

File No.: 04-1000-20-2022-521

November 15, 2022

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")

I am responding to your request of September 22, 2022 under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act)* for:

- 1. Total annual number of By-law infractions/tickets issued for: a) panhandling and b) selling/conducting business without a licence; and**
- 2. Total annual number of Business Licences issued in the Downtown Eastside for: a) collecting/selling recyclable bottles/cans and b) selling wares on the sidewalks.**

Date Range: January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2021.

We have completed the search for responsive records for this request and no responsive records have been located. The Property Use Inspection department confirmed that they are unable to determine how many tickets were issued for alleged business licencing violations, and further stated that they are unable to generate data specific to individual neighbourhoods. Furthermore the department added that violations do not always result in formal enforcement; the first step is to promote voluntary compliance, and failing that there is the option of issuing a letter, order, and/or a ticket.

With regards to your inquiry relating to panhandling in point one, the Vancouver Police Department is responsible for issuing tickets under s.70A (Obstructive Solicitation) of the Street and Traffic By-law no. 2849 (<https://bylaws.vancouver.ca/2849c.PDF>), which includes panhandling. You may contact the VPD directly to request this information, as they are a separate public body under the Act. Please see their website for more information: <https://vpd.ca/contact-us/information-privacy/>.

In regards to point two, the Licence Office has confirmed that there are no business licence categories specific to the two activities requested, therefore there are no responsive records.

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, info@oipc.bc.ca or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2022-521); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

[Signed by Cobi Falconer]

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If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Or you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604-871-6584.

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