



Nonprofit Vehicle Donation Program

Strategic Program Framework

Program Summary

Transform auction-ready vehicles into hands-on learning tools for education and training programs.



Objectives

Support vocational
training and
workforce
development

Streamline a legal
and operational
framework

Maximize community
benefit while
minimizing
environmental and
fiscal waste

Establish governance,
transparency, and
accountability

Requested Ordinance Change

CURRENT ORDINANCE

D.R.M.C. Sec. 54-816:

Allows for the disposition of unclaimed impounded vehicles through:

- Auction
- Sealed bid
- Scrap metal conversion, or
- Law enforcement use.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

D.R.M.C. Sec. 54-816:

Donation to eligible nonprofits will be added as authorized method of disposition:

- Auction
- Sealed bid
- Scrap metal conversion
- Law enforcement use, or
- **TO INCLUDE: Donation to nonprofit educational institutions in City and County of Denver**

Which vehicles are eligible?

- Valued at or under \$1,500
- Roadworthy
- Meets D.R.M.C. Sec. 516 conditions for disposal



Who is eligible to receive vehicles?

- IRS-registered nonprofit institutions
- Education credentials or workforce development mission
- Located in **City and County of Denver**

Must have:

- Secure facility for storage and instruction
- Proof of 501(c)(3) status
- Description of how vehicle will be used for instructional purposes



Who Could Benefit from the Program *includes but is not limited to?*

Emily Griffith Technical College (District 3)

Training automotive technicians to meet Denver's growing job demand.

CEC Early College (District 1)

Providing high school students hands-on career and technical skills.

Montbello Career & Technical Education (District 11)

Expanding technical skills and workforce readiness for local youth and adults.

How it works

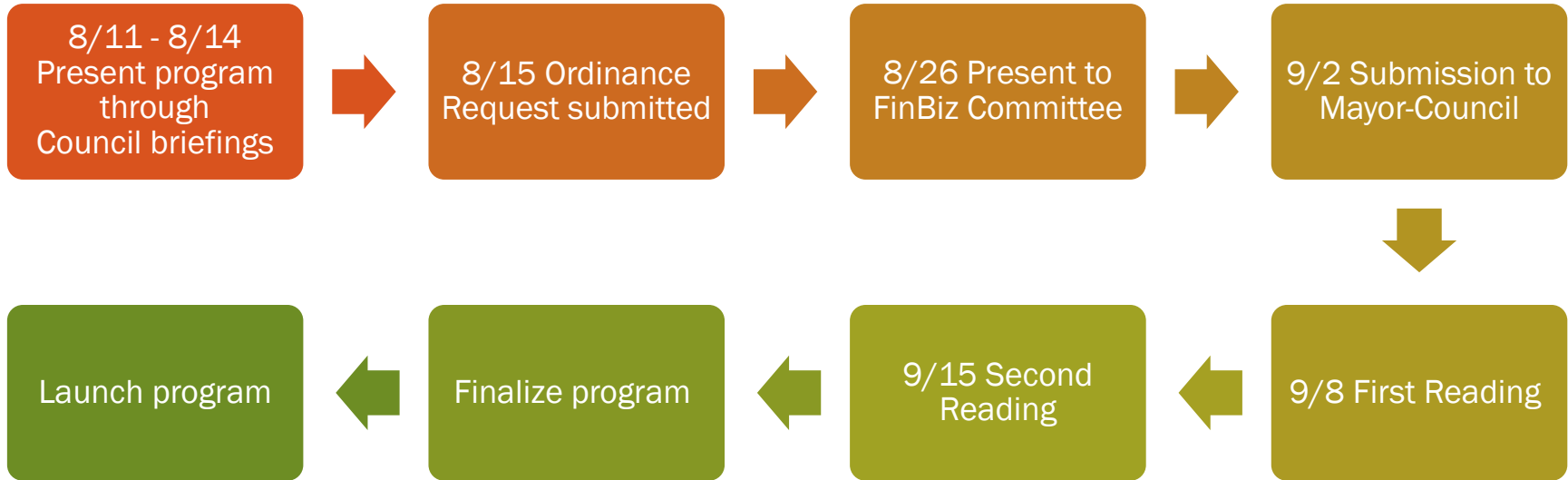


Target:

- Up to 100 vehicles provided per year
- Five to ten vehicles per organization annually

Based on availability

Next steps





APPENDIX

How the City Receives and Prepares Impounded Vehicles for Auction

- **Complaint & Investigation:** Sheriff's Office receives a vehicle complaint and conducts an investigation.
- **Vehicle Towing:** Vehicle(s) are towed to the City's impound lot.
- **Intake & Verification:**
 - Confirm ownership status
 - Check for stolen vehicle reports
- **Owner Notification:** Sheriff's Office notifies the registered owner(s).
- **Holding Period:** Vehicle remains unclaimed for at least **30 days** before it can be scheduled for auction (*current total process averages 45 days*).
- **Pre-Auction Review by Surplus:**
 - Verify year, make, model, salvage status, and other key details
- **Final Sheriff Inspection:** Physical search of the vehicle is completed.
- **Release to Surplus:** Vehicles are released to Surplus for auction; occurs the **Tuesday before photographs are taken** for listing.

From Impound to Auction: Annual Roadworthy Vehicle Trends

Year	No. of Vehicles Sold	Total Revenue	Avg Sale Price per Veh'l
2022	3,285	\$6,519,870	\$1,984.74
2023	3,293	\$6,427,771	\$1,951.95
2024	3,719	\$6,098,118	\$1,639.72
2025	2,696	\$4,349,834	\$1,613.14

Financial Impact & Community Value

- Estimated auction revenue for 100 roadworthy vehicles in 2025 avg:
 $\$1,613 \times 100 = \$161,300$
- Average impound cost per vehicle:
 $\$1,020 \times 100 \text{ vehicles} = \$102,000$
- Net financial gap: ~\$59,300

Reinvestment Perspective:

Redirecting these vehicles through the **Nonprofit Vehicle Donation Program** transforms this net gap into:

- Dozens of **hands-on training vehicles** for workforce development programs
- Increased **technical skill-building** opportunities for residents entering the trades
- Reduced **time and storage costs** for the City
- Alignment with **equity, sustainability, and workforce readiness** goals

Q & A