

2022 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SDCI	002	B	002

Budget Action Title: Add position authority to non-SDCI review locations to improve permit and inspection times at SDCI and request a report

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Dan Strauss

Council Members: Tammy Morales, Lorena González

Staff Analyst: Ketil Freeman

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	BC	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2022 Increase (Decrease)	2023 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	
General Fund Expenditures	\$0	
Net Balance Effect	\$0	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$0	

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would (1) add position authority for permit reviewers at permit review locations outside of the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) that can be permit bottlenecks and (2) request that the City Budget Office (CBO) propose fee adjustments and, if necessary, the creation of enterprise funds to make those positions fully fee supported in the future.

Delays in permit and certificate of occupancy issuance at SDCI can be due to permit bottlenecks in review locations at other departments with regulatory authority over a project, such as the Fire Marshal's Office (FMO), Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), and Seattle City Light (SCL). Unlike SDCI, these departments lack contingent budget authority to increase staffing when there are increased permit volumes. A potential remedy for those departments would be to provide them with position authority that could be accessed when supporting fee revenue from development activity is available to fund those

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positions. If the positions are fully fee-supported, there would not be any corresponding burden on rate payers or the General Fund.

This Council Budget Action would add position authority to the FMO, SPU, and SCL for permit reviewers. This action also requests that the City Budget Office recommend a fee schedule for full cost-recovery for the positions and, if necessary, legislation creating individual enterprise funds to provide ongoing support for the positions. The recommendation and any implementing legislation should be transmitted to the Council by June 30, 2022.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Pocket Adjustments	Civil Engr,Assoc	1	1	SCL - CL000	SCL - BC-CL-Z - Customer Focused - CIP	41000 - Light Fund	2022	\$0	\$0
2	Pocket Adjustments	Fire Protection Engr	1	1	SFD - FD000	SFD - BO-FD-F5000 - Fire Prevention	00100 - General Fund	2022	\$0	\$0
3	Pocket Adjustments	Civil Engr,Assoc	1	1	SPU - SU000	SPU - BO-SU-N200B - Utility Service and Operations	44010 - Drainage and Wastewater Fund	2022	\$0	\$0