

2023 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	005	B	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Add \$147,000 JumpStart Fund (2023) and \$190,000 JumpStart Fund (2024) and 1.0 FTE Strategic Advisor 3 to OSE for a City Urban Forester position

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Alex Pedersen

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Kshama Sawant, Dan Strauss, Andrew Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Sara Nelson

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	BC	SN
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2023 Increase (Decrease)	2024 Increase (Decrease)
Other Funds		
Payroll Expense Tax (14500)		
Revenues	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$147,475	\$189,710
Net Balance Effect	\$(147,475)	\$(189,710)
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(147,475)	\$(189,710)

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would add \$147,000 JumpStart Fund in 2023 and \$190,000 JumpStart Fund in 2024 and 1.0 FTE Strategic Advisor 3 to the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) for a City Urban Forester position. The 2022 Adopted Budget included Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) MO-001-A-002-2022 requesting that the Mayor's Office provide "a report with recommendations for the creation of a 'chief arborist' position that would promote the preservation of Seattle's tree canopy and provide independent oversight of the City's management of trees, with an initial focus on the preservation of exceptional trees."

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OSE submitted a SLI response (see Attachment A) on September 30, 2022, that provided recommendations for the position's job responsibilities and qualifications and described opportunities and challenges related to the proposed position. In this response, Executive staff recommended that this position's title should be City Urban Forester and that it "work with executive leadership and staff across urban forestry departments to establish and/or affirm citywide and department-specific strategy intended to support a healthy and robust tree canopy and urban forest in Seattle; provide an on-going assessment on the efficacy of policies and programs in meeting these goals; and recommend changes as needed to decision-makers."

In addition to the job responsibilities described in the SLI response, OSE is expected to:

- Evaluate the City's rules and regulations and propose changes as necessary to the Mayor and City Council that would provide the City Urban Forester with the necessary authority to accomplish its duties as envisioned; and
- Ensure that this position: (1) advances racial equity and environmental justice; (2) oversees and implements the proposed Tree Canopy Equity and Resilience Plan and Seattle's 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan as one of its core functions; and (3) supports development of policies that will help the City achieve its goals for an enhanced, healthy tree canopy and increased diversity of housing options for Seattle's residents.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Pocket Adjustments		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	14500 - Payroll Expense Tax	2023	\$0	\$147,475
2	Pocket Adjustments		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	14500 - Payroll Expense Tax	2024	\$0	\$189,710
3	Pocket Adjustments	StratAdvsr3,General Govt	1	1	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	14500 - Payroll Expense Tax	2023	\$0	\$0
4	Pocket Adjustments	StratAdvsr3,General Govt	1	1	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	14500 - Payroll Expense Tax	2024	\$0	\$0