

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
Parks and Recreation	Chip Nevins/3-3879	Selena Elmer/256-5972

** 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

a. Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Park District; authorizing the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation to acquire real property and property rights within the City’s green spaces.

b. Summary and background of the Legislation:

Ordinance 124467 authorized a special election for the creation of the Seattle Park District per Chapter 35.61 RCW for the purposes of providing ongoing funding to acquire, maintain, operate and improve parks, community centers, pools, and other recreation facilities and programs. The proposed Seattle Park District was approved by Seattle voters on August 5, 2014. The Park District currently allocates \$2.0 million per year towards the acquisition of park property. This legislation specifically authorizes SPR to acquire property within the City’s green spaces, as designated and mapped in the 1993 Green Space Resolution #28653. Other property acquisition, such as for a neighborhood park, will be authorized by a separate ordinance.

Seattle Parks and Recreation has been acquiring property within the City’s green spaces since the late 1960s. The Department maintains a prioritized list of properties that have been identified for acquisition to fill gaps in existing public ownership within the City’s green spaces. Since these acquisitions are voluntary, the Department needs to be able to act quickly when the owner is ready to sell. Often, especially in hot real estate markets like we have now, the time needed to pass specific legislation authorizing an acquisition jeopardizes the deal. Similar acquisition authority was granted for the 1989 Open Space and Trails bond program (Ord. 114900), the 2000 Neighborhood Parks, Green Spaces, Trails, and Zoo Levy, and the Parks (Ord. 121170) and the 2008 Green Spaces Levy (Ord. 122959).

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

If yes, please fill out the table below and attach a new (if creating a project) or marked-up (if amending) CIP Page to the Council Bill. Please include the spending plan as part of the attached CIP Page. If no, please delete the table.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

a. Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? Yes No

- b. Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?**
Green space acquisition will add maintenance and operation costs to the Department's budget.
- c. Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?**
By not implementing this legislation, we run the risk of not being able to acquire priority properties, resulting in fragmentation of the City's green spaces.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
No
- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
No
- c. Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?**
No
- d. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**
No
- e. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
No
- f. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?**
Communities of color and underserved areas of our city are more impacted by health issues and have less access to nature and the health benefits green spaces provide. This legislation ensures equitable acquisition of green spaces throughout the city.
- 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).**
N/A
- h. Other Issues:** None

List attachments/exhibits below: