

## **SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE\***

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Contact/Phone:</b>
Law – Criminal	James Kenny/ 684-8532	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 and making technical corrections; and amending Sections 11.22.080, 11.31.050, and 11.58.005 of 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, pursuant to RCW 46.08.020, 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.

The primary effects of this ordinance are to:

- Section 1. It updates 11.22.080 to make it an infraction to have a covered license plate, which implements a change to RCW 46.16A.200 in Chapter 84, Laws of 2024, HB 1963.
- Section 2. It updates 11.31.050 to allow 30 days to respond to a notice of infraction instead of 15 days, which implements a change to RCW 46.63.070(1) in Chapter 240, Laws of 2021, ESSB 5226.
- Section 3. It updates 11.58.005 to add the gross misdemeanor crime of Negligent Driving with a Vulnerable User Victim in the First Degree. It clarifies that Negligent Driving with a Vulnerable User Victim in the Second Degree is a traffic infraction. It provides a definition of “vulnerable user of a public way.” All of these changes implement the new RCW 46.61.5259 and the amended RCW 46.61.526 from Chapter 471, Laws of 2023, HB 1112.

### **2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**   ☐ Yes ☒ No

### **3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget?**   ☐ Yes ☒ 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.**

**Are there financial costs 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.**

**Summary Attachments: None.**