



Legislation Text

File #: CB 119604, Version: 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Green New Deal for Seattle; establishing the Green New Deal Oversight Board; providing compensation for those who incur a financial hardship by their participation on the Board; requesting that the Office of Sustainability and Environment create an interdepartmental team to advance the Green New Deal for Seattle; amending Section 3.14.970 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and adding a new Section 3.14.979 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, concurrently with this ordinance, The City of Seattle (“City”) is considering a resolution affirming support for the federal Green New Deal and identifying goals and actions for a Green New Deal for Seattle; and

WHEREAS, within that resolution is a commitment to creating new revenues to implement some of the necessary actions to achieve the goals of the Green New Deal for Seattle; and

WHEREAS, in addition to aligning the City’s current investments to support the Green New Deal for Seattle, resources above and beyond dedicated revenues for a Green New Deal for Seattle will be necessary to achieve the City’s goals; and

WHEREAS, a Green New Deal Oversight Board (“Board”) will offer insight and perspective from those communities most impacted by economic, racial, and environmental injustice, supported by individuals with various areas of expertise in the issue areas outlined in the Green New Deal for Seattle resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Board is intended to hold the City and other stakeholders accountable to their commitments to implementing equitable policies, programs, and projects that realize the vision laid out in the Green New Deal for Seattle; and

WHEREAS, the Board will ensure that racial equity is centered in all City policies, programs, and investments related to the Green New Deal for Seattle by engaging Black, Indigenous, and people of color and advancing their priorities; and

WHEREAS, it may be a financial hardship for some Board members to devote significant time to this Board without compensation; and

WHEREAS, City departments need to develop actionable plans, targets, and metrics to ensure that the City is doing its part to meet Seattle's goal to be free of climate pollutants by 2030; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 3.14.970 of the Seattle Municipal Code, enacted by Ordinance 120121, is amended as follows:

3.14.970 Director-Duties((-))

The Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment shall be the head of the Office of Sustainability and Environment, shall be responsible for the administration of the Office, and shall:

* * *

G. Promulgate rules and regulations to carry out departmental activities pursuant to ~~((the Administrative Code, SMC))~~ Chapter 3.02;

H. Provide staff support for the Green New Deal Oversight Board;

I ((H)). Exercise such other and further powers and duties as shall be prescribed by ordinance.

Section 2. A new Section 3.14.979 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows:

3.14.979 Green New Deal Oversight Board

A. There is established a Green New Deal Oversight Board (Board) to provide recommendations on the design and modifications of policies, programs, and projects related to the Green New Deal for Seattle; and monitor progress in meeting intended outcomes and goals.

B. The Board shall review a quarterly report of outcomes and indicators for the previous year related to

policies, programs, and projects related to the Green New Deal for Seattle. The Council requires that, before the Executive submits to the Council any changes to City policies related to the Green New Deal for Seattle requiring Council approval by ordinance, the Executive will seek the recommendation of the Board.

C. The Board shall consist of 16 appointed members, numbered 1 through 16. The Mayor shall make appointments to positions 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12, and 15, and the City Council shall make appointments to positions 2, 4, 6, 10, 13, 14, and 16, and the Board shall make appointments to positions 8 and 11. Mayoral and Board appointments shall be subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the City Council. Terms shall be for three years, from May 1 to April 30 three years later, except that the initial terms for positions 1 through 5 shall expire April 30, 2023, the initial terms for positions 6 through 10 shall expire April 30, 2021, and the initial terms for positions 11 through 16 shall expire April 30, 2022. No members shall serve more than two consecutive terms. Upon the resignation, retirement, death, incapacity, or removal of a Board member, the authority appointing such member may appoint a replacement for the balance of the term. If a person is appointed to fill the duration of an unexpired term, then that term shall count as one of the two consecutive terms only if the portion of the unexpired term actually served is at least one year. A member whose term is ending may continue on an interim basis as a member with voting rights until such time as a successor for that position has been appointed by the City Council or confirmed by the City Council. Any vacancy in an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The appointing authority may remove any member for good cause, including unexcused absence from two or more consecutive meetings without cause.

D. The 16 appointed members shall be comprised of the following:

1. Eight members of communities directly impacted by racial, economic, and environmental injustices. One of these members should be a tribal member. Two of these members should be between the ages of 16 and 25 at the time of their appointment (Positions 1 through 8);

2. Three representatives of organizations engaged in environmental justice work (Positions 9

through 11);

3. Two representative of labor unions (Position 12 and 13); and

4. Three individuals with depth of experience in greenhouse gas reduction and climate resiliency strategy relevant to cities and their residents, in fields such as public health, infrastructure, sea-level rise, or extreme weather events (Positions 14 through 16).

E. The Board should meet every month, or as needed, beginning in January 2020 and shall coordinate efforts with the City's Environmental Justice Committee.

F. Members shall serve without pay, except that members may request compensation of \$50 per hour served if participating on the Board presents a financial hardship. Upon such request, the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment is authorized to expend funds in the Office of Sustainability and Environment's budget for this purpose. No money may be expended for services rendered prior to a request being filed with the Director.

G. The Board shall have the power to:

1. By a majority vote of the Board, elect one or more Board members to serve as Chairperson for a one-year term, and elect one or more members to serve as Vice Chairperson for a one-year term, who shall serve as Chair in the absence of the Chairperson.

2. Organize itself, establish committees or subcommittees, enlist the expertise of others as needed, and delegate duties for the performance of its work; and

3. Adopt rules of procedure to accomplish its functions.

Section 3. The Council requests that the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) create an interdepartmental team (IDT) to advance the Green New Deal for Seattle. The IDT should be comprised of representatives from the Department of Parks and Recreation, Seattle Department of Transportation, Office of Planning and Community Development, Office of Housing, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle City Light, Office of Economic Development, Seattle Department of Human Resources, Office of Emergency Management,

Department of Neighborhoods, the Mayor's Office, City Council, City Council Central Staff, and other departments as needed. The IDT should support the creation of climate plans, targets, and metrics for all City departments that will collectively result in decarbonization by 2030. On a quarterly basis, the IDT should consult with the Board on the development of City department climate plans and progress towards goals as well as policies, programs, and projects related to the Green New Deal for Seattle. OSE should present individual City department climate plans and report to City Council by July 1, 2020, and thereafter provide annual reports on the City's progress towards decarbonization goals.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2019, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____, 2019.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved by me this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)