

Ordinance No. 260250

Retail Alcohol Impact Area Plan

March 3, 2026

Prepared for

Finance, Governance, & Public Safety Committee



Ordinance 260250 Overview

- Ordinance 250250 establishes a **targeted, place-based** policy that applies **limited product restrictions** within **defined impact areas** to address concentrated public safety concerns (AKA "**Retail Alcohol Impact Area Plan**").

Presentation Overview



Alcohol Sales Practices and the Correlation to Violence



Responsible Policy Tools Used by Cities



Local Conditions in KCMO



Proposed Retail Alcohol Impact Areas



Ordinance 260250 Framework & Details



Expected Outcomes & Evaluation

Off-Premises Alcohol Outlet Density, the Sale of Single-Serve Containers & the Impact on Public Safety

What Causes Violence?

Violence is complex and has multiple causes, including

- **social conditions** (*e.g.*, poverty, addiction, untreated mental health, lack of education, etc.) *and*
- **environmental conditions** (*e.g.*, # of liquor stores, blight, vacant buildings and lots, graffiti, litter, social conditions) such as increased availability of alcohol.^{1, 5}

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

The way streets, buildings, and public spaces are designed can either help prevent crime or increase crime.⁵



Higher alcohol outlet density is **consistently associated with increased violent crime** in the surrounding area, even after controlling for other neighborhood conditions.²



When alcohol retailers rely heavily on selling **single-serve products**, **violence is more likely to occur around the retail location** because these items are typically ready to drink and consumed immediately.¹

Areas with retailers that sell **high volumes of single-serve alcohol** products tend to experience **higher violence rates**.

Source: *See Appendix.*

Alcohol outlet density and the sale of cheap, single-serve alcohol products are correlated with:

- Increased crime (including violent crime and youth violence)
- Increased calls for police and emergency services
- Public disorder
- Littering

Source: *See Appendix*

Secondary Effects Doctrine

Courts have longed recognized that **cities can regulate environmental conditions**, including business practices, when the purpose is **to reduce** community harm, such as **crime or public safety risks**.

Reducing Violence & Disorder Through Responsible Alcohol Sale Policies

Responsible Alcohol Sales Regulations

Source: *See Appendix*

- Cities can address alcohol-related problems through responsible alcohol sales regulation that addresses the **number, density, and sales and service practices** of alcohol retailers in a given neighborhood.

- Reducing the number of alcohol retailers in dense areas can improve violence in and around these businesses. ^{1, 6, 7}
- Regulating the availability of single-serve alcohol can be an effective way to reduce alcohol-related harm, including violence, especially when used as part of a larger crime reduction strategy. ¹



- Banning or reducing the sale of **single-serve alcohol** is associated with improved public safety outcomes and is a tool for violence prevention and harm reduction.^{1, 10}

Common Regulatory Approaches Used

Source: *See Appendix*

- Product Based Restrictions
- Location/Place Based Restrictions
- Time Based Restrictions
- Discretionary Tools
- Sunday Sales Bans
- Alcohol tax
- Limiting clusters of alcohol outlets



Cities Using These Regulatory Approaches

- San Bernardino, CA
- Santa Barbara, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- Seattle, WA
- Spokane, WA
- Tacoma, WA
- Reno, NV
- Chicago (Arlington Heights), IL
- Kankakee, IL
- Minneapolis, MN
- Washington, DC
- Various Cities in Massachusetts

Single-Serve Product Restrictions Used By Cities



Malt beverages/Beer

-70 oz or less



Hard Liquor

-Pints
-Half pints
-Airplane bottles,
minis, nips,
shorties



Wine Products

-Wine coolers
-Mini wine bottles

What is a Retail Alcohol Impact Area (AIA) Plan?

- Establishes defined geographic areas
- Within those areas, applies targeted alcohol sales restrictions
- Used by cities to reduce violence and stabilize neighborhoods

A Retail AIA combines a geographic boundary with targeted alcohol regulations, such as single-serve product restrictions.

