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VBMP, and provide appropriation authority from SDCI operating fund balance for initial start-up costs, including three vehicle purchases. Appropriations in 2019 assume nine months of program operation and \$105,000 for vehicle purchases.

Amendments to CB 119386 are shown below. Amendments are shown in double underline or strikethrough.

Section 15. Section 22.900F.010 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 125451, is amended as follows:

**22.900F.010 Monitoring vacant buildings**

\* \* \*

Table F-1 for 22.900F.010—Monitoring Vacant Buildings	
Condition of Premises	Fee
<u>Initial Enrollment Fee</u>	<u>\$2056.00</u>
<del>Building is closed to entry and premises are in compliance with applicable codes.</del> (This fee is charged per visit with 4 visits a year)	<del>(((\$253.80)) \$261.40 or \$1,045.60 a year</del>
Building is closed to entry and premises are not in compliance with applicable codes.	(((\$422.30)) <u>\$435</u>
Building is not closed to entry regardless of compliance with applicable codes.	(((\$506.55)) <u>\$521.75</u>

\* \* \*

**Background**

Since 2013 complaints related to vacant buildings have increased by 64 percent. The proposal would provide resources in SDCI for the Code Compliance division to enhance the existing Vacant Building Monitoring Program. The Vacant Building Monitoring Program is a program authorized under the Housing and Building Maintenance Code. Under that program hazardous and nuisance vacant properties are regularly inspected and abated. Changes to the program would include amending the Seattle Municipal Code and implementing regulations to establish triggering events for enrollment or registration in the program, strengthening minimum standards for vacant buildings, establishing a fee to cover the cost of the program, and penalties for ongoing failure to correct violations, while minimizing costs to owners when buildings are well maintained. Staff will identify the resources needed to implement an enhanced program in 2019; moving forward the program would be supported by program fees.

Furthermore, the Council is working with the Law Department to change business practices to increase fee collection rates from an average 65% over the last three years to at least 70% which would bring the enrollment fee down.

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### Budget Action Transactions

**Budget Action Title:** Amend CB 119386, SDCI's Fee Ordinance, add 3 FTE Inspectors, and appropriate \$457,000 in 2019 and \$483,000 in 2020 from SDCI fund balance to expand the Vacant Building Monitoring Program

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase revenue from SDCI's fund balance for 3 FTE Inspectors and onetime costs for enhanced VBMP				SDCI	Use of (Contribution To) Fund Balance	379100	48100	2019	\$457,000	
2	Increase appropriation for 3 FTE Inspectors for VBMP	Housing/Zoning Inspector - FT	3	3	SDCI	Compliance	BO-CI-U2400	48100	2019		\$352,000
3	Increase appropriation for vehicle purchases				SDCI	Compliance	BO-CI-U2400	48100	2019		\$105,000
4	Increase revenue from SDCI's fund balance for enhanced VBMP staffing and operations				SDCI	Use of (Contribution To) Fund Balance	379100	48100	2020	\$483,000	
5	Increase appropriation for enhanced VBMP				SDCI	Compliance	BO-CI-U2400	48100	2020		\$483,000