



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Public Safety Committee

Agenda

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

9:30 AM

Council Chamber, City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Robert Kettle, Chair
Rob Saka, Vice-Chair
Joy Hollingsworth, Member
Debora Juarez, Member
Sara Nelson, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8807; Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov

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Council Chamber Listen Line: 206-684-8566

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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Public Safety Committee

Agenda

September 9, 2025 - 9:30 AM

Meeting Location:

Council Chamber, City Hall , 600 4th Avenue , Seattle, WA 98104

Committee Website:

<https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-safety>

This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business. Pursuant to Council Rule VI.C.10, members of the public providing public comment in Chambers will be broadcast via Seattle Channel.

Members of the public may register for remote or in-person Public Comment to address the Council. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair. Details on how to register for Public Comment are listed below:

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the meeting at <https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>. Online registration to speak will begin one hour before the meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

In-Person Public Comment - Register to speak on the public comment sign-up sheet located inside Council Chambers at least 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time. Registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

Please submit written comments no later than four business hours prior to the start of the meeting to ensure that they are distributed to Councilmembers prior to the meeting. Comments may be submitted at Council@seattle.gov or at Seattle City Hall, Attn: Council Public Comment, 600 4th Ave., Floor 2, Seattle, WA 98104. Business hours are considered 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Comments received after that time will be distributed after the meeting to Councilmembers and included as part of the public record.

Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

D. Items of Business

1. [CB 121064](#) **AN ORDINANCE** relating to removing the City residency requirement for judges pro tempore in Seattle; amending Section 3.33.140 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Supporting
Documents:

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Central Staff Memo](#)

[Seattle Municipal Court Presentation](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote (30 minutes)

Presenters: Anita Crawford-Willis, Presiding Judge, and Josh Sattler, Court Administrator, Seattle Municipal Court

2. **Fire Code Update Briefing**

Supporting
Documents:

[Draft Fire Code Update Ordinance
Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (30 minutes)

Presenters: Tim Munnis, Karen Grove, and Ken Brouillette, Seattle Fire Department

3. **City Attorney's Office Update on New Public Safety Tools**

Supporting Documents: [City Attorney's Office Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (30 minutes)

Presenter: City Attorney Ann Davison, City Attorney's Office

E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: CB 121064, **Version:** 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to removing the City residency requirement for judges pro tempore in Seattle; amending Section 3.33.140 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature has amended Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 35.20.200 to

provide, among other things, that the Presiding Judge has the authority to appoint Municipal Court

judges pro tempore, and that the terms of office of judges pro tempore must be specified in writing; and

WHEREAS, under Washington State case law the maximum term of appointment for judges pro tempore

appointed pursuant to the authority of an individual elected official cannot extend beyond the term of office of that elected official; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 3.33.140, governing the appointment of Municipal Court judges

pro tempore, should be consistent with RCW 35.20.200 and further should clearly set forth the maximum allowable term of appointment consistent with state law; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.20.200 only applies to cities that have more than 400,000 residents and all other

municipal and district courts are authorized to use pro tem judges without a city residency requirement; and

WHEREAS, it has been increasingly difficult to find qualified pro tem judges who reside in Seattle, and

without available pro tem judges court calendars may need to be canceled; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.20.200 was revised in the 2025 Legislative Session to allow for Seattle Municipal Court

to use pro tem judges who reside outside Seattle; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 3.33.140 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 120002, is amended as follows:

3.33.140 Judges pro tempore((-))

A. The Presiding Municipal Court Judge shall~~((, from attorneys residing in the City and qualified to hold the position of judge of the Municipal Court as provided in RCW 35.20.170 and SMC Section 3.33.110,))~~ appoint judges pro tempore who shall act in the absence of the regular judges of the Court or in addition to the regular judges when the administration of justice and the accomplishment of the work of the Court make it necessary. The Presiding Municipal Court Judge may appoint, as judges pro tempore, any full-time King County District Court judges. The term of office for a judge pro tempore must be specified in writing and cannot exceed the term of office of the regular elected Municipal Court judges.

B. A judge pro tempore must be an elector of the state and an attorney admitted to practice law before the courts of record of the state. A judge pro tempore need not be a resident of Seattle.

C. While acting as judge of the Court, judges pro tempore shall have all of the powers of the regular judges. Before entering upon his or her duties, each judge pro tempore shall take, subscribe and file an oath as is taken by a municipal judge. Judges pro tempore shall not practice before the Municipal Court during their term of office as judges pro tempore.

D. Municipal Court Judges pro tempore shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by ordinance of the City, and such compensation shall be paid by the City except that district court judges shall not be compensated by the City other than pursuant to an interlocal agreement.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2025, and signed by

me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____, 2025.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Seattle Municipal Court	Gary Ireland	Linda Taylor-Manning

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to removing the City residency requirement for judges pro tempore in Seattle; amending Section 3.33.140 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This legislation removes a residency requirement from the position of judges pro tem. The Washington state legislature adopted a change to RCW 35.20.200 that eliminates a city residency requirement for municipal courts authorized under RCW 35.20.010. Seattle is the only Washington city that utilizes a municipal court authorized under RCW 35.20.010. Other municipal and district courts are already authorized under RCW to recruit pro tem judges without a residency requirement.

The Seattle Municipal Court has had difficulty recruiting qualified pro tem judges in part because of the residency requirement. The intent of this legislation is to boost the number of pro tem judges, leading to reduced case load and time for resolution. Without an adequate pool of pro tem judges, Seattle Municipal Court must cancel or consolidate calendars, causing delays and impacting the efficient delivery of justice.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

No.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

N/A

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

Without this legislation, the Seattle Municipal Court might continue struggling to find qualified judges pro tem.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.

N/A

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No.

b. Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation?

No.

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

d. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.

N/A

ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.

iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?

N/A

e. Climate Change Implications

i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.

N/A

ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.

N/A

- f. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

N/A

- g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?**

No.

5. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: None.

