



Board of Supervisors Economic Development Policy Committee Meeting

DATE: January 15, 2026

TIME: 2:30 pm

MEETING CHAIR: Annette Trejo, 1st Supervisorial District

DEO MEETING FACILITATOR: Kevin Anderson and Heidi Schultheis

This meeting is held under the guidelines of Board Policy 3.055

To participate in the meeting in-person, the meeting location is:

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street | Los Angeles, California 90012 | Room 140-A (1st floor)

To participate in the meeting virtually, please call teleconference number 1 (323) 776-6996 and enter 907 618 88#, or [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Teams Meeting ID: 242 261 225 328 8

Passcode: DV6PF6ku

For Spanish Interpretation, please email the following *at least 48 hours before the meeting*: ClusterAccommodationRequest@bos.lacounty.gov

Members of the Public may address the Economic Development Policy Committee on any agenda item during Public Comment.

The meeting chair will determine the amount of time allowed for each item.

Agenda posted at: [Agendas – Los Angeles County \(lacounty.gov\)](#)

I. Call to Order

II. Presentation/Discussion Item(s)

- Sidewalk Vending Program Carts Distribution (15 minutes)
Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
- Small Business Mobility Fund (15 minutes)
Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

III. Standing Items

- DEO Program Updates

IV. Public Comment

V. Adjournment

Los Angeles County Economic Development Objectives:

- Attract, develop, and retain businesses that provide quality jobs in high growth industries.
- Increase employment opportunities by improving workforce development skills and employer partnerships.
- Invest in infrastructure needs to improve and maintain competitiveness of LA County Region.
- Coordinate across multiple County agencies to ensure that services to workers, businesses and entrepreneurs are coordinated and streamlined to facilitate a “no wrong door approach” to serving our constituents.
- Work to balance jobs with housing.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO EMAIL A COMMENT ON AN ITEM ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL AND INCLUDE THE AGENDA NUMBER YOU ARE COMMENTING ON:

EDPC@opportunity.lacounty.gov

Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

January 2026



Background

A Brief History and Long-Time Coming



January 2019
SB 946 became law. Sidewalk Vending was decriminalized in California

January 2019
AB 626 became law, creating new food facilities and entrepreneurial pathways for sidewalk vendors
AB 626 amended the California Health and Safety Code to establish a microenterprise home kitchen operation (MEHKOs) as a new type of retail food facility that allows an individual to operate a mini restaurant in their private residence.

January 2023
SB 972 passed, amending the California Retail Food Code (CRFC) to reduce barriers for food vendors
The State amended the CRFC adding the designation of Compact Mobile Food Operation (CMFO) thereby reducing barriers to becoming a compliant food vendor.



October 2022
County Departments came together to coordinate SVO creation and compliance
DEO established the Countywide Sidewalk Vending Workgroup to co-develop the Sidewalk Vending Ordinance (SVO) and manage compliance for sidewalk vendors.
The group includes: County Counsel, Public Health, Public Works, Treasurer Tax Collector, Regional Planning, Sheriff, Parks, and Beaches and Harbors.

October 2023
LA County started to plan for the adoption of a MEHKO Program
BOS directed Public Health (DPH) in consultation with DEO and departments to engage community and stakeholders on a MEHKO Program for LA County.


August 2024
Sidewalk Vending Ordinance became effective

SB 946 Safe Sidewalk Vending Act authorized local jurisdictions to create Sidewalk Vending Programs for public health, safety and wellness.

January – July 2024
LA codified Sidewalk Vending Ordinance in UIA with new registration certificate
DEO introduced the SVO with registration, operational, and compliance requirements. CMFO amendments and the MEHKO Program were also introduced through DPH.



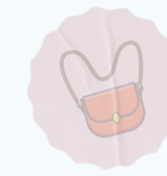
Background

LA County's Sidewalk Vending Ordinance

The Sidewalk Vending Ordinance established the following regulations for sidewalk vending operations in UIA:

- Requires as Sidewalk Vending Registration Certificate (SVRC)
- Requires registration as either Stationary or Roaming Sidewalk Vendor
- Mandates safe vending operations, including noise control, lighting, signage, vending disposal, and distancing requirements
- Creates registration fee structure
- Establishes progressive fines for non-compliance and an appeals process

SCAN



Approval Date:
February 6th, 2024

Effective Date:
August 4th, 2024

Geographic Focus:
Unincorporated Areas
of LA County (UIA)



Background

Efforts to date:

SVO Outreach and Education



- **26,499** views of DEO's Sidewalk Vending Centralized Digital Hub
- **176** Sidewalk Vending Workshops
- **40+** Community meetings
- **61** Sidewalk vending canvassing visits

Sidewalk Vending Compliance



- **26** Sidewalk Vending Registration Certificates
- Responded to **237** complaints/inquiries
- Led the Intercounty Working Group meetings with DPH, TTC, DPW, DRP, County Counsel, DCBA, LASD, etc.

Health Permits



- Conducted **162** CMFO Workshops, reaching **1320** people
- Provided **86** CMFO Subsidies
- Supported **9** CMFO permits

Commissary Space Alternative



- Hosted **70** MEHKO Workshops
- Conducted **84** MEHKO canvassing visits
- Supported **269** MEHKO permits

Capital to Assist with Formalization



In the process of awarding **31** Small Business Mobility Formalization Grants of up to \$5,000



Problem

Requirements For Vendors

To receive a cart, applicants must have the following:

Required documents to bring with you:	Food Vending	Merchandise Vending
1. California Seller's Permit	✓	✓
2. Fictitious Business Name/ Doing Business As (DBA)	✓	✓
3. Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) or Social Security Number (SSN)	✓	✓
4. LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) Permit(s)	✓	
5. Food Handler's Certificate	✓	
6. Government-Issued Photo Identification	✓	✓

Vendors awarded a DPH approved CA Health Code-Compliant Cart will need to secure a Compact Mobile Food Operator (CMFO) Permit

Estimated Cost of Awarded Carts:
\$2,500~\$15,000

To apply, please visit bit.ly/CMFOInfo
or call 1-888-700-9995.



