



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Governance, Accountability, and Economic Development Committee

Agenda

Thursday, March 13, 2025

2:00 PM

Council Chamber, City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Sara Nelson, Chair
Robert Kettle, Vice-Chair
Joy Hollingsworth, Member
Maritza Rivera, Member
Mark Solomon, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8809; Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov

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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
**Governance, Accountability, and Economic
Development Committee**
Agenda
March 13, 2025 - 2:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Council Chamber, City Hall , 600 4th Avenue , Seattle, WA 98104

Committee Website:

seattle.gov/council/committees/governance-accountability-and-economic-development

This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business.

Members of the public may register for remote or in-person Public Comment to address the Council. Details on how to provide Public Comment are listed below:

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the meeting at

<https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>

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Pursuant to Council Rule VI.C.10, members of the public providing public comment in Chambers will be broadcast via Seattle Channel.

Please submit written comments to all Councilmembers four hours prior to the meeting at Council@seattle.gov or at Seattle City Hall, Attn: Council Public Comment, 600 4th Ave., Floor 2, Seattle, WA 98104.

Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

D. Items of Business

1. [Appt 03080](#) **Appointment of Joy R. Shigaki as member, Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District Board, for a term to July 30, 2028.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenters: Jennifer LeMaster, CEO, Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District; Joy Shigaki, President, Friends of Waterfront Park

2. [CB 120950](#) **AN ORDINANCE relating to reaffirming The City of Seattle as a Welcoming City; supporting access to reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment in Seattle; extending the responsibility of City employees to protect the provision of reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment; and adding a new Chapter 14.115 to the Seattle Municipal Code.**

Supporting Documents: [Summary and Fiscal Note Presentation](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenters: Greg Wong, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office; Jessica Joy McHegg, Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI); Ashley Ford, Co-Chair, Seattle LGBTQ Commission

E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: Appt 03080, **Version:** 1

Appointment of Joy R. Shigaki as member, Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District Board, for a term to July 30, 2028.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Joy R. Shigaki</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District Board</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>		Term of Position: * <i>7/31/2024</i> to <i>7/30/2028</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Downtown Seattle</i>	Zip Code: <i>98164</i>	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: Joy Shigaki is a fourth-generation Seattleite and national leader in helping fund and deliver civic projects and initiatives like major parks. She began her tenure as President & CEO of Friends of Waterfront Seattle in 2022 with over 25 years of experience in the non-profit, government, and community-based arenas in Seattle, New York and the Bay Area. Previously, she served as Campaign Director building the new Presidio Tunnel Tops Park as part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco, a \$98 million effort. Joy has deep roots in Seattle’s communities and her early experiences in Seattle shaped her lifelong commitment and belief in parks, public spaces and public lands, which make for dynamic cities.		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): February 2nd, 2025		Appointing Signatory: <i>Bruce A. Harrell</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

JOY R. SHIGAKI

WORK EXPERIENCE

President & CEO, Friends of Waterfront Park (Seattle, WA) *2022 to present.*

Friends is the non-profit partner leading park management, fundraising, programming and activation, park experience, and stewardship of Waterfront Park now and into the future. Raising \$170M for the Campaign for Waterfront Park. Community and partnership are centered we prepare for park opening in 2025.

Vice President of Development, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (San Francisco, CA) *2020- 2021*

The Conservancy is the non-profit parks partner working with National Parks Service and Presidio Trust to transform places and people through conservation and improvement of the Golden Gate National Area. Responsible for overseeing a department of 13 and a \$8M budget. Senior leader for \$65 million organization.

Director of Campaign and Fundraising Initiatives, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy *2017- 2020*

Led and directed the successful Presidio Tunnel Tops campaign, a new national parkland opening in July 2022. Raised \$103 million of the \$98 million goal and engaged community, partners, and diverse stakeholders.

Director of Development, Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City (New York, NY) *2016*

On behalf of the City of New York, led and facilitated high impact public private partnerships with the business, foundation, and philanthropic communities to support critical public programs for the Mayor's Fund priority areas.