September 2, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: Public Safety Committee
From: Tamaso Johnson, Analyst
Subject: Council Bill 121064 – Judges Pro Tempore ORD

On September 9, 2025, the Public Safety Committee will discuss [Council Bill \(CB\) 121064](#), request legislation from the Mayor’s Office. This bill would authorize the Seattle Municipal Court to employ judges pro tempore who reside outside the City. This change would align the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) with 2025 changes to Washington State law on this subject.

This memorandum provides background information, describes the bill, and outlines next steps.

Background

Judges Pro Tempore

A judge pro tempore, or more commonly “pro tem” judge, is a judicial officer who serves in an interim or substitute capacity for an elected or appointed judge in circumstances where the judge cannot be present at a legal proceeding. Judicial absences due to illness, paid time off, or other duties necessitate the use of pro tem judges in order to maintain regular operations of a court. The Municipal Court recruits dedicated pro tem judges for this purpose, in addition to occasionally utilizing Court magistrates (appointed judicial officers who primary handle infractions) as pro tem judges when other pro tem judges are not available. Using magistrates as pro tem judges has a negative impact on the Court infraction calendar, which can result in service reductions or delays that may reduce the quality of experience for Court users.

State Law Requirements

Washington State law governing municipal courts contains specific statutory provisions that apply only to cities with over 400,000 residents, which currently only affect the City of Seattle. Until recently, state law required pro tem judges appointed by the Seattle Municipal Court to reside within City limits—a requirement no other municipal court in the state was subject to.¹ During the 2025 session the Washington State legislature passed [House Bill 1112](#), which recently went into effect, repealing the city residency requirement for pro tem judges in cities with a population of more than 400,000. The Municipal Court has had challenges recruiting pro tem judges within the City in recent years and is hopeful that this state law change, and accompanying SMC change proposed in this ordinance, will increase recruitment of pro tem judges and help alleviate recent related judicial staffing challenges.

¹ [RCW 35.20.200](#)

CB 121064 – Judges Pro Tempore ORD

This bill would align the SMC with relevant changes made to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) earlier this year, removing the City residency requirement for pro tem judges in Municipal Court. This bill, following amended state law, would require Municipal Court pro tem judges to be both eligible to vote in Washington State and be an attorney admitted to practice law in the state. This proposed change to the SMC is necessary to provide the Municipal Court with the authority to implement the recent state law change described in this memo. There is no fiscal impact associated with implementing this legislation.

Next steps

CB 121064 is scheduled for a second hearing and potential vote in the Public Safety Committee on September 23, 2025.

cc: Ben Noble, Director

Seattle Municipal Court

Update for Seattle City Council

Public Safety Committee
September 9, 2025

Anita Crawford-Willis, Presiding Judge
Josh Sattler, Court Administrator



Seattle Municipal Court

- The judicial branch of Seattle City government.
- Authorized under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 35.20.
- Adjudicates misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenses, infractions, and civil violations under the Seattle Municipal Code and Revised Code of Washington statutes.
- 7 elected judges, 5 appointed magistrates, 4 service areas.



Seattle Municipal Court's mission is to provide a forum to resolve alleged violations of the law in a respectful, independent and impartial manner.



Judges Pro Tempore

- Often shortened to “pro tem judge”, an attorney appointed to serve as a temporary judge when an elected judge is unavailable due to illness, absence, or disqualification.
- Pro tem judges hold all the powers of a duly elected judge while serving and take an oath of office for the same term as elected judges.
- SMC 3.33.140 requires city residency for pro tem judges.



Ordinance 121064 – Judges Pro Tempore

- Removes city residency requirement for pro tem judges.
- In 2025, Washington State legislature changed RCW eliminating city residency requirement for municipal courts authorized under RCW 35.20.010.
- Seattle Municipal Court is the only court authorized under RCW 35.20.010.
- Other municipal and district courts are already authorized to recruit pro tem judges without a residency requirement.
- SMC Magistrates are already able to serve as pro tem judge under SMC 3.33.150 without city residency requirement.

Why this change matters

- ✓ Without pro tem coverage, SMC calendars are canceled or consolidated, causing delays and impacting the efficient delivery of justice.
- ✓ Court service impacts: delays in infraction hearings and cancellation of debt reduction hearings by using magistrates in formal court instead of infractions.
- ✓ Increasingly more difficult to recruit qualified pro tem judges who reside in city limits.
- ✓ There is no rational justification for imposing the added burden of requiring city residence for pro tem judges on only one municipal court in our state.

Seattle Municipal Court Updates

TECH STABILIZATION & DATA
EXCHANGE IN PLACE WITH CITY
ATTORNEY

ADDED MARSHAL STAFFING

LAUNCH OF DRUG PROSECUTION
ALTERNATIVE





Thank you and Questions?

www.seattle.gov/courts



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2728, **Version:** 1

Fire Code Update Briefing



Legislation Text

File #: TMP-11654, **Version:** 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Fire Code; clarifying provisions relating to preventable alarms and securing of premises, and amending Sections 112, 202, 311, and 901 of the 2021 Seattle Fire Code as adopted by Section 22.600.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code and as regulated and allowed by the State Building Code Act, chapter 19.27 of the Revised Code of Washington.

WHEREAS, the Seattle Fire Code establishes standards intended to preserve lives and protect property, and is also known as Subtitle VI of Title 22, the Seattle Building and Construction Codes; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Fire Code provides citation authority to the Seattle Fire Department to further the Seattle Fire Department's mission of preserving lives and protecting property through compliance with provisions in the Seattle Fire Code; and

WHEREAS, citations are a non-criminal enforcement approach that includes the opportunity for residents and businesses in Seattle to appeal and receive a fair and impartial review of citations in front of a hearing examiner from the Office of the Hearing Examiner; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Fire Code provides authority to the Seattle Fire Department to take action to ensure that vacant buildings do not cause a dangerous public nuisance in the community; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Fire Department and the Seattle Fire Code Advisory Board have reviewed and approved the additions and revisions to the 2021 Seattle Fire Code contained in this ordinance; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 112 of the Seattle Fire Code, last amended by Ordinance 127139, is amended as

follows:

