



Tacoma Municipal Code 6B.160 Pawnbroker/ Secondhand Goods Dealer License

Finance Department – Tax & License Division

**Government Performance and Finance
Committee Meeting
February 4, 2025**



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OVERVIEW



- Add exemption from license for dealers that do not purchase directly from individuals
- Add exemption from reporting requirement for items valued and priced at less than \$100
- Update license fees
- Clarify and add new definitions

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BACKGROUND



- License established in 1921
- Chapter 6B.160 regulates the activity of pawnbroking and buying, selling and trading-in of secondhand goods and the number of garage sales allowed in a calendar year
- In 2012 precious metal dealers were added to the regulated activity and a new exemption added for trade-in activity

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ISSUE



- Add exemption to exclude secondhand goods dealers that do not purchase items from members of the general public
- Add exemption from daily reporting for items valued and priced at less than \$100
- Low risk of these items being stolen goods

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ISSUE



- Regulatory license fees are set at amounts that cover administration and regulation of the licensed activity
- New exemptions will reduce the number of licensed secondhand goods dealers
- Resources needed to regulate the activity has decreased
- Decrease license fees
 - Pawnbrokers from \$750 to \$250
 - Secondhand Goods Dealers \$150 to \$100

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OUTREACH



- Tacoma Police Department
- Proposed amendments sent to all licensed Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Goods Dealers

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RECOMMENDATIONS



Staff recommends the GPFC forward the amendments to City Council for consideration and approval.

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