

2016 Seattle City Council Green Sheet

Ready for Notebook

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**Budget Action Title:** Add \$700,000 to SDOT for West Seattle Bridge Corridor congestion management investments

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Councilmembers: Harrell; Okamoto; Rasmussen

Staff Analyst: Evan Clifthorne; Peter Lindsay

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	SB	BH	JO	TR	NL	TB	JG	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2015 Increase (Decrease)	2016 Increase (Decrease)
<b>General Subfund</b>		
<i>General Subfund Revenues</i>	\$0	\$0
<i>General Subfund Expenditures</i>	\$0	\$0
<i>Net Balance Effect</i>	\$0	\$0
<b>Other Funds</b>		
<i>Transportation Operating Fund (10310)</i>		
<i>Revenues</i>	\$0	\$0
<i>Expenditures</i>	\$0	\$700,000
<i>Net Balance Effect</i>	\$0	(\$700,000)
<b>Total Budget Balance Effect</b>	\$0	(\$700,000)

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**Budget Action description:**

This green sheet would increase support to the Transportation Fund Mobility Capital BCL by \$500,000 and the Mobility Operations BCL by \$200,000. The proposal dedicates existing Transportation Fund unused fund balance to pay for operational feasibility studies and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) infrastructure improvements along the West Seattle Bridge Corridor (the Corridor) to address congestion and delay.

The proposed budget action would add a total of \$700,000 in Transportation Operating Funds (1) to study physical and operational improvements throughout the Corridor (\$200,000) and (2) to install ITS infrastructure at east-west railroad crossings along the Corridor (\$500,000). The proposal follows up on a year-long effort led by SDOT and SPD to coordinate infrastructure and traffic operations planning in the Corridor. As a work product SDOT developed the West Seattle Bridge Corridor Whitepaper and Priority Investment List that describes the short, medium and long-term investments that could improve Corridor performance for all modes.

The proposed budget action would allocate \$200,000 for further analysis of physical and operational improvements in the Corridor. The following evaluations or studies would be conducted if the green sheet were included as part of the City's 2016 Adopted Budget:

1. Evaluate the feasibility and benefit of installing center barrier sections so response vehicles can make U-turns to speed up response time.
2. Evaluate the feasibility and benefit of installing markings and signs to provide one designated emergency lane in each direction of the West Seattle Bridge upper roadways for use during emergencies.
3. Coordinate with WSDOT to determine the feasibility of traffic management modifications to improve eastbound Spokane Street Viaduct connections to south- and northbound I-5.
4. Evaluate Lower Spokane Street chokepoint relationships to determine if rail, truck and bridge opening blockages can be better coordinated to avoid cumulative impacts.
5. Evaluate better communications protocols for Port of Seattle cooperation with truck queue management and dispersal.
6. Evaluate the process and capability for providing data reports to the Washington State office of Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) in order for FRA to enforce the maximum 20 minute blockage rule.
7. Initiate an SDOT/WSDOT Peer Review Team to review traffic operational and safety improvement opportunities on the West Seattle Bridge upper and lower roadways and make recommendations.

In addition to the feasibility studies, the green sheet would add \$500,000 for installing ITS infrastructure to help communicate delays and wait times associated with train activity in the Corridor. This project would install ITS equipment including Bluetooth readers and dynamic message signs along the Corridor between Airport Way South and Port of Seattle Terminals 5 and 18 in order to collect and display real-time travel time information to trucks drivers and other motorists. Traffic signal system improvements at the intersection of

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Chelan Avenue Southwest and West Marginal Way Southwest could also be included in the project scope. Taken together these improvements would provide freight operators and the general public with critical information, travel options and better reliability.

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**Budget Action Transactions**

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#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase use of fund balance for West Seattle Bridge congestion management investments				SDOT	Use of (Contribution to) Fund Balance	379100	10310	2016	\$700,000	
2	Increase SDOT appropriations for West Seattle Bridge congestion management investments				SDOT	Mobility-Operations	17003	10310	2016		\$200,000
3	Increase SDOT appropriations for West Seattle Bridge congestion management investments				SDOT	Mobility-Capital	19003	10310	2016		\$500,000