SECTION 112 VIOLATIONS

* * *

[S] **112.4.1 Documentation.** If after investigation the *fire code official* determines that the standards or requirements of provisions referenced in Section 112.4 have been violated, the *fire code official* may issue a citation to the owner and/or other *person(s)* responsible for the violation. The citation shall include the following information: (1) the name and address of the *person* to whom the citation is issued; (2) a reasonable description of the location of the property on which the violation occurred; (3) a separate statement of each standard or requirement violated; (4) the date of the violation; (5) a statement that the *person* cited must respond to the citation within 15 days after service; (6) a space for entry of the applicable penalty; (7) a statement that a response must be sent to the Hearing Examiner and received not later than 5 p.m. on the day the response is due; (8) the name, address, and phone number of the Office of the Hearing Examiner where the citation is to be filed; (9) a statement that the citation represents a determination that a violation has been committed by the *person(s)* named in the citation and that the determination shall be final unless contested as provided in this Section 112.4; and (10) a certified statement of the *fire code official's* representative issuing the citation, authorized by chapter 5.50 RCW ((9A.72.085)), setting forth facts supporting issuance of the citation.

* * *

[S] **112.4.6.5 Evidence at hearing.** The certified statement or declaration authorized by chapter 5.50 RCW ((9A.72.085)) shall be prima facie evidence that a violation occurred and that the *person* cited is responsible. The certified statement or declaration authorized under chapter 5.50 RCW ((9A.72.085)) and any other evidence accompanying the report shall be admissible without further evidentiary foundation. Any certifications or declarations authorized under chapter 5.50 RCW ((9A.72.085)) shall also be admissible without further evidentiary foundation. The *person* cited may rebut the Seattle Fire Department's evidence and

establish that the cited violation(s) did not occur or that the *person* contesting the citation is not responsible for the violation.

* * *

Section 2. Section 202 of the Seattle Fire Code, enacted by Ordinance 127109, is amended as follows:

**SECTION 202
GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

* * *

[A] **OWNER.** Any person, agent, operator, entity, firm, municipal corporation, or corporation having any legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the state, county, or municipality as holding an interest or title to the property; or otherwise having possession or control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.

* * *

Section 3. Section 311 of the Seattle Fire Code, enacted by Ordinance 127109, is amended as follows:

**SECTION 311
VACANT PREMISES**

* * *

311.1 General. (~~Temporarily unoccupied~~) Unoccupied buildings, structures, premises or portions thereof, including tenant spaces, shall be safeguarded and maintained in accordance with Sections 311.1.1 through 311.6.

[S] **311.1.1 Abandoned premises.** Buildings, structures and premises which persistently or repeatedly become unprotected or unsecured, which have been occupied by unauthorized persons or for illegal purposes, or which present a danger of structural collapse or fire spread to adjacent properties may be considered to be abandoned, declared unsafe and abated by demolition or rehabilitation in accordance with Section 114, the Seattle Municipal Code and the *International Building Code*.

311.1.2 Tenant spaces. Storage and lease plans required by this code shall be revised and updated to reflect temporary or partial vacancies.

311.2 Safeguarding vacant premises. ~~((Temporarily unoccupied))~~ Unoccupied buildings, structures, premises or portions thereof shall be secured and protected in accordance with Sections 311.2.1 through ~~((311.2.3))~~ 311.2.4.

311.2.1 Security. Exterior and interior openings open to other tenants or unauthorized persons shall be boarded, locked, blocked or otherwise protected to prevent entry by unauthorized individuals. Where required by the fire code official, the premises shall have an approved fence to prevent entry to the premises or use of the premises by unauthorized individuals. The *fire code official* is authorized to placard, post signs, erect barrier tape or take similar measures as necessary to secure public safety.

* * *

311.2.4 Maintenance. Where required for compliance with the provisions of this section or other provisions of this code, fencing, boarding, locks and other protections to prevent entry by unauthorized individuals shall thereafter be continuously maintained in accordance with the requirements of this code or as directed by the fire code official.

* * *

Section 4. Section 901 of the Seattle Fire Code, enacted by Ordinance 127109, is amended as follows:

SECTION 901 GENERAL

* * *

[S] 901.12 Preventable fire alarms. It shall be unlawful for any *person* or *owner* to give, signal, or transmit or for any *person* or *owner* to cause or permit to be given, signaled, or transmitted in any manner any *preventable fire alarm*. An *owner* shall be responsible for any *preventable fire alarm* occurring on the *owner's* property caused by ~~((a tenant, occupant, or guest))~~ the owner, or by the owner's contractor, employee, tenant, or

guest, or by a tenant's guest or contractor, or by an occupant except if the occupant is trespassing. An *owner* shall also be responsible for any *preventable fire alarm* occurring on the *owner's* property that is caused by mechanical failure or is the result of improper testing or maintenance of a *fire ((alarm-system)) protection system or life safety system*.

* * *

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2025, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____, 2025.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

File #: TMP-11654, **Version:** 1

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

(Seal)

Seattle Fire Code Clean Up Ordinance

Date
09/09/2025

Seattle Fire
Department



City of Seattle

What the Ordinance Does

- Cleans up for Seattle Fire Code, does not introduce new policy.
- Updates references to an RCW to align with changes that re-organized the numbering of the relevant RCW statute.
- Updates other language to achieve best clarity for users of the code, including the public and our employees.