Senior Director of Advancement, Episcopal Relief & Development (New York, NY) *2013 to 2016*

Episcopal Relief & Development is an international relief and development organization working in partnership with church, government, and community partners globally. Provided strategic planning, oversight, and execution of a \$14.2 million development portfolio. **Director, NetsforLife® Inspiration Fund (2010 to 2012)** Directed and implemented all aspects of a \$5 million national grassroots campaign in the fight against malaria.

Director of Development, Coro New York Leadership Center (New York, NY) *2007 to 2010*

Coro is a premier leadership training organization working with students, executives, activists and entrepreneurs. Provided strategic direction and oversight of \$2 million annual fundraising initiatives and partnerships.

Capital Campaign Manager, Wing Luke Asian Museum (Seattle, WA) *2004 to 2007*

Led, directed and managed a \$23.2 million capital project to create a permanent home for the museum, the only pan-Asian American and Pacific Islander Museum in the country. A historic campaign. Opened in 2007.

Community Relations Specialist, King County Executive Office (Seattle, WA) *1999 to 2003*

Appointed to support King County Executive Ron Sims. Led a variety of countywide projects collaborating with county departments, local jurisdictions, community based organizations, businesses, and other key stakeholders.

Program Development Officer, St. George's Cathedral Foundation (Cape Town, SA) *1997 to 1998* Project lead for a Food Bank Initiative. Coordinated an interfaith *Ubuntu Project* for children and youth to dialogue on reconciliation, nation building, and healing during the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Occidental College (Los Angeles, CA) B.A. in American Ethnic Studies

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Seattle Center Advisory Commission, Member

Central Waterfront Oversight Committee, Member

Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's Community Development Roundtable, Member

World Trade Center – Seattle, Board of Governors

Washington State Convention Center – Public Facilities District Board

9 Members: Pursuant to RCW 36.100.020 and King County Ordinance 16883, 3 members subject to Seattle City Council confirmation, 4-year terms:

- 3 Appointed by the Governor
- 3 Appointed by the County Executive, confirmed by the County Council
- 3 Appointed by the Mayor, confirmed by the City Council
 - 1 mayoral appointment must represent organized labor, except that this requirement does not apply to the initial board

Roster: 2025

*D	**G	RD	Pos. No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Position	Appointed By
2	F	N/A	1.	Member	Deryl Brown-Archie	7/31/10	7/30/26	2	Law: Health, Insurance	County
6	M	N/A	2.	Chair	Frank K. Finneran	7/31/10	7/30/26	2	Hospitality	County
6	M	7	3.	Member	Stuart Rolfe	7/31/24	7/30/28	2	Hospitality	County
3	N/A	N/A	4.	Member	Open	7/31/24	7/30/28	3		Governor
6	M	N/A	5.	Member	Tom Norwalk	01/01/23	7/30/26	1	Hospitality	Governor
6	M	7	6.	Vice Chair	Craig Schafer	7/31/20	7/30/28	2	Hospitality	Governor
6	F	2	7.	Member	Katie Garrow	7/31/22	7/30/26	1	Organized Labor	Mayor
2	M	2	8.	Member	Robert J. Flowers	7/31/22	7/30/26	4	Banking	Mayor
1	F	7	9.	Member	Joy R. Shigaki	7/31/24	7/30/28	1	Business	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)		(8)		(9)	
	Male	Female	Transgender	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial					
Governor	2	1					1			2								
County Executive	2	1				1				2								
Mayor	1	2			1	1				1								
Total					1	2	1			5								

Key:

- *D List the corresponding Diversity Chart number (1 through 9)
- **G List gender, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A



Legislation Text

File #: CB 120950, **Version:** 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to reaffirming The City of Seattle as a Welcoming City; supporting access to reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment in Seattle; extending the responsibility of City employees to protect the provision of reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment; and adding a new Chapter 14.115 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle (“City”) recognizes the inherent worth and equal rights of all people, including 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and seeks to provide a safe and welcoming environment for those who reside in, work in, or visit the City; and

WHEREAS, the City unequivocally supports the rights of individuals to seek, obtain, provide, or facilitate reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment that is legal in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the City has a long history of opposing discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex; and

