



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

June 15, 2026

NOTICE OF A SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON COUNCIL BILL 121214

The Seattle City Council's Land Use and Sustainability Committee will hold a public hearing on Council Bill 121214 relating to data centers on July 15, 2026, at 9:30 AM. Council Bill 121214:

- Makes findings-of-fact related to the lack of current regulations in the Seattle Municipal Code for data centers and the potential impacts of those facilities, absent regulations, on the public health, safety, and welfare;
- Declares a public emergency;
- Defines "data center" as "a facility: (1) used primarily for the housing, operation, or co-location of computer and networking equipment and the handling, storing, managing, processing, and backing up of digital data; (2) having capacity in excess of 20 Megavolt-Amperes (MVA); and (3) generally requiring uninterruptible power supplies and associated infrastructure such as cooling systems, backup power systems, and battery storage;
- Establishes a moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, or approval of permit applications to establish or expand data centers, either as principal or accessory uses, or change of use to data centers, either as principal or accessory uses, in all zones in the city; and
- Approves a work plan to consider best practices for electricity and water usage, requesting Seattle City Light to transmit analysis and proposal by July 2026, and Seattle Public Utilities to transmit analysis and proposal by October 2026, and requesting Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections to determine appropriate zoning and development standards and transmit permanent land use regulations by January 2027. The work plan also includes a request for Office of Sustainability and Environment to develop a community benefits framework by February 2027.

Council Bill 121214 passed on an emergency basis on June 9, 2026, and is now effective. The moratorium in the legislation is effective for one year and may be renewed for one or more additional six-month periods. The Council is holding a public hearing pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390.

PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council's Land Use and Sustainability Committee will hold a public hearing to take comments on Council Bill 121214 on Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 9:30 AM. The hearing will be held in:

City Council Chambers
2nd Floor, Seattle City Hall
600 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA

People who wish to participate in or attend the hearing may be offered the opportunity to do so remotely. If this is the case, the City Council will provide instructions on the meeting agenda on how to participate remotely. Please check the City Council agenda a few days prior to the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees>.

Print and communications access is provided on prior request. Seattle City Council Chambers is accessible. Directions to the City Council Chambers, and information about transit access and parking are available at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/meet-the-council/visiting-city-hall>.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

For those unable to attend the public hearing, written comments may be sent to:

Seattle City Hall
Attn: Council Public Comment
600 4th Ave., Floor 2
Seattle, WA 98104
Or by email to council@seattle.gov

Please submit written comments no later than four business hours prior to the start of the meeting to ensure that they are distributed to Councilmembers prior to the meeting.

Business hours are considered 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Comments received after that time will be distributed after the meeting to Councilmembers and included as part of the public record.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE

The proposed legislation is available at [Legistar](http://legistar.com). Search for Council Bill 121214.

Questions regarding the legislation may be directed to HB Harper, Council Central Staff at 425-566-0645 or hb.harper@seattle.gov.