

July 17, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Finance & Housing Committee
From: Edin Sisic, Analyst
Subject: Council Bill 120617 – 2023 Mid-Year Grant Acceptance & Appropriation Ordinance

On July 19, 2023, the Finance & Housing Committee will discuss [Council Bill \(CB\) 120617](#), which would provide authority for select City departments to accept and appropriate the expenditure of specified grant revenues from non-City sources.

This memo summarizes CB 120617 and describes the next steps in the context of the budget adjustment process for 2023.

CB 120617 Background and Summary

In prior years, the appropriation of grants was authorized via a supplemental appropriations ordinance, while grants were accepted through a separate, grant acceptance ordinance. This year, Council Central Staff, in partnership with the Law Department and City Budget Office, created a standalone grant acceptance and appropriation ordinance to improve grant legislation processes. Streamlining acceptance and appropriation of grants will provide several benefits, including:

- Reduce a backlog of awarded but not yet accepted and appropriated grants, thus reducing project and operational interruptions as a result of grant appropriation delays.
- Improve timing issues, as grant awards don't always follow the supplemental budget processes.
- Enhance visibility and transparency of the City's grant legislation processes for the Council and the public, among other improvements.

CB 120617 is the second comprehensive grant acceptance and appropriation legislation transmitted by the Executive in 2023, authorizing City departments to accept a total of \$126.4 million and appropriate \$23.8 million from external funding sources. *Table 1 (2023 Mid-year Grant Acceptances and Appropriations by Department and Grant Source)* on page two shows, by department, the total award and appropriation amount from each granting agency.

Table 1. 2023 Mid-year Grant Acceptances and Appropriations by Department and Grant Source

Department	Accepted Amount	Appropriated Amount
Department of Education and Early Learning		
Washington Student Achievement Council	1,250,000	\$1,250,000
Human Services Department		
Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	\$20,000	\$20,000
Washington State DSHS	\$1,619,047	\$1,619,047
Human Services Department Subtotal	\$1,639,047	\$1,639,047
Office of Emergency Management		
FEMA via WA State Military Dept., Emergency Mgmt. Div.	\$24,865	\$24,865
Office of Housing		
Department of Energy	\$405,714	\$405,714
Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs		
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	\$75,000	\$75,000
Seattle Center		
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
Seattle City Light		
FEMA	\$54,000	\$54,000
Seattle Department of Transportation		
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	\$33,674,000	\$50,000
FTA	\$65,851,521	-
Local Bridge Program	\$2,502,500	-
Seattle Department of Transportation Subtotal	\$102,028,021	\$50,000
Seattle Fire Department		
Washington State Department of Health	\$554	\$554
Seattle Information Technology Department		
Federal Communications Commission	\$400,000	\$400,000
Washington State Department of Commerce	\$41,000	\$41,000
Seattle Information Technology Department Subtotal	\$441,000	\$441,000
Seattle Parks and Recreation		
FEMA via WA State Military Dept., Emergency Mgmt. Div.	\$506,611	\$506,611
King County	\$2,195,000	\$2,195,000
Seattle Foundation	\$90,000	\$90,000
Washington State Clean Vessel	\$22,700	\$22,700
Washington State Department of Commerce	\$1,131,348	\$1,131,348
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	\$850,000	\$850,000
Seattle Parks and Recreation Subtotal	\$4,795,659	\$4,795,659
Seattle Police Department		
Washington State Department of Commerce	\$39,065	\$39,065
Seattle Public Utilities		
King County Flood Control District	\$500,000	-
Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	\$138,000	-
Seattle Public Utilities Subtotal	\$638,000	-
Grand Total	\$126,390,925	\$23,774,904

Of the total acceptance amount in *Table 1*, approximately 79 percent is funding from the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for SDOT's Capital Improvement Programs. FTA grant funding would support the RapidRide J-Line project as well as transit access, pedestrian, and safety improvements along Roosevelt Way NE and 125th St. The proposed FHWA grant would provide funding to continue and enhance the City of Seattle's ability to implement a vast array of safety treatments to address pedestrian collisions at intersections, including unsignalized intersections, and bicycle crashes.

Other noteworthy grant backed items include:

- \$15 million from FTA to Seattle Center to support work to design and modify Seattle Center Monorail Station to increase accessibility. This grant will support 1.5 FTE of which 1.0 FTE is for a limited term position specific to this project.
- \$2.5 million increase to an existing SDOT grant from the Federal Highway Administration through the Local Bridge Program. The initial grant was accepted and appropriated in 2022 in [Ordinance 126705](#). This grant would provide additional funding to repair and replace the existing concrete overlay on the S. Spokane Street Viaduct that has visible signs of significant spalling, concrete delamination, and map cracking. There is no matching requirement if funds are obligated prior to September 2026 and a 13.5 percent matching requirement if obligated after. The grant appropriation request will be submitted in the 2024 budget.
- \$2.2 million in reimbursable grants from King County to Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) for various capital improvements including:
 - \$1.8 million to prepare a fish access improvement feasibility study and conceptual design at Herring's House Park on the Lower Duwamish.
 - \$200k for a feasibility study for flood risk reduction, habitat restoration, open space, and/or recreation along river corridors at Gateway Park North
 - \$120k towards upgrades at Colonnade Mountain Bike Park
- \$1.6 million from the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services to the Human Services Department for nutrition support services for seniors who have been most impacted by the loss of federal supplemental nutrition assistance program resources that were provided during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- \$1.3 million from the Washington Student Achievement Council to the Department of Education and Early Learning for the City of Seattle Postsecondary Success Network project. The goal of this project is to expand capacity to provide culturally relevant college and career readiness guidance and mentorship to high school juniors and seniors that propels students into postsecondary opportunities and ignites career exploration, and to extend those mentoring relationships through the first two years of students' postsecondary education.
- \$1.1 million in reimbursable grants from the Washington State Department of Commerce to SPR for the Seattle Conservation Corps program, Northwest Native Canoe Center, and Green Lake Small Crafts Center projects.

These and all other grants that would be accepted in the bill are described in Attachment A to the summary and fiscal note submitted by the Executive. It is worth noting that, consistent with past practice, and given that spending of external grant awards can cross fiscal years, the appropriations made in CB 120617 are non-lapsing, meaning the authority to spend these amounts will persist until funds are fully expended or the appropriations are abandoned through a future Council action.

Next Steps

If the committee votes to make a recommendation on CB 120617 at the August 2, 2023, Finance & Housing Committee meeting, the legislation will be considered for final action at the August 8, 2023, City Council meeting.

Future 2023 budget adjustments will include the year-end comprehensive supplemental adjustment and grant acceptance and appropriation bills, anticipated to be submitted as budget legislation with the Mayor's 2024 Proposed Budget in late September, and any other stand-alone supplemental bills necessary to address unforeseen circumstances, consistent with [RCW 35.32A.060](#).

cc: Esther Handy, Director
Aly Pennucci, Deputy Director