



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
**CENTRAL STAFF**

# Unpermitted Vending Enforcement

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TRANSPORTATION, WATERFRONT, & SEATTLE CENTER COMMITTEE

MAY 21, 2026

# SLI MO-003-S-A: Unlicensed Vending Policy Review

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2026 Budget SLI directs Mayor's Office to review City's approach to unlicensed vending.

## **Review Scope:**

- Current enforcement practices and coordination
- Roles of SDOT, OED, SPD, FAS, SPR, Public Health, and partners.
- Public health and safety considerations

## **Deliverables:**

- Best practices from other cities.
- Policy options balancing enforcement and pathways to compliance.
- Near-term strategies addressing accessibility, equity, and barriers.

# PSM Program: Vending Oversight, Budget, and Staffing

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**SDOT Public Space Management Program:** Oversees vending in the public right-of-way under SMC 15.17, including permitting, vendor education, and enforcement of City vending regulations (part of larger program).

- Overall program budget is \$8.8 million in the 2026 Adopted Budget
  - Includes \$1.6 million in new GF appropriations in 2026 for expanded enforcement of unpermitted vending in the public right-of-way and Joint Enforcement Team (JET) operations
  - Supports 31 FTEs overall, including 3 new FTEs in 2026 dedicated to increased vending enforcement and JET expansion

**Questions?**