



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
**CENTRAL STAFF**

# Film Commission (Pre-Introduction Draft)

---

BRIAN GOODNIGHT, ANALYST

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY & CITY LIGHT (EDTCL) COMMITTEE

AUGUST 10, 2022

# Presentation Overview

---

- Background
- Summary of Draft Legislation
- Next Steps

# Background

---

- City convened film industry roundtable discussions in 2019 and the Film Task Force in 2020 to provide recommendations for how best to support and grow the local film industry and community
  - Top priorities: creating a Film Commission, and strengthening the Office of Film and Music (OFM)
- 2020 Proposed Budget repurposed OFM resources to advance the Office of Economic Development's (OED's) new Creative Industry strategy
- As part of the 2020 Adopted Budget, Council included SLI OED-10-A-2, requesting that OED provide recommendations regarding the creation of a film commission

# Background (cont'd)

---

- In early 2022, EDTCL Chair Nelson engaged film industry stakeholders and advanced the creation of a film commission
- OED provided high-level guidance for the commission's purpose and membership

# Summary of Draft Legislation

---

- Establishes a Seattle Film Commission to:
  - Advise and make recommendations to the City on the development of policies and programs that enhance the economic development of Seattle's film industry,
  - Including promoting the sustainable growth of family-wage jobs for workers who have been historically underrepresented in the industry.

# Summary of Draft Legislation (cont'd)

---

- The goals of the Commission are to:
  - Inform and influence the regional film industry and community, in partnership with the City, to address disparities caused by systemic racism, so that Seattle is at the forefront of driving equity, inclusion, and economic prosperity; and
  - Serve as a conduit between the City and the film industry and community to: attract and retain regional, national, and global business; build inclusive pathways into the film industry; and advise on the development of efforts that reinforce the role of film in the region's content and creative industries to advance the City's economic development priorities in the creative economy.

# Summary of Draft Legislation (cont'd)

---

- Eleven members shall represent the following industry stakeholders:
  - On-screen talent or their representatives;
  - Film industry labor unions;
  - Advertising and creative agencies;
  - Commercial producers or production companies;
  - Film schools, film programs, or film educators;
  - Post-production companies and personnel;
  - Film production crew;
  - Film festivals or other film content distribution companies;
  - Film location managers;
  - Film organizations representing communities underrepresented in the film industry; and
  - Immersive technology and emerging technology businesses.

# Summary of Draft Legislation (cont'd)

---

- Assigns the following purposes to the Commission:
  - Engage with film industry professionals to prioritize industry needs and inform the development of City efforts;
  - Advise and assist the City in the development of efforts to support and strengthen the film industry; and
  - Collaborate with regional stakeholders and partners to foster alignment on industry-related efforts with King County and Washington State.



# Summary of Draft Legislation (cont'd)

---

- Additionally:
  - Requires the Commission to meet at least monthly and annually with the Seattle Music Commission, elect a chair and vice-chair annually, and adopt bylaws;
  - Establishes a term of three years, with a maximum of serving two consecutive terms; and
  - Authorizes OED to provide compensation to members if serving on the Commission presents a financial hardship.

# Next Steps

---

- Continuing to engage with stakeholders
- September 13 – introduction and referral
- September 14 – briefing, discussion and possible vote
- September 20 – City Council vote

# Questions?