

2021 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Council Budget Action: Agenda

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RET	001	B	001

Budget Action Title: Request that SCERS provide a report on sources and uses of City retirement funds and performance of the SCERS II plan

Ongoing: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Alex Pedersen

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Debora Juarez

Staff Analyst: Tom Mikesell

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	TM	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests that the Seattle Employees' Retirement System (SCERS) provide a report encompassing sources and uses of City retirement funds and performance of the SCERS II plan to increase transparency to the public.

The Council requests that SCERS, in consultation with other City departments if necessary, provide a report to the Council by July 1, 2021 that covers sources and uses of City retirement funds, the performance of the SCERS II plan, and options to merge with the State Public Employees Retirement System..

The report should cover, at a minimum:

I. In graphs covering the SCERS I and SCERS II plans separately, if possible, the sources and uses of retirement funds over the past 10 years including:

A. Sources of funds:

1. City tax dollars / City government contributions toward employee pensions (existing employees and retirees)

2. Employee contributions

3. Investment earnings

4. Any other sources

B. Uses of funds:

1. Payments to beneficiaries

2. Contributions to the retirement fund

3. Asset management/investment fees

4. SCERS administrative costs

5. Any other costs

C. In consultation with other departments if necessary, please include a separate graph showing City

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payments for firefighter and police officer pensions.

II. Performance of the SCERS II plan, including a calculation of the impact on the plan funding ratio, and the total City cost savings (across all funds), from the SCERS II changes implemented in 2017. The report should also include any recommendations for changes to the SCERS system to meet either of the outcomes of achieving a 100 percent funding ratio sooner than 2042 and/or decreasing City retirement system costs.

III. Identification of options to merge all or a portion of the City retirement system with the Washington State Public Employees' Retirement System. These options should include a high level assessment of fiscal and administrative implications where applicable.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Finance & Housing

Date Due to Council:

July 1, 2021