Local Conditions

Community- Identified Concerns in Impacted Corridors

Public Health Safety

- Crime and disorder
- Youth violence
- Drunk driving
- Open air-drug markets
- Increased demand on police and emergency services (*e.g.*, 911 wait times)

Neighborhood Conditions

- Quality of life issues
- Overconcentration of liquor stores in certain areas
- Blight & vacant buildings
- Proximity to bus stops
- Chronic loitering/trespass
- Litter



Community- Identified Concerns in Impacted Corridors

Economic Impact

- Effect on business development & housing
- Corridor stabilization and long-term re-development
- Impact on current retail operators
- Product Scope

Mitigation Efforts

- Multidisciplinary Public Safety Task Force engagement
- Stronger codes enforcement

Single-Serve Products Frequently Identified as Contributing to Disorder in KCMO

**Hard
Liquor**

Pints, half pints,
airplane bottles,
nips, minis,
shorties

**Malt
Beverages**

≤40 oz

**Wine
Products**

Mini wine
products



**KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI**



Why Targeted, Place-Based Tools Matter

- When impacts are concentrated geographically, targeted solutions are more effective than broad ones.

Proposed Retail Alcohol Impact Areas

Proposed Impacted Areas

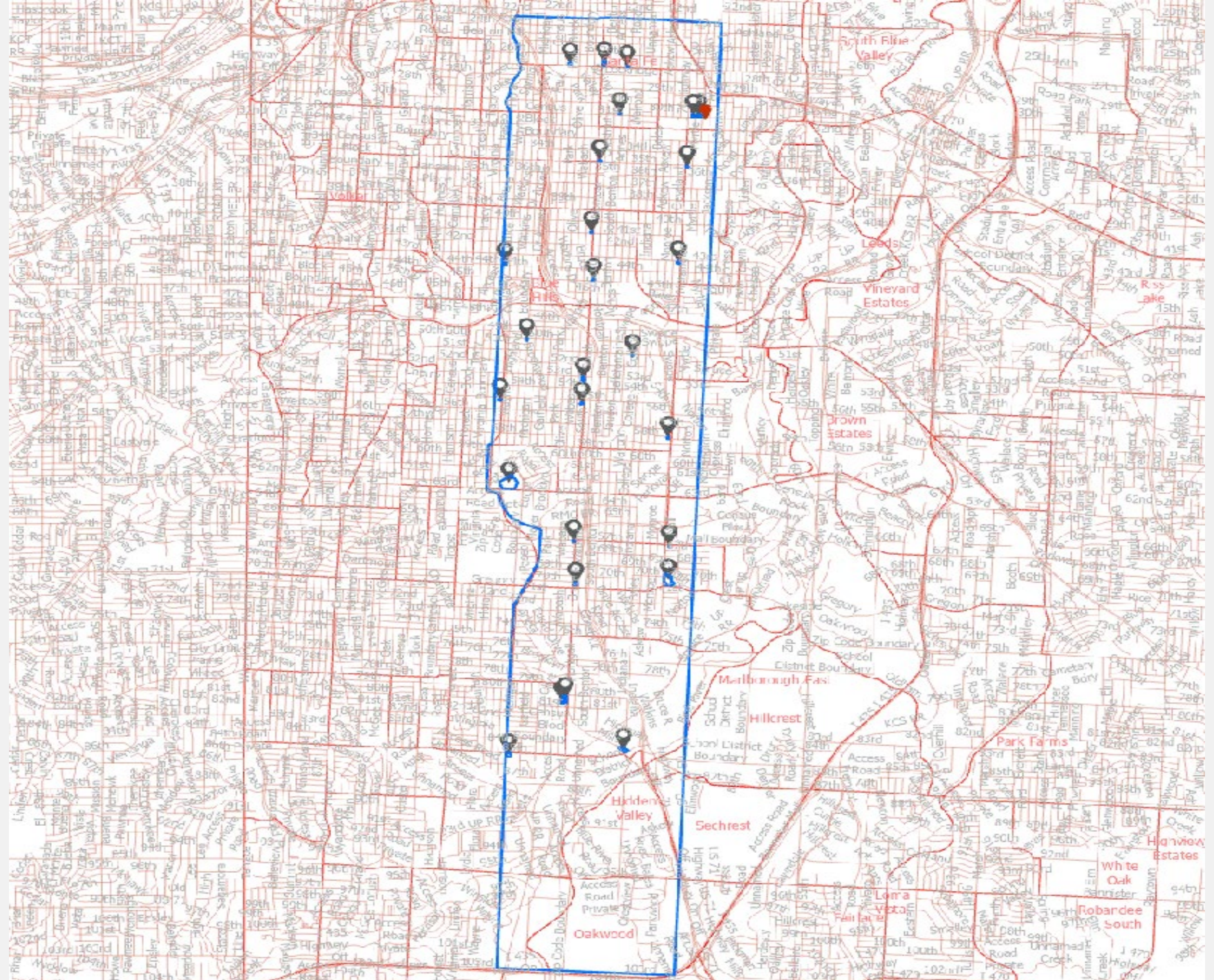
- "Prospect Avenue-Southeast Corridor"
- "Central Business Corridor"
- "Midtown Corridor"
- "Independence Avenue Corridor"
- "Blue Ridge Corridor"

