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**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**ORDINANCE** 127356  
**COUNCIL BILL** 121122

AN ORDINANCE relating to City finances; creating a fund for depositing General Fund proceeds related to preservation and revitalization of Seattle’s Central District and Southeast Seattle community.

WHEREAS, the Central District and Southeast Seattle neighborhoods have experienced significant displacement, gentrification, and cultural erosion over the past several decades; and

WHEREAS, preserving the physical character, cultural heritage, and social fabric of these communities is vital to honoring the legacy and contributions of their historic residents; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle recognizes the importance of place-based investment to ensure that historically rooted communities can thrive in the face of ongoing economic and demographic change; and

WHEREAS, equitable development strategies are essential to preventing further displacement and to fostering inclusive growth that benefits all residents; and

WHEREAS, cultural spaces, small businesses, and community institutions are critical to maintaining the identity and resilience of neighborhoods like the Central District’s and Southeast Seattle’s neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to support community-driven efforts that reflect the values, history, and aspirations of residents with deep ties to the neighborhood; and

1 WHEREAS, the establishment of a dedicated fund will provide a sustainable mechanism for  
2 channeling public and private resources into initiatives that strengthen the Central  
3 District’s and Southeast Seattle’s future while honoring their past; and

4 WHEREAS, this ordinance aligns with the City’s broader goals of racial equity, social justice,  
5 and inclusive economic opportunity; and

6 WHEREAS, community members, organizations, and stakeholders have called for dedicated  
7 resources to support cultural preservation, economic development, and community-led  
8 revitalization in the Central District and Southeast Seattle; and

9 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle seeks to establish a mechanism to receive and allocate public  
10 and private funds to support these efforts; NOW, THEREFORE,

11 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

12 Section 1. A new Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Fund is created in  
13 the City Treasury, effective January 1, 2026, to which revenues may be deposited and from  
14 which associated expenditures may be paid, including but not limited to City administration costs  
15 for the purposes described in Section 2 of this ordinance.

16 Section 2. The purpose of the Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Fund is  
17 to support future programs and projects that promote equitable development, cultural  
18 preservation, and community-led revitalization in the Central District and Southeast Seattle. The  
19 Fund is intended to serve as a dedicated source of investment for historically impacted  
20 communities.

21 Appropriations from the Fund shall be authorized through future Council legislation,  
22 following the development of appropriate policy frameworks and distribution mechanisms.

1 Programs and projects to be supported by the Fund will be identified through a subsequent  
2 ordinance informed by City-led studies, community engagement, and Council deliberation.

3 Section 3. The Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Fund shall receive  
4 revenues in the form of donations, gifts, and grants, and from transfers from other City funds,  
5 including the General Fund, as approved by the City Council. The Fund shall receive earnings on  
6 its positive balances and pay interest on its negative balances.

7 Section 4. The Director of the Department of Neighborhoods, or another department  
8 designated by the Mayor, shall have responsibility for administering the Central District and  
9 Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Fund. The Director of Finance is authorized to create other  
10 accounts and subaccounts as may be needed to implement the Fund's purpose and intent as  
11 established by this ordinance.

1 Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code  
2 Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

3 Passed by the City Council the 21st day of November, 2025,  
4 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 21st day of  
5 November, 2025.

6   
7 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

8  Approved /  returned unsigned /  vetoed this 24th day of November, 2025.

9   
10 Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

11 Filed by me this 24th day of November, 2025.

12   
13 Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

14 (Seal)