

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Seattle City Light	Jeff Wolf	Greg Shiring

** 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 the City Light Department; authorizing a 15-year agreement with Whatcom County providing for payments for general and emergency law enforcement and other governmental services provided by Whatcom County to the City’s Skagit Hydroelectric Project generation facilities and residents of Newhalem and Diablo; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This agreement replaces a 15-year agreement with Whatcom County expiring at the end of 2023. Under RCW 35.21.420, any city with a population greater than five hundred thousand people owning and operating a public utility and having facilities for the generation of electricity located in a county other than that in which the city is located, must provide for the impacts of lost revenue and the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of such county as concerns the facilities and the personnel employed in connection therewith, by contributing to the support of the county and enter into contracts with any such county.

Under the terms of the agreement, for the year 2024, the City will pay Whatcom County \$1,419,497, which represents the 2023 base payment of \$1,234,345 increased by approximately 15%. In each subsequent year, the amount of the payment will increase in an amount equal to the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA 12-month percent change in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the immediately preceding 12-month period (“CPI-U”). However, in no event shall the annual impact compensation payment increase from year to year by less than 2% or more than 5%.

This agreement must be approved by ordinance because the Department is not authorized by SMC 21.49.130 or otherwise to enter contracts to compensate other government agencies for their loss attributable to Skagit Hydroelectric Project.

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? ___ Yes X No

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?

This legislation is consistent with terms negotiated with Whatcom County. Approval of this legislation will support the continuation of a strong relationship with Whatcom County in its provision of services supporting the Skagit Hydroelectric Project and the residents of Newhalem and Diablo.

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

This agreement must be approved by ordinance because the Department is not authorized by SMC 21.49.130 or otherwise to enter contracts to compensate other government agencies for their loss attributable to Skagit Hydroelectric Project.

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?**
This legislation will not impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities. This is “business as usual” for Seattle City Light.
- f. **Climate Change Implications**
 - 1. **Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?**
N/A.
 - 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. ‘**
N/A.

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)?

N/A.