

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 32083

A RESOLUTION establishing a Watch List of large, complex, discrete capital projects that will require enhanced quarterly monitoring reports for the 2023 calendar year.

WHEREAS, Seattle’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies planned spending and revenues for City capital projects during the upcoming six-year period; and

WHEREAS, updates to the CIP are adopted by the Seattle City Council (“Council”) as part of the annual and supplemental budget process; and

WHEREAS, CIP oversight is a critical function of the Council; and

WHEREAS, effective CIP oversight ensures transparent, accountable use of public dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Council’s ability to perform effective capital oversight is dependent on access to thorough information and the opportunity to review and process this information in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, some capital projects such as the City’s Elliott Bay Seawall Project and the utilities’ New Customer Information System cost millions of dollars more than their original proposed budget; and enhanced, timely reporting could have improved the Council’s oversight by communicating potential project risks before the risks were realized; and

WHEREAS, oversight for the 2022-2027 Adopted CIP was improved via Council and City Budget Office review of capital project development and delivery, including seeking information from and holding conversations with some of the major capital departments on their project management practices and contingency budgeting, and conducting meetings to jointly discuss capital project issues across departments; and

1 WHEREAS, there is opportunity to continue improving CIP reporting and accountability to the
2 Council and to use the Council’s budgeting authority to improve financial oversight; and

3 WHEREAS, the City benefits from effective Executive management controls and Council
4 oversight for projects that have a significant financial, policy, or programmatic impact on
5 the City and its residents; and

6 WHEREAS, in November 2016 the Council adopted and the Mayor signed Resolution 31720 to
7 “institute new rigor in capital project oversight that will increase appropriate and timely
8 oversight and provide more transparency to the public,” through, among other things,
9 “enhanced regular CIP reporting developed in conjunction with the City Budget Office,
10 including but not limited to quarterly reports to the Budget Committee on project scope,
11 schedule, or budget deviations”; and

12 WHEREAS, in order to provide uniformity across City departments, and to communicate
13 progress of projects during the budget process and in monitoring reports, City capital
14 departments agreed to use common terminology identifying project stages; and

15 WHEREAS, the City Council imposed stage-based provisos for selected projects in 2018 and
16 2019 to allow spending of authorized appropriations only for specified activities unless
17 and until the City Council passes future separate ordinances lifting such provisos; and

18 WHEREAS, the Council adopted Resolution 31853, establishing enhanced reporting
19 requirements for the City’s Capital Improvement Program projects and establishing the
20 City’s intent to use a stage-gate appropriation process for selected projects; and

21 WHEREAS, the Council has annually adopted a Watch List of projects since 2019, consistent
22 with Resolution 31853; and

1 WHEREAS, on January 13, 2023, the Executive transmitted for Council’s consideration a
 2 Proposed Watch List of projects requiring enhanced quarterly reports consistent with
 3 Resolution 31853; NOW, THEREFORE,

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
 5 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

6 Section 1. The Seattle City Council (“Council”) establishes the following as the 2023
 7 Watch List of capital projects as shown in Table 1:

8 Table 1: 2023 Watch List

	Dept	CIP Project ID	Project Title
1.	Finance & Administrative Services (FAS)	MC-FA-FS31	Fire Station 31 Replacement
2.	FAS	MC-FA-HCMSYS	Human Capital Management System
3.	ITD	MC-IT-C6304	Criminal Justice Information System Projects
4.	ITD	MC-IT-C6307	Applications Development – Public Safety
5.	Seattle City Light (SCL)	MC-CL-YR8351	Overhead Equipment Replacements
6.	SCL	MC-CL-ZT8307	Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement - Utility Relocations
7.	Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)	MC-TR-C013	RapidRide J Line
8.	SDOT	MC-TR-C040	Center City Streetcar Connector
9.	SDOT	MC-TR-C051	Madison BRT - RapidRide G Line
10.	SDOT	MC-TR-C054	SPU Drainage Partnership - South Park
11.	SDOT	MC-TR-C072	Alaskan Way Main Corridor
12.	SDOT	MC-TR-C073	Overlook Walk and East-West Connections Project
13.	SDOT	MC-TR-C096	Georgetown to South Park Trail
14.	SDOT	MC-TR-C102	Northlake Retaining Wall
15.	Seattle Parks & Recreation (SPR)	MC-PR-21005	Smith Cove Park Development
16.	SPR	MC-PR-21007	Parks Central Waterfront Piers Rehabilitation
17.	SPR	MC-PR-41040	Lake City Community Center Redevelopment
18.	SPR	MC-PR-41071	Green Lake Community Center and Evans Pool Substantial Alteration
19.	Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)	MC-SU-C3614	Ship Canal Water Quality Project
20.	SPU	MC-SU-C3806	South Park Stormwater Program

1 Section 2. The Council requests that the Mayor submit an enhanced quarterly report for
2 each project on the 2023 Watch List in the manner and on the timeline described in Resolution
3 31853. The Council further requests that the Mayor continue to provide information as soon as
4 practicable about these and other large, complex, discrete capital projects whenever significant
5 budget, schedule, or scope risks are developing that may require Council decisions. Similarly,
6 and consistent with Resolution 31853, the Council invites the Mayor to add any other projects to
7 the 2023 Watch List through the course of the year and then to provide enhanced quarterly
8 reporting for those other capital projects in order to enable the Council to make critical policy
9 choices – changing funding, adjusting scope, etc. – as early as possible and before identified
10 risks develop into actual implementation challenges.

11 Section 3. The Council intends to review the enhanced quarterly reports and to determine
12 whether and how to stage Council approval of funding for each project on the 2023 Watch List.

13 Section 4. The City Council anticipates that the Finance and Housing Committee will
14 review the enhanced quarterly reports.

1 Adopted by the City Council the 21st day of February, 2023,
2 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 21st day of
3 February, 2023.

4 

5 President Pro Tem of the City Council

6 The Mayor concurred the 28th day of February, 2023.

7 

8 Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

9 Filed by me this 28th day of February, 2023.

10 

11 Elizabeth M. Adkisson, Interim City Clerk

12 (Seal)