

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
Legislative	X4-8147	N/A

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title:

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City’s traffic code; conforming the Seattle Municipal Code with changes in state law; amending Sections 11.14.055, 11.20.040, 11.20.230, 11.30.040, 11.31.120, 11.34.020, 11.40.240, 11.44.020, 11.44.040, 11.50.320, 11.50.340, 11.53.100, 11.53.120, 11.53.140, 11.53.200, 11.53.205, 11.55.010, 11.55.080, 11.56.025, 11.56.050, 11.56.120, 11.56.350, 11.56.355, 11.58.005, 11.58.195, 11.58.230, 11.70.060, 11.82.520, and 11.84.440 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and adding new Sections 11.14.097, 11.14.712, and 11.70.070 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and background of the Legislation:

The traffic ordinance is designed to ensure that Seattle’s traffic code matches state law, which requires that traffic laws be uniform throughout the state and prohibits a local authority from enacting or enforcing any ordinance in conflict with the provisions of state traffic laws. It is discretionary with the Council only to the extent that nobody can force the Council to enact legislation.

Specifically, the ordinance:

- Expands the definition of “bicycle” to include 3-wheeled bicycles with tires that are 20 inches in diameter;
- Adds a definition of “circular intersection,” better known as traffic circles;
- Increases the monetary penalty for driving a motorcycle without a driver’s license, failing to yield, following too closely to or improperly overtaking a bicyclist or pedestrian, and improperly overtaking a motorcyclist, the latter three of which penalties are waivable;
- Requires a person convicted of a Negligent Driving 1st degree and Reckless Driving who has a prior conviction for an alcohol-related driving offense within 7 years to apply for an ignition interlock driver’s license and to drive a car only with an ignition interlock device (IID), which prevents starting or driving a car when the driver has an alcohol concentration of 0.02 or more;
- Authorizes impounding a car of a driver who is required to have an IID but is driving without an IID;
- Imposes an additional \$20 non-waivable and \$20 waivable monetary penalty for traffic infractions and an additional \$50 waivable monetary penalty for driving crimes;

- Clarifies a rule for walking in the street and overtaking a pedestrian or bicyclist;
- Authorizes a bicyclist to ignore stop signs and lane requirements;
- Authorizes a commercial vehicle to drive outside its lane;
- Changes some of the penalties for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and Physical Control.
 - For a defendant convicted of a 2nd or 3rd offense, the option in lieu of the mandatory minimum jail + electronic home monitoring no longer need include jail time;
 - The additional IID penalty for having a child younger than 16 years of age in the car is increased; and
 - The mandatory minimum jail for a 1st time offense may not be suspended;
- Expands the obligation to pay the costs of an emergency response to include the crime of Physical Control;
- Expands the crime of Tampering with an IID to include tampering with any of the components of the device or interfering with the functionality of the IID;
- Modifies the requirements for utilizing a child passenger seat;
- Authorizes motorcyclists to parallel park and to park multiple motorcycles in 1 parking space;
- Reduces the size of a school bus “stop” sign; and
- Authorizes drivers to watch television while driving.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes ___X___ No

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs? No.

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation? No.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department? This legislation would impact the Seattle Police Department and Municipal Court.
- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation? No.
- c. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation? No.

- d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? No.**
- e. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public? This legislation does not appear to have any RSJI implications or impact any vulnerable or historically disadvantaged community.**
- f. Climate Change Implications**
- 1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? No.**
 - 2. 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. No.**
- g. 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). This legislation does not include a new initiative or major programmatic expansion.**