

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
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** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to Seattle Public Utilities; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities or designee to execute an interlocal agreement with King County, the City of Tukwila, and the Port of Seattle to cost-share a Duwamish Basin Steward staff position that will provide Basin Stewardship Services in the Duwamish Service area.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This is an Interlocal Agreement with King County, the City of Tukwila, and the Port of Seattle to cost-share a new position for a watershed steward for the Lower Duwamish River. The position will be housed at King County with other basin stewards. A Duwamish Management Team that includes Seattle Public Utilities will be formed to develop the workplan and manage the budget for the position.

The Duwamish Basin Steward would develop and implement Chinook salmon habitat restoration projects in the lower eleven miles of the Green-Duwamish River in coordination with willing landowners, the local jurisdictions, the Cities of Seattle and Tukwila, the Port of Seattle, Boeing, Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9), and non-profit partners.

There is broad political and community support for this position. Four King County basin stewards serve the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9) covering the Middle Green basin, Lower Green basin, Vashon/Maury Island, and Miller/Walker Creek. The Duwamish River basin, which is the lowest 11 miles of the Green/Duwamish River watershed and lies mainly within incorporated areas, remains a gap in the basin stewardship program. Without a Duwamish Basin Steward, opportunities for land acquisition and habitat restoration have been left untended and have been lost to development of incompatible uses.

Despite the work of multiple entities implementing habitat related improvements in the Duwamish (i.e., Seattle, Tukwila, Port of Seattle), there is no single entity focused on coordination and collaboration to leverage efforts to maximize ecological lift. Given the collective investment projected within the watershed over the next decade, a steward would help maximize the benefit to the watershed.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? Yes x No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? x Yes No

The employee will be a King County employee, with SPU, the City of Tukwila, and Port of Seattle sharing in the cost with King County. Collectively, all agencies will help guide the employee and direct work.

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?

A cost-shared position housed at King County is advantageous to the City. This City does not have this position or a basin steward program. Housing a cost-shared position at King County with other basin stewards is more efficient and effective. The position could improve the rate some City restoration projects in the Duwamish Basin move forward.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?

There is broad political and community support for this position, and it has been desired for many years. Choosing not to move forward with the position could create ill will with the other three funding partners (King County, City of Tukwila, and Port of Seattle), and in the community. Funding a City-steward position would be confusing with overlapping interests and responsibilities.

3.a. Appropriations

 X This legislation adds, changes, or deletes appropriations.

Fund Name and Number	Dept	Budget Control Level Name/#*	2022 Appropriation Change	2023 Estimated Appropriation Change
44010	Drainage & Wastewater Fund		\$66,500	\$66,500
TOTAL			\$66,500	\$66,500

*See budget book to obtain the appropriate Budget Control Level for your department.

Is this change one-time or ongoing?

This will be ongoing funding, tied to an interlocal agreement.

Appropriations Notes:

3.b. Revenues/Reimbursements

___ This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

3.c. Positions

___ This legislation adds, changes, or deletes positions.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

No

b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No

c. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No

d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No

e. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?

Salmon recovery is a race and social justice issue as tribes rely on salmon for sustenance and cultural survival. The Duwamish Basin is a historically underserved community in King County with lower life expectancy and high health risks. The work of a Duwamish Basin steward is directly related to environmental justice for the community, including habitat restoration that may also have other community benefits such as climate resiliency, flood hazard mitigation and flood water retention, improved water quality, increased canopy cover, and job training.

f. Climate Change Implications

1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?

No

2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.

Improving habitat for salmon and their ability to survive increases community resiliency in terms of sustenance. Habitat projects often have multiple benefits that also increase our ability to adapt to climate change such as improving canopy cover; improving water quality of stormwater runoff; and providing shade.

- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)?**

The Duwamish Basin Steward is an expansion of the basin steward program housed at King County.

Summary Attachments:

Summary Exhibit A – 2022 Work Plan

Summary Exhibit B – Duwamish Stewardship ILA Cost-share