

2023 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OED	602	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Request that OED provide a report on the impacts of business technical assistance in high displacement risk neighborhoods

Ongoing: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Tammy Morales

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Karina Bull

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

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) would request that the Office of Economic Development (OED) provide a report on the impacts of business technical assistance in high displacement risk neighborhoods.

The 2023-2024 Proposed Budget includes \$800,000 from JumpStart Economic Revitalization funds to expand OED's provision of business technical assistance for key industries and small businesses with an emphasis on culturally relevant and community-based services for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and immigrant-owned businesses. OED would provide this assistance by working with community-based providers and an expanded network of contractors offering language access resources and specific services on financial health, digital access, legal assistance, and other core business needs.

In 2022, OED launched these programs with one-time Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery and Equitable Community Initiative funds. The funds in the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget would provide sustained funding for the programs to address on-going needs of small businesses.

This SLI would provide Council with information on the impacts of OED's business technical assistance with a focus on high displacement risk neighborhoods that have been targeted by systemic and institutional racism. The report should include general information on current programs and programs expected to continue with sustained funding:

- List of funded organizations with descriptions of how particular organizations work with businesses in high displacement risk neighborhoods;
- Number of participating businesses;
- Number and percentage of BIPOC owned businesses; and
- Number and percentage of women owned businesses.

The report should also include specific information on businesses in high displacement risk neighborhoods:

- Number and percentage of businesses in high displacement risk neighborhoods;
- Description of services provided to these businesses;
- Description of feedback from these businesses (e.g., percentage of businesses reporting improved business practices or feeling more confident about the financial management of their business; areas of

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program strength and suggestions for improvement or other types of assistance);

- Number and percentage of these businesses that access financing or are “loan ready”; and
- Number and percentage of these businesses using Point of Sales system.

OED should submit the report to the Economic Development, Technology, and City Light Committee; the Neighborhoods, Education, Civil Rights, and Culture Committee; and the Central Staff Director by April 1, 2023.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Economic Development, Technology, and City Light

Date Due to Council:

April 1, 2023