

## Summary and Fiscal Note

### 1. Legislation Summary

**Department:** Seattle Center

**Title:** A resolution affirming The City of Seattle's readiness for a National Basketball Association (NBA) team; declaring that Climate Pledge Arena is ready for an NBA team; and affirming Seattle is a basketball city.

**Background:** With this resolution, the City formally affirms its readiness to welcome the return of the Seattle SuperSonics