

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

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** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the maintenance and operations for the Waterfront Park and Public Spaces; authorizing the Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation to delegate certain Central Waterfront maintenance, operations, and management to the Seattle Center Department; delegating authority to the Seattle Center Director to enforce Waterfront Park and Public Spaces Rules; and authorizing an extension of the existing License Agreement with Friends of Waterfront Seattle.

Summary and Background of the Legislation:

The purpose of this legislation is to authorize the Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) to delegate their authority to operate, maintain, and manage the Waterfront Park and Public Spaces to the Director of the Seattle Center.

The City has made a commitment to high quality maintenance and operations of the waterfront which has been formalized in several pieces of adopted legislation which outline the specifics of those commitments including our Operations & Maintenance Ordinance (Ordinance 125761) and legislation forming the City’s Waterfront Local Improvement District (both adopted in 2019).

Planning for the long-term operations and maintenance of Waterfront Park and Public Spaces identified SPR as the lead City Department to deliver on the maintenance and public safety commitments and oversee the dedicated waterfront team. Throughout the last two years, our Central Waterfront Oversight Committee (CWOC) conducted a national peer park review, which highlighted Seattle Center’s specialization in large scale urban space management, and their holistic approach to maintenance, programming/activation, and public safety. Given Seattle Center’s successful track record in public space management, CWOC recommended in 2021 that the City delegate operations, maintenance and management of Waterfront Park and Public Spaces to Seattle Center, enabling SPR to devote more focus to the citywide parks and recreation system as a whole. While the legislation would authorize the SPR Superintendent to delegate operations, maintenance and management authority to Seattle Center, Waterfront Park and Public Spaces will remain Park Boulevard(s) and Seattle Parks and Recreation assets.

This legislation also authorizes the Seattle Center Director or their designee to adopt, amend, and enforce rules and code of conduct for the Waterfront Park and Public Spaces. Park Boulevard legislation was passed in 2021, which designated portions of Alaskan Way and associated rights-of-way as Park Boulevard(s) and allowed for the use of park rules on the pedestrian and public spaces. Waterfront Park and Public Spaces Rules are being adopted by the Superintendent concurrently with this legislation.

Finally, this legislation will authorize the Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects (OWCP) and Seattle Parks and Recreation to negotiate and extend the existing License Agreement with Friends of Waterfront Seattle (Friends).

These actions are consistent with the Waterfront Operations and Management Ordinance (125761), which outlined specific terms for operations and management of Waterfront Park and Public Spaces, and included a two-year license agreement with Friends, to be followed by a long-term management agreement. With the license agreement expiring at the end of 2022, the City and Friends are still jointly developing the long-term management agreement for park operations, taking into consideration lessons learned from the license agreement, feedback from the CWOC, the performance standard, and terms outlined in Ordinance 12576. OWCP, SPR, and Seattle Center will return to council in Q1/Q2 of 2023 for review and approval of the long-term management agreement.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ___ Yes X No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes X No

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?
No.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?

If the legislation is not implemented, operations will continue to be performed by the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department. Funding for waterfront maintenance and operations is allocated from the Metropolitan Park District (MPD) funds.

3.c. Positions

Position Notes:

Staffing for the waterfront operations team requires that new positions be created to match the added scope and level of service for the new waterfront park and public spaces. The City Council approved 15 positions in 2023 as part of the 2023 budget process. These will provide

the dedicated waterfront maintenance team necessary to meet the City’s commitments to the quality of maintenance.

Coordination is underway between City Departments on BIPS and PDQs to align decision-making in the city budget process with separate legislation also being considered at Council to delegate authority to Seattle Center for waterfront maintenance and public safety operations. Hiring for these positions will begin in Q1 2023.

2023	
1	Manager3, Parks &Rec
1	StratAdvsr2, Parks &Rec
1	Exec Asst
1	Facility Maint Supv,Asst
3.5	Security Officer
1	Gardener, Sr
1	Installation Maintenance Worker
4	Laborer
1	Management Systems Analyst
0.5	Personnel Specialist II
Total FTE: 15.0	

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
 This legislation will require collaboration between the Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and Seattle Center. Other City Departments, such as Seattle Department of Transportation and the Seattle Police Department would need to coordinate around jurisdictional responsibilities on the waterfront.
- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
 No
- c. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**
 No
- d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
 This legislation impacts the Waterfront Park and Public Spaces which is generally the publicly owned areas along Alaskan Way from King Street to the south to Pine Street to the north, including Piers 58 and 62. These areas are owned by Seattle Parks and Recreation and Seattle Department of Transportation.

e. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?

This legislation supports the provision of improved public spaces along Seattle's Waterfront that encourages use by people of all ages, incomes, and abilities, and supports free expression. The City's ability to provide high-quality management of these spaces is essential to our ability to create welcoming and inclusive programming to serve a diverse public, which is a key goal of the City's work and of its partner organization, Friends of Waterfront Seattle. It also helps to ensure that any employment associated with operating and maintaining Waterfront Park and Public Spaces will provide living-wage jobs to community members, regardless of their age, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation.

f. Climate Change Implications

1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?

This legislation will not materially increase or decrease carbon emissions.

2. 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 will improve the City's ability to respond or adapt to climate change by provided maintenance resources necessary to support waterfront maintenance, including potential changes to landscape, drainage and other systems affected by sea level rise and its effects.

g. 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)?

This legislation fulfills an established commitment made by the City to provide maintenance and other operations services to the new waterfront park and public spaces. It does not include a new initiative or major programmatic expansion.