

2020 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Review Complete

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OED	20	A	1

Budget Action Title: Add \$50,000 GF (one-time) to OED to conduct outreach to businesses to improve OLS's investigative practices

Ongoing: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No

Primary Sponsor: Bruce Harrell

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	BH	KS	AP	DJ	MO	SB	TM	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2020 Increase (Decrease)	2021 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	
General Fund Expenditures	\$50,000	
Net Balance Effect	\$(50,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(50,000)	

Budget Action Description:

This Budget Action adds \$50,000 GF (one-time) to the Office of Economic Development (OED) to contract with a consultant to conduct a survey of businesses that have been investigated by the Office of Labor Standards (OLS). OLS is responsible for enforcement of labor standards for employees working within Seattle city limits. Since its formation as an Executive office in 2017, OLS has conducted investigations of about 600 employers and resolved over 400 of these cases. Resolution of these investigations can result in remedies to be paid to the City and workers, which totaled over \$2.1 million in 2018. As OLS begins enforcing an increasing number of labor laws, this survey is intended to help OLS modify their labor standards investigation process to increase transparency and foster more efficient ways to mediate and resolve good faith disputes between parties.

Information collected by the survey should include, but not be limited to: (1) general information about

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each business, including demographics of the business owner(s), number of employees, type of business, length of time business has been in operation; (2) the type of information received from OLS throughout the investigative process, including an explanation of the investigation and appeal process, a description of evidence showing a violation and the OLS Director's method for determining monetary remedies (if applicable), and compliance assistance; (3) experience interacting with OLS investigators; (4) recommendations for improvements to the process, such as establishing an option for mediation.

OED should consult with OLS during development of the survey to ensure that the information collected is relevant to OLS's investigative practices and possible areas for improvement. The survey should be completed by May 1, 2020, and be used as the basis for OLS to develop improvements to its investigative practices and processes (see Council Budget Action OLS-1-A-1).

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase GF support to conduct survey of OLS investigative process		0	0	OED - ED000	OED - BO-ED-X1D00 - Business Services	00100 - General Fund	2020	\$0	\$50,000