

Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee
 Councilmember Budget Proposals | Thursday, October 30, 2025

Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE)

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2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

CARE-001-A

Increase CARE by \$200,000 GF for software upgrades

SPONSORS
Robert Kettle, Dan Strauss, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	\$(200,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(200,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would increase appropriations to the Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE) department by \$200,000 GF in 2026 for software technology acquisitions and ongoing subscriptions to improve data visibility and coordination between CARE and other public safety entities in the City.

ATTACHMENT: No
TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
CS	911 Call Response	00100-BO-CS-10000	2026		\$200,000

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

CARE-002-A

Proviso \$579,000 GF in CARE for 911 call takers to address non-emergency line wait times

SPONSORS

Maritza Rivera, Robert Kettle, Sara Nelson

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	\$0	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$0	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would impose a proviso on \$579,000 GF in the Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE) department for 911 call taker staffing to prioritize non-emergency calls with the intention to decrease non-emergency line wait times. Funding for 4.0 FTE in CARE was appropriated by Council in 2025 for this purpose, and this proviso is intended to effectuate the intent of the 2025 add.

This Council Budget Action would impose the following proviso:

"Of the appropriations in the Community Assisted Response and Engagement department's 2026 budget for the 911 Call Response Budget Summary Level (CARE-BO-CS-10000), \$579,000 is appropriated solely for 911 call taker staffing to prioritize non-emergency calls with the intention to decrease non-emergency line wait times, and may be spent for no other purpose."

ATTACHMENT: No

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

CARE-003-A

Increase CARE by \$14.5 million GF and \$2 million JumpStart Fund and decrease HSD by \$16.5 million to transfer contracting for WDC, LEAD, Co-LEAD

SPONSORS

Robert Kettle, Mark Solomon, Debora Juarez

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	\$0	
Other Funds	\$0	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$0	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would decrease appropriations in the Human Services Department (HSD) by \$14.5 million GF and \$2 million JumpStart Fund allocated to support the LEAD, Co-LEAD and Third Avenue Project (TAP) contracts, and would increase appropriations in the Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE) department in 2026 by the same amounts to transfer administration of these contracts from HSD to CARE. CARE will provide policy and operational oversight on these investments. Service levels will not be impacted. This change will align the LEAD, Co-LEAD and TAP contracts with the CARE’s mission and support public safety efforts throughout Seattle.

This is an ongoing proposal across the programs and fund sources outlined below:

LEAD 2026 GF \$7,579,000
 Co-LEAD 2026 GF \$6,413,000
 TAP 2026 GF \$530,000 2026 JumpStart Fund \$1,957,000

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
CS	911 Call Response	00100-BO-CS-10000	2026		\$14,521,665
CS	911 Call Response	14500-BO-CS-10000	2026		\$1,957,000
HSD	Supporting Safe Communities	00100-BO-HS-H4000	2026		\$(14,521,665)
HSD	Supporting Safe	14500-BO-HS-H4000	2026		\$(1,957,000)

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

	Communities				
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2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

CARE-004S-A

Request that CARE provide information on training

SPONSORS

Maritza Rivera, Robert Kettle, Sara Nelson

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) would request that the Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE) department report on its training practices and protocols for the CARE Community Crisis Responder (CCR) team members to date. This report shall include information detailing: how the training has been performed to date; how training will change with the advent of sole-source dispatch; and what evidence-based approaches are used regarding crisis response, de-escalation, outreach, and referrals.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Public Safety

DUE DATE: April 1, 2026

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

CARE-005S-A

Request that CARE report on outcomes

SPONSORS

Maritza Rivera, Robert Kettle, Sara Nelson

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) would request that the Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE) department provide a report describing the following:

1. The status of the creation of a publicly accessible ongoing online dashboard, originally requested in 2024, providing information on Community Crisis Responder (CCR) teams. The dashboard shall include details of CCR dispatches, responses, resolutions, and other relevant outcome data, and shall be regularly updated;
2. Information describing the specific benefits that CARE CCR response provided; and,
3. Details of CARE's service integration and with partner agencies.

This report should be submitted to the Public Safety Committee and the Central Staff Director by April 1, 2026. The Council additionally requests that a follow-up update report on the above items be provided October 1, 2026.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Public Safety

DUE DATE: April 1, 2026