



Seattle City Council

Proposed University District Business Improvement Area (BIA) Notice of Potential Changes in Boundaries and Opportunity to Comment

The City Council is considering Council Bill (C.B.) 118302, which would disestablish the existing University District Business Improvement Area (1996 UDBIA) and establish a new and expanded University District BIA (University District BIA). The Revised Code of Washington (RCW 35.87A) authorizes cities to establish BIAs to promote economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and livability. The Council's Finance and Culture Committee began its review of the proposed University District BIA in January 2015, and held an initial public hearing on February 25, 2015.

Based on public comment, the committee is considering changing the boundaries of the proposed University District BIA. (See more information about the boundaries below.) As required by state law (RCW 35.87A.070), the committee has scheduled a second public hearing to take public comment on the potential changes in boundaries and on other aspects of the proposed University District BIA. Here is the information about the public hearing:

Date and time: Wednesday, March 25, 2015; the committee meeting begins at 2 p.m.; sign-up sheet will be available at 1:30 p.m.

Place: City Council Chambers, 2nd floor City Hall, 600 4th Avenue (between James and Cherry Streets), Seattle, WA, 98104

Written comments may also be submitted to:

Councilmember Nick Licata
600 4th Avenue Fl 2
PO Box 34025
Seattle, WA 98124-4025

Background: Over the past several years, the University of Washington and a variety of businesses, institutions, residents, and others have worked together to plan for the future of the University District. One result of these efforts is this proposal to replace the existing 1996 UDBIA with a new and expanded University District BIA. C.B. 118302 would accomplish that goal.

Additional background information about the proposed University District BIA, including maps, is available at: <http://www.seattle.gov/council/issues/UDistrictBIA/>

Boundaries: Five maps are available at the website listed above (and are attached to the mailed version of this notice). The first map shows the boundaries of the new University District BIA as proposed by the proponents. It would include three components – the U District Fund, North Cleaning Area, and South Cleaning Area. (This map also shows the boundaries of the existing 1996 UDBIA with a gray dashed line.) The proposed University District BIA assessment rates for the three components are shown in Section 6 of C.B. 118302, and the purposes for which revenue would be used are shown in Section 5.

The other four maps show four options, labeled A through D, which illustrate the types and range of boundary changes that the Finance and Culture Committee is considering. Options A, B, and C show different amounts of area in yellow that might be deleted from the University District BIA as proposed. Option D shows in green an area that might be added to the BIA as proposed (the eastern boundary of this green area is the alley between 17th and 18th Avenues N.E.). The committee may decide to amend C.B. 118302 to reflect one of these options, or a variant or combination of these options.

Schedule and additional information: The committee will not take a final vote on the legislation at the March 25 meeting. Subsequent committee meetings are scheduled for Friday, April 3, at 2 p.m. and Friday, April 24, at 2 p.m., also in Council Chambers. Committee meeting agendas are typically available two days before the meeting at: http://www.seattle.gov/council/com_assign.htm

For additional information contact Newell Aldrich in Councilmember Nick Licata's office at (206) 684-8803 or at newell.aldrich@seattle.gov. Information on visiting City Hall is available at: http://www.seattle.gov/council/visiting_city_hall.htm For accessibility information and for accommodation requests, please call 206-684-8888 (TTY Relay 7-1-1), email CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov, or visit <http://seattle.gov/cityclerk/accommodations>.