

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

NOTICE

11.2

January 7, 2026

TO: All Department Personnel

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 635 – FOOD VENDORS AND FACILITIES: ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Notice is to inform Department personnel of the recently signed Senate Bill (SB) 635, the Street Vendor Business Protection Act, which restricts the use of City resources, including personnel and property, while conducting enforcement on street vending. Department personnel encountering street vendors should focus on ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all community members, as well as the usability of City sidewalks and public parks.

BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 42.00, *Regulation of Soliciting and Sales in Streets*, and LAMC Section 42.13, *Sidewalk and Park Vending Program*, currently limits street vending to sidewalks and parks. These ordinances require the Department, the Bureau of Street Services, and the Department of Recreation and Parks, to adopt rules and regulations to govern vendor's conduct.

On October 7, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 635 into law. Effective January 1, 2026, SB 635 revises various sections of the California Government Code (GC) and Health and Safety Code (H&S) pertaining to food vendors and facilities.

Department personnel can enforce these ordinances and their subsections through the Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) program. This Notice serves as additional guidance for Department personnel during incidents involving enforcement of street vendors in compliance with SB 635.

PROCEDURES

In instances where Department personnel are engaged in enforcement actions involving street vendors, Department personnel shall adhere to the guidance previously outlined in the Office of Constitutional Policing and Policy Notice, *Enforcement of Street Vending Violations (LAMC Section 42.00 [b]) under Administrative Citation Enforcement Program – Revised*, dated January 29, 2018, and Office of the Chief of Police Notice, *City of Los Angeles Vending Program – Education and Enforcement*, dated March 11, 2019.

When conducting enforcement related to sidewalk vendors or compact mobile food operations, Department personnel *shall not*:

- Disclose or provide in writing, verbally, or in any other manner, personally identifiable information of any sidewalk vendor or any operator or employee of a compact mobile food operation, except pursuant to a subpoena or a valid judicial warrant;
- Except as otherwise required by state or federal law, provide voluntary consent to any individual to access, review, or obtain any of the enforcement agency's records that include personally identifiable information of any sidewalk vendor or any operator or employee of a compact mobile food operation, except pursuant to a subpoena or valid judicial warrant;
- Use monies or personnel to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest persons for purposes other than those identified in the amended sections of the GC and H&S code;
- Inquire into an individual's immigration status;
- Place personnel under the supervision of an agency conducting immigration enforcement, or employ personnel deputized under the authority of an agency conducting immigration enforcement; or,
- Use an employee of an agency conducting immigration enforcement as an interpreter for local matters, or use Department personnel as interpreters for employees of an agency conducting immigration enforcement.

Note: Per GC 51038(c)(2) and H&S 114381.3(b), any personally identifiable information collected by a local authority related to sidewalk vendors or compact mobile food operators shall be exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

DEFINITIONS

- **"Sidewalk vendor"** means a person who sells food or merchandise from a pushcart, stand, display, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other nonmotorized conveyance, or from one's person, upon a public sidewalk or other pedestrian path;
- **"Roaming sidewalk vendor"** means a sidewalk vendor who moves from place to place and stops only to complete a transaction;
- **"Stationary sidewalk vendor"** means a sidewalk vendor who vends from a fixed location;
- **"Compact mobile food operations"** means a mobile food facility that operates from an individual or from a pushcart, stand, display, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other nonmotorized conveyance;

- **“Local authority”** means a chartered or general law city, county, or city and county;
- **“Personally identifiable information”** means an individual’s name, business name, home address, business address, birthdate, telephone number, business location, California driver’s license or identification number, individual taxpayer identification number, municipal identification number, government-issued identification number, consular identification, social media identifiers, employer identification number, business license number, seller’s permit number, social security number, vending registration certificate or license number, known place of work, income and tax information, and any other information that would identify the individual; and,
- **“Immigration enforcement”** means any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any state or federal civil immigration law, and also includes any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any state or federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person’s presence in, entry or reentry to, or employment in, the United States.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Office of Operations, Staff Research Unit, at (213) 486-6050.

JIM McDONNELL
Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION “D”