



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Data Center Policy Development Resolution

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Data centers

Facilities used primarily for:

- the housing, operation, or co-location of computer and communications equipment;
- handling, storing, managing, processing, and backing up of digital data; and
- associated infrastructure such as cooling systems, backup power systems, and battery storage.

Recognize Long-Term Impacts

- electrical grid capacity and reliability;
- water usage;
- utility rates;
- land use and development;
- jobs and the economy; and
- public health

Council and Executive Develop Guiding Policies

- potential legislation;
- budget appropriations; and
- departmental actions

Policy Goals

- Reduce or mitigate any deleterious effects;
- Hold data center investors and operators accountable for the costs and effects of their operations; and
- Harvest and maximize any benefits of data center development and operation

Anticipated Legislative Action

- Moratorium ordinance
- City Light rates ordinance including data center rate class

Questions?