



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Select Committee on Homelessness Strategies and Investments

Agenda

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

2:00 PM

Remote Meeting. Call 253-215-8782; Meeting ID: 586 416 9164; or
Seattle Channel online.

Andrew J. Lewis, Chair
Lisa Herbold, Vice-Chair
M. Lorena González, Member
Debora Juarez, Member
Tammy J. Morales, Member
Teresa Mosqueda, Member
Alex Pedersen, Member
Kshama Sawant, Member
Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8807; Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov

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Council Chamber Listen Line: 206-684-8566

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206-684-8888 (TTY Relay 7-1-1), email CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov, or visit
<http://seattle.gov/cityclerk/accommodations>.



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and Investments**
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Committee Website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/homelessness-strategies-and-investments>

This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business.

In-person attendance is currently prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation 20-28.15, until the COVID-19 State of Emergency is terminated or Proclamation 20-28 is rescinded by the Governor or State legislature. Meeting participation is limited to access by telephone conference line and online by the Seattle Channel.

Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the 2:00 p.m. Select Committee on Homelessness Strategies and Investments meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>.

Online registration to speak at the Select Committee on Homelessness Strategies and Investments meeting will begin two hours before the 2:00 p.m. meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

Submit written comments to Councilmember Lewis at Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov

Sign-up to provide Public Comment at the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>

Watch live streaming video of the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/watch-council-live>

Listen to the meeting by calling the Council Chamber Listen Line at 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 586 416 9164

One Tap Mobile No. US: +12532158782,,5864169164#

Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

D. Items of Business

1. Update on the City of Seattle's Inclement Weather Response Plan

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Human Services Department \(HSD\) Memo](#)
[Office of Emergency Management \(OEM\) Memo](#)

Briefing and Discussion

Presenter: Curry Mayer, Director, Office of Emergency Management

2. [CB 120109](#) AN ORDINANCE relating to City finances; creating a fund for depositing donations, gifts, and grants related to The City of Seattle's response to homelessness and provision of human services.

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenter: Jeff Simms, Council Central Staff

E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 1834, **Version:** 1

Update on the City of Seattle's Inclement Weather Response Plan

Date: June 21, 2021

To: **Councilmember Andrew Lewis, Chair, Select Committee on Homelessness Strategies & Investments**

From: Tess Colby, Deputy Director, Human Services Department (HSD)

Subject: HSI/HOPE Team Update: Wildfire Smoke Shelters, Rapid Re-Housing, and HOPE Team Role During Removals

Wildfire Smoke Shelter Update

- HSD’s response to wildfire smoke falls under HSD’s “Inclement Weather” planning, which encompasses response work to support vulnerable communities during severe weather/climate events, including snow, cold temperatures, excessive heat, and poor air quality such as impacts from wildfire smoke.
- HSD’s Homeless Strategies and Investments (HSI) Division is engaged in planning and preparation, in partnership with Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and King County and Public Health Seattle King County (PHSKC), in the event of a wildfire smoke event.
- In the case of a poor air quality event, such as severe wildfire smoke, HSD will open [cleaner air shelters](#) in accordance with the [Inclement Weather Plan](#) and have identified shelter locations, such as Fisher Pavilion and Exhibition Hall, which have the air filtration systems necessary to comply with smoke and COVID-19 public health protocols. Under current COVID-19 public health protocols, these shelters have capacity to serve up to 230 individuals combined.
- The City contracts with the Salvation Army to operate inclement weather shelters, including cleaner air shelters.
- HSI has identified potential cleaner air shelter locations outside of the downtown core as second tier locations, however, as mentioned during our last presentation before the Select Committee on Homelessness Strategies and Investments, provider capacity remains a challenge throughout our shelter system.
- The use of other/additional facilities requires air filtration systems similar to the systems found at Fisher Pavilion and Exhibition Hall, which narrows the number of appropriate facilities to utilize as cleaner-air shelters.
- Last September, during the dual crisis of COVID-19 and wildfire smoke, HSD, in partnership with PHSKC, opened a 24-hour smoke relief shelter in SoDo operated by the Salvation Army with capacity for 100 individuals. Efforts to open additional spaces were restricted due to provider capacity, the need for additional COVID-19 safety protocols, and potential cleaner air shelter spaces being utilized as de-intensification shelters.
- Through OEM, emergency managers are also working on updating the City’s heat/smoke response plans, including the cooling/cleaner air plans.
- Due to recent investments in enhanced shelter such as the new Kings Inn and Executive Hotel Pacific hotel-based shelters, the City currently funds 2,463 shelter spaces, almost 400 more

spaces compared to Q4 2020, with 89% of those spaces being enhanced shelter or tiny houses, which provide 24/7 access and wraparound onsite services. This compares to 77% in Q4 2020.

