

2018 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

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| Tab | Action | Option | Version |
| 183 | 1 | A | 1 |

Budget Action Title: Review of DON fees for new construction projects to improve cost recovery

Ongoing: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Budget Committee

Councilmembers:

Staff Analyst: Lish Whitson

| Date | | Total | SB | KH | LG | BH | LH | RJ | DJ | MO | KS |
|------|---------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | Yes | | | | | | | | | | |
| | No | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Abstain | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Absent | | | | | | | | | | |

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests that the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) prepare a report on opportunities to recover costs through regulatory fees. In 2017, Ordinance 125429 made two changes that increased the role of DON in the review of new construction projects:

1. The City's Landmark Preservation and Special Review District boards were granted authority to recommend departures from Land Use Code development standards. This will streamline the development review process for projects subject to review by these boards, by removing requirements that they receive approval from both the Design Review boards and the historic review boards. The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections' (SDCI's) Design Review program charges significantly higher fees for their review than DON. DON should work with the City Budget Office (CBO), SDCI and the Law Department and report on whether their fees should be adjusted for new construction projects in Landmark Preservation and Special Review districts.
2. DON will also be involved in a new role in the Design Review process. The Department will work with applicants to shape design review outreach plans. DON should work with CBO, SDCI and the Law Department to determine whether they can charge fees for this assistance, and if so, at what level those fees should be set.

DON is requested to report on both issues, any other fees that the Department recommends charging for their services, and any legal, operational or policy constraints on charging such fees.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Affordable Housing, Neighborhoods and Finance Committee

Date Due to Council: June 1, 2018