



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

CB 120981: 2025 Families Education Preschool and Promise Levy

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE FAMILIES EDUCATION PRESCHOOL AND PROMISE LEVY
MAY 15, 2025

Presentation Outline

- Background
- Summary of 2025 FEPP Levy Proposal
- Policy Considerations
- Next Steps

Background (1/2)

Previous Levies:

- Families and Education Levy (FEL) in 1990, 1997, 2004, 2011
- Seattle Preschool Levy in 2014
- Families, Education, Preschool and Promise (FEPP) Levy in 2018
 - Combined the FEL and SPP and added Seattle Promise Program
 - \$620 million over 7 years
 - Expires at end of 2025

State Funding Requirements:

- Local governments may provide supplemental funding to support K-12 students, but not basic education
- No similar restrictions on funding early childhood, pre-kindergarten, or post-secondary investments.

Background (2/2)

Previous Committee Meetings

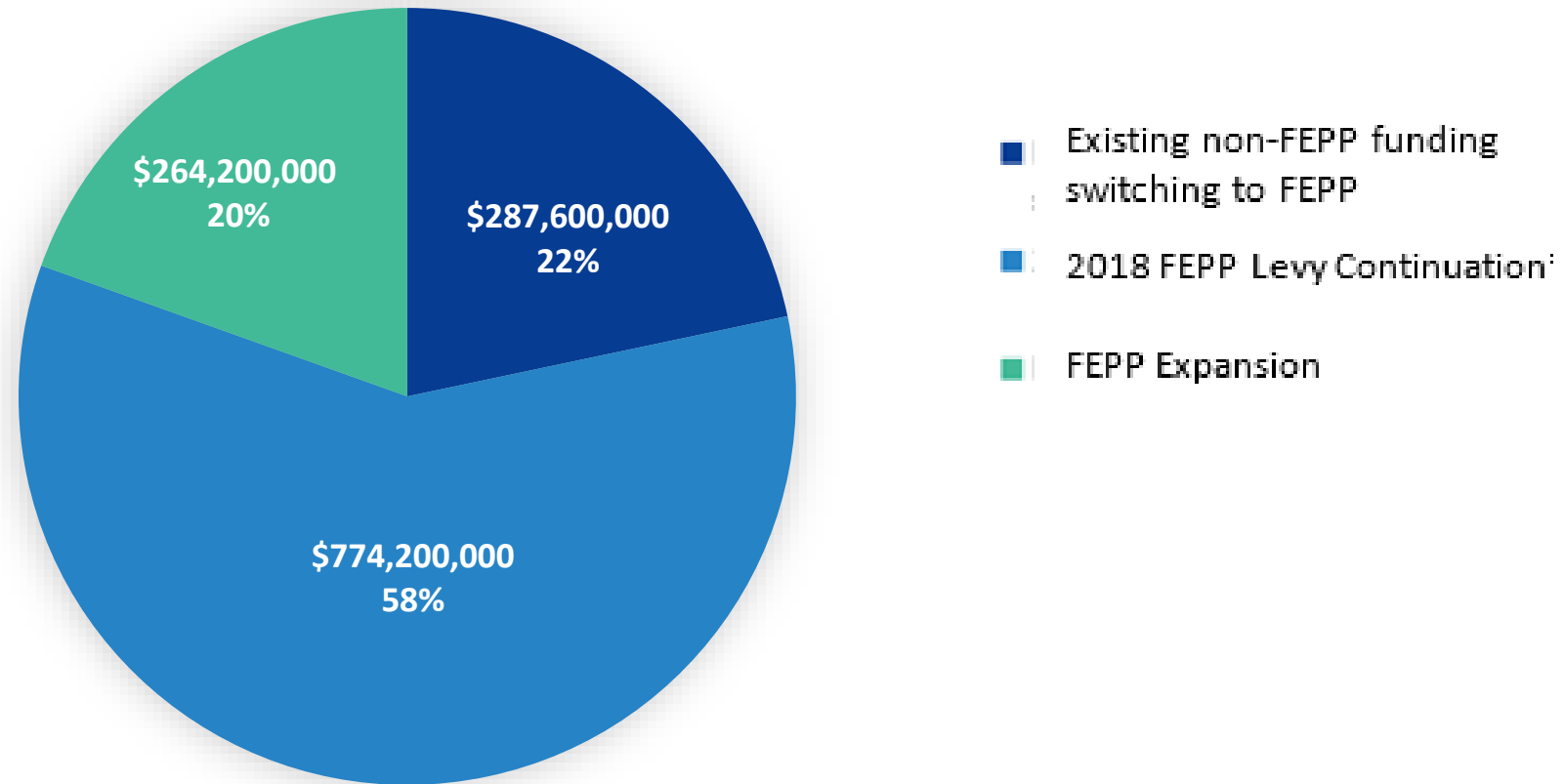
- **April 10:** Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) and the Mayor's Office (MO) made presentations providing an [overview and lessons learned](#) from the 2018 FEPP Levy
- **May 1:** DEEL and MO presented [2025 FEPP Levy proposal](#).
- **May 12:** Public Hearing held.

