

**2019 - 2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent**

**Ready for Notebook**

Tab	Action	Option	Version
35	16	A	1

**Budget Action Title:** Request that SDOT and OW report on planning for potential use of area in Belltown after decommissioning of the Battery Street Tunnel

Ongoing: No

Primary Sponsor: Bagshaw, Sally

Councilmembers: Johnson; Mosqueda

Staff Analyst: Eric McConaghy

Date	Total	BC	SB	TM	LG	BH	LH	RJ	DJ	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

**Statement of Legislative Intent:**

This statement of legislation intent (SLI) requests that the Seattle Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the Office of the Waterfront, submit a report on planning for the use of the Battery Street surface street right-of-way (ROW) and the land that is currently the south portal of the Battery Street Tunnel after the completion of the Battery Street Tunnel decommissioning. The report should address (1) the surface street design and use of the Battery Street ROW and (2) the options of use and design of the one-acre site currently used as the south portal of the Battery Street Tunnel.

Regarding street design and use of the ROW the report should address, at least, the status and details of planning regarding:

- water and drainage for street trees;
- increasing green space and green factor of street;
- electrical conduit for additional street lighting; and
- potential design of use of the (ROW).

For the ROW, the report should describe the potential for increased pedestrian space, enhanced bicycle infrastructure, maintaining transit designated lanes, and providing for alternative uses such as, but not limited to, parklets or street cafes. A parklet is a sidewalk extension into the what would otherwise be the street or parking area that provides more space and amenities, such as seating.

Regarding the one-acre parcel currently used as the south portal for the Battery Street Tunnel, the report should include:

- viable interim uses of the property during the interlude between the completion of WSDOT decommissioning and the potential City of Seattle/ Seattle Public Schools partnership to site a school on the property and
- use, design, and funding options for a permanent open space or park including acceptable third-party funding options.

SDOT is requested to provide the report to the City Council's Finance and Neighborhoods Committee and the Central Staff Director.

Background:

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) will be decommissioning the Battery Street Tunnel in Seattle's Belltown neighborhood as part of WSDOT's project to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct. WSDOT expects the decommissioning to begin in 2019.

The City and WSDOT have agreed to a scope of work for the decommissioning that includes filling and grading to provide a gentle and consistent slope in the transition area between the existing Alaskan Way Viaduct and the Battery Street Tunnel from Western Avenue up to First Avenue. The scope also includes hydroseeding the area (planting grass) according to Seattle Parks and Recreation standards.

Currently conversations are occurring with Seattle School District about the use of this property. Whether or not the School District plans to use the property, there is community interest in having usable open space with some developed features for the long term or for an interim period.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Finance and Neighborhoods Committee

**Date Due to Council:** March 31, 2019