Hotel-based Enhanced Shelter Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Program Update

- Executive Hotel Pacific
 - Currently, the Executive Hotel Pacific is at 100% occupancy with 153 persons in the shelter.
 - Participants are working with LIHI case managers to identify their best housing solution.
 - Rapid Re-housing -- 71 persons have enrolled in the Catholic Community Services (CCS) RRH Program (as of June 21).
 - 61 currently enrolled in program but have not yet been placed in an apartment.
 - 10 from the program have been placed in apartments leased as part of the RRH program.
 - Three other hotel clients have exited to permanent housing.
- Kings Inn
 - Currently, the Kings Inn is at 100% occupancy with 69 persons in the shelter.
 - Chief Seattle Club case managers are working with participants to identify the best housing solution.
 - Two exits to permanent housing as of June 21.
 - The RRH program, operated at this location by Chief Seattle Club, is ramping up as it became fully staffed within the past three weeks.
- Both hotel-based shelters are pilot programs that are approximately two and a half months old operationally. Many clients at the Executive Hotel Pacific and Kings Inn have been enrolled for less than two months.
- Residents staying at the hotels are being connected to a number of housing solutions in addition to RRH, including permanent housing, CEA enrollment, transitional housing, etc., with the goal of having every person exiting the hotels into housing.
- We anticipate the number of RRH enrollments to increase as people at these hotels have time to stabilize and the Kings Inn program is fully staffed.
- The hotels are operated like all enhanced shelters with the only differences being a) the time-limited nature of the programs; and b) the availability of a pool of ESG-CV funded rapid re-housing resources.
- Exits from the hotels will benefit from the anticipated 1,300 new affordable housing units for individuals experiencing homelessness.

HOPE Team Role at Potential Encampment Removal Sites

- Since the funding of the HOPE Team in the 2021 budget, HSD reconfigured its outreach role from direct outreach (former Navigation Team) to coordinating advanced outreach to identified high priority encampments in partnership with City property-owning departments.
- This work has led to successful advance outreach at high priority sites such as Miller Playfield (46 shelter referrals), Gilman Playground (30 shelter referrals), University Playground (19 shelter referrals) and Albert Davis Park (25 shelter referrals), with 84% of referrals from these sites to [new hotel-based shelter resources](#).

- At certain encampment site types, there is a requirement to have documented offers of shelter prior to a removal.
- Providers have recently expressed unwillingness to commit to being present once a notice has been posted for a potential removal and/or on the day of a potential removal.
- As a result, Deputy Mayor Tiffany Washington has agreed to have the HOPE Team System Navigators take the lead on engagement and service/shelter referral once an encampment site is posted for removal. Contracted outreach providers were pleased with this decision.
- The HOPE Team will continue to coordinate advanced outreach among provider partners at locations subject to removal, with no requirement that they are present the day of the removal.
- System Navigators will continue to coordinate referrals to HOPE Team set-aside shelter beds by outreach providers from locations citywide.
- In coordination with the HOPE Team's outreach partners, since the beginning of the year through May, the HOPE Team has made 505 referrals to shelter citywide. Since the end of March, over 240 referrals have been into new hotel-based shelter resources.

