

2020 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
CJ	5	A	1

Budget Action Title: Impose a proviso on \$50,000 in OCR for community-based organizations to respond to hate violence

Ongoing: No Has Budget Proviso: Yes

Has CIP Amendment: No

Primary Sponsor: Lisa Herbold

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Asha Venkataraman

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	BH	KS	AP	DJ	MO	SB	TM	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would impose the following proviso:

"Of the appropriation in the 2020 budget for the Office for Civil Rights, \$50,000 is appropriated solely for grants to community-based organizations responding to hate violence and creating a mechanism for sharing hate crime data reported to these organizations and may be spent for no other purpose."

The City Auditor's "Review of Hate Crime Prevention, Response, and Reporting in Seattle: Phase 2 Report" showed that hate crimes are a significant issue and under-reported, and also identified a need to engage with community based organizations to supplement the information that the Seattle Police Department receives through formal reporting. The \$50,000 of restricted spending in this Council Budget Action would provide small grant funding to organizations doing work to create responses to hate crimes and mechanisms for sharing data.

The proviso placed on \$50,000 in the Office for Civil Rights' (OCR's) existing budget is intended to apply to funds added in the 2018 budget in Green Sheet 276-1-B-1, originally planned for contracting with an organization providing supportive and secure housing alternatives to detention for youth. However, the funding could not be spent for that purpose. These funds were transferred from Finance General to the Human Services Department (HSD) in 2018 and carried forward to 2019; it is anticipated that the funds will be transferred back to OCR in the 2019 fourth quarter supplemental ordinance and be included in the 2020 carryforward ordinance to be used for the purpose described in the proviso.