



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Oakland street vendors demand city, county follow state law that protects, not destroys, their livelihoods

Vendors want Oakland and Alameda County to stop illegal seizures of Vendors' properties and adopt policies other cities use to decriminalize vending locally, simplify permitting, fund financial and educational support, and protect immigrant vendors.

OAKLAND, Calif., Aug. 12, 2026—The newly formed Oakland Street Vendors' Collective will hold a press conference and rally outside City Hall on **Thursday, Aug. 13 at 10 a.m.** to detail months of enforcement they say has cost them their equipment, product, and in some cases their livelihoods; and offer an alternative approach.

The Oakland Street Vendors' Collective, which represents 89 vendors from across the city's neighborhoods, ethnicities and generations, will present the city and county with a list of strategies other municipalities have adopted under the state's recent street vending laws. [Senate Bills 635](#), [946](#) and [972](#) decriminalize vending, protect vendors' personal data from immigration enforcement, and simplify health permitting.

The Oakland Street Vendors' Collective says new enforcement practices violate state law, local law and constitutional protections. According to vendors, crews have seized grills, ice chests and canopies since the beginning of the year, including from those holding valid permits, and thrown the property straight into Department of Public Works [trash compactors](#). California decriminalized street vending statewide under [SB 946](#), and state law requires a written warning and citation before any enforcement action — a step vendors say hasn't happened.

The press conference comes hours before the city and county's own vendor support clinic, an event the city says will explain the permitting process and other regulations. The collective says the clinic skips what vendors actually need, like fee waivers, scholarships and donated equipment that brought [Los Angeles](#) and [Long Beach](#) vendors into compliance. Vendors say it also wasn't well publicized among Oakland's street vendors. The collective says the city and

county won't get it right until they start treating vendors as partners and culture bearers instead of a problem.

Videos of aggressive enforcement actions can be viewed and [downloaded here](#).

WHO:

- [Needa Bee](#) (Anita De Asis Miralle) owner of The Lumpia Ladies - longtime Oakland street vendor and organizer
- Raven Lee owner of HER Lemonade, a street vendor whose equipment was seized and destroyed despite holding an approved city permit
- [Brent Hunt](#) owner of Jerkin' It - a popular street vendor who has gone through the permit process and paid his fees, yet continues to be harassed and denied paperwork.
- [George Galvis](#), Co-founder and executive director of Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)
- A representative from [Bay Area Organization of Black Owned Businesses](#)

WHEN:

Thursday, Aug. 13, 2026 10 a.m.

WHERE:

Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland

To request an interview contact Janel Knight Trulear at janel@emccommunications.com or 617-875-6581.

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About Oakland Street Vendors' Collective

The Oakland Street Vendors' Collective is a citywide movement of street vendors organizing to reclaim our right to work in public space; and build community wealth, safety and stability for our families and Oakland's flatland's. We envision an Oakland where public spaces belong to the people, where cultural traditions are celebrated rather than criminalized, and where every vendor has access to affordable permits, legal support, capital, financial and business education, and pathways to grow.

About Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)

CURYJ is a community-based organization working to unlock the leadership of young people to dream beyond bars. Looking to young people to lead the way in transforming our communities by investing in their healing, aspirations, and activism. Our formerly incarcerated youth participants are joining forces with other allies and advocates to demand that Alameda County eliminate its reliance on punitive systems that disproportionately harm young people of color.

www.curyj.org

About 510day 510day is Oakland's annual community celebration and act of resistance against gentrification, displacement, and the erasure of our people. Entering its 12th year, 510Day is a day of cultural resilience bringing together Oakland's diverse communities; showcasing creative wellness; and offering visions for our collective future - where we still here, thriving in The Town.

510day.org