Planning for Summer Heat & Smoke

Curry Mayer
Director

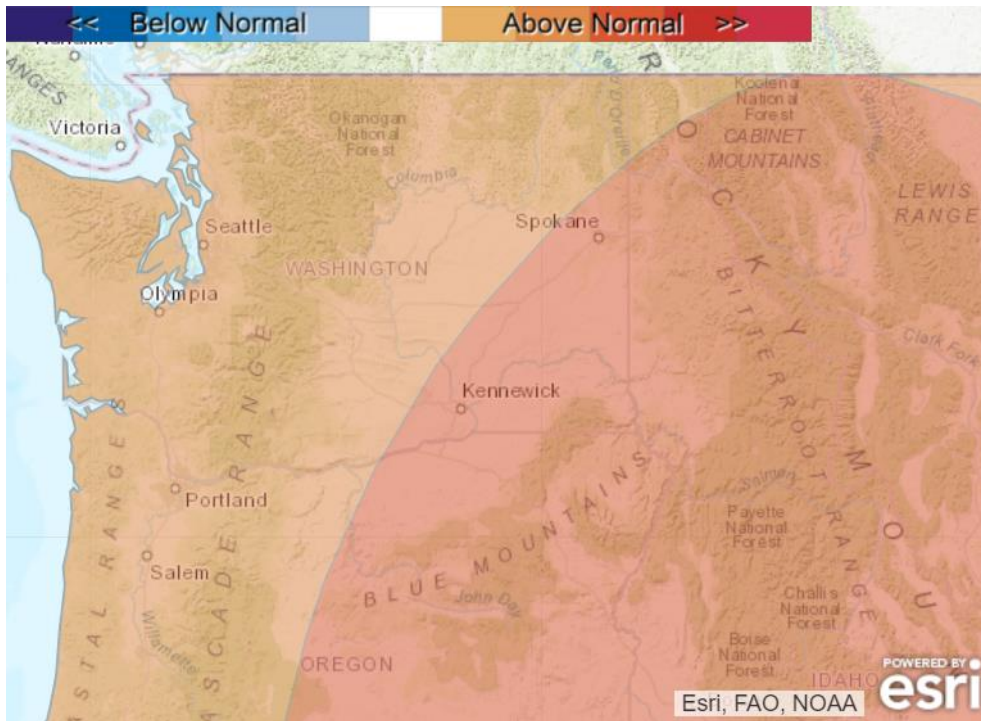
Office of Emergency Management



Three Month Seasonal Outlook (July - Sept)

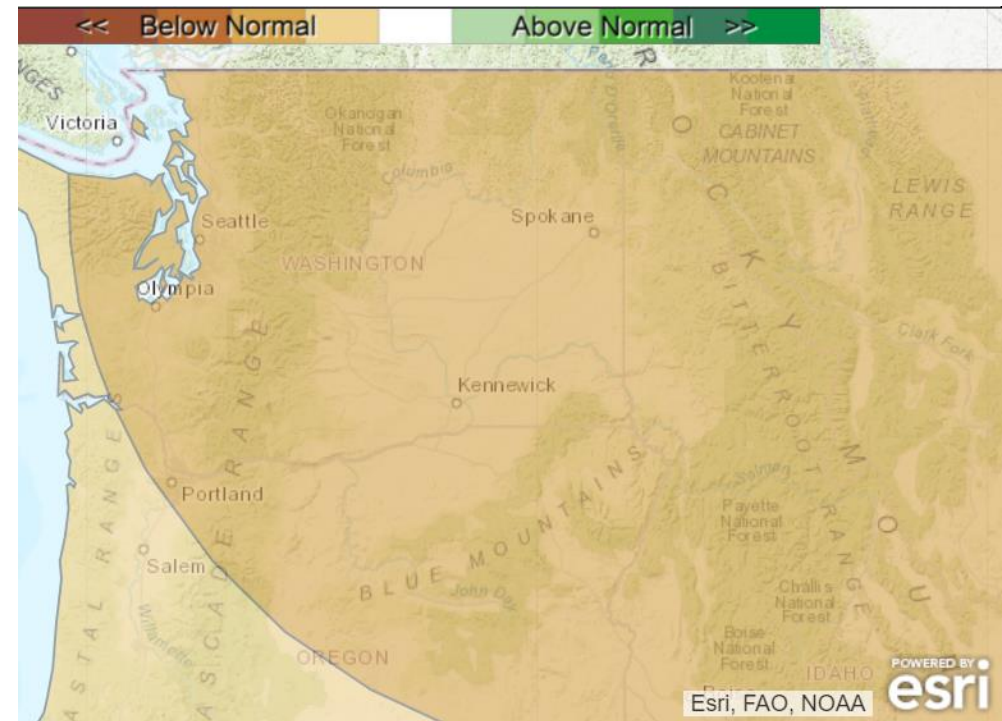
Temperature

Above Normal



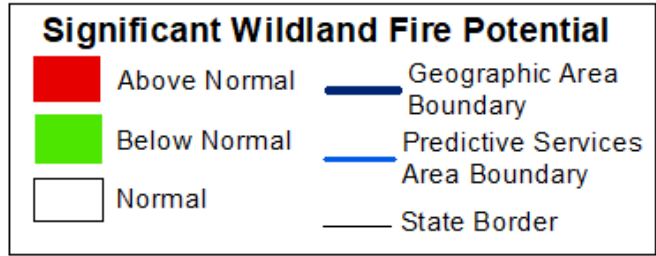
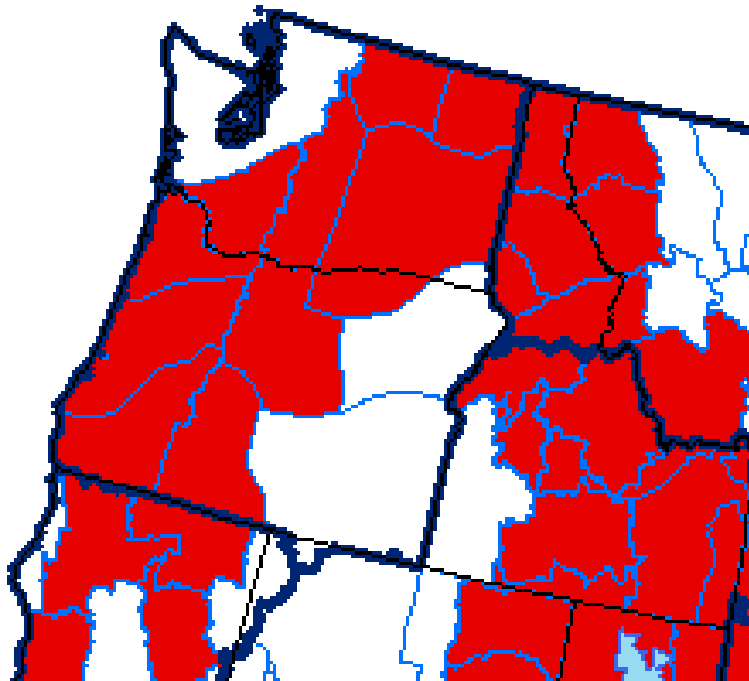
Precipitation

Below Normal

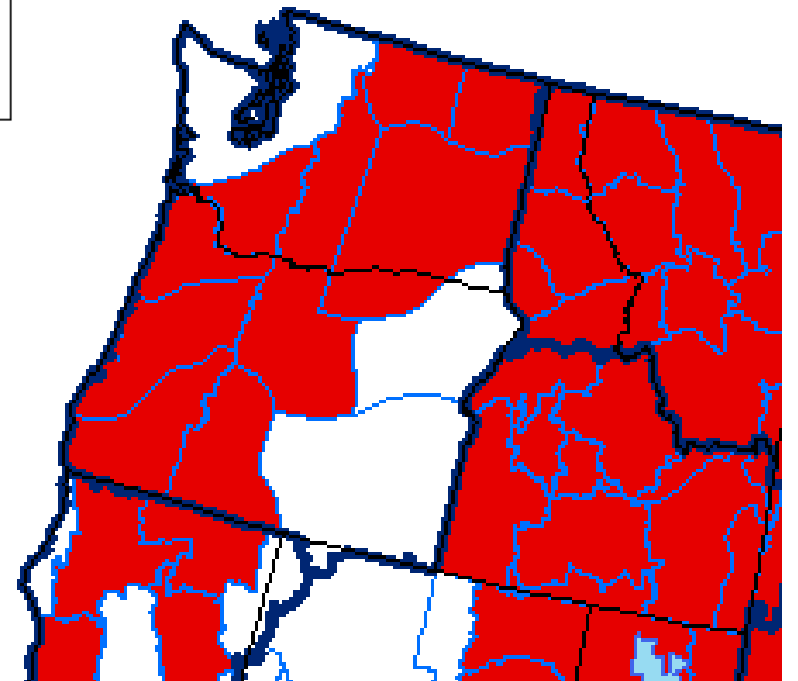


Fire Potential

July



August



Key Actions During Excessive High Temperatures

- Monitor weather report including assessments on heat impacts
- Conduct coordination conference calls with other City Departments
- Review cooling center operational strategy
- Assess other actions to reach or support vulnerable populations
- Assess modifications to any outdoor City operations
- Coordinate Public Information



Legislation Text

File #: CB 120109, Version: 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to City finances; creating a fund for depositing donations, gifts, and grants related to The City of Seattle's response to homelessness and provision of human services.

