

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Legislative Department

Title: An ordinance relating to the operations of the Community Assisted Response and Engagement Department; describing the duties of the Community Crisis Responder team; amending Section 3.15.060 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and adding a new Section 3.15.064 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

Background: The Community Assisted Response and Engagement (CARE) Department was established in 2023 by Ordinance 126954. CARE currently supports Seattle's public safety response with two primary functions: 1) operation of the 9-1-1 Communications Center; and 2) fielding the Community Crisis Responder (CCR) team. The role and deployment of the CCR team has expanded significantly since the original CARE ordinance describing the purpose and scope of the department was passed in 2023, particularly via significant budget investments in recent years to grow the size of the CCR team and deploy them citywide. Current Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) language outlining the purpose and scope of CARE does not adequately capture the current state of the department, particularly the CCR team functions. This legislation would amend SMC to: 1) acknowledge the CCR team as a core function of the CARE Department; 2) define, at a high level, the role and purpose of the CCR team; and 3) clarify some of the administrative functions of the Department.

Summary Attachments: NA.

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
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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. The CARE department was established, in part, in response to community concerns about the impact on historically disadvantaged communities created by the City's overreliance on the use of police officers to respond to incidents that might be not necessitate an

armed police presence. Expansion of the CARE CCR team in recent years has increased the City's capacity to offer a diversified public safety first response beyond uniformed police. This legislation alone will not have a direct impact on vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities because it simply describes the existing state of the CCR teams role in Seattle's public safety response in SMC, rather than proposing changes to that system.

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

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation? No standalone LAP has been developed related to 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. No.

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. NA.

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? NA.

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization? No.