I ♥ Mom
AND Pop
S

Department
of Economic
Opportunity
LOS ANGELES






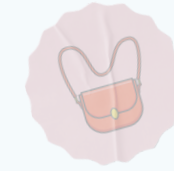


Solution

Procurement of Carts

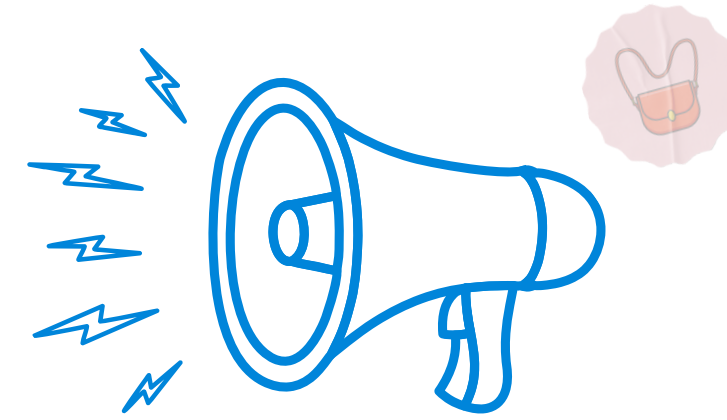
Made possible through \$1.53 M of the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Plan Z funding, \$1.18 M of the City's ARPA Funding, and \$480,750 of the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a total of \$1.66 M from the City. DEO worked through the County's Internal Services Department Request for Bid (RFB) process to establish three (3) Master Agreements that allow for:

-  Purchase of carts over the next three years
-  Updated cart pricing annually based on manufacturer rates
-  Up to two (2) optional one-year extensions, for a potential total term of five (5) years



Program Announcement!

Sidewalk Vendor Cart Program



In partnership with the City of LA, DEO is distributing **CA CODE-COMPLIANT CARTS** at no cost. The program will distribute a total of **180 County carts and 143 L.A. City Carts** to eligible vendors. Eligible applicants can apply for the following:

- ✓ **Integrated Grill Carts** – for foods such as tacos, hot dogs, corn, etc.
- ✓ **Cold-Hold Ice Cream Carts** – for prepackaged ice cream.
- ✓ **Hot-Holding Carts** – for warm food to be kept at safe temperatures such as wraps, tamales.
- ✓ **Cut Fruit Carts** – for fresh fruit vending such as bionicos, acai bowls, etc.



Visit: opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts

Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Eligibility



To qualify, applicants must meet this base eligibility:

- ✓ Live in Los Angeles County
- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Earn less than \$75 k per year in gross household revenue
- ✓ Be actively operating and selling allowed food in the Unincorporated Areas of the County or within L.A. City for more than 1 year
- ✓ Be the business owner and operate from only one location at a time (may not be an employee or operate multiple locations simultaneously)
- ✓ In good standing with local regulations

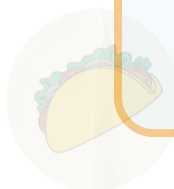
Check County location here:
[LA County District Locator](#)

Check City location here:
neighborhoodinfo.lacity.gov



Those selected must:

- Get a **Compact Mobile Food Operator (CMFO)** Permit from DPH prior to receiving a cart
- Acquire a **County Sidewalk Vending Registration Certificate (SVRC)** or City Sidewalk and Park Vending permit
- Agree to adhere to a **5-year conditional agreement**