How Boundaries Were Determined

- Multidisciplinary Public Safety Task Force Engagement
- Resident and Community Stakeholder Concerns/Feedback
- Buffers to prevent “spillover”

“Prospect Avenue-Southeast Corridor” Boundaries

- Prospect Avenue-Southeast Corridor means the geographical area bounded by 23rd Street on the north, Interstate 435 on the south, that portion of The Paseo and Lydia Avenue between 49th and 59th Street on the west, and Jackson Avenue on the east, including all parcels, businesses, and premises located within or abutting these boundaries.
 - See §10-216(a)(5)



Prospect Avenue-Southeast Corridor

Calls for Service: *January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026*

| CATEGORY | COUNT |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Disturbance | 5,775 |
| Suspicious Activity | 2,372 |
| Auto | 1,660 |
| Shotspotter | 575 |
| Sounds of Shots | 500 |
| Threats | 127 |
| Stealing | 127 |
| Shooting | 83 |
| Robbery | 80 |
| Stolen Auto | 34 |
| Cutting | 38 |
| Dead Body | 29 |
| Sex Offense | 12 |
| Rape | 19 |
| Other | 5,900 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 17,331 |

Prospect Avenue-Southeast Corridor

Crime Data: *January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026*

| CRIME | COUNT |
|---|--------------|
| Assault (Aggravated) | 700 |
| Assault (Aggravated) On Department Member/Outside Law Enforcement Officer | 16 |
| Domestic Violence Assault (Aggravated) | 367 |
| Murder | 38 |
| Rape (Including Juvenile & Statutory) | 64 |
| Robbery (Armed Street, Business, Residential, & Strong Arm) | 217 |
| Sodomy (Including Juvenile) | 18 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1,420 |

“Central Business District” Boundaries

- **Central Business District Corridor** means the geographical area bounded by the Missouri River on the north, the 18th Street on the south, Interstates 35 and 29, Interstate 70 and Bruce R Watkins Drive on the east and Broadway on the west, including all parcels, businesses, and premises abutting or located within one block of these boundaries.
 - *See Sec. 10-216(a)(2).*

Central Business District Calls for Service

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CATEGORY | COUNT |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Disturbance | 4,120 |
| Suspicious Activity | 2,579 |
| Auto | 1,096 |
| Sounds of Shots | 127 |
| Threats | 56 |
| Stealing | 103 |
| Shooting | 27 |
| Robbery | 63 |
| Stolen Auto | 58 |
| Cutting | 24 |
| Dead Body | 8 |
| Sex Offense | 15 |
| Rape | 17 |
| Other | 8,090 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 16,383 |

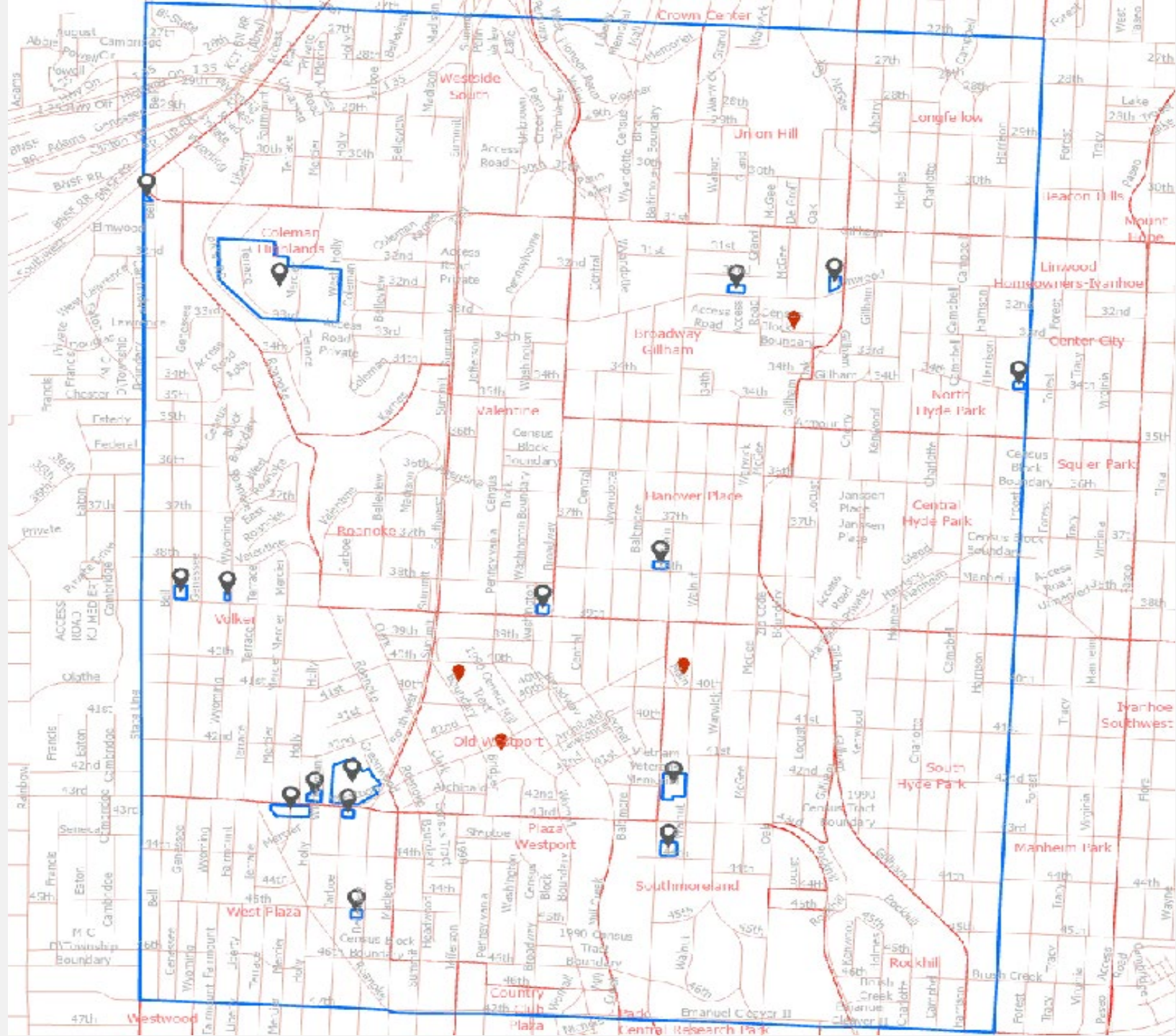
Central Business District Crime Data

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CRIME | COUNT |
|--|--------------|
| Assault (Aggravated) | 113 |
| Domestic Violence Assault (Aggravated) | 26 |
| Robbery (Armed Street, Strong Armed Street, Business, & Financial Institution) | 66 |
| Rape (Including Juvenile) | 25 |
| Murder | 3 |
| Property Damage | 558 |
| Burglary (Residential & Non-Residential) | 132 |
| Stealing (Various) | 889 |
| Stolen Auto | 735 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 2,547 |

“Midtown Corridor” Boundaries

- Midtown Corridor means the geographical area bounded by **27th Street on the north, 47th Street/Emanuel Cleaver II Boulevard on the South, the city limits of Kansas City, Missouri on the west, and Troost Avenue on the east**, including all parcels, businesses and premises located within or abutting these boundaries that are located within the City of Kansas City.
 - *See 10-216(a)(4).*



Midtown Corridor Calls for Service

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CATEGORY | COUNT |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Disturbance | 6,630 |
| Suspicious Activity | 4,034 |
| Auto | 3,908 |
| Shotspotter | 101 |
| Sounds of Shots | 350 |
| Threats | 115 |
| Stealing | 286 |
| Shooting | 48 |
| Robbery | 102 |
| Stolen Auto | 83 |
| Cutting | 34 |
| Dead Body | 21 |
| Sex Offense | 15 |
| Rape | 20 |
| Other | 9,781 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 25,528 |

Midtown Corridor Crime Data

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CRIME | COUNT |
|---|--------------|
| Assault (Aggravated) | 165 |
| Burglary (Non-Residential & Residential) | 329 |
| Domestic Violence Assault (Aggravated) | 54 |
| Murder | 14 |
| Property Damage | 709 |
| Rape (Including Juvenile) | 18 |
| Robbery (Armed Street, Business, Residential, & Strong Arm) | 116 |
| Stealing (Various) | 1,827 |
| Stolen Auto | 929 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 4,161 |

“Blue Ridge Corridor” Boundaries

- Blue Ridge Corridor means the geographic area bounded by 83rd Street on the north, 119th Street on the south, Newton Avenue, Bennington Avenue, and Hickman Mills Drive on the west, and James A Reed Road, Eastern Avenue, and Food Lane on the east, including all parcels, businesses, and premises located within or abutting these boundaries, but excluding any areas outside the City Limits of Kansas City.
 - *See* §10-216(a)(1).

Blue Ridge Corridor Calls for Service

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CATEGORY | COUNT |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Disturbance | 2,410 |
| Suspicious Activity | 859 |
| Auto | 235 |
| Sounds of Shots | 247 |
| Threats | 65 |
| Stealing | 75 |
| Shooting | 21 |
| Robbery | 39 |
| Stolen Auto | 22 |
| Cutting | 11 |
| Dead Body | 7 |
| Sex Offense | 2 |
| Rape | 4 |
| Other | 2,615 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,612 |

