

2019 - 2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

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15	9	A	1

Budget Action Title: Request that HSD submit a report on RFP design for eviction prevention rental subsidy programs

Ongoing: No

Primary Sponsor: Herbold, Lisa

Councilmembers: Mosqueda; O'Brien

Staff Analyst: Alan Lee

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

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This statement of legislative intent would request the Human Services Department (HSD) to provide the Council a report on the design of any new requests for proposals involving eviction prevention rental subsidies. HSD programming involving eviction prevention rental subsidies may include homelessness intervention strategies such as diversion and prevention. HSD has indicated that it intends to engage in a funding process for homelessness investments in 2020 for new contracts in 2021, though funding for specific interventions may be competitively offered separately at alternate times.

The report should include analysis that considers the recommendations of "Losing Home: The Human Cost of Eviction in Seattle" by the Seattle Women's Commission and Housing Justice Project of the King County Bar Association. HSD's analysis should contain the following:

- A full description of programs' designs, including a guideline of eligible costs per program (e.g., rent, late fees, utilities) and the differing qualifications tenants must meet per program to receive eviction prevention rental subsidies or other forms of assistance.
- An assessment of centralizing eviction prevention rental assistance and coordination with other eviction prevention services (i.e. one stop shop for eviction resources).
- An indication of how programs address barriers to accessing eviction prevention rental assistance in a timely manner (i.e. within the three days of receiving a three day vacate notice).
- An assessment of outreach and how at-risk tenants learn about and can access services, including whether services or outreach providers should have a courthouse presence.

- A comparison of the City's program designs and practices with other jurisdictions' designs and practices for eviction prevention rental assistance.

The report should be submitted to the Chair of the Human Services, Equitable Development and Renters' Rights Committee and the Central Staff Director by April 1, 2019.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Human Services, Equitable Development, and Renter Rights Committee

Date Due to Council: April 1, 2019