

Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee
Councilmember Budget Proposals | Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)

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2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

SPU-002-A

Increase SPU by \$100,000 GF for additional community cleanup services through community partners

SPONSORS

Rob Saka, Joy Hollingsworth, Sara Nelson

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	\$(100,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(100,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would increase appropriations to Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) by \$100,000 GF to fund additional community cleanup services through community partners.

SPU operates and funds community cleanup activities through its Adopt-a-Street program, a grassroots effort where volunteers commit to cleaning up litter along specific street segments. The program supports volunteer cleaning activities by providing litter pickup tools, gloves, safety vests, trash bags and paper compost bags, sharps containers, and brooms and dustpans.

The program also sponsors a cleanup series known as the All Hands Neighborhood Cleanup, which is a community-driven initiative to beautify neighborhoods through organized community cleanup events. In 2025, the series will have a total of 10 cleanup events in six neighborhoods between March and November.

The 2026 Proposed Budget includes approximately \$468,000 of appropriations for the Adopt-a-Street program and the community cleanup activities.

The funding provided by this CBA is intended to support additional neighborhood cleanup events and activities through established community partners, such as A Cleaner Alki in West Seattle, that have a proven track record of collaborating with City departments and are in the community performing services on a weekly basis. The funding is also intended to support the launch of a new pilot program to fund volunteer cleaning ambassadors and periodic neighborhood cleanups located in Morgan Junction, Alaska Junction, and Admiral Junction.

The intent is for SPU to contract with community organizations to provide cleanup and maintenance services in City parks, greenbelts, and rights-of-way, including litter pickup, vegetation management, and beautification projects. The funding may also be used for cleaning supplies and disposal services, coordination of community cleanup events, and data collection on litter volumes and types.

ATTACHMENT: No

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
SPU	Utility Service and Operations	00100-BO-SU-N200B	2026		\$100,000

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

SPU-004-A

Increase SPU by \$100,000 GF for the purchase of one shower trailer for the Public Hygiene Program

SPONSORS

Dan Strauss, Rob Saka, Joy Hollingsworth

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	\$(100,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(100,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would increase appropriations in Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) by \$100,000 GF (one-time) to fund the purchase of one shower trailer for the Public Hygiene Program.

The Public Hygiene Program in SPU operates three stationary shower trailers: one in West Seattle (Camp Second Chance), one in Uptown (157 Roy St.), and one in South Seattle (Rainier Warehouse). Each of the shower trailers operates seven days per week and includes a combination of standard showers and ADA-accessible showers along with bathroom facilities. The City owns two of the shower trailers, but rents the third trailer for an annual cost of approximately \$74,000.

This CBA would provide sufficient funding for the purchase of one shower trailer, allowing SPU to replace the annual rental costs with a one-time purchase. The Public Hygiene Program would continue to operate three shower trailers in total, and this shift from a rented trailer to a City-owned trailer should not impact the operations or maintenance of the facilities.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONE-TIME

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
SPU	Utility Service and Operations	00100-BO-SU-N200B	2026		\$100,000

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

SPU-010S-A

Request that SPU provide a status report on its sea level rise adaptation work in the Duwamish Valley

SPONSORS

Rob Saka, Joy Hollingsworth, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests that Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) provide a status report on its sea level rise adaptation work in the Duwamish Valley, including progress on planning and design efforts, engagement with community organizations, and future project plans and funding opportunities.

In 2016, the City launched the Duwamish Valley Program, an interdisciplinary effort among City departments to advance environmental justice goals and promote equitable development in the Duwamish Valley, with an emphasis on South Park and Georgetown. The collaborative effort, which is led by the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE), released the Duwamish Valley Action Plan in 2018, a City-community vision that identifies strategies and actions to deliver measurable health and wellbeing outcomes.

Since the release of that plan, the City has received grant funding to advance visioning for climate and community resilience, including for sea level rise adaptation. Additionally, the South Park neighborhood experienced significant flooding caused by overtopping of the Duwamish River during king tides in 2022, leading SPU to engage in extensive, yearly emergency flood preparedness with the community.

The ten-year comprehensive plan update, currently under consideration by the Council, also recognizes that sea levels are projected to rise across Seattle's shorelines in the coming decades and that flooding is expected to become more intense and frequent. In recognition of this, the plan contains a policy to develop a citywide sea level rise adaptation plan.

SPU will be leading the next phase of water resilience planning in the South Park and Georgetown neighborhoods through its new Duwamish Valley Water Resilience section within the Drainage and Wastewater line of business. In the coming months, SPU and OSE expect to release a report on the work to date, including a high-level vision, phased approach, potential solutions, and sequencing of projects to manage sea level rise in both the residential and industrial portions of those neighborhoods. In 2026, SPU plans to utilize existing grant funding to continue planning work with early technical analysis and high-level cost estimating.

The Council supports the sea level rise adaptation planning efforts and is interested in accelerating the work and exploring multiple-benefit solutions, such as nature-based approaches, to meet the urgent needs of communities most at-risk of experiencing flooding impacts. Additionally, the Council requests that SPU and its partner departments within the City prioritize engagement with community leaders and organizations, such as the Duwamish River Community Coalition, on City-led efforts in the

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Duwamish Valley.

The requested status update could be in the form of a written report or a presentation to the relevant Council committee.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Parks, Public Utilities & Technology

DUE DATE: August 14, 2026

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

SPU-012S-A

Request that SPU report on rate impacts of expanding eligibility and participation in utility discounts and assistance programs of SPU and SCL

SPONSORS

Dan Strauss, Debora Juarez, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) would request that Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), in cooperation with Seattle City Light (SCL) and the Human Services Department (HSD), evaluate the impacts on utility rates of maintaining existing utility assistance programs and expanding the eligibility for the Utility Discount Program (UDP) to people making 70 percent or 80 percent of area median income at a lower discount. Additionally, SPU's study should describe progress to date and any budgetary or policy steps necessary to:

- 1) accomplish long-sought system improvements to the UDP to increase participation rates;
- 2) decrease hurdles faced by seniors accessing the program, among other things;
- 3) ensure people are pre-qualified for UDP if they are enrolled in other City and county affordability programs, such as Fresh Bucks, Multi-Family Tax Exemption housing, and King County property tax exemptions.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Parks, Public Utilities & Technology

DUE DATE: February 14, 2026