How to apply

Sidewalk Vendor Cart Program



1 Visit opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts to learn about the program and see application guide

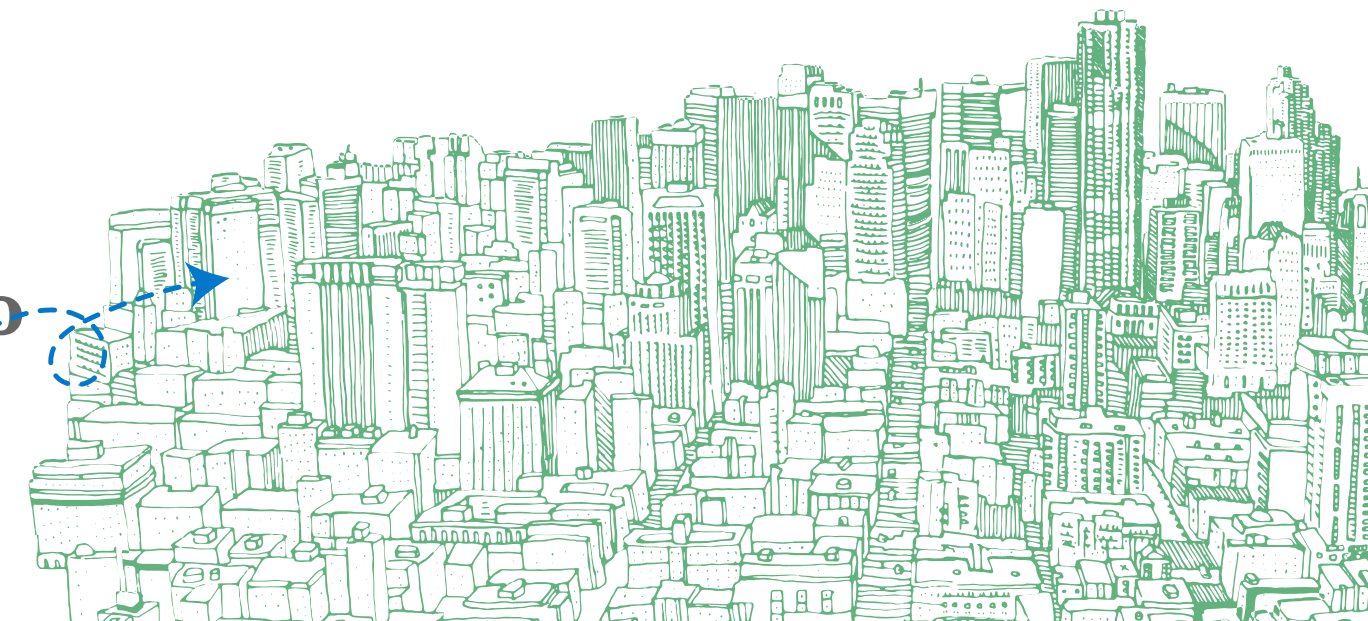
2 Check if you are eligible

3 Prepare to provide the following information:

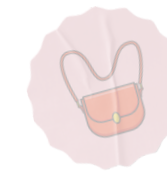
- Full name
- Age
- Household income
- Residential address
- Contact information
- Government-issued ID
- Business name
- Business operations address and route, including hours and days of operation
- List of items sold
- Verification of being sole proprietor with only one cart
- If located within City, attest to impact from COVID-19
- Applicants that have a CA Seller's Permit, CMFO Subsidy, and/or Food Handler's Permit will be prioritized. *Other prioritization criteria may apply**

4 Apply at opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts

5 If selected, the County or the City will contact you to help you get permitted before awarding a cart



Application Process Snapshot



Check Your Location



Check for eligibility



Prepare information



Apply



Get CMFO



Get SVRC



RECEIVE CART!



Compact Mobile Food Operations (CMFO)
- 75% Subsidy *

Supporting up to 500 vendors



No-Cost Sidewalk Vending Registration Certificate - Cost Recovery Fee of \$604

Subsidy \$0 Y1 and \$100 in Y2 & Y3



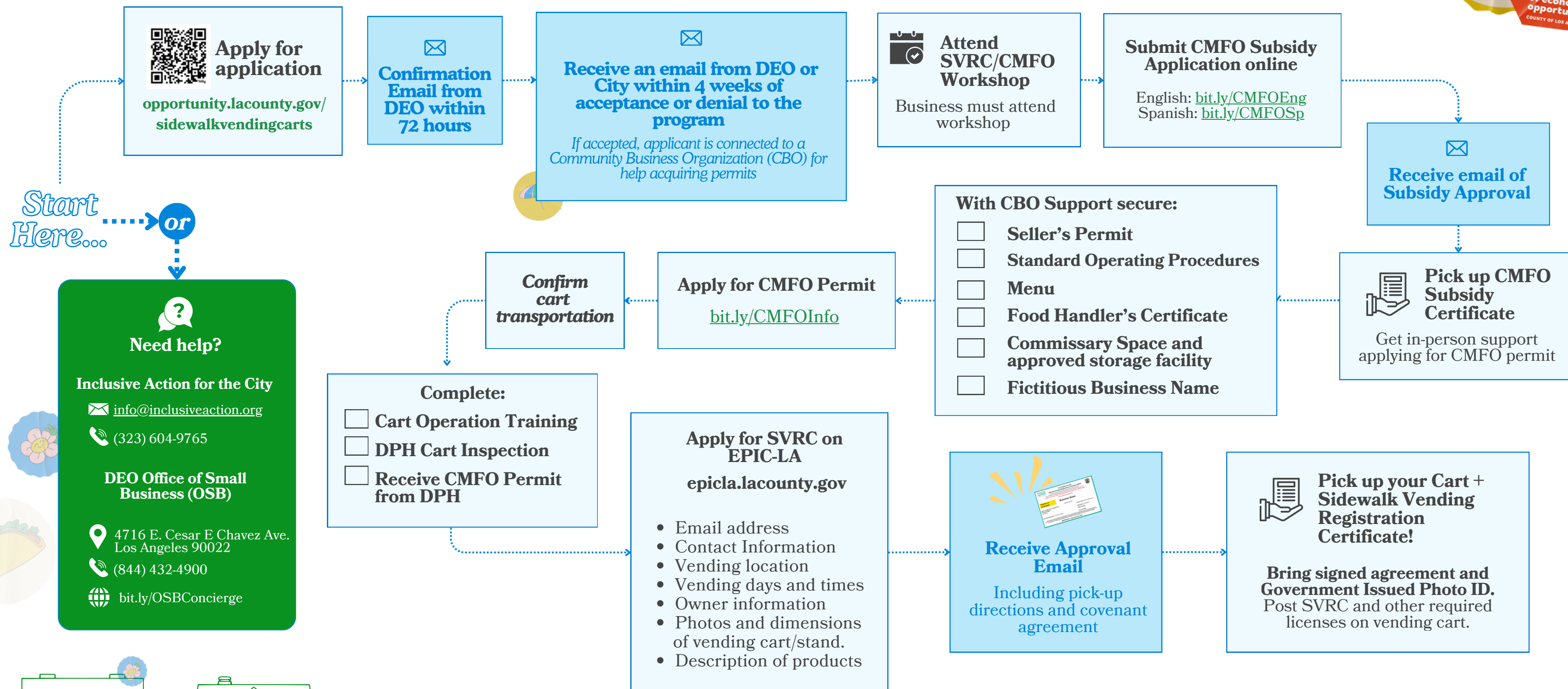
Visit: opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts

**Up to approximately \$300 remaining to pay for 25%*



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

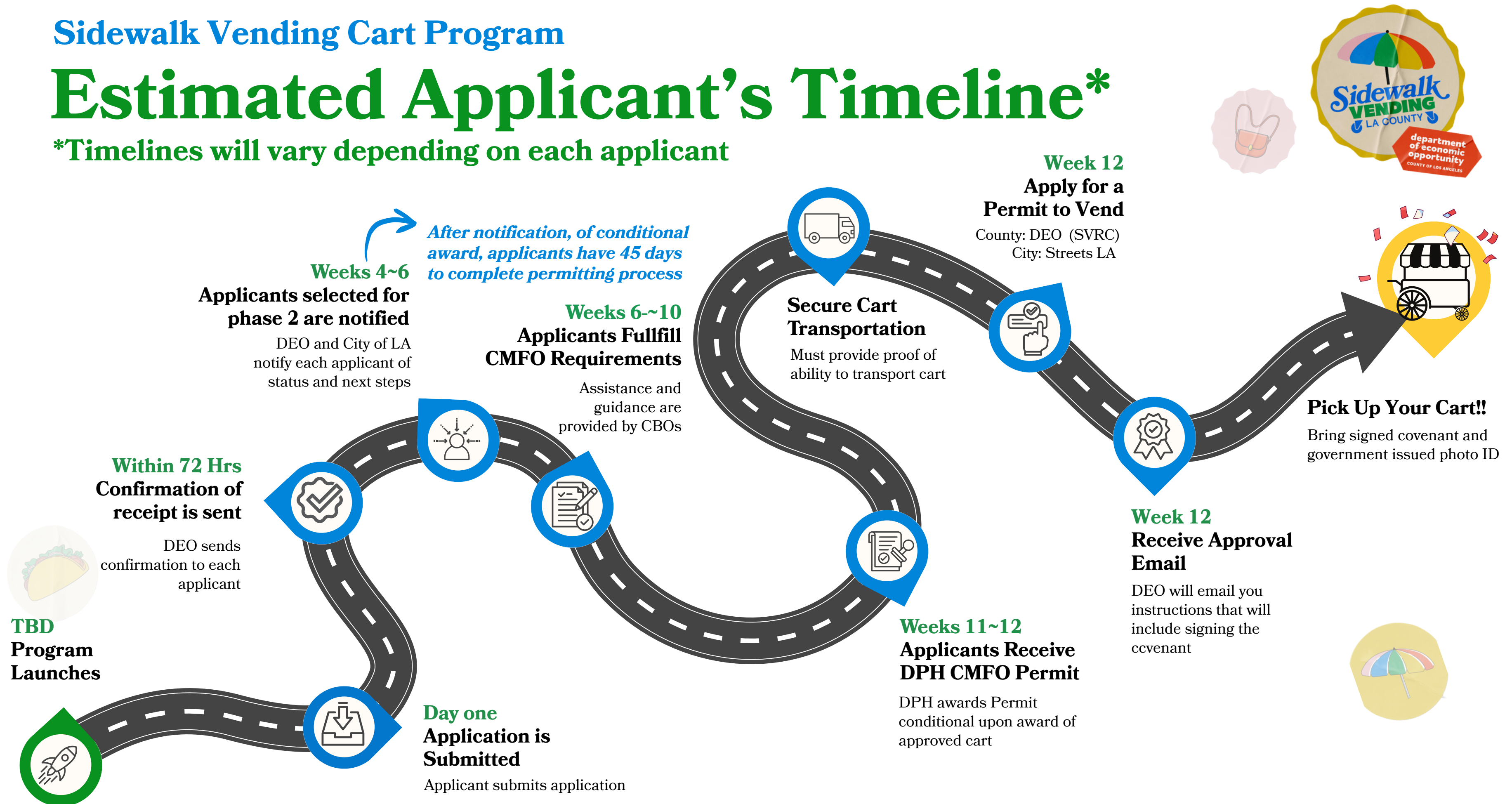
Application Process



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Estimated Applicant's Timeline*

*Timelines will vary depending on each applicant



Selection Methodology



Prioritization Criteria*

Compliance Readiness

- CA Seller's permit (10pts)
- Food Handler Certificate (10pts)
- CMFO Subsidy Certificate/ City' CMFO Training (10pts)

Need

- Residence located in highest (20pts), high (15 pts), moderate (10 pts), and low (5 pts) income need based on Equity Explorer Map.

**Other priority criteria may apply.*

At least 10% of County Carts will be allocated towards each Supervisorial District



Lottery Process

- At the end of each month, if oversubscribed, top scoring vendors are automatically entered into a monthly digital lottery by cart type
- Those not selected are automatically reconsidered at next lottery

Tools under review, RandomizeIT, Sortition Magic, Randomizr

Award Conditions

- ✓ **Must complete and secure all required permits before receiving a cart**
- ✓ **45-Day deadline to complete compliance requirements**
- ✓ **Vendor agrees to sign a 5-year Covenant Agreement (no-resale, maintain compliance, etc.)**

Distribution Methodology



Different types of code compliant food carts are available for distribution*:

	County Carts	City Carts
Integrated Grill Carts	45	24
Cold Hold/ Prepackaged Ice Cream Cart	45	10
Hot Holding Cart	50	33
Cut Fruit Carts	40	34
Total	180	101