WHEREAS, the City fosters a culture and environment that make it a vibrant, global city where all residents, including immigrants, refugees, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and other marginalized persons can fully participate in and be integrated into the social, civic, and economic fabric of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously affirmed in Resolution 31730 the promotion of policies and programs that reflect Seattle’s status as a Welcoming City; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously affirmed in Resolution 32054 and Ordinance 126649 its support of laws safeguarding reproductive rights to provide everyone in Seattle, Washington State, and beyond access to safe abortions and comprehensive reproductive health care, including protections against

discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously affirmed in Resolution 31738 its request to the United States Congress to ensure that federal civil rights laws are fully inclusive of protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 125100, adopted August 3, 2016, recognizes that members of the LGBTQ community still face threats to their physical safety, economic security, and overall well-being, and the City has a compelling interest in protecting the physical and psychological well-being of minors, including LGBTQ youth, and in protecting its minors against exposure to serious harms caused by conversion therapy; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 126634, adopted August 1, 2022, establishes the City as a sanctuary city for those seeking abortion care and prevents the Seattle Police Department from cooperating with out-of-state warrants related to abortions or other reproductive health care; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 124829, adopted August 14, 2015, helps create safer, more accessible restroom facilities for everyone, including transgender and gender diverse individuals; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2023-07 Equity and Opportunity in City Contracting recognizes that LGBTQ-owned businesses are also impacted by contracting equity, and directed the Finance and Administrative Services Department to explore ways to advance opportunity for these firms; and

WHEREAS, Washington State's Shield Law that was enacted in 2023 provides protections for those who pursue or provide legal reproductive health care services or gender-affirming treatment in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, the City affirms its role as a leader in inclusion by upholding Washington State's Shield Law and Washington State's Law Against Discrimination and resisting efforts to impose discriminatory policies that violate constitutional rights or Washington State's anti-discrimination laws; and

WHEREAS, a federal judge granted Washington State's request for a preliminary injunction blocking President

Trump’s action to deny life-saving medical care to transgender youth; and

WHEREAS, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in Seattle represents a vital part of the City’s cultural, social, and economic diversity, and faces ongoing discrimination, violence, and systemic barriers that threaten their safety and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse individuals are disproportionately targeted by violence and discriminatory policies and seeks to protect and affirm their rights; and

WHEREAS, across the country, anti-2SLGBTQIA+ legislation continues to be enacted, threatening access to health care, education, and protections under the law, and the City remains steadfast in its commitment to reject such policies and protect 2SLGBTQIA+ residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City rejects efforts that criminalize or marginalize 2SLGBTQIA+ identities, including attempts to ban gender-affirming treatment, censor 2SLGBTQIA+ literature, restrict 2SLGBTQIA+ expression, or otherwise undermine the rights of 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals; and

WHEREAS, the City unequivocally supports the rights of individuals to engage in free speech or expression supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ rights, embrace and express their own authentic gender and sexuality, and define their own gender and sex with or without regard to biological sex at birth; and

WHEREAS, the City opposes any government actions that restrict access to reproductive and 2SLGBTQIA+ health care, including gender-affirming treatment; and

WHEREAS, the City has a long-standing commitment to improving the lives of 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals and communities, including investments in the first 2SLGBTQIA+ affirming senior housing project in Washington; hubs and communal spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals seeking resources, wellness, and community; gender-inclusive youth and older adult athletic programming; and supporting economic development for 2SLGBTQIA+ owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Office of Civil Rights enforces Seattle civil rights laws, protecting people from

discrimination in city services, employment, housing, contracting, and public accommodations on the basis of, among other things, gender identity, sexual orientation, and sex; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to providing services and enforcing laws in a professional, nondiscriminatory, fair, and equitable manner, and continues to improve its policies and delivery of services for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, including bias-free policing policies, and culturally relevant training programs for health, housing, and social service providers; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Police Department is the only law enforcement agency in Washington to have a full time 2SLGBTQIA+ liaison, who serves as a point of contact, advocates for community members, and builds trust, and the City is committed to maintaining this valuable position; and

WHEREAS, the City is continually seeking ways to reduce barriers to accessing resources and support for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the City will continue to celebrate and uplift 2SLGBTQIA+ voices and contributions through public events, education, and partnerships with community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to serve as a refuge of fairness, respect, and dignity for all, including 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, immigrants, refugees, and other historically marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, the City reaffirms its commitment to diversity, inclusion, and justice, and its commitment to fostering an environment where all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or reproductive health care needs, can live authentically and without fear of discrimination or harm; and

