

## **SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact:</b>	<b>CBO Contact:</b>
City Light	Andrew Strong	Christie Parker

### **1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; declaring certain real property rights to be surplus to the City's needs; and authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of City Light to execute a property transfer agreement and related documents to transfer a City-owned parcel of land located in Snohomish County and purchased in 2011 with funds from a State of Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant to the Town of Darrington for the purpose of creating a public park with recreational access to the Sauk River.

#### **Summary and Background of the Legislation:**

The legislation will authorize transfer of ownership of parcel P32092400200300 in Snohomish County to the Town of Darrington for incorporation into a public park. The parcel was purchased by the City in 2011 wholly with grant funds from the State of Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board as part of the City's Endangered Species Act Early Action Program. This program was approved by Seattle City Council Resolution 29905 for protection of salmonid habitat as authorized by City Ordinance 121114. A map is provided as Attachment A.

The Town of Darrington approached City Light to join the Town in a grant application to create a public park on the Sauk River. Darrington owns adjacent property that has no safe, practical public access to the Sauk River despite the river running adjacent to most of the town proper. City Light determined it was preferable to transfer property ownership to Darrington for public park uses, as the salmon habitat resources on the property would be protected by a state Deed of Right that runs with the property, thus ensuring City Light's intended use of the property while relieving City Light and its ratepayers of any further ownership/management obligations or costs associated with the property.

### **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.**

City Light currently contracts for quarterly stewardship site visits to the property, conducted by a local salmon recovery group. These site visits include ongoing costs related to weed treatment, trash removal, and native plantings, all of which are currently paid for through City Light's Endangered Species Act (ESA) Lands Program budget. By transferring the property to the Town of Darrington, these cost obligations of approximately \$8,000 per year, as well as all compliance obligations for the State of Washington's Deed of Right attached to the property, will become the responsibility of the Town.

**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.**

The estimated \$300 closing costs will be absorbed within City Light's existing budget authority.

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

The quarterly stewardship costs described above would continue.

### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

This legislation is not expected to affect any City departments other than the originating department as the transfer is to another public entity (Town of Darrington) outside City limits.

**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.**

This legislation affects parcel P32092400200300 in Snohomish County. This land was purchased with grant funds as part of the City's Endangered Species Act Early Action Program approved by Seattle City Council Resolution 29905 to protect salmonid habitat as authorized by City Ordinance 121114. A Deed of Right runs with the property. A map is provided as Attachment A.

**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.**

Darrington requested City Light to join the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Water Access grant application 24-1925 as the residents of Darrington currently have no safe or practical public access to the Sauk River that runs adjacent to much of the town.

The grant application states, “The Town of Darrington will use this grant to develop safe and sustainable access to the Sauk Wild and Scenic River to promote recreation, youth outdoor education and community enjoyment of a pristine natural setting.... Community members agree that a walkable park with river access will be an asset and the Project Area is the ideal location, as reflected in the (Town of Darrington’s) comprehensive plan. This underserved community first conceptualized the access project nearly a decade ago and we request financial assistance to finally realize the community's vision.”

While City government will not be impacted outside of eliminating the financial and legal obligations described above, the broader community, in this case the residents of Darrington, will benefit from recreational access as well as educational opportunities as stated in Darrington’s grant application.

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

Darrington provided information related to their residents and current needs.

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

Not applicable to this ordinance.

**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 will likely have a neutral impact on emissions. It could possibly decrease emissions if Darrington residents recreate locally versus travelling outside of the town limits.

- 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.**

The property transfer proposed by this legislation will neither increase nor decrease Seattle’s resiliency as the property is located in Darrington, WA, outside of City limits.

- 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?**

The legislation does not include a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion.

## 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:

Summary Attachment A – Darrington Property Map