

2019 - 2020 Seattle City Council Green Sheet

Ready for Notebook

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41	5	A	1

Budget Action Title: Adopt Reso xxx, enhancing oversight of Capital Improvement Program projects

Ongoing: Yes

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Primary Sponsor: Herbold, Lisa

Councilmembers: Harrell; Johnson

Staff Analyst: Dan Eder

Council Bill or Resolution: Reso xxx

Date	Total	BC	SB	TM	LG	BH	LH	RJ	DJ	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Budget Action description:

This budget action would recommend adopting Resolution xxx to establish a process by which the Council intends to adopt a so-called “Watch List” of large, complex, or politically sensitive capital projects. The legislation requests that the Mayor submit quarterly reports to the Council with enhanced information about these Watch List projects as well as summary information for all capital projects.

The legislation also outlines circumstances in which Council intends to impose stage-based appropriations allowing unrestricted spending on some project development activities while preventing spending on other specified activities. For instance, the Council may appropriate funding for a project while specifying that none of those appropriations shall be used for construction (but allowing activities such as design or real estate acquisition).

Background:

Each year with the annual budget, Council approves a six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP includes some information about each of the hundreds of capital projects underway or planned by City departments. The CIP includes a brief description of each project’s scope and the phase of development. It also provides information about planned spending and the anticipated revenues that will support that spending for a six-year period. Spending for the first year of the CIP is legally authorized in the City’s Adopted Budget.

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On May 7, 2018, Councilmembers discussed a new format for enhanced quarterly reporting on scope, schedule, and budget for capital projects at the Council's Monday Briefings. On September 5, 2018, the City Budget Office (CBO) began using this enhanced reporting format for a subset of capital projects selected by the Executive; and CBO provided summary information for other projects.

The 2018 Adopted Budget contains two pilot projects for capital project oversight by stage, or project phase: Ship Canal Water Quality Project (SPU project C361) and Delridge Multimodal Corridor (SDOT project TC367810). Both projects contain provisos that establish a Council reporting requirement before moving to the next stage of the project.