WHEREAS, as a Welcoming City, the City is committed to recognizing the dignity of all its residents, workers, and visitors, including the right to reside in, work in, and visit a city that does not subject them to prejudicial treatment or discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to codify relevant portions of Washington State's Shield Law and extend provisions to City employees; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new Chapter 14.115 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows:

Chapter 14.115 PROTECTED HEALTH CARE SERVICES

14.115.005 Purpose

The purpose of this Chapter 14.115 is to incorporate relevant portions of the Washington State Shield Law (chapter 7.115 RCW) into City law and extend provisions to City employees.

14.115.010 Definitions

The definitions in this Section 14.115.010 apply throughout this Chapter 14.115 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

“Aggrieved party” means a person against whom an underlying action is commenced based on the aggrieved party’s provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services.

“City” means The City of Seattle.

“Gender-affirming treatment” means health services or products that support and affirm an individual’s gender identity, including social, psychological, behavioral, and medical or surgical interventions. Gender-affirming care services include, but are not limited to, evaluation and treatments for gender dysphoria, gender-affirming hormone therapy, and gender-affirming surgical procedures.

“Protected health care services” means gender-affirming treatment and reproductive health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington.

“Reproductive health care services” means all services, care, or products of a medical, surgical, psychiatric, therapeutic, mental health, behavioral health, diagnostic, preventative, rehabilitative, supportive, counseling, referral, prescribing, or dispensing nature relating to the human reproductive system including, but not limited to, all services, care, and products relating to pregnancy, assisted reproduction, contraception, miscarriage management, or the termination of a pregnancy, including self-managed terminations.

“Underlying action” means a civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding, or any proceeding

preliminary thereto.

14.115.020 Declaration of public policy - Cooperation to enforce other state's laws

A. It is the public policy of this City to protect the provision of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington by a person duly licensed under the laws of the state of Washington and the provision of insurance coverage for such services regardless of the location of the person receiving the services.

B. A law of another state that authorizes the imposition of civil or criminal penalties or liability related to the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington is against the public policy of the City.

C.

1. A City court, judicial officer, court employee or clerk, or public employee or official shall not issue or effectuate a warrant for the arrest of any person in connection with the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington and a City law enforcement agency or officer shall not effectuate such a warrant or knowingly arrest, or knowingly participate in the arrest of, any person for the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of such protected health care services.

2. A City agency, commission, board, or department, or any employee thereof, acting in their official capacity, shall not cooperate with or provide information to any individual, agency, commission, board, or department from another state or, to the extent permitted by federal law, to a federal law enforcement agency, for the purpose of enforcing another state's law or an investigation related to another state's law that asserts criminal or civil liability for the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington.

3. A City court, judicial officer, court employee or clerk, or attorney shall not issue a subpoena, warrant, court order, or other civil or criminal legal process pursuant to any state law in connection with a proceeding in another state related to the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington.

4. Nothing in this Section 14.115.020 prohibits the investigation of any criminal activity in this state that may involve the alleged provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services occurring in the state of Washington. Any information relating to any protected health care services provided to a specific individual shall not be shared with an agency, department, or individual from another state for the purpose of investigating or enforcing another state's law that asserts criminal or civil liability for the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington.

5. A City court, judicial officer, court employee or clerk, or public employee or official shall not apply to a case or controversy heard in City court any law that is contrary to this City's public policy as described in this Section 14.115.020.

14.115.030 Subpoenas - Quashing

Any person in the state of Washington that receives a subpoena from any court, state or federal, in the United States or any of its territories, may, pursuant to the Washington Rules of Civil Procedure, move to modify or quash the subpoena on the grounds that it is inconsistent with the public policy of the City under this Chapter 14.115 if:

A. The information sought concerns the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington; and

B. Liability in the underlying action is based in whole or in part on a cause of action or criminal liability that is not available under Washington law or the law of another state that is substantially similar to Washington law.

14.115.040 Civil claim for interference with protected health care services

A.