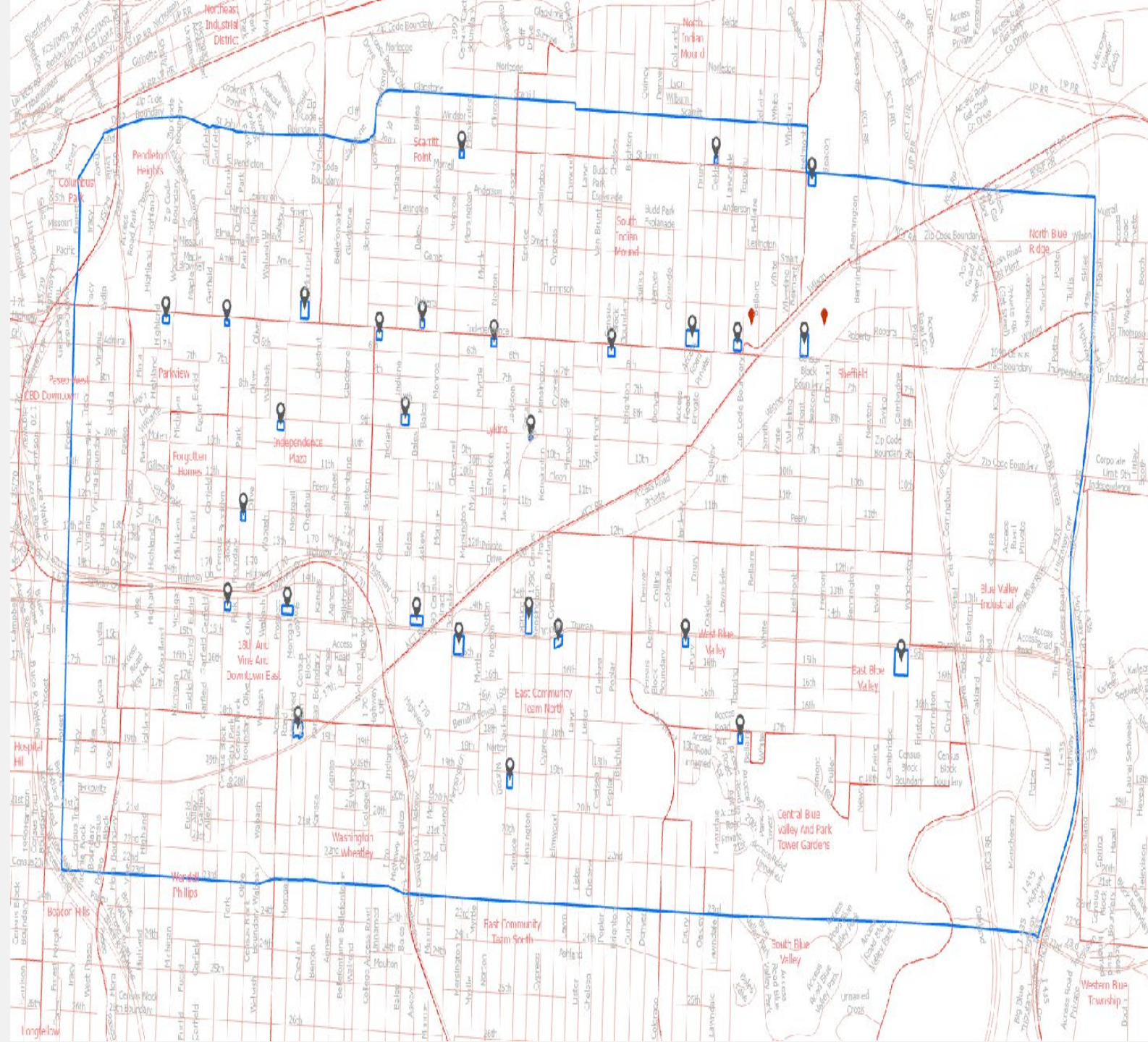
Blue Ridge Corridor Crime Data

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CRIME | COUNT |
|---|------------|
| Assault (Aggravated) | 84 |
| Burglary (Non-Residential & Residential) | 89 |
| Domestic Violence Assault (Aggravated) | 49 |
| Domestic Violence Robber.y (Armed) | 1 |
| Murder | 5 |
| Rape (Including Juvenile & Statutory) | 5 |
| Robbery (Armed Street, Business, Residential, & Strong Arm) | 38 |
| Stealing (Various) | 230 |
| Stolen Auto | 174 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 675 |

“Independence Corridor” Boundaries

- Independence Avenue Corridor means the geographical area bounded by **that portion of Scarritt Avenue east of Benton Boulevard, inclusive of that portion that is known as Gladstone Blvd, and that portion of St. John Avenue west of Chestnut Trafficway on the north, East 18th Street on the south, Forest Avenue on the west, and Interstate 435 on the east**, including all parcels, businesses, and premises located within or abutting these boundaries.
 - *See* § 10-216(a)(3).



