

To: The Milwaukee Common Council
From: Jim Cooney, License Division Manager
Date: July 10, 2025
Subject: Analysis of Objections Received to Recycling Salvaging
Towing Licenses



MEMORANDUM

Common Council File 250536 seeks to reduce the license period for Recycling, Salvaging, and Towing (RST) Premises and Vehicle Licenses for those businesses engaged in non-consensual towing from two years to one year. RST businesses engaged in non-consensual towing accumulate more objections than RST businesses engaged in other activities. Reducing the license period will provide better responsiveness to objections and defray the costs associated with holding disproportionately more hearings. Objections include resident objections and objections from DPW regarding unpaid tow fees.

The following summarizes RST licenses issued in the past seven years including the number of licenses issued, licenses with towing, licenses with objections, and licenses with objections and towing.

Year	Total Licenses	Licenses With Towing	Licenses with Objections	Licenses with Objections and Towing
2018	113	8	3	2
2019	72	17	5	5
2020	152	24	5	4
2021	96	21	2	2
2022	141	24	1	1
2023	87	20	4	4
2024	119	25	5	4
2025	41	7	1	0

*Table excludes revocation complaints