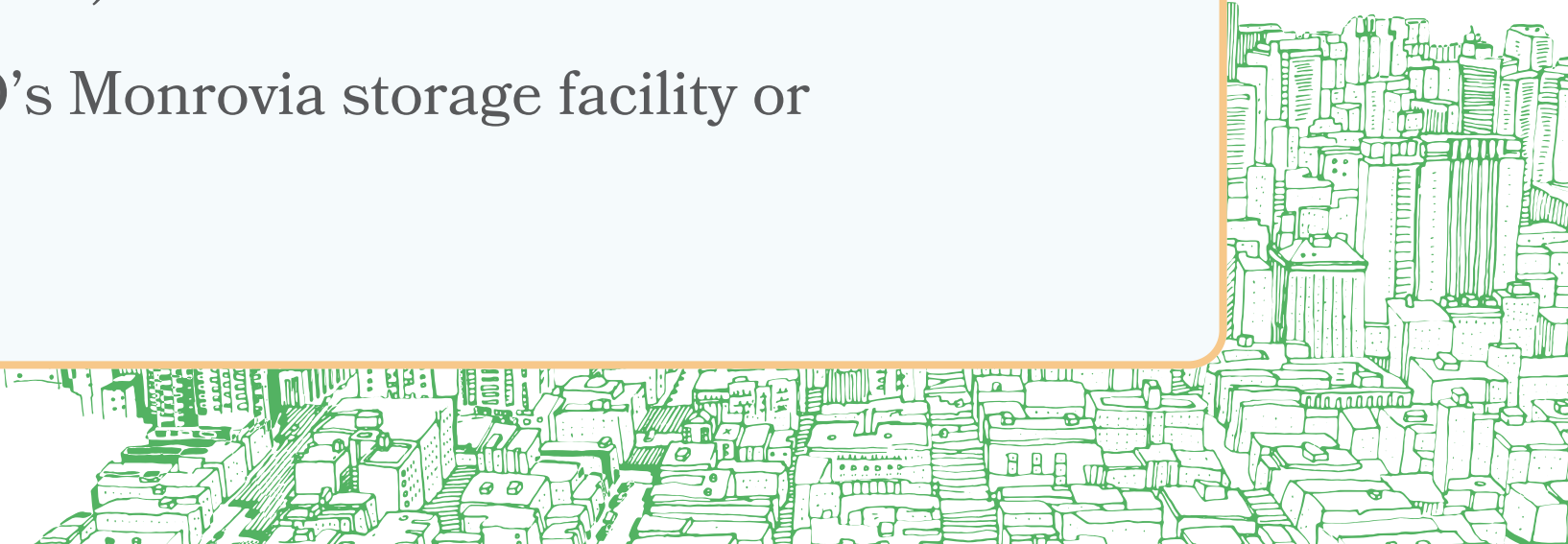


DEO will host 7 by invitation only events: 2 with the City of LA and 5 County-Only in each Supervisorial District (3 - 6 carts to be awarded at each event)



Remaining carts to be awarded by appointment at DEO's Monrovia storage facility or manufacturer's warehouse.

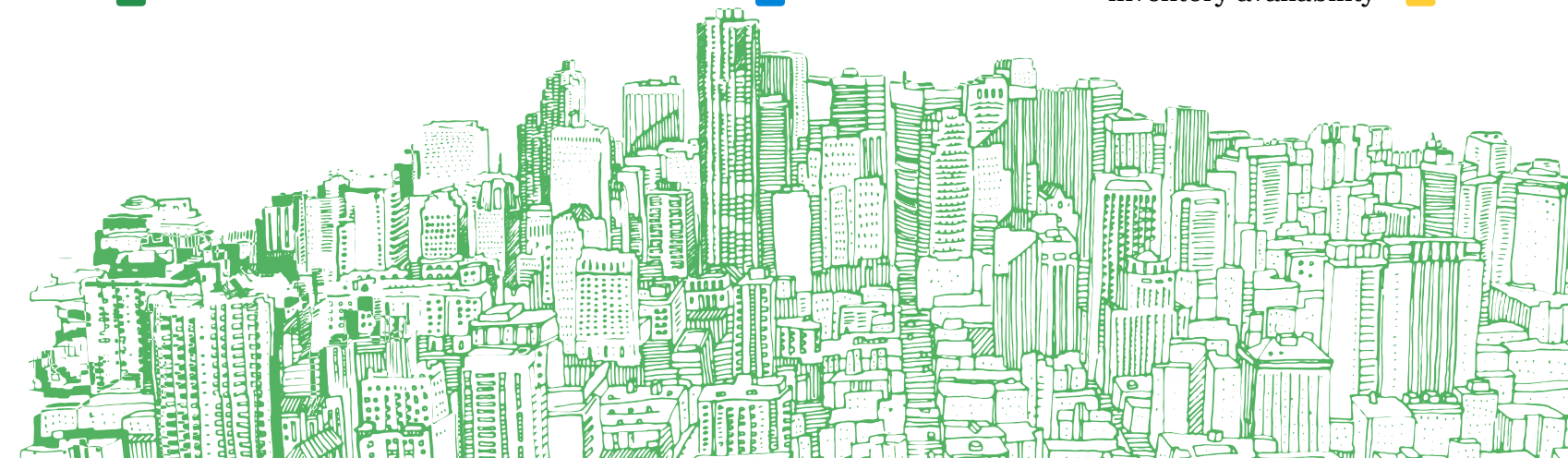
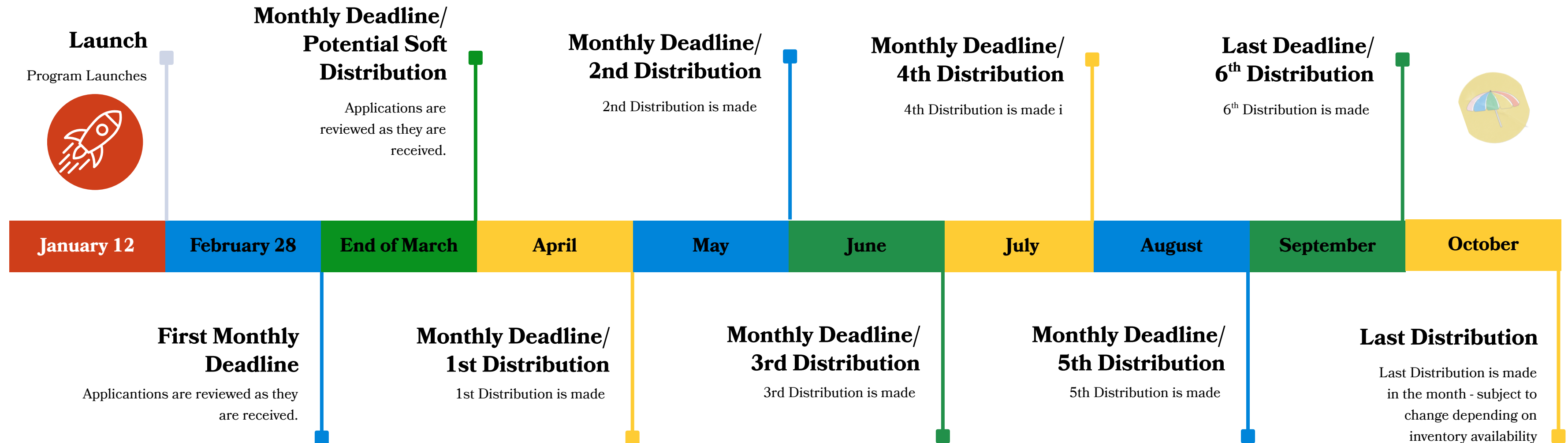
**Numbers are subject to change and may increase.*



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Projected Distribution Timeline*

*Timeline is subject to change depending on both supply and vendor ability to meet requirements



Application Support

Application guidelines, presentations, and technical assistance



Extensive Application Support Available

- Application Guidelines (*English and Spanish*)
- Informational Presentations (*Virtual and In-person*)
 - bit.ly/SmallBusinessEvents
- **1-on-1 Assistance:**
 - Inclusive Action for the City - for Unincorporated Areas
 - Initiating Change in Our Neighborhoods Community Development Corporation (ICON CDC) - (City of Los Angeles)
 - DEO Office of Small Business Concierge Services - general questions

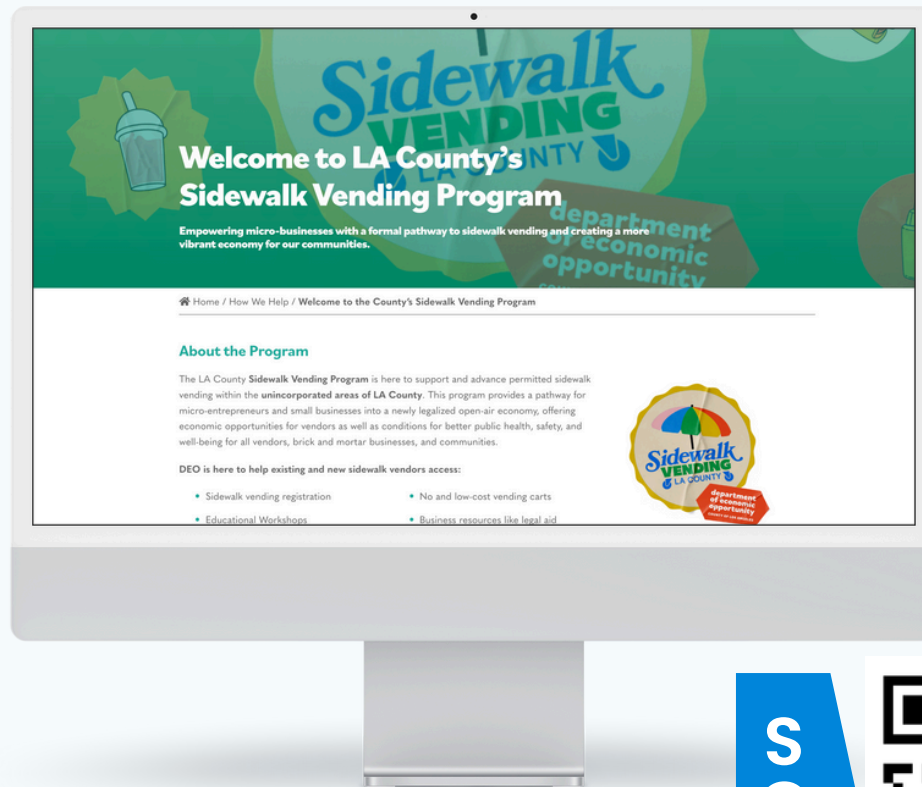


Visit: opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts

Contact Us!

Application is now open!

Have General Questions? We are here to help you start your journey!



SCAN



Telephone
(844) 432-4900



Follow Us
bit.ly/SmallBusinessEvents



Email
sidewalkvending@opportunity.lacounty.gov

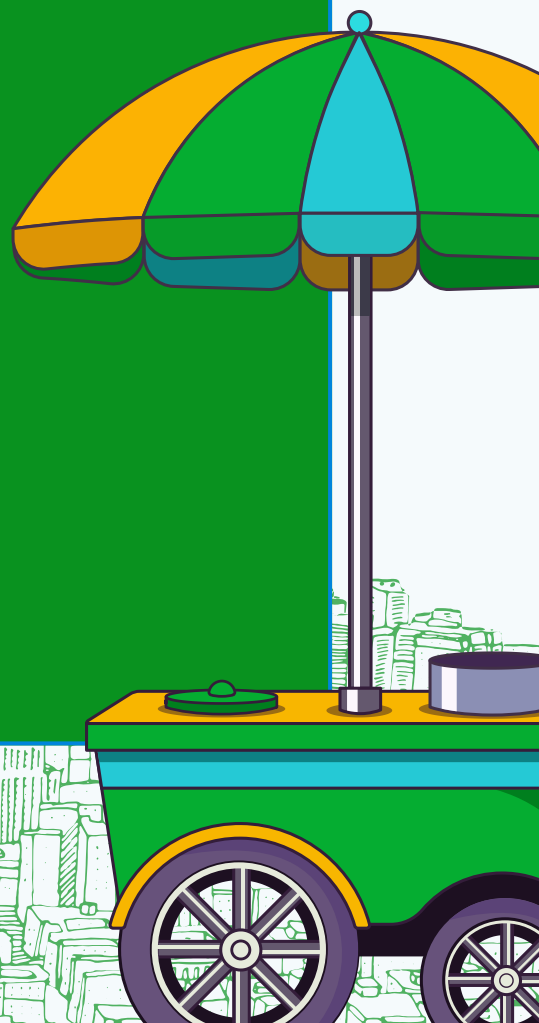


Website
https://bit.ly/LACO_SV



Office of Small Business
4716 E Cesar E Chavez Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90022

Visit: opportunity.lacounty.gov/how-we-help/sidewalk-vending-program/



Questions? Thank you!



