# Street Vending Staff Report VOC Meeting March – September 2020

Businesses have been struggling this year. COVID, protests, damage to businesses, less foot traffic and capacity restrictions have put a huge burden on our restaurants, taverns and retailers. According to the Wisconsin Restaurant Association, <u>it is estimated that 33% restaurant closures by end of year</u>. These businesses have expressed need for capital and help in general. Many operators are in daily fear of having to close and are exhausted with having to pivot their businesses nearly daily.

### Banners:

Banners consistent with last year, refunded fees for those that did not want to use the permit and some new ones have come forward (Census, COVID and Get out the Vote). Fees were charged if the organization posted a banner.

### **TEM Permits:**

There have been very few applications and permits issued this year.

#### Policy changes to assist businesses in response to COVID-19:

- Waive and refunded all Street Vending Licenses except Camp Randall High Density Vending and UW Game Day Vending (<u>File #60117</u>)
  - a. Approved 4/21/20
  - b. Enactment date 4/28/20
- 2. Created and implemented the Streatery Program (File #60695)
  - a. Approved 6/16/20
  - b. Enactment 6/22/20
  - c. Guidelines for the Streatery Restaurant Recovery Program
    - i. **67** Streatery Approvals
      - 1. 32 Sidewalk Café License issued (no Streatery Approvals)
      - 2. 5 Café Zones
      - 3. **6** Expanded into roadway not related to a full block closure to the parking lane
    - ii. 54 Private Property (as of 9/10/20)
  - d. Fall/Winter/Spring Streatery Guidelines
    - i. Survey Results Overview
- 3. Merchant Vending to allow umbrellas or tent (File #61270)
  - a. Approved 7/14/20
  - b. Enactment date 7/20/20
- 4. Eliminate 2020 Fall Food Cart Review (File #61272)
  - a. Approved 8/4/20
  - b. Enactment date 8/7/14
- 5. Extended the Streatery Program through April 14, 2021 (File #61932)
  - a. Approved 9/15/20
  - b. Enactment date 9/21/20
  - c. Sidewalk Café Snow Removal Procedures

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#### Enforcement:

How we issue warnings have shifted. Currently we are mostly emailing and calling businesses to address issues that arise or when equipment needs to be moved. We are working to educate businesses on proper approvals and changes that affect their businesses. No formal written warnings have been issued via mail or email. We are continuing to address our enforcement protocol and shifting to be responsive to COVID.

**Citation** – JDs for vending at the Top of State without the required license