

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Legislative

Title: An ordinance relating to closing public streets to maintain or enhance public safety; authorizing the Director of Transportation to close streets; amending Section 11.16.125 of the Seattle Municipal Code; declaring an emergency; and establishing an immediate effective date; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

Background: Section 11.16.125 of the Seattle Municipal Code currently allows the Director of Transportation to close public streets and alleys for specific reasons, including street maintenance, utility access, adjacent property construction, hazards or obstructions, and, for alleys, after consultation with the Chief of Police, to enhance public safety by preventing criminal activity.

The same rationale that allows the City to close alleys for public safety purposes may potentially apply to portions of City streets. This bill expands the authority in the SMC that applies to City alleys to also apply to City streets.

The decision to close streets or alleys would remain the responsibility of the Director of Transportation. Streets provide right-of-way access to the public in general, while alleys provide localized access to adjacent properties.

Summary Attachments: N/A

2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

Yes

No

3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

Yes

No

3d. Other Financial Impacts

a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.

No

b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?

N/A

c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?

If this legislation is not implemented, public safety issues may not be addressed in the most effective or efficient manner.

d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?

This legislation allows for the Director of Transportation (in the Seattle Department of Transportation), after consultation with the Chief of Police (in the Seattle Police Department) to close City streets for public safety purposes.

4. Other Impacts

a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?

Yes

No

b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?

Yes

No

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No

d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:

1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.

This legislation potentially enhances public safety for all people in Seattle; however, the intent is to allow the City another tool to address high crime areas, which disproportionately impact low-income and other historically marginalized people.

2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.

N/A

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?

e. Climate change impacts:

1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.

N/A

2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.

N/A

f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?

N/A

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?

No