

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
City Light	Jacob Orenberg	Greg Shiring

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title:

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; amending Section 21.49.100 of the Seattle Municipal Code to authorize electric vehicle charging stations to submeter electricity.

Summary and Background of the Legislation:

SMC 21.49.100.G prohibits Seattle City Light customers from submetering electricity and SMC 21.49.100.H provides exceptions to the submetering prohibition. This legislation will add electric vehicle (EV) chargers and charging stations as an exception to the prohibition on submetering. This will explicitly allow EV charger operators to resell electricity dispensed through the chargers on a per kilowatt-hour basis, as is already the standard practice in the Puget Sound region and for the EV charging industry. This will also allow property owners and landlords to submeter EV charging stations operated by third party companies or EV chargers in parking spaces dedicated to a specific tenant while requiring the same protections already established for other existing submetering exceptions.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? Yes No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? Yes No

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

None.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

None.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

Not implementing the legislation would hinder the deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the Seattle City Light service area by not providing a financially viable means for property owners and landlords to recover the cost of electricity dispensed through electric vehicle chargers in certain situations. In addition, not implementing the legislation would leave existing electric vehicle charging stations that charge end users by the kilowatt-hour (kWh) on uncertain legal ground because the existing language in SMC 21.49.100 could be interpreted to prohibit this despite the fact that charging end users on a per-kWh basis is the industry standard and the fairest way of selling electricity to an EV charger customer.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Please describe how this legislation may affect any departments besides the originating department.

This legislation modifies the Municipal Code to bring it in line with current utility practice as it pertains to EV charging stations. We do not anticipate new impacts to any other City department.

b. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? If yes, please attach a map and explain any impacts on the property. Please attach any Environmental Impact Statements, Determinations of Non-Significance, or other reports generated for this property.

No impact to specific property.

c. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.

This legislation has no impact to vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities. The legislation is being requested to provide additional flexibility to City Light customers and to conform the SMC to existing practices. The implementation of this legislation is neutral across all City Light customer types and will not result in harm or unequal benefits to any community.

ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.

None completed.

iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?

None – we do not expect to need a communication plan for this modification.

d. Climate Change Implications

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.**

This legislation is expected to decrease carbon emissions by facilitating the installation and operation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, allowing residents and customers to use City Light’s carbon-neutral electricity for transportation fuel instead of fossil fuels.

- ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle’s resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

This legislation is not expected to impact Seattle’s resiliency to climate change in any material way.

- e. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program’s desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

N/A

5. CHECKLIST

- Is a public hearing required?
- Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required?
- If this legislation changes spending and/or revenues for a fund, have you reviewed the relevant fund policies and determined that this legislation complies?
- Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?

6. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: