Tab	Action	Option	Version	
55	1	А	2	
Budget Ac	ction Title:	Μ		628 expressing support for a \$5 million payment towards enhancements: Amend to add a recital, and then pass as
Has CIP Ar	mendment:	No	D	Has Budget Proviso: No
Councilme	embers:	Bu	udget Comr	hittee

Staff Analyst: Patricia Lee

Council Bill or Resolution: 31628

Date		Total	SB	BH	JO	TR	NL	ТВ	JG	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Budget Action description:

This green sheet recommends an amendment to Resolution 31628 and adoption, as amended. Resolution 31628 expresses support for a \$5 million payment to the Seattle Opera (Opera) for enhancements or other public benefits for the renovation or replacement of the Mercer Arena.

The Mayor's 2016 Proposed Budget includes \$200,000 in Finance General for the Opera. This Resolution expresses the City's intent to provide an additional \$4.8 million in the 2017-2018 biennial budget for a total City investment of \$5 million.

The Resolution recognizes, in the second and seventh recitals, that the Seattle Center Century 21 Master Plan and Theatre District Plan envision an enhanced vitality of performing arts venues along Mercer Street. The amendment would also recognize the contribution the potential redevelopment of the Kreielsheimer block, located between Mercer Street, Roy Street, 3rd Ave North, and 2nd Avenue North, could make to this vision by adding the following recital:

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55	1	А	2		

"WHEREAS, the City recognizes that efforts are underway to establish an arts and cultural district in the Uptown Urban Center that, together with the potential redevelopment of the Kreielsheimer block on Mercer Street, could help realize the vision of the Theatre District;"

Background.

In 2008, the Opera and the City entered a 30-year Mercer Arena Ground Lease (Lease). Under the Lease, the Opera is to replace or renovate the existing Mercer Arena. The Opera intends to use the space to consolidate their offices, and provide technical support and rehearsal space.

Given that the City currently has a Lease with the Opera, with obligations under the Lease by both parties, the \$5 million City funding (\$200,000 in the 2016 Proposed Budget and an anticipated \$4.8 million in the 2017-2018 budget) must be used to enhance the redevelopment of the Mercer Arena in a manner that exceeds the Opera's redevelopment obligations under the existing Lease.

The Resolution also reiterates other conditions in the existing lease that should be met before the \$4.8 million is appropriated including review and comment by the Seattle Design Commission, review by the City Council committee responsible for oversight of the Seattle Center, and review by the City Budget Director of the financing plan.