

2020 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SDCI	4	A	1

Budget Action Title: Add 1.0 FTE Electrical Inspector and \$106,339 GF to enforce Washington State regulations related to electrical contractor licensing

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No

Primary Sponsor: Teresa Mosqueda

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Ketil Freeman

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	\$106,339	
Net Balance Effect	\$(106,339)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(106,339)	

Budget Action Description:

This Budget Action adds 1.0 FTE Electrical Inspector and \$106,339 GF to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections to enforce state laws and regulations applicable to electrical contractors.

In 2018 the Washington State Legislature passed ESHB 1952. That bill authorizes cities and towns that administer locally adopted electrical codes, like the City of Seattle, to enforce state laws and regulations that are intended to combat the use of unlicensed electrical contractors and uncertified electricians. State law allows local governments enforcing state regulations to pursue civil penalties of \$50 - \$10,000 for violations of state licensing regulations and \$50 - \$500 for hiring electricians who are not certified or for a contractor failing to maintain minimum supervision ratios between trainees and apprentices and more experienced electricians.

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Electrical inspectors at the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries' Electrical Compliance, Outreach, Regulation, and Education (E-CORE) Team currently enforce these regulations. King County has one assigned E-CORE inspector. In 2019, E-CORE issued 6,050 citations, a 19 percent increase over the previous year. Most citations were associated with work involving out-of-state, unlicensed electrical contractors.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Pocket Adjustments		0	0	SDCI - CI000	SDCI - BO-CI-U2400 - Compliance	00100 - General Fund	2020	\$0	\$106,339
2	Pocket Adjustments	Elect Inspector,(J)	1	1	SDCI - CI000	SDCI - BO-CI-U2400 - Compliance	00100 - General Fund	2020	\$0	\$0