Independence Ave. Corridor Calls for Service: *January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026*

| CATEGORY | COUNT |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Disturbance | 7,511 |
| Suspicious Activity | 3,358 |
| Auto | 2,416 |
| Shotspotter | 2 |
| Sounds of Shots | 1,010 |
| Threats | 154 |
| Stealing | 266 |
| Shooting | 96 |
| Robbery | 150 |
| Stolen Auto | 90 |
| Cutting | 37 |
| Dead Body | 25 |
| Sex Offense | 9 |
| Rape | 27 |
| Other | 9,231 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 24,382 |

Independence Ave. Corridor Crime Data

January 1, 2025 – February 23, 2026

| CRIME | COUNT |
|---|------------|
| Assault (Aggravated) | 357 |
| Assault (Aggravated) On Department Member/Outside Law Enforcement Officer | 10 |
| Domestic Violence Assault (Aggravated) | 139 |
| Murder | 28 |
| Rape (Including Juvenile & Statutory) | 40 |
| Robbery (Armed Street, Business, Residential, & Strong Arm) | 246 |
| Sodomy (Including Juvenile) | 17 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 837 |

Ordinance 260250 Framework

Purpose of Ordinance No. 260250

- To protect public safety and public health by regulating the **retail sale** of certain single-serve, individual containers of alcohol products in designated areas that experience persistent public safety challenges.

Targeted Retail Sales Restrictions to Support Public Safety

- In designated areas, retail alcohol businesses (except grocery stores) would be prohibited from selling **single-serve** (*individual*) containers of:
 - **High-ABV Liquor** (35%+) in small containers (200 mL or less)
 - Half pints, nips, minis, shorties, and airplane bottles
 - **Malt beverages** sold in 40 oz containers or less

See § 10-217

“Grocery Store” Exception for Designated Impact Areas

To qualify as a grocery store, a retail business must meet certain square footage and sales requirements. **15,000+ sq. ft;** **and**

- Derives **70%+** of its sales from products other than liquor (*e.g.*, groceries, snacks, foods, confectionary, soft drinks, tobacco, personal electronics, home essentials, and clothing)

See KCMO Code §10-1

Administrative Penalties

- Under § 10-217(d):
 - Violators are subject to penalties set forth in § 10-40 of the Code
 - Violations may be grounds for suspension or revocation of a license as set forth in §§ 10-36 and 10-62 of the Code

Implementation, Enforcement, and Adaptive Policy Framework

- **Implementation**

- 60 day delayed effective date to allow time for notice to impacted licensees, education, and compliance

- **Enforcement & Oversight**

- Administered by Regulated Industries/Neighborhoods with Public Safety Task Force engagement as needed

- **Adaptive Policy Framework**

- Authorizes Council to create, modify, or eliminate of designated Retail AIAs as conditions change based on recommendations of the Public Safety Task Force or Neighborhood Services
- Mandates review every 3 years to ensure continued effectiveness and justification



Ordinance 260250 is a Narrower Approach

KCMO Proposed Restrictions

- Malt Beverages
 - 40 oz or less
- Hard Liquor
 - Half Pints +35%+ ABV
 - Airplane bottles/nips/minis/shorties + 35% ABV

Restrictions in Other Cities

- Malt Beverages
 - 70 oz or less
- Hard Liquor
 - Pints
 - Half Pints
 - Airplane Bottles
- Wine
 - Wine Coolers
 - Single Serve Wine Bottles

Ordinance 260250 Does NOT:

- Ban all alcohol products
 - You can still purchase packages containing multiple containers of restricted single-serve products in AIAs
- Ban alcohol city wide
 - You can still purchase impacted products in areas of the City that are not designated as an impact area
- Apply to bars & restaurants in the designated impact areas
- Apply to grocery stores in the designated impact areas
- Shut businesses down in designated impact areas

Ordinance 260250 Will NOT apply City-Wide

- Retail AIAs are designed to be targeted, not city wide. By focusing on areas that experience increased public safety challenges, the City can:
 - Focus on areas that need additional support to improve public safety and quality of life issues; and
 - Respond to public safety concerns without overregulating areas in which public safety concerns can be addressed through other means.

Expected Outcomes

Source: *See Appendix*

- Research shows that cities with strong alcohol regulations experience a better quality of life, improved public safety, and stable neighborhoods
- What this means for KCMO?
 - Fewer nuisance complaints
 - Fewer calls for service and less strain on emergency resources
 - Improved public safety, quality of life, long-term neighborhood stability and economic vitality

How to Monitor Outcomes

- Review public safety data, community feedback, and compliance by retailers.
- Retail Alcohol Impact Areas can be adjusted, revisited, or removed if conditions change.

Summary

Benefits of a Retail AIA in KCMO

Source: *See Appendix*

- Safer Communities
- Reduces excessive drinking and related harms including but not limited to:
 - Violence
 - Youth Violence
 - Domestic Violence
 - Interpersonal Violence
 - Addiction,
 - Death
- Reduces Strain on Police and Emergency Services
- Improves economic vitality and strengthens neighborhoods

Smart, thoughtful alcohol regulation supports public safety.

Public safety is the foundation of strong, economically vital communities.

Appendix

1. Robert Nash Parker, Kevin J. McCaffree & Daniel Skiles, *The impact of retail practices on violence: The case of single-serve alcohol beverage containers*, 30 DRUG & ALCOHOL REV. 496 (2011).
2. City Health, *Preventing Violence in American Cities With Safer Alcohol Sales*, DE BEAUMONT FOUND. & KAISER PERMANENTE (2021)
3. Patricia McKee, et al., *The Impact of Single-Container Malt Liquor Sales Restrictions on Urban Crime*, 94 J URBAN HEALTH 289-300 (2017).
4. *Liquor Store Density Linked to Youth Homicides*, ALCAP, <https://alcap.com/current-issue/liquor-store-density-linked-to-youth-homicides/> (last accessed February 27, 2026).
5. Robin Ligget, et al., *Bus-Stop Environmental Connection: Do Characteristics of the Built Environment Correlate with Bus Stop Crime*, 1760 TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH RECORD 20 (2023).
6. Nancy Nicosia, Rosanna Smart, Terry L. Schell, *Effects of Restricting Alcohol Sales on Fatal Violence: Evidence from Sunday Sales Bans*, DRUG ALCOHOL DEPEND, 1-15 (2023).
7. Jessica L. Fitterer, Trisalyn A. Nelson, Timothy Sockwell, Trisalyn A. Nelson, *A Review of Existing Studies Reporting the Negative Effects of Alcohol Access and Positive Effects of Alcohol Control Policies on Interpersonal Violence*, 3 Front. Public Health 353 (2015)
8. Shima Shakory, et a. Brendan T. Smith, Rachel Jansen, Breanne, Reel, Erin Hobin, *The Impact of policies controlling the spatial availability of take-away alcohol on consumption and harms: A systemic narrative review*, 1 ADDICTION 1951 (2025)
9. Campbell, C.A. et al., *The Effectiveness of Limiting Alcohol Outlet Density as a Means of Reducing Excessive Alcohol Consumption and Alcohol-Related Harms*, 37 AM. J. PREV. MED. 556 (2009).
10. John Tarnai, *Post-Assessment: Seattle, Washington Alcohol Impact Areas*, Data Rep. No. 09-032 (Soc. & Econ. Scis. Rsch. Ctr., Wash. State Univ., prepared for Wash. State Liquor Control Bd. & City of Seattle 2009).

Additional Sources

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2. <https://www.cspdailynews.com/regulation-legislation/illinois-village-bans-sale-cold-single-serve-beer>
3. <https://www.journal-topics.com/articles/police-say-single-serving-alcohol-ban-working-well-homeless-crime-down/>
4. <https://www.shawlocal.com/daily-journal/news/local/2022/06/15/downtown-alcohol-sales-restricted/>
5. <https://www.kolotv.com/2022/01/12/reno-city-council-consider-downtown-alcohol-ordinance/>
6. <https://lcb.wa.gov/pressreleases/liquor-control-board-approves-second-alcohol-impact-area-tacoma>
7. <https://my.spokanecity.org/news/releases/2024/12/26/brown-administration-proposes-public-health-and-safety-ordinances/>

Questions?