1. A claim for interference with protected health care services arises when:

a. Any underlying action is commenced against an aggrieved party in any court, state or federal, in the United States or any of its territories, where liability in the underlying action is based in whole or in part on:

1) The aggrieved party's provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington;

2) Conduct occurring in this state; and

3) A cause of action or criminal liability that is not available under City or Washington law or the law of another state that is substantially similar to City or Washington law; or

b.

1) Any person in the state of Washington receives a subpoena from any court, state or federal, in the United States or any of its territories, where the information sought concerns the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services that are lawful in the state of Washington; and

2) Where liability in the underlying action is based in whole or in part on a cause of action or criminal liability that is not available under Washington law or the law of another state that is substantially similar to Washington law.

2. An underlying action is based on conduct occurring in this state if any part of the acts or

omissions that form the basis of liability in the underlying action occur in Washington state, whether or not such acts or omissions are alleged in the action.

B. A person may maintain a claim for interference with protected health care services under this Section 14.115.040 if the underlying action is objectively baseless and brought for an improper purpose.

1. An underlying action is objectively baseless under this Section 14.115.040 if:

- a. The court in the underlying action lacked jurisdiction over the aggrieved party;
- b. The underlying action impedes the right to travel; or
- c. Other factors exist that the court determines demonstrate the objective baselessness of

the underlying action.

2. An underlying action is brought for an improper purpose under this Section 14.115.040 if:

- a. A purpose of the underlying action is to deter acts or omissions in Washington state that are permitted under the laws of the state of Washington; or
- b. Other factors exist that the court determines demonstrate the underlying action was

brought for an improper purpose.

C. If a court finds for the aggrieved party in an action asserting a claim for interference with protected health care services authorized by this Section 14.115.040, the aggrieved party may recover damages from any party that brought the underlying action. Recoverable damages include:

- 1. Actual damages including, but not limited to, costs and reasonable attorneys' fees spent in defending the underlying action;
- 2. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in bringing an action under this Section 14.115.040 as may be allowed by the court; and
- 3. Statutory damages up to \$10,000 if the underlying action is found to be frivolous.

D. The provisions of this Section 14.115.040 do not apply to a judgment entered in another state that is based on an action:

1. Founded in tort, contract, or statute, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought by the person who received the protected health care services upon which the original lawsuit was based or the person’s authorized legal representative, for damages suffered by the person or damages derived from an individual’s loss of consortium of the person;

2. Founded in contract, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought or sought to be enforced by a party with a contractual relationship with the person that is the subject of the judgment entered in another state; or

3. Where no part of the acts that formed the basis for liability occurred in this state.

14.115.050 Enforcement by City Attorney

The City Attorney may bring an action to enjoin any person from violating any provision of this Chapter

14.115. Upon proper showing, a court of competent jurisdiction may grant a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, writ of mandamus, or any additional orders or judgments necessary to enjoin such persons from violating this Chapter 14.115. For any action in which the City Attorney prevails, the City Attorney may recover the costs of the action, including a reasonable attorney’s fee.

14.115.900 Short title

This Chapter 14.115 may be known and cited as the Shield Law.

14.115.901 Construction - Full faith and credit

The courts of this state shall give full faith and credit as provided for in the United States Constitution to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of another state and nothing in this Chapter 14.115 shall be construed to undermine the primacy of that clause.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2025, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____, 2025.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Mayor's Office	Kate Hoffman	Adam Schaefer

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to reaffirming The City of Seattle as a Welcoming City; supporting access to reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment in Seattle; extending the responsibility of City employees to protect the provision of reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment; and adding a new Chapter 14.115 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This legislation reaffirms that the City of Seattle seeks to provide a safe and welcoming environment for those who reside in or visit our city, including 2SLGBTQIA+ people, people seeking protected health services, immigrants, refugees, and other historically marginalized communities. The legislation codifies relevant sections of Washington State's Shield law, which protects the provision of reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment, into the SMC and extends that law's application to City employees to demonstrate its commitment to protecting the rights and liberties of its residents and providing all with access to the City services.

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.

No.

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 City Attorney's Office is responsible for enforcing this law. It is projected to be unlikely that additional resources will be required to support that effort, but in the event that they are, the department will document them in a future budget request.

