

2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Agenda

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SPU	2	A	1

Budget Action Title: Request that SPU report on the feasibility of using the City's water pipe infrastructure for a municipal broadband network

Ongoing: No

Primary Sponsor: Lisa Herbold

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Brian Goodnight

Date		Total	LH	BH	KS	AP	DJ	MO	SB	TM	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Statement of Legislative Intent:

The City of Anacortes is developing a municipal broadband network and has recently deployed fiber optic cables inside of water lines as a method of building out the system. This alternative to traditional deployment techniques is intended to save costs and be less disruptive.

Seattle has previously studied the state of broadband services within the city and opportunities for supporting a municipally-owned broadband network. The evaluation requested by this budget action should build upon the City's previous work. (Reference: www.seattle.gov/tech/initiatives/broadband/studies-and-history)

The Council requests that Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), in coordination with Seattle Information Technology, evaluate the following:

1. The feasibility of installing fiber optic cables inside of City-owned water pipes;
2. The cost for installing fiber optic cables inside of City-owned water pipes, including how the cost compares to traditional fiber optic cable deployment techniques; and
3. The secondary benefits to SPU from having a fiber optic network built into its water facilities, including enhanced monitoring functionality, leak or blockage detection, or improved system maintenance.

The Council further requests that SPU provide a report to the Council by August 3, 2020 summarizing its findings.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts

Date Due to Council: August 3, 2020

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