

[About Indy](#)[Find an Agency](#)[Mayor's Action Center](#)[Government TV](#)[Online S](#)[CITY & COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION](#)[COURTS
& LAWS](#)[CULTURE &
RECREATION](#)[EDUCATION
& JOBS](#)**Indianapolis**[NEIGHBORHOOD
SERVICES](#)[PUBLIC
SAFETY](#)[TAXES &
BUDGETS](#)[V](#)[R](#)**SEARCH**[Home](#)[About IMPD](#)[Employment](#)[Crimes & Incidents](#)[Law Enforcement](#)[Libraries](#)[Service Districts](#)[IMPD Service Districts](#)[North District](#)[East District](#)[Northwest District](#)[Southeast District](#)[Southwest District](#)[Downtown District](#)[Criminal Investigations](#)[Criminal Investigations](#)[Organized Crime](#)[IMPD Criminal Gang Unit](#)[Missing Persons](#)[Vice Division](#)[Traffic Enforcement](#)[Traffic](#)[Street Vending](#)[VIN Checks](#)[Homeland Security Bureau](#)[Arson Investigations](#)[Aviation Section](#)[Canine Section](#)[Domestic Preparedness
Section](#)[Event Response Group](#)[Explosive Ordinance
Disposal](#)[Mounted Patrol](#)[SWAT Team](#)[Traffic Enforcement Section](#)[IndyGov](#) > [Local Government](#) > [City](#) > [Public Safety](#) > [Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department \(IMPD\)](#) > [Law](#) > [Traffic Enforcement](#) > **Street Vending**

INDIANAPOLIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Street Vending

In other cities nationwide, solicitation in roadways or medians between two roadways has resulted in death or serious injury to pedestrians engaged in the activity. For instance, in Memphis, on two separate occasions, street vendors were struck and killed by automobiles. Failure to enforce such laws could result in death or serious injury in Indianapolis. It is no intention of law enforcement to interfere or impede the work of any organization. General Ordinance No. 356, 2001 and IC 35-42-2-4 have been enacted to protect pedestrians, students, and motorists from injury or death resulting from such activities.

IC 35-42-2-4 prohibits persons from obstructing vehicular traffic. Violators of the state law are subject to arrest. General Ordinance No. 356, 2001 prohibits persons from using roadways or medians between two roadways for the purposes of solicitation. It does not apply to persons who use sidewalks, parking lots and other public places for solicitation, provided the person is not obstructing vehicular traffic or is not violating other city ordinances or state or federal laws. Violators of the ordinance are subject to a ticket and a fine.

As with all policies implemented and enforced by IMPD, this enforcement policy will be applied equally to all persons violating the ordinance and state law, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or disability, without exception, in all IMPD districts. The enforcement policy will be applied equally to all charitable organizations, schools, student organizations, community based organizations, businesses, for-profit or not-for-profit organizations and other citizens.

Indianapolis - Marion County Municipal Code

Section 431-702. Prohibited Activity in Roadways. It shall be unlawful for a pedestrian to stand or move within or upon a roadway, or a median between two roadways, for the purpose of solicitation while engaged in:

1. Soliciting, peddling, selling, advertising, donating, or distributing any product, property, or service, including but not limited to tickets, handbills, newspapers, or other printed

- [Services](#)
- [Get Involved](#)
- [Join IMPD](#)



Highlighted Events

- material, to or from an occupant of a vehicle in the roadway; or,
- 2. Conversation or discourse with an occupant of a vehicle in the roadway

Section 431-703. Interference With Vehicular Traffic. It shall be unlawful for a person to peddle, sell, advertise, donate, or distribute any product, property, or service, including but not limited to tickets, handbills, newspapers, or other printed material, to an occupant of a vehicle within or upon a roadway, or to engage in conversation or discourse with an occupant of a vehicle within or upon a roadway, so as to:

1. Endanger the safety or welfare of an occupant of a vehicle within or upon a roadway or a pedestrian within the immediate vicinity;
2. Impede the free flow of vehicular traffic on the roadway; or,
3. Obstruct or distract the view of the driver of any such vehicle within or upon a roadway.

Indiana Code

IC 35-42-2-4. Obstructing Traffic.

- (a) A person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic commits obstruction of traffic, a Class B misdemeanor.
- (b) The offense described in subsection (a) is:
 - a. a Class A misdemeanor if the offense includes the use of a motor vehicle; and
 - b. a Class D felony if the offense results in serious bodily injury.

Enforcement and Consequences

- Violating this ordinance will result in vendor being issued a summons
- A court appearance will be required
- A fine of up to \$2,500.00 could be imposed
- Continued violations following the issuance of a summons may result in further summons or custodial arrest

Identification Requirements

If an officer observes a violation, the violator must provide name, address, and date of birth and driver's license to the officer upon request. Failure to provide identification is a violation of Indiana Code 34-28-5-3.5. Refusing to provide identification for an infraction or ordinance violation may result in an arrest.



[En Español](#) | [Contact](#) | [Apply for a Job](#)