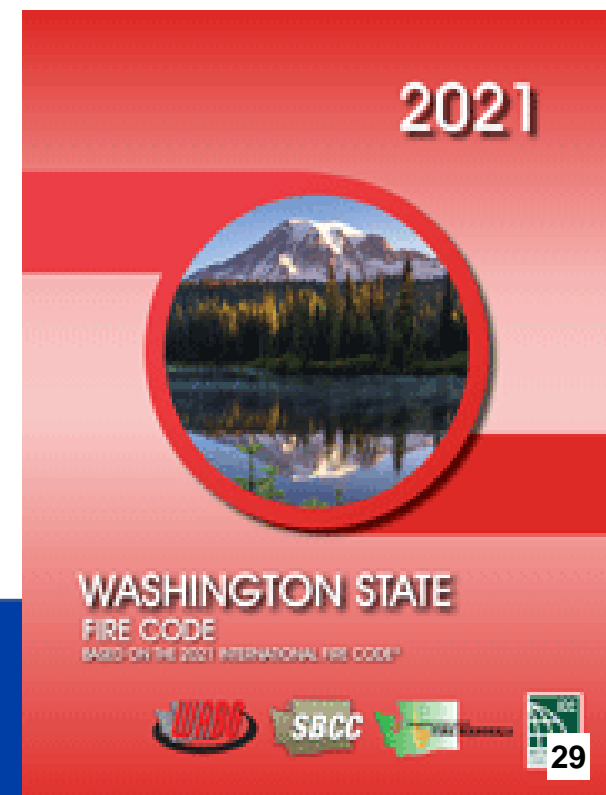
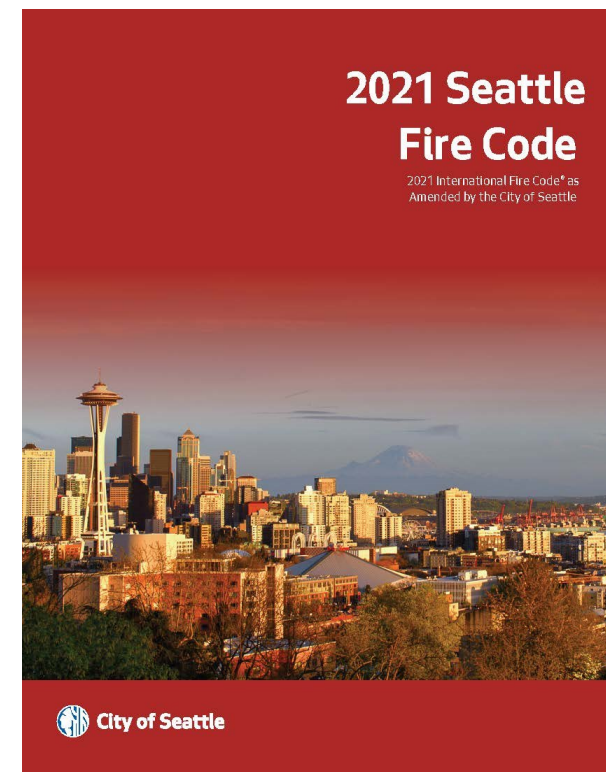


Seattle Fire Code

- Establishes standards intended to preserve lives and protect property
- Based on the Int'l Fire Code produced by the technical committees of the ICC
- As further amended by Washington State
- With Seattle amendments meeting the needs of our City, as proposed by the Executive and approved by Council
- With review by the Fire Code Adv Board
- Adopted on a 3-year cycle (2018,2021,2024)
- With additional local amendments allowed between edition years to meet local needs

Date
09/09/2025

Seattle Fire
Department



RCW Reference in SFC

- RCW 9A.72.085 has been rescinded and replaced by Chapter 5.50 RCW. Same intent and effect.
- Allows properly signed statements in lieu of requiring a specific employee to personally attend a hearing and be “sworn in” prior to their report being accepted by the Court or Hearing Examiner.

Chapter 5.50 “Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act”

“If a law of this state requires or permits use of a sworn declaration, an unsworn declaration meeting the requirements of this chapter has the same effect as a sworn declaration.”

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of Washington
that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed on the day of,,
at



Vacant and Dangerous Buildings

- SFC provides authority to SFD to take action to ensure that vacant buildings do not cause a dangerous public nuisance in the community.
- This ordinance removes vagueness from “temporarily unoccupied”, which is not defined, by simply using “unoccupied”.
- Clarifies that use of a fence is included where the code states unoccupied buildings and premises “shall be secured and protected”.



Dangerous Building Update

- 2024 legislation created new incentives for property owners to act to fix or demolish their dangerous buildings, or else SFD could act at their expense.
- Almost all 2025 cases were closed or settled when property owners demolished or rehabbed their buildings, ending the dangerous conditions. Two court-ordered SFD-led demolitions so far in 2025.
- ~50% of the demolished buildings had one or more previous fires that put neighboring homes, businesses and first responders at risk.

Status of Buildings on SFD's Dangerous Building List 2025			
Council District	Demolished	Remodeled	Grand Total
1	8	1	9
2	4	5	9
3	9	1	10
4	6	2	8
5	5	5	10
6	1	5	6
7	0	3	3
2025 Year to Date	33	22	55



Clarification of Responsibility for False Alarms

- Ordinance includes two clarifications.
- Example:

“An *owner* shall be responsible for any *preventable fire alarm* occurring on the *owner's* property caused by (~~((a tenant, occupant, or guest))~~) the *owner*, or by the *owner's* contractor, employee, tenant, or guest, or by a tenant's guest or contractor, or by an occupant except if the occupant is trespassing.”

Questions?



"I think a hero is any person really intent on making this a better place for all people."

