



City of Seattle
Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

May 30, 2018

Honorable Bruce A. Harrell, President
Seattle City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98122

Dear Council President Harrell:

I am transmitting the attached supplemental budget ordinance for your consideration. While many of the items in the bill are routine – increased appropriations backed by new grants, for example, I wanted to explain a few of the more significant items.

First, Judgments and Claims against the City continue to rise. This supplemental contains an increase of \$10 million for 2018 appropriations for a number of large settlements and the legal costs associated with these tort cases. The Department of Finance and Administrative Services, the City Attorneys Office, and the City Budget Office continue their work on how to better estimate and structure the Judgment and Claims budget going forward.

This bill also transfers more than \$2.4 million of appropriations to the Seattle Police Department to cover pay increases associated with annual wage increases for Seattle Police Management Association (SPMA) members. Due to the timing of the City's agreement with SPMA, funding for these increases was not included SPD's 2018 budget. However, resources were held in reserve to address this expected expense.

In addition, the final allocated cost from the King County Department of Elections for the primary and general elections conducted in 2017 were higher than anticipated. The first quarter supplemental ordinance includes \$1.3 million in new appropriations to cover last year's costs and an associated increase now expected for 2018.

As we have discussed, I am committed to make sure that City departments spend their resources carefully and wisely. I look forward to working with you in drafting a 2019 budget that both reflects our shared values and exhibits careful stewardship of public funds. If you have any questions about this legislation, please direct them to Ben Noble, City Budget Director.

Sincerely,



Jenny A. Durkan
Mayor of Seattle