

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
LEG	Yolanda Ho / 206-388-8126	N/A

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to land use and urban forestry; amending requirements for registered tree service providers; amending Sections 25.09.040, 25.11.020, 25.11.030, and 25.11.095 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: In March 2022, the Council passed Ordinance 126554 that created a new requirement for tree service providers to register with the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) prior to conducting commercial tree work on private property. The registration requirement is similar to a requirement established nearly a decade ago for tree service providers that work on trees located in the public right-of-way. SDCI created the registry system in August 2022 and required tree service providers to register by November 10, 2022.

The proposed legislation would amend certain aspects of the tree service provider registration requirements, primarily in response to feedback from tree service providers. In brief, it would:

- Rename “pruning, major” to “reportable work” but otherwise maintain the associated definition for “pruning, major” established by SMC 15.02.046;
- Require that commercial tree work in Environmentally Critical Areas be conducted per Section 25.11.095;
- Remove the requirement that hiring entities post a printed public notice at least three business days in advance of certain types of commercial tree work at or adjacent to the work site. Instead, tree service providers would submit the information required for the public notice as is current practice, and SDCI will be responsible for posting the notices online at least three business days in advance of the planned work. SDCI would be required to post online notices on a map-based system by March 31, 2024;
- Require that commercial vehicles operated by a tree service provider clearly display its City-issued registration number and have the business name and phone number on both sides and rear of the vehicle; and
- Make other minor changes to ensure technical consistency and clarify intent.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

percent in the U.S. workforce, Bureau of Labor Statistics 2021). This legislation would remove the requirement for posting a printed public notice at or near a work site, thereby lessening the burden on tree service providers.

f. Climate Change Implications

1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?

No.

2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.

No.

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.

Summary Attachments:

None.