**department
of economic
opportunity**
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



economic
mobility
initiative



department
of **economic
opportunity**
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SMALL BUSINESS MOBILITY FUND

**Launch
Grants**

**Entrepreneurship
Academy Grants**

DISTRIBUTED IN COLLABORATION WITH **ICON CDC**

APPLICATION DEADLINE ROUND 1: FEBRUARY 13, 2026

About the Grants

The Small Business Mobility **Launch Grants** and **Entrepreneurship Academy Grants**, offered by the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), are designed to help businesses access flexible start-up and scale-up capital to support their business launch. It is part of the County's broader mission under the Economic Mobility Initiative (EMI) to provide education, training and technical assistance, and capital, and pathways to sustainable business growth and generational wealth.

Both grants are made possible through the Care First Community Investment (CFCI).

Launch Grants

Eligible Applicants + Uses

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Must already be in the process of opening a location.* Location must be in an **unincorporated area** of LA County with a current, valid lease or proof of ownership under the applicant's name:

- **\$5,000** – non-retail commercial space, such as an office or warehouse
- **\$10,000** – retail commercial space with a storefront

ELIGIBLE USES

- Required building permits
- Façade improvements
- Tenant improvements
- Signage

**If already opened, location must have opened after September 1, 2025*

Entrepreneurship Academy Grants

Eligible Applicants + Uses

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Graduates of the County's Economic Mobility Initiative (EMI) Entrepreneurship Academy can receive up to **\$2,000** in grants to launch their business or take it to the next level*.

**If already launched, the business must show how the funding will support a specific launch or new phase within their business (e.g., new product or service, expansion to a new customer segment, rebrand, new online store, transition to a brick-and-mortar location, and/or new equipment to expand product offerings)*

ELIGIBLE USES

- Permit and license fees
- Website development and branding
- Start-up/set-up costs
- Accounting software
- Intellectual property protections
- Packaging, inventory, and equipment
- Required building permits
- Façade Improvements
- Tenant Improvements
- Signage



Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a for-profit business in the County of Los Angeles
- Applicants must reside in LA County
- Annual gross business revenue must not exceed \$6 million
- Business must have fewer than 100 employees
- Applicant must be the majority owner (50% or more)
- Must be domiciled in California and have required filings with the California Secretary of State.
- Applicant must be an active business and in good standing with all local, state, and federal taxing and licensing authorities.
- **Launch Grants:** Business must be located in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County
- **Entrepreneurship Academy Grants:** Business must have graduated from an EMI Academy

Ineligible Businesses:

- Certain business types are not eligible. Refer to full list of ineligible businesses.
- 

Ineligible Businesses

- *Non-profit organizations (including Churches or other religious organizations)*
- *Landlords (Schedule E Passive Income)*
- *Businesses that do not have a permanent physical location in LA County, including those using addresses for P.O. Boxes, co-working spaces with temporary leases and/or memberships, virtual business addresses, Commercial Mail Receiving Agencies (CMRAs), and the like, are not eligible.*
- *Liquor stores and smoke shops*
- *Corporate-owned franchises*
- *Private social clubs*
- *Payday loan stores, pawnshops and other firms involved in lending activities, such as banks, finance companies and any other firm whose stock in trade is money*
- *Firms involved in speculative activities (i.e., day trading, stock market exchange facilitators)*
- *Insurance companies, such as life, auto, home, bail bonds, and other similar entities*
- *Astrology, palm reading, tarot, etc.*
- *Night clubs and any businesses that present live or other performances of a sexual nature*
- *Adult bookstores*
- *Gambling businesses (i.e., track wagering facilities, casinos, bingo parlors)*
- *Trailer-storage yards and junkyards*
- *Gun or ammunition stores*
- *Multi-sales distribution & multi-level marketing*
- *Lobbying firms or businesses that dedicate 50% or more of their time or resources to lobbying activities*
- *Government offices or agencies*
- *Other businesses that may be deemed ineligible by DEO, based on information submitted by the applicant*

Documents required:

LAUNCH GRANTS

Commercial lease or proof of ownership of location in unincorporated LA County

ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACADEMY GRANTS

Must also submit a copy of the Entrepreneurship Academy graduation certificate

The following documents are required to complete your application:

