

# SPR Commercial Activities Ordinance

February 2, 2022

Seattle Parks and Recreation

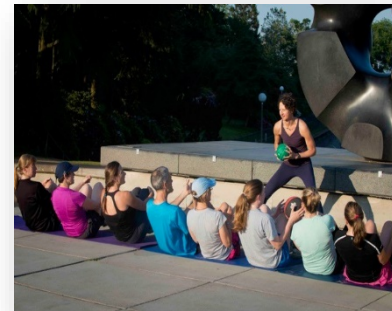
Public Assets and Homelessness Committee



City of Seattle

# SPR Commercial Activities Ordinance

An Ordinance relating to Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR); relating to commercial activities in parks; amending the following Park Code sections of the Seattle Municipal Code: 18.12.030, 18.12.042 and 18.12.160



# Vending in Parks

SPR activates underutilized parks and enhances park goers' experiences by permitting seasonal concession activities that align with our values of "healthy people, healthy environment, and strong communities."

- 80+ short-term vending permits issued in 2021 to small business owners ranging from boot camps to pop-up picnics to ice cream vending.
- Each vendor fulfills regulatory requirements and pays reasonable fees.
- Vendor outreach is directed to underserved populations; 80% of seasonal vendors self-identify as W/MBE.
- Permitting allows SPR to ensure businesses match park values and avoid conflicting use of space.
- Positive activation of park space.



# Vending in Parks: Pilot Programs

Pilot programs to activate underutilized spaces include:

- Fee waivers for community food and market vendors at South Park Plaza
- Mobile vending opportunity for W/MBE business owners at underserved parks in Southeast Seattle
- Food truck activation at downtown parks

Most permits are awarded through a competitive process with park activation and enhancement the number one criteria.



# Meet Three Vendors

## Latoya dba Funtastic

- Mom of three/Nurse
- First-time business owner
- Operates in SE Seattle parks
- Long-time community member

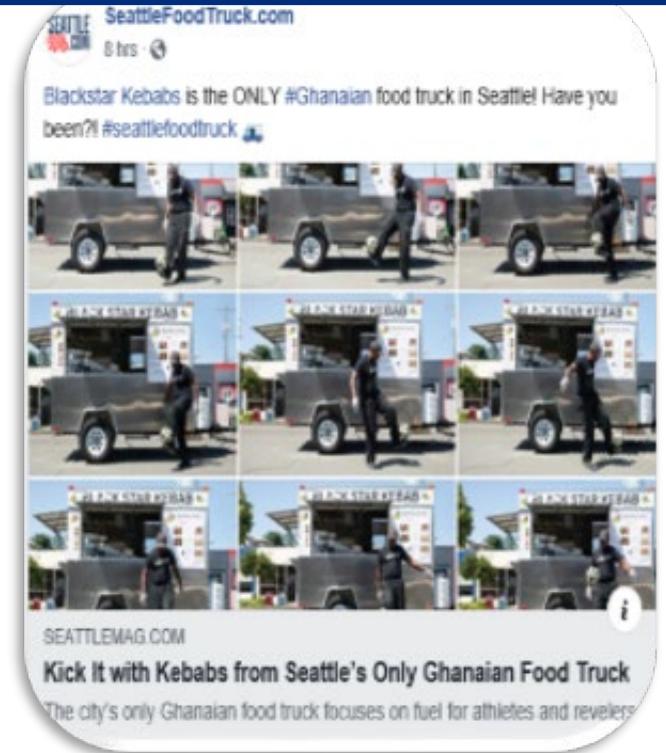


## Mike dba Sgt. Mike's Boot Camp

- Fitness Instructor, Gas Works Park
- One of the first permitted vendors for this type of activity
- Positive early morning presence at the park during the summer months

## Priestwick dba Blackstar Kebab

- Operates at Magnuson Park
- Unique healthy food offerings
- Engaged in community/often requested for events



# Proposed Changes

- Section 18.12.030: Definitions. Adds definition of Commercial Activity.
- Section 18.12.042: Permit System. Clarifies that a permit is required for commercial activity of any type, including providing a service, product or activity within a park. Includes language that permits may be issued for a term not to exceed one year consistent with existing SPR policies and procedures.
- Section 18.12.160: Commercial Activity. Updates language to be consistent with 18.12.042 and removes unclear language.



# Why are the changes needed?

Interest in short-term vending in parks has increased over the past 10 years. SPR proposes that the Seattle Municipal Code be amended to add language specific to commercial activity to include service, product, or activity in order to:

- Provide clarity to potential vendors to avoid enforcement action – this is not anticipated to lead to increased or additional enforcement
- Address the changing nature of commercial activity requests
- Ensure that the permitting process remains robust and inclusive

- Fitness Classes
- Nature or Art Classes
- Food Vending
- Kayak/SUP rentals



# Questions?

