

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Seattle Department of Transportation	Amy Gray	Christie Parker

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION granting conceptual approval to install, maintain, and operate a pedestrian skybridge over and across 8th Avenue, north of Cherry Street; as proposed by FH, LLC d/b/a Skyline, in the First Hill neighborhood.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This resolution grants conceptual approval for construction of a new pedestrian skybridge and outlines certain conditions for obtaining permission to construct the private pedestrian skybridge. The pedestrian skybridge would connect two existing senior residential buildings located at 715 8th Avenue and 725 9th Avenue. The two buildings are a Continuing Care Retirement Community that provides housing for seniors, with access to higher levels of care for residents when necessary, including on-site skilled nursing and rehabilitation services.

The Seattle Design Commission reviewed the proposal and although it is the City’s policy to limit the proliferation of skybridges, they were persuaded by the stated concerns of the residents regarding a protected access to the buildings and were willing to recommend and set conditions for this skybridge. Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 15.64 requires public benefits to offset the impact of skybridges, and the applicant has proposed the following public benefits:

1. Open space improvements and activation on 8th Avenue adjacent to 725 9th Avenue;
2. Integrated public art in the enhanced 8th Avenue landscape area;
3. Pedestrian improvements at the intersection of 8th Avenue and Marion Street, including extending the existing curbs and adding curb ramps; and
4. Interpretative wayfinding signage to the Park to Park Loop project.

SDOT reviewed the proposal against the following criteria: the skybridge provides adequate clearance above-grade; is not on a view corridor; there will not be a significant reduction in natural light; it will not have a significant impact on traffic or pedestrian safety; and it will provide another accessible route for residents of the buildings to move between them to access amenities or visit friends/family. A below-grade pedestrian tunnel was not feasible. SDOT determined that the proposal was sufficiently consistent with Seattle Municipal Code 15.64.050 and recommends approval.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

If a future term permit ordinance is approved by the City Council, the City will receive permit fees associated with the pedestrian skybridge.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

N/A

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

N/A

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Please describe how this legislation may affect any departments besides the originating department.

N/A

b. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? If yes, please attach a map and explain any impacts on the property. Please attach any Environmental Impact Statements, Determinations of Non-Significance, or other reports generated for this property.

Yes, this legislation would affect properties located at 715 8th Avenue and 725 9th Avenue.

c. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.

This legislation does not impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities.

- ii. **Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.**

N/A

- iii. **What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?**

N/A

d. Climate Change Implications

- i. **Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.**

This legislation is not likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way.

- ii. **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.**

This legislation is not likely to increase or decrease Seattle’s resiliency to climate change in a material way.

- e. **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)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

N/A

5. CHECKLIST

- Is a public hearing required?**
- Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required?**
- If this legislation changes spending and/or revenues for a fund, have you reviewed the relevant fund policies and determined that this legislation complies?**
- Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?**

6. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments:

Summary Attachment A – Skyline 8th Ave Skybridge Area Map