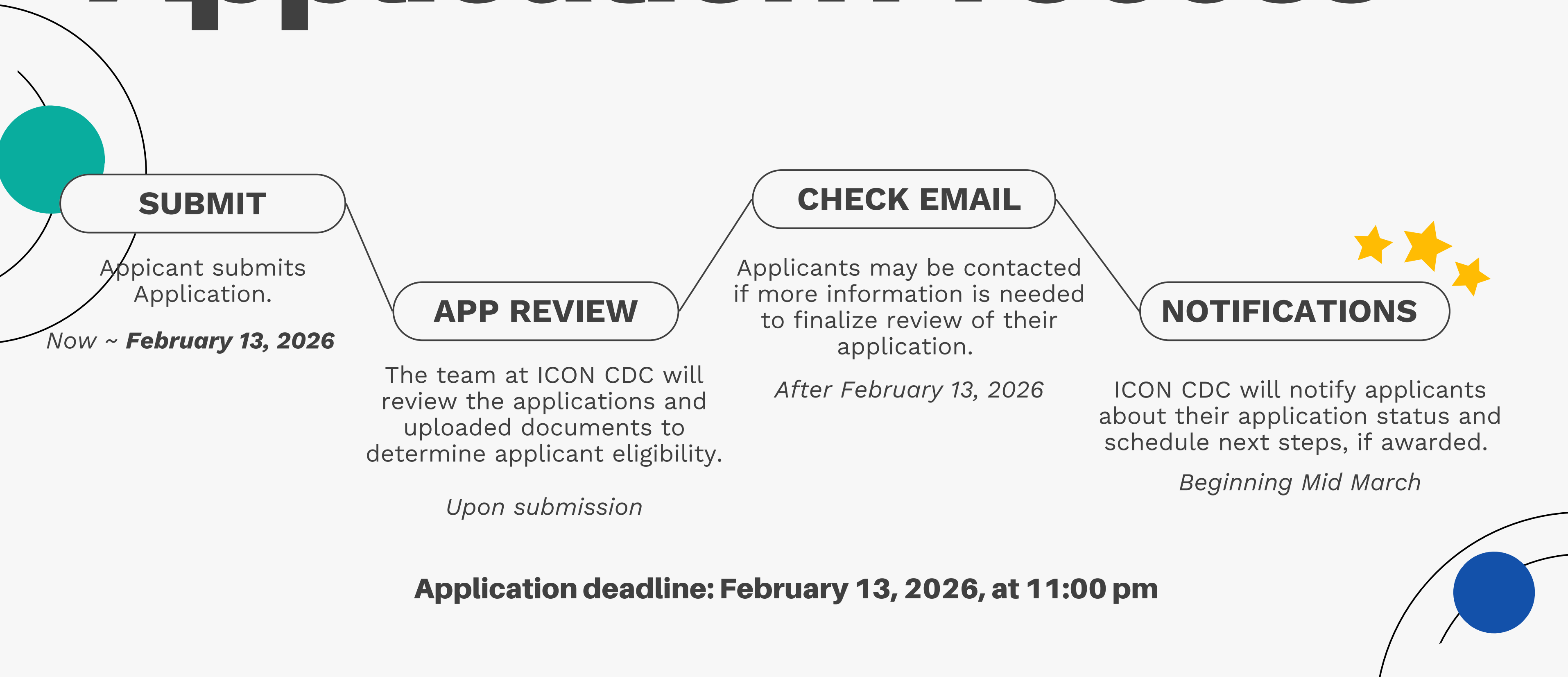
- State-issued ID/ Driver's license
- Business plan
- Valid and Current Business license
- Most recent tax returns (2023 or later)*
- Doing Business As (DBA)/Fictitious Business Name (FBN) or Corporation Filing
- Proof of residency (for example, utility bill, lease, pay stub, or other document showing that you are a resident of LA County.)
- California Secretary of State documentation
- Copy of signed and executed commercial lease agreement or proof of ownership
- Form 941 - (Applies to applicants with employees. Not required if applicant is a sole proprietor)
- Any related industry permits from the State and the County of Los Angeles (i.e., Health Permit, Establishment License, etc.)

How to Apply:

- 1 Complete the online application by visiting **opportunity.lacounty.gov/SBMF**
- 2 Check for required documents
- 3 Answer the required questions
- 4 Upload documents
- 5 Sign and submit the application by February 13, 2026

If applicants qualify, the ICON CDC team may contact them for any follow up information, if needed.

Application Process



Prioritization:

Additional points are provided for the following:

- Businesses with more employees
- Located in areas with comparatively high unemployment rate
- Business Plan (must detail how funding will support their launch/growth)
- Business Dislocated by Wildfires

In addition, for Launch Grants only:

- Businesses planning to launch within 6 months with existing permits
- Businesses with 1 or no locations
- Businesses that have been in business longer (i.e. Legacy Businesses)
- Businesses opening a location in close proximity to the fires (Recover Local Map)

Minimum of 15% of awardees must be from each Supervisorial District

Outcome Goals:

LAUNCH GRANTS

- Increased physical business openings
- Job creation and local hiring
- Commercial corridor revitalization
- Revenue growth and business stability
- Enhanced community engagement and place-based identity
- Increased local tax base
- Greater business resilience

ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACADEMY GRANTS

- Increased business formation and survival
- Revenue and productivity growth
- Job creation and retention
- Improved operational capacity
- Market expansion and diversification
- Enhanced competitiveness and innovation
- Local economic impact

Business plan will also help OSB continue to support business growth as additional resources become available.

Virtual Webinars + In-person Application Clinics

🕒 Supervisorial District 3
January 13, 2026 | 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

👤 RSVP for Webinar: bit.ly/webJan13sd3

📍 Application Clinic: ICON CDC South Valley
5805 Sepulveda Blvd., St. 801, Van Nuys, CA 91411
RSVP for In-Person Clinic: bit.ly/Jan13sd3

🕒 Supervisorial District 3
January 13, 2026 | 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

👤 RSVP for Webinar: bit.ly/webJan13sd3

📍 Application Clinic: ICON CDC South Valley
5805 Sepulveda Blvd., St. 801, Van Nuys, CA 91411
RSVP for In-Person Clinic: bit.ly/Jan13sd3

🕒 Supervisorial District 1
January 20, 2026 | 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

👤 RSVP for Webinar: bit.ly/webJan20sd1

📍 Application Clinic: Office of Small Business
4716 E. Cesar E. Chavez, Los Angeles, CA 90022
RSVP for In-Person Clinic: bit.ly/Jan20sd1

🕒 Supervisorial District 4
January 22, 2026 | 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

👤 RSVP for Webinar: bit.ly/webJan22sd4

📍 Application Clinic: San Pedro Chamber of Commerce
390 W. 7th Street, San Pedro, CA 90731
RSVP for In-Person Clinic: bit.ly/Jan22sd4

🕒 Supervisorial District 2
January 28, 2026 | 10:00 am – 11:00 am

👤 RSVP for Webinar: bit.ly/webJan28sd2

📍 Application Clinic: Lennox Library
4359 Lennox Boulevard, Lennox CA 90304
RSVP for In-Person Clinic: bit.ly/Jan28sd2

*in-person support offered at the
application clinic.*

*Support in other languages is
available, as needed.*

**English
&
Spanish**

Application Assistance



Technical Assistance

ICON CDC

North Valley:

3168 Van Nuys Blvd.,
Pacoima, CA 91331

Call: (818) 302-6114

South Valley:

5805 Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 801,
Van Nuys, CA 91411

Call: (818) 616-4118

Email: info@iconcdc.org



General Questions

DEO Office of Small Business

East LA Entrepreneur Center

4716 E. Cesar E. Chavez, Los Angeles CA 90022

Monday to Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Telephone: (844)-432-4900

Email: osb@opportunity.lacounty.gov



Thank you!

opportunity.lacounty.gov/SBMF