WHEREAS, in November 2015, Mayor Edward Murray issued a Proclamation of Civil Emergency to address homelessness that was subsequently ratified and confirmed by the Seattle City Council; and

WHEREAS, the point-in-time count conducted in January 2020 estimated that 8,166 people in Seattle, and 11,751 across all of King County, experience homelessness on any given night; and

WHEREAS, numerous parks and public spaces have experienced an increase in unsanctioned encampments of people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, a substantial proportion of people with substance use disorder are not able to access appropriate treatment or supports to recover from the disorder; and

WHEREAS, the City's Human Services Department will spend more than \$300 million in 2021 on homelessness and human services and preventative, primary, mental, and behavioral health care; and

WHEREAS, private donors have pledged millions of dollars to expand emergency shelter programs and support the City's response to homelessness; and

WHEREAS, there is not currently a mechanism for the City to receive private donations to support or expand homelessness and human services and health care; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new Homelessness and Human Services Fund is created in the City Treasury, effective

immediately, to which revenues may be deposited and from which associated expenditures may be paid, including but not limited to City administration costs for the purposes described in Section 2 of this ordinance.

Section 2. The purpose of the Homelessness and Human Services Fund is to provide homelessness and human services and preventative, primary, mental, and behavioral health care. Services can be provided directly or through contracts and agreements with community-based organizations, non-profit service providers, other governmental entities. Permissible uses include:

- A. Programs to prevent and end homelessness;
- B. Hygiene and daytime services to ameliorate exposure from living unsheltered or experiencing homelessness;
- C. Shelter services, emergency housing, and other supports for those experiencing homelessness;
- D. Financial support to individuals, businesses, non-profits, and community-based organizations to move an individual into housing or maintain housing;
- E. Operations, maintenance, and services funding for programs that provide housing, including supportive housing, to individuals experiencing homelessness;
- F. Case management and other supports for individuals who have exited homelessness;
- G. Outreach and engagement of individuals to connect them with shelter, behavioral health services, mental health services, public benefits, and other services or assistance;
- H. Assistance for people with substance use disorder, behavioral health disorders, or mental health disorders;
- I. Services that increase access to preventative, primary, specialty, and urgent health care;
- J. Services that address current and emerging human services needs;
- K. Services that support positive youth and family development through investments in community safety, youth employment opportunities, mentoring and educational supports, affordable living, and family supports;

L. Food and nutrition services, including access to healthy foods;

M. Services to prevent and address gender-based violence; and

N. Services that address the environmental, economic, and social factors that influence health and well-being among older adults.

Section 3. The new Homelessness and Human Services Fund shall receive revenues in the form of donations, gifts, or grants from organizations, government entities, corporations, businesses, or people who wish to assist The City of Seattle in its response to homelessness and provision of human services and health care and transfers from other City funds as approved by the City Council. The Fund shall receive earnings on its positive balances and pay interest on its negative balances.

Section 4. The Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services shall have responsibility for administering the Homelessness and Human Services Fund. The Director of Finance is authorized to create other accounts and subaccounts as may be needed to implement the Fund's purpose and intent as established by this ordinance.

Section 5. All donations to and appropriations from the Fund will be tracked and published quarterly so long as there are active donations to or appropriations from it. The report shall include, at a minimum, information on the names of private donors, restrictions or covenants applied to the City's use of donated funds, information on City planning and outreach processes for the use of donated funds, and information on contracting processes and performance outcomes for all other appropriated funds. The quarterly reports shall be submitted by the City Budget Office to the Mayor and City Council no later than 60 days from the end of the quarter.

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2021, and signed by

me in open session in authentication of its passage this ____ day of _____, 2021.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
Legislative	Jeff Simms 206-475-9046	

* 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 City finances; creating a fund for depositing donations, gifts, and grants related to The City of Seattle’s response to homelessness and provision of human services.

Summary and background of the Legislation: The legislation creates a new Homelessness and Human Services Fund to be administered by the Department of Finance and Administrative Services. The fund differs from the existing Human Services Fund in that it can accept donations, gifts, and grants from organizations, corporations, businesses, and individuals, as well as transfers from other City funds as approved by the City Council.

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? No

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation? No

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
Yes, the legislation will create a new fund that could affect multiple departments depending on how deposits into and expenditures from the fund are managed. The financial practices of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services will also be affected to manage this new fund
- b. **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?** No
- c. **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?** No

- d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?** No
- e. 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?** This legislation is unlikely to have an impact on the Race and Social Justice Initiative. However, it establishes a fund that could receive donations and gifts, which could increase the resources for homelessness and human services programs. Many homelessness and human services programs serve vulnerable or historically disadvantaged populations that would benefit from the additional funding for programs.
- f. Climate Change Implications**
- 1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?** No
 - 2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.** No
- 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).** Not applicable.