2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SPD	9	A	1

Budget Action Title: Request that SPD report on a City-wide asset loss approach

Ongoing: No

Primary Sponsor: Lisa Herbold

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Greg Doss

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

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent requests that the Seattle Police Department (SPD) develop a City-wide approach to collect and report the theft, damage, or vandalism of City assets, including the theft of copper wire and the damage caused to City infrastructure during copper wire theft.

Seattle City Light (SCL) has reported 19 copper thefts from streetlights in 2019, with a year-to-date repair cost of over $113,000. These are in addition to seven other copper thefts from SCL physical facilities in 2019.   Seattle Public Utilities and the Seattle Department of Transportation have also indicated that they have incurred theft of copper wire, although the theft is not always reported to SPD. Staff at SPD have indicated that a cursory review showed 52 incidents in 2018 where copper wire was noted as part of the theft report.

SPD is requested to submit to the Chair of the Gender Equity, Safe Communities, New Americans and Education Committee (GESCNA-Ed) – or a successor Committee – and to the Director of Council's Central Staff every quarter beginning on April 1, 2019 a report that:
(1) Identifies whether City departments are tracking damage to City infrastructure, including damage caused by copper wire theft;
(2) Recommends how City departments could most effectively track damage to City infrastructure; and
(3) Recommends steps that SPD and other departments can take to deter theft and to identify and address frequent offenders of copper wire theft.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Gender Equity, Safe Communities, New Americans & Education

Date Due to Council: April 1, 2020