



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 4, 2025

To: Seattle Parks, Public Utilities & Technology Committee

From: Seattle Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Golf Legislation at Parks, Public Utilities & Technology Committee

Here is a condensed, one-page version of the information found in the Summary and Fiscal Note transmitted with the legislation.

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) is bringing legislation to enter into a golf course management agreement with Premier Golf Centers, L.L.C. for the operation of the City of Seattle's four municipal golf courses, authorizing the superintendent of SPR to set golf fees consistent with the management agreement, and authorizing Premier to charge and collect fees on behalf of SPR. The operator was selected following a 2024 Request For Proposals (RFP) process that resulted in four bids from golf course management firms.

Background: SPR has a current agreement with Premier as the existing golf course operator. SPR provides course maintenance and Premier, as the operator, provides full management of all other operations. The current agreement has been in place since 2010.

Operator Selection and Award: The four golf course management firms that responded to the RFP were evaluated on experience and qualifications, management structure and training, financial management and marketing (including plans to market the courses to non-golfers for non-golf uses), transition and quality assurance, their overall financial proposal, and the required SPR equity and inclusion plan.

Premier received the highest overall rating and was selected as the successful bidder for the new golf management contract. In addition to exhibiting strong experience and commitment to expanding community access to the golf courses, Premier also demonstrated a strong financial commitment as part of the long-term partnership with SPR to continue the existing operating financial model while also committing to invest a total of \$1.5 million in capital improvements to the golf facilities to be paid at \$100,000 annually over the initial 15-year term.

The agreement also includes an optional five-year extension conditioned on an additional capital contribution from Premier continuing at \$100,000 annually, or an additional \$500,000 over the five-year extension. Historically, the golf program has been responsible for covering all operating and capital costs with its own earned revenues and has not received additional capital funding outside of golf revenues.

Public Benefits: The current agreement with Premier does not include formal public benefit requirements. The new agreement includes a new section 6.8 on public benefit reporting, a description of public benefits, and an annual review for adjustments to public benefits and metrics. Examples of public benefits include low-cost access, access to school teams, and non-golf uses of the facilities for community gatherings and events.