rendering" considered "Potentially Incompatible"?

Answer: Fat Rendering is considered "potentially incompatible" due to the operations potential to adversely affect environmental quality, particularly concerning odor, waste management, and the risk of water and air pollution.

Question 4: Under what circumstances are "Fat Rendering" activities permitted?

Answer: "Fat Rendering" is allowed in IM districts by SUP only.



Andrew Espinoza, CBO, MCP, CFM, CCEA
Director/Chief Building Official