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

There is no direct financial cost of not implementing the legislation.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.

All City departments and employees will be expected to comply with the law. The City Attorney's Office is responsible for enforcing this law.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No.

b. Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation?

No.

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

d. 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 ordinance uplifts policies to protect the rights of historically disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, including immigrants and refugees, 2SLGBTQIA+ people, and people pursuing reproductive health care services or gender-affirming treatment.

Further, this legislation extends that law's application to City employees to demonstrate its commitment to protecting the rights and liberties of its residents and providing all with access to the City services.

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

N/A

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

N/A

e. 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.

N/A

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.

N/A

f. 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

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?

No.

5. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: None.

Enhancing Seattle's Welcoming City Laws and Protecting 2SLGBTQIA+ Residents

Governance, Accountability & Economic Development Committee

Greg Wong, Deputy Mayor, Office of Mayor Bruce A. Harrell

Presenters for Today

- Jessica McHegg – SDCI Employee
- Ashley Ford – LGBTQ Commission Co-chair
- Deputy Mayor Greg Wong

Select Previous City Actions

2023: Executive Order directing FAS to expand contracting equity outcomes to LGBTQ+ businesses.

2022: Suite of legislation supporting reproductive rights and access to health care, including a bill that made encroaching on individuals seeking reproductive and gender-affirming care a misdemeanor offense.

2017:

- Resolution 31730 affirming Seattle as a Welcoming City that promotes policies and programs to foster inclusion for all.
- Resolution 31738 urging Congress to introduce and adopt “The Equality Act,” which would grant equal protection to LGBTQ+ residents across the United States.

2016: Ordinance 125100 prohibiting conversion therapy for minors.

2015: Ordinance 124829 helping create safer, more accessible restroom facilities for everyone, including transgender and gender diverse individuals.

City Resources & Investments

The City has diverse investments in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. We broadly invest in the community through these depts:

SOCR	ARTS	DEEL	HSD	OH
OSE	SPR	SDCI	SPD	OPCD

Some Examples of Investments

- **Pride Place** - Completed in 2023. Owned/operated by Community Roots Housing. Pride Place features 118 apartments above an 2SLGBTQIA+ focused community and health services center run by GenPride. Pride Place households have at least one member aged 55 or older.
- **Full-time LGBTQIA+ liaison position** - This is the only law enforcement agency in Washington to have this investment.

Ordinance –Reaffirming Our Values

- The City of Seattle recognizes and supports the equal rights of all people, including 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and seeks to provide a safe and welcoming environment for those who reside in, work in, or visit the City.
- The City unequivocally supports the rights of individuals to seek, obtain, provide, or facilitate reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment that is legal in Washington State.
- The City affirms its role as a leader in inclusion by upholding Washington State’s Shield Law and Washington State’s Law Against Discrimination and resisting efforts to impose discriminatory policies that violate constitutional rights or Washington State’s anti-discrimination laws.

Ordinance - Declaration of Public Policy

The ordinance codifies relevant portions of the Washington State Shield Law and extends these requirements to City employees.

Declares that it is the **public policy** of this City **to protect the provision of protected health care services** that are lawful in Washington State by a person licensed in Washington State, regardless of the location of the person receiving the services.

- Protected health care services is defined to encompass both
 1. Gender-affirming treatment and
 2. Reproductive health care services.
- Legal Ramifications

Ordinance - Limits on Cooperation

Prohibits the City and its employees from **cooperating with an enforcement action and investigation in another state** when the action or investigation relates to protected health care services that are lawful in Washington State.

- Making an arrest
- Issuing or effectuating a warrant
- Issuing a subpoena or court order
- Providing information

Ordinance - Legal Remedies

Provides legal remedies, including:

- Creates a **cause of action** for interference with protected health care services.
 - This is available for individuals who face action outside of Washington State based on the provision or receipt of protected health care services, as long as certain requirements are met.
 - Recoverable damages include actual damages, costs and attorneys' fees, and statutory damages up to \$10,000 if the underlying action is found to be frivolous.
- Gives the **City Attorney** the authority to enforce the ordinance.
- Allows an individual who receives a **subpoena** from outside Washington State to move to modify or quash it on the grounds that it is inconsistent with the City's public policy.

Thank You