-Maya Angelou



Here to Serve



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2729, **Version:** 1

City Attorney's Office Update on New Public Safety Tools



SEATTLE CITY
ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE
ANN DAVISON

Update on New Public Safety Tools

September 2025

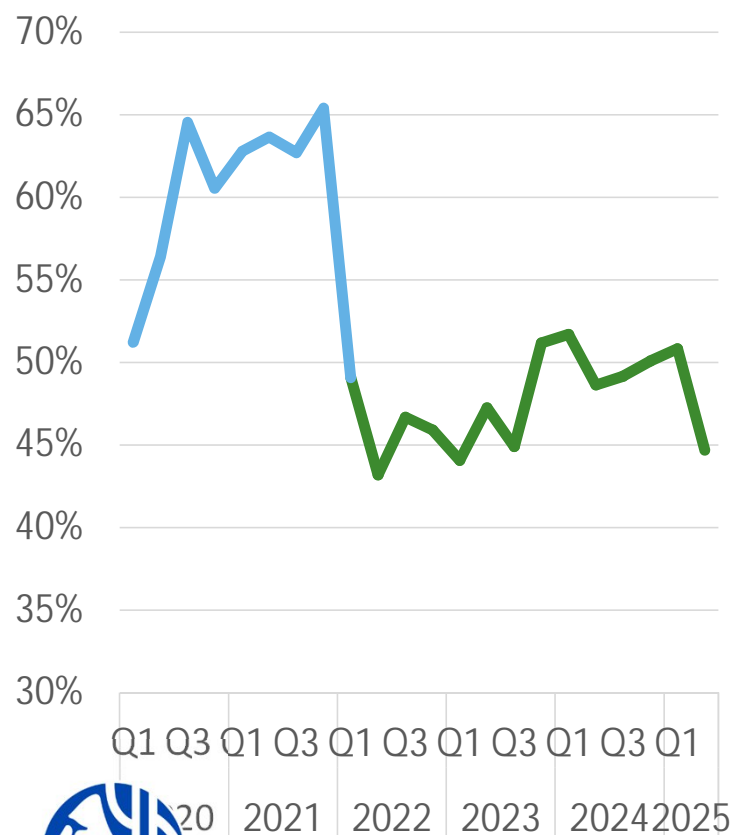
- Criminal Division Overview
- Drug Prosecution & Alternative
- SODA
- SOAP
- Street Racing
- Graffiti
- Chronic Nuisance



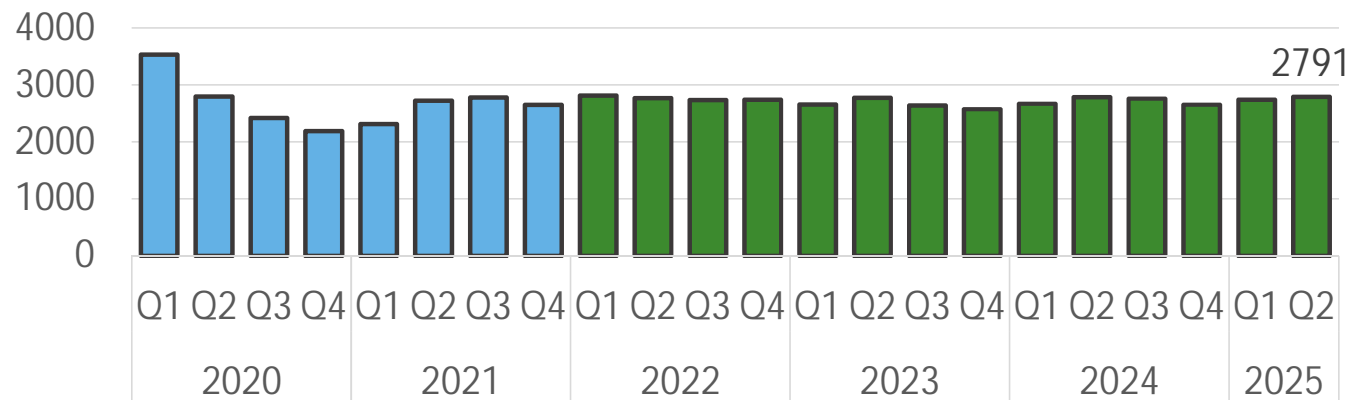
Criminal Division Overview

Slide 3

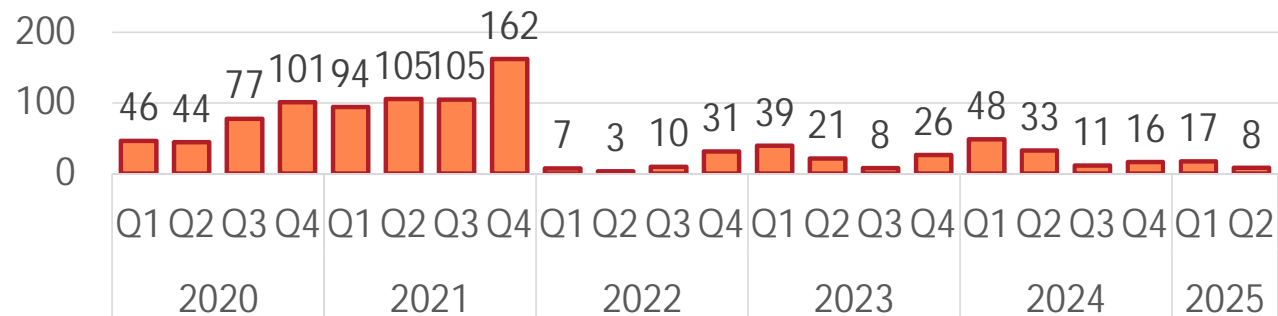
Decline Rate



Misdemeanor Referrals

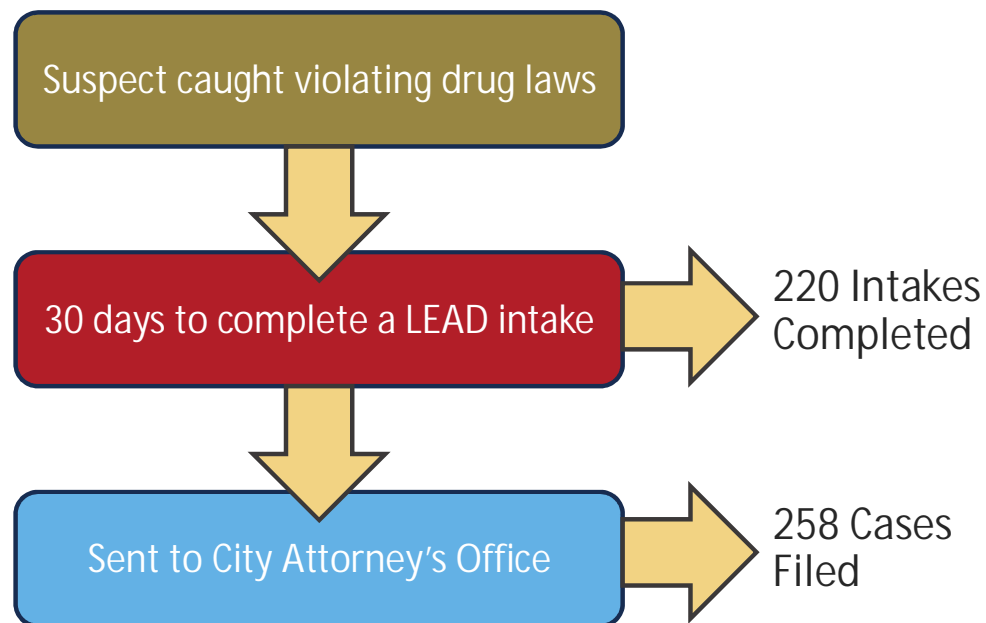


Median Time to Make a Filing Decision



Seattle City Attorney's Office Ann Davison, City Attorney September 2025

Possession & Use of Controlled Substances

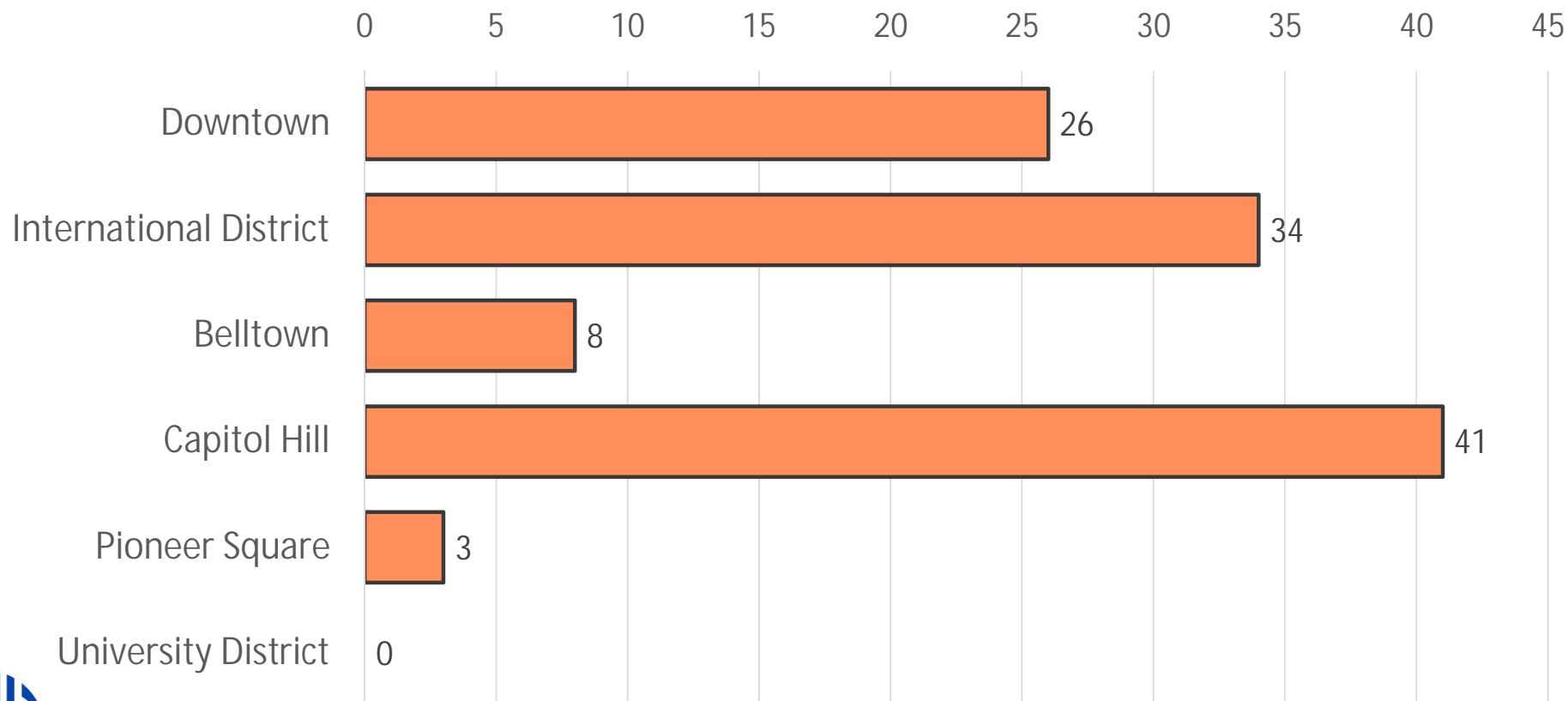


Drug Prosecution Alternative

- DPA launched August 2025 as alternative to traditional prosecution for persons facing drug charges in SMC
- Requires substance use assessment and engagement with Court Resource Center to have charges dropped
- In first weeks: 4 participants opted into the program, 2 pending, and 14 additional offers extended
- CAO maintains discretion on whether to offer drug prosecution alternative based on defendant's activity and history



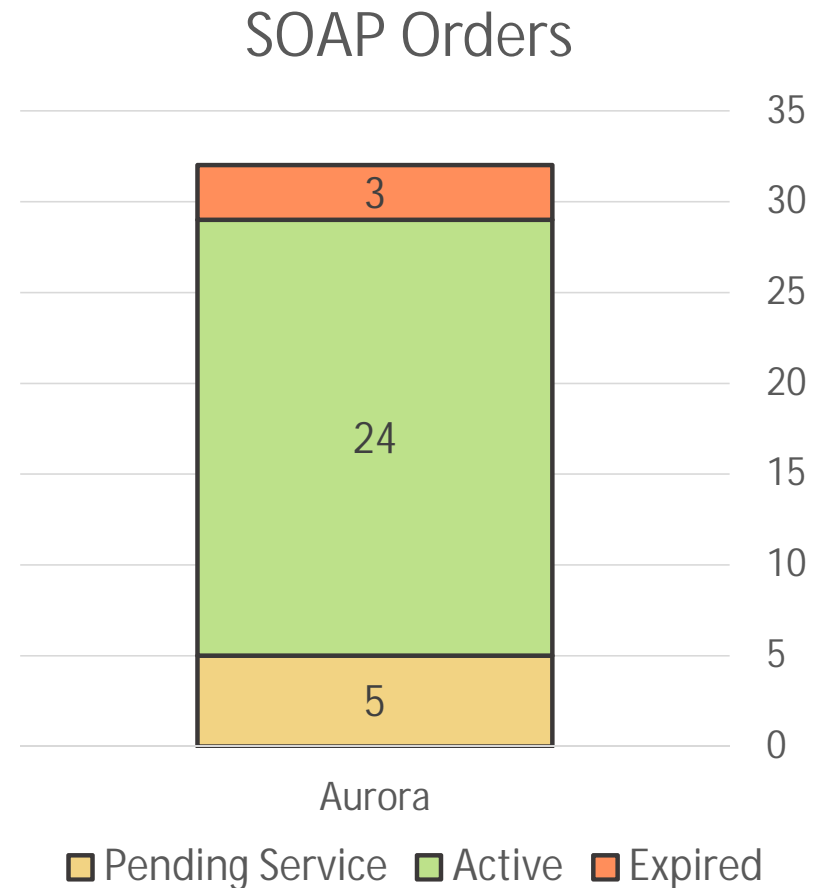
115 SODA Orders



Stay Out of Area of Prostitution

Slide 6

- 32 SOAP orders to date
- Most SOAP orders are for sex buyers
- Several are for suspected pimps
 - One has a significant multi-state history of trafficking



Seattle City Attorney's Office Ann Davison, City Attorney September 2025

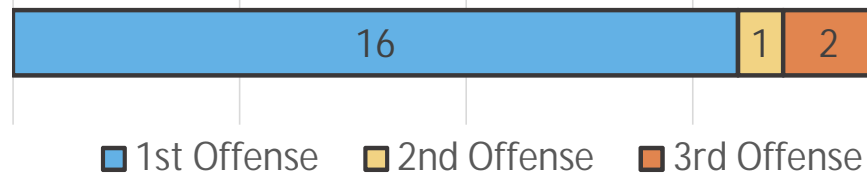
Street Racing

Slide 7

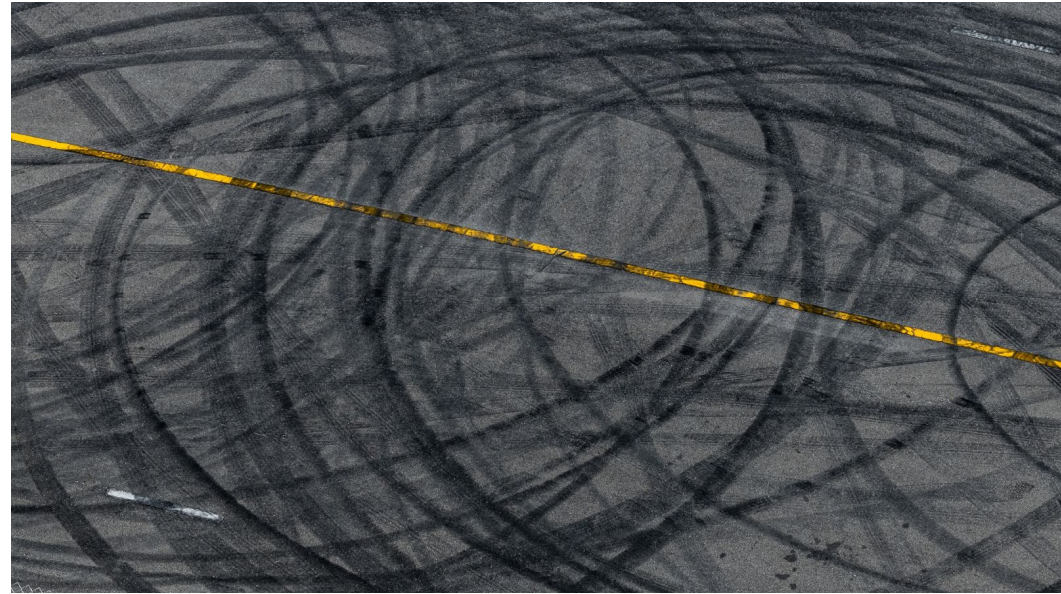
SMC 11.58.440

July 2024

19 Street Racing Infractions so far



- Increased fines for vehicle owners involved in illegal racing:
 - First offense: \$500
 - Second offense: \$800
 - Third and subsequent offenses: \$1,500



Seattle City Attorney's Office Ann Davison, City Attorney September 2025



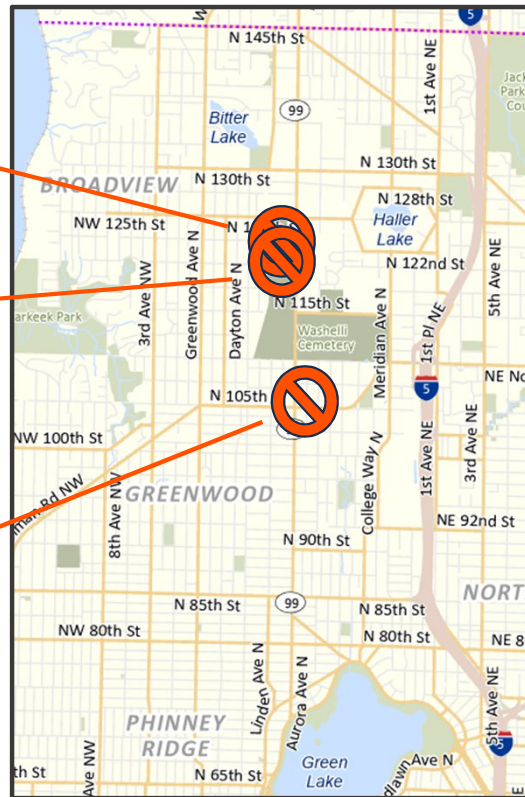
- Law is effective as of Aug 19th.
- CAO preparing lawsuits against multiple prolific taggers.



Chronic Nuisance & After-hours

Slide 9

Trafficking / Sexual Exploitation Locations

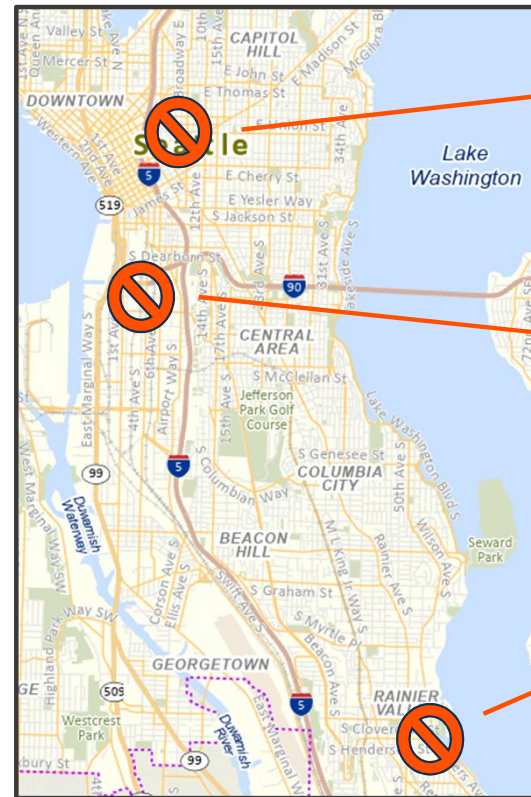


Emerald Motel

Seattle Inn

Oaktree Motel

Gun Violence / Homicide Locations



Mint Lounge

Urban Lounge

Capri Lounge



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An aerial photograph of the Seattle skyline at sunset. The city's buildings are silhouetted against a sky filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds. The water of the harbor is visible in the lower right, with a few ships and cranes. The overall mood is calm and scenic.

Questions?



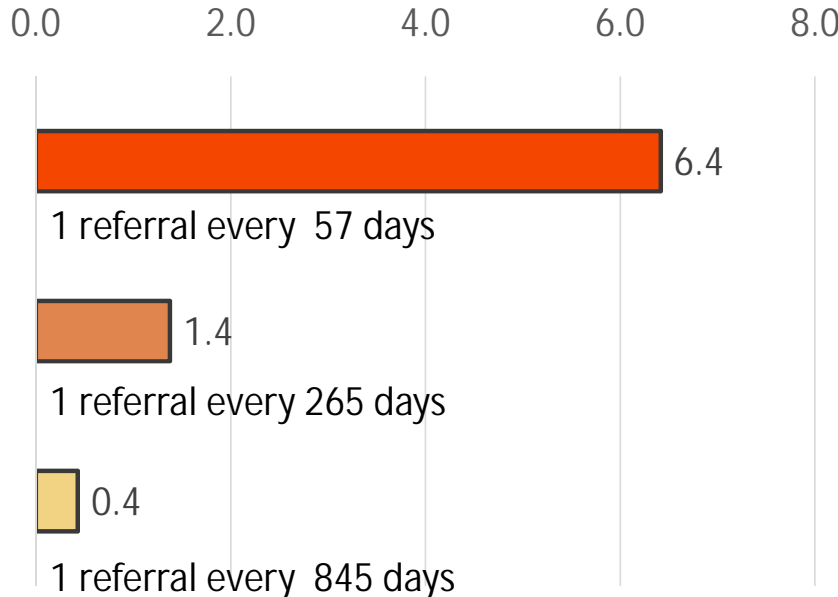
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High Utilizer Initiative

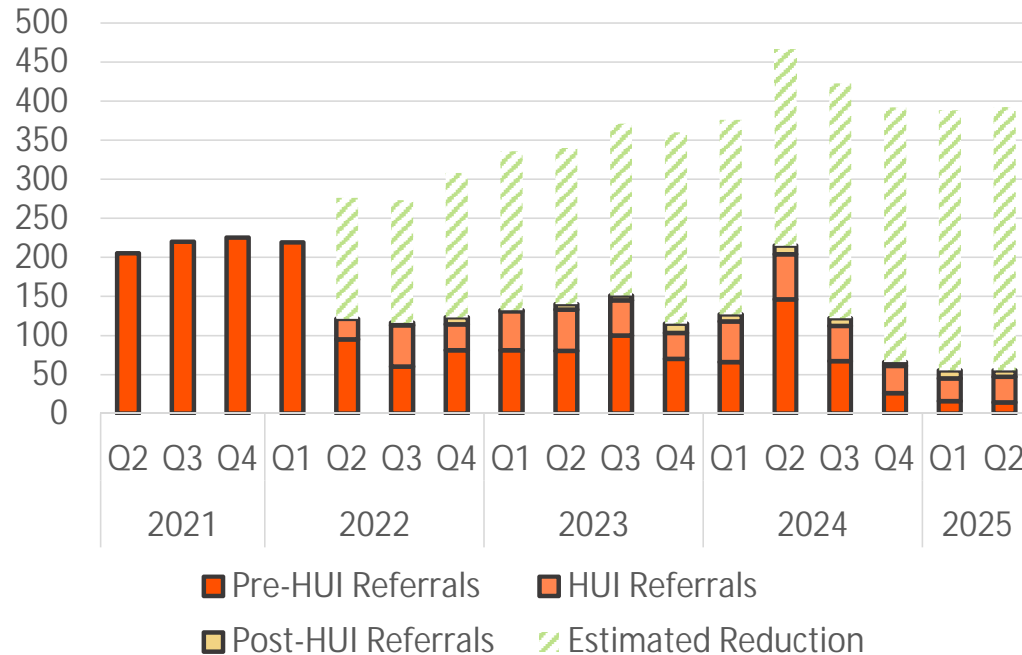
Slide 11

The High Utilizer Initiative has reduced referral rates by 80%+ and led to an estimated reduction of over 3000 referrals

Average High Utilizer Referral Rates



Referrals from High Utilizer Population



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