

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

| Department: | Dept. Contact/Phone: | Executive Contact/Phone: |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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1. BILL SUMMARY

- a. **Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities; changing the name to the Seattle Disability Commission; and requesting that the Code Reviser revise the Seattle Municipal Code accordingly.
- b. **Summary and background of the Legislation:** This legislation strikes each reference to the Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities from the Seattle Municipal Code and replaces it with Seattle Disability Commission.

On June 18, 2020, the Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities unanimously voted in favor of changing the Commission's name to the Seattle Disability Commission.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- a. Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ___ Yes X No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes X No
- b. 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.
- c. 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?
No.
- 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?

Within disability communities there is a diversity of cultures, histories, and political movements. The language used for self-identification is one area in which these distinctions are readily apparent across disability communities. Many members of these communities prefer person first language while many others prefer identity first language. Changing the Commission's name to Seattle Disability Commission will create a more inclusive environment to all members of Seattle's disability communities regardless of individual language preferences.

The Commission's current name—Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities—is a person first construction. Person first language aims to center personhood over an individual's disability status. Advocates of person first language argue that its use is more humanizing and puts the focus on the whole person rather than a single characteristic.

Alternatively, identity first language puts one's disability front and center. If the Commission were to adopt identity first language, it might be called the Seattle Disabled People's Commission. For some disability communities the use of identity first language is culturally significant. For example, Deaf and Autistic communities, have long expressed a strong preference for identity first language. Additionally, many individuals from various disability communities use identity first language to reclaim disability as a political identity, similar to LGBTQ communities' reclamation of queer.

With the goal of creating greater inclusivity, Commission members deliberated and unanimously agreed that the Commission's name should be changed to Seattle Disability Commission. This is not the first time a commission has changed its name for this purpose. Most recently, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Commission added queer to its name.

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).

This legislation does not include a new initiative or major programmatic expansion.

Other Issues:

- None

List attachments/exhibits below: