

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
City Council	Lish Whitson/615-1674	Not applicable

1. BILL SUMMARY

1. **Legislation Title:** A RESOLUTION adopting revised Street Vacation Policies for the City of Seattle and repealing previous versions of the policies adopted by Resolutions 27527, 28605, 30297, 30702, and 31142.
2. **Summary and background of the Legislation:**
This resolution would adopt new street vacation policies for the City of Seattle. The previous street vacation policies were adopted in 1986 and have been amended four times since their original adoption.

The new street vacation policies:

- Recognize the City’s core goals of race and social equity in analysis of street vacation petitions and public benefit proposals;
- Include new sections on the public trust doctrine and the City’s process for reviewing street vacations;
- Acknowledge three new public trust functions of the right-of-way: free speech, right to assembly, and land use and urban form;
- Provide additional guidance regarding analysis of impacts to the public trust functions of street vacations;
- Require an early community outreach process and provide for an early Council forum or briefing;
- Provide for different processes depending on whether a project is a complex or a simple street vacation;
- Recognize that street vacation impacts may be felt in an area broader than just the immediate neighborhood;
- Clarify the relationship between required steps in the land use review process and the street vacation review process;
- Consider on- and off-site public benefits as equivalent;

- Recognize the option for additional factors in proposed public benefit package reviews, such as the existence of an Equitable Development Agreement between the petitioner and community groups; and
- Allow for the long-term or permanent commitment to carry out a program as a public benefit.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? Yes 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?
None

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?
Yes, the Street Vacation Policies are used by City Departments, boards, and commissions, particularly the Seattle Department of Transportation and the Seattle Design Commission, in their review of street vacation proposals. The proposed policies will guide work currently done by these departments. Staff from effected departments have been involved in developing the new policies.
- 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?

The new street vacation policies acknowledge race and social equity, and the differing impacts that street vacations and development may have on different populations. The policies increase opportunities for targeted outreach to historically disadvantaged communities and allow for considering race and social equity in developing public benefit proposals.

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

List attachments/exhibits below:

Attachment 1 - Comparison of Current and Proposed Street Vacation Policies