

## SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE\*

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Contact/Phone:</b>
Mayor's Office	Kiersten Grove/6-6261	Kara Main-Hester/4-8746

*\* Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

### **1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to the use of extensively damaged motor vehicles; prohibiting persons from allowing the occupation of extensively damaged motor vehicles; and adding a new Chapter 11.75 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

**Summary and background of the Legislation:** The City has experienced a growth in number of people occupying extensively damaged motor and recreational vehicles. The people occupying these vehicles are often vulnerable and have limited options for housing. The vehicles are often parked in the right of way and often create a health and safety risk to those living within and to the public in general. This legislation prohibits allowing other people to occupy damaged motor or recreational vehicles that are in the City right-of-way when they are inoperable and present a health or safety risk.

### **2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**       Yes  No

### **3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget?**       Yes  No

**Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?**

Yes. As more hazardous vehicles are removed from the right of way and disposed of due to health and safety hazards the City will incur costs for the disposal for these vehicles. The City has 2019 appropriation in FAS to cover some RV disposal, however, the additional costs from this change means total costs could exceed this budgeted amount. If the costs of disposal exceed the current appropriation, a request will be brought forward for changes to the 2019 budget. Changes to the 2020 budget will be managed through the budget development process.

**Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?**

If this legislation is not implemented, the health and safety hazards they present will be perpetuated. The health hazards associated with RVs and vehicles include:

- Infestation by insects, vermin, rodents, or other pests.
- Accumulation of garbage and rubbish.
- Accumulation of expired, rotten, and/or improperly stored food
- Poor indoor air quality due to mold, exposed insulation, or other air pollutants.
- Accumulation of infectious waste, such as urine, feces, blood, and/or sharps.

- Hazardous and/or inoperable wastewater system leading to improper disposal and/or discharge of sewage.
- Presence of improperly contained hazardous waste such as propane tanks, batteries, chemicals or motor oils.
- Accumulation of junk, debris, or combustible materials.
- Structural damage to the extent that occupants are exposed to the weather.

It is important that these vehicles not reenter the market to mitigate public health and safety risks to both future RV occupants, the general public and the City's natural environment. In 2018, 53% (60) of the RVs/vehicles towed through the RV Remediation Pilot reentered the market despite being removed from high-ranking cleanup sites with significant health and safety risks.

#### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**  
Yes. The Seattle Police Department and Seattle Public Utilities partner to perform the RV Remediation Pilot. The Department of Finance and Administrative Services manages the contract with the tow companies who provide towing and destruction of vehicles.
- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**  
No.
- c. Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?**  
No.
- d. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**  
No.
- e. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**  
No.
- f. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?**  
The occupation of extensively damaged vehicles is an issue affecting vulnerable populations and adjacent neighborhoods. It has been identified by both the RV Remediation Pilot and SPD Parking Enforcement as a means for individuals to take advantage of already vulnerable groups by seeking rent for inadequate and in some cases dangerous alternative living arrangements.

This legislation will prohibit allowing occupation of RVs and vehicles that are unfit for human habitation based on public health and safety standards. Occupants will be offered services, including shelter, to help them re-establish a rental in a safe and appropriate location. The legislation includes a restitution provision that requires anyone violating this

law to pay the persons occupying or renting the RV costs associated with relocation and/or moneys paid for the use of the RV.

- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).**

N/A

**List attachments/exhibits below:**