

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
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1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the Department of Parks and Recreation; establishing the 2017-2018 fee schedule for the use of park properties and other park and recreation facilities and services; superseding previous park and recreation fee schedules; and amending Section 18.28.010 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and background of the Legislation: DPR's fees and charges provide financial support for the operation and maintenance of DPR programs, facilities, and park grounds. The DPR Fee Schedule transmitted by this legislation includes fee increases and administrative revisions to certain fees.

DPR is proposing fee changes to help offset inflationary cost increases for the following programs: Aquatics, Athletic Fields and Special Events. Increases in athletic field fees will also support athletic field improvements. Additionally, increases are proposed for some permitting fees in the Planning and Development division. Administrative changes are also proposed to legislate several pilot fees implemented in 2015 and 2016 at Camp Long, one of the department's environmental learning centers. Additional administrative changes are also proposed and certain drop in fees are proposed to be repealed in alignment with the Community Center Strategic Plan and Mayor's proposed budget. Attachment 1 to the Ordinance summarizes all changes proposed for the 2017-2018 fee schedule.

Aquatic fees were last increased in 2013. The department is proposing fee changes for adult recreational swimming, swim lessons, summer swim league, birthday party rentals, and various swim team fees to help offset the 2015-2018 annual wage increases (AWI) and other inflationary cost increases.

The proposal also reduces water exercise fees for adults which will bring the price closer to fitness businesses in the area. These fee changes are expected to result in \$295,500 of additional revenue beginning in 2017.

Athletic field fees were last increased in 2011. DPR is proposing a package of athletic field fee increases that would begin in 2017 and then increase with inflation each year. The fees would generate approximately \$500,000 in 2017 and \$1 million starting in 2018 based on the need to give field users sufficient notice on fee increases (the changes would be effective July 1, 2017).

The proposal also streamlines the fees where possible to make them easier to navigate for field users. Several fees will be consolidated as highlighted in Attachment 1. The summarized changes include: making the fee the same for games and practices, eliminating the 'out of season' fee,

and separating the stadium fees into a youth and adult fee to be consistent with the non-stadium youth and adult fees.

The increases attempt to keep the impacts on youth at a minimum with higher increases in adult fees, private school fees, and stadium fees (making them the same for synthetic and grass). The fee increases as proposed would generate an estimated \$1 million starting in 2018 (\$500,000 in 2017). Up to \$600,000 of the new revenues annually (\$300,000 earned in 2017) would be moved to the CIP to support capital investments on fields in future years. Baseline revenues inflated by budgeted inflationary increases would continue to support operations and maintenance.

Special event fees, ceremony fees and special amenity indoor rental fees were last increased in 2011. The department is proposing fee changes for special events, ceremonies, and special amenity facilities to help offset 2015-2018 annual wage increases (AWI) and other inflationary cost increases. These fee changes are expected to result in \$25,000 of additional revenue in 2017 and an additional \$162,000 in 2018.

The department is also proposing changes to use permits, and other fees in the Planning and Development division. These fees have not been adjusted since 2011 despite the rising costs of providing these services to the public. DPR typically issues around 60 permits each year, which would generate an additional \$34,000 starting in 2017. The department does not anticipate adverse impacts from this fee change. Comparable fees issued by other city departments (SDOT, SDCI) are currently similar or higher than the increase being proposed.

This legislation will repeal certain drop-in fees as set forth in the Community Center Strategic Plan (reducing fee revenues by \$87,000 to DPR) for basketball, badminton, volleyball, pickle ball, juggling and dance). The repeal of the drop-in fees will also repeal drop-in fees for the weight room and toddler playroom/gym programs. These fees had gone to ARC which used them to maintain and service the weight room equipment, for staff to monitor and set up the toddler playroom/gym, and for equipment replacement costs. DPR will use Park District funds to replace the drop-in fee revenues that had gone to ARC.

In addition, the legislation will formalize two pilot program fees at Camp Long that have been in place for the last one to two years. The programs have proven successful, and the fee schedule is being updated to formalize the pilot programs. In addition, a facilitator fee is being added in 2017. DPR began utilizing outside facilitators for the challenge course instead of partnering with ARC for this role in 2014. ARC stopped providing facilitators at that time based on the escalating cost of the personal liability insurance required for all facilitators. The decision was made to hire outside facilitators, and a facilitator fee is being added based on the past two years of experience under this new model.

Finally, this legislation removes the schedule of Fees and Charges from the Seattle Municipal Code while still requiring the Council to adopt any changes to the Fees and Charges schedule by Ordinance.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

 This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

 X This legislation has direct financial implications

Budget program(s) affected:				
Estimated \$ Appropriation change:	General Fund \$		Other \$	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
			\$798,000	\$1,501,000
Estimated \$ Revenue change:	Revenue to General Fund		Revenue to Other Funds	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
			\$798,000	\$1,501,000
Positions affected:	No. of Positions		Total FTE Change	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Other departments affected:				

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect or long-term financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above?**

The changes contained in this proposal do not have indirect financial implications.

- b) **Is there financial cost or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?**

If fees are not increased as proposed, the department would have a funding shortfall equal to the total amount of revenues proposed in previous sections.

- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**

No other departments are impacted by this legislation.

- d) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**

A public hearing is not required.

- e) **Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?**

This legislation does not affect a piece of property.

- f) **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**

No such publication of notice is required for this legislation.

g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

This legislation does not affect a piece of property.

h) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?

An approach for all park programs and facilities has been developed that ranges from free (high community value) to varying recoveries of costs (high personal value). Social equity is built into that range of pricing to ensure that there is access to a range of programs and activities. DPR also prioritizes recreational scholarships in Park District planning which supplement fee pricing at pools and fields.

i) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program's desired goals.

This legislation is not proposing a new initiative or major programmatic expansion.

j) Other Issues:

List attachments/exhibits below:

Summary Attachment 1 – Changes from the Adopted 2016 Fee Schedule to the Proposed 2017-2018 Fee Schedule