2025 FEPP Levy Proposal (1/3)

- **CB 120981:** Ordinance establishing FEPP levy includes:
 1. Policy statement, with an outline of high-level priorities and principles for funding;
 2. Non-exhaustive list of educational support services that could be funded with Levy proceeds;
 3. Direction for the Implementation and Evaluation (I&E) Plan;
 4. Establishment and scope of a Levy Oversight Committee; and
 5. Authorization for the City to enter into agreements with public and non-public entities to provide education support services, along with further requirements for those agreements.
- All expenditures of Levy proceeds must be consistent with this establishing legislation
- I&E Plan anticipated for Council consideration in Q1 2026

2025 FEPP Levy Proposal (2/3)

2025 FEPP Levy Six-Year Spending Total Would Allow For:



2025 FEPP Levy Proposal (3/3)

Investment Estimates and Cost Assumptions

Category	Potential Investments	Investment Amount*
Early Learning (Ready to Start)	Early childhood development, affordable childcare, childcare workforce supports, preschool-programming	\$658.2
K-12 Student Supports (Ready to Learn)	School and community grants	\$271.6
K-12 Health & Safety (Ready to Learn)	School safety, school-based health centers, mental health	\$235.1
College & Career Pathways (Ready to Launch)	Job readiness, internship opportunities, college prep and advising, college tuition assistance, career pathways	\$82.5
Leadership & Administration	Administrative staffing, evaluation, central costs	\$78.6
TOTAL		\$1,326

*in millions

Policy Considerations (1/3)

Size and Scope of the FEPP Levy

- The Council Bill is written with the intention of leaving flexibility to approve more detailed appropriations within the \$1.3 billion package through the adoption of the Implementation and Evaluation Plan next year, and during regular budget deliberations.
- Council may wish to scale, repurpose, or provide further direction at this stage regarding the proposed investments to advance their priorities.
- Or Council may choose to make no changes wait to provide more specific direction in the Implementation and Evaluation Plan next year.

Policy Considerations (2/3)

Guidance Regarding Levy Outcomes

- CB 120981 provides high-level priorities and principles for funding, including but not limited to:
 - Increasing affordability and access to education support services
 - Requiring that agreements with partner organizations contain goals and outcomes
 - Prioritizing investments to increase access to services and achieve levy outcomes
 - Requiring reports on progress toward achieving levy outcome
- Council may wish to provide further direction on the outcomes or goals prioritized by the Levy.
- Or Council may choose to make no changes, and provide more specific direction in the Implementation and Evaluation Plan next year.

Policy Considerations (3/3)

Contracting Transparency

- DEEL must enter into agreements with non-public entities using a competitive process, except for the following circumstances:
 - In case of emergency as determined by the Executive; or
 - When the Director of DEEL determines that a process is not feasible because the services are only available from one source or are impracticable to solicit.
- These types of exemptions to competitive solicitation exist elsewhere in Seattle Municipal Code, but in some cases require a written explanation for pursuing the exemption.
- Council may wish to enshrine an expectation of greater transparency in the Levy when the Department forgoes a competitive process in its contracting; or
- Council may choose to make no changes, and provide more specific requirements in the Implementation and Evaluation Plan next year.

Next Steps

May 29	9:30 a.m.	Discussion of Potential Amendments
June 12	9:30 a.m.	Discussion and Possible Vote on Potential Amendments
June 16	9:30 a.m.	Final Committee Vote on FEPP Levy Ordinance
June 24	2:00 p.m.	Full Council Vote

For amendments, please contact Central Staff by no later than May 22, 2025.

Questions?