

Amendment C to CB 120836 – Prostitution Crimes and Diversion

Sponsor: Councilmember Strauss

Adding a Recital

Effect: This amendment would add a recital to CB 120836.

Add a recital:

WHEREAS, with the Seattle Police Department having over 300 fewer police officers than at the start of 2020, a multilayered approach is needed to address gun violence and sex trafficking, including enhanced law enforcement tools; diversion; and environmental design such as the installation of traffic barriers, additional lighting, and cameras; and

WHEREAS, regular re-evaluation is required to understand whether a Stay Out of Area of Prostitution (SOAP) zone needs to be changed, reduced, added, or expanded, based on data, to retain the efficacy of the policy and minimize unintended consequences; and

WHEREAS, because there are currently no prostitution loitering crimes in the Seattle Municipal Code that apply to those who patronize individuals being commercially sexually exploited or those who promote such commercial sexual exploitation, the Seattle Police Department's ability to disrupt commercial sexual exploitation is limited; and