

## Amendment B to CB 120995 Graffiti Restitution and Penalty Ordinance

Sponsor: Councilmember Rinck

Reimbursement of graffiti abatement costs incurred by private property owners

**Effect:** This amendment would have the following effects:

- Affirmatively state that graffiti taggers are liable to private property owners for costs owners incur to abate graffiti damage that is the subject of an action under SMC 10.07.055.
- Confirms that private property owners may seek restitution for their own costs, apart from the civil action by the City.
- Requires that the CAO endeavor to request that any judgment reflect restitution due to the City and private property owners for abatement costs they have incurred due to the illegal graffiti violations.

### Amend Section 2, as amended, as follows:

Section 2. A new Section 10.07.055 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows:

#### **10.07.055 Civil actions against graffiti taggers**

A. In addition to any other civil or criminal penalties or other remedies authorized by law or equity, a graffiti tagger shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,500 per illegal graffiti violation, and shall further be liable to the City for restitution of costs incurred by the City or a private property owner, including but not limited to all labor and materials costs of removing the illegal graffiti. This Section 10.07.055 does not prohibit a private property owner from pursuing legal action and seeking restitution from the graffiti tagger.

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Public Safety Committee  
July 8, 2025  
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E. The City Attorney shall endeavor to request that any judgment reflect restitution due to the City and/or private property owners for abatement costs they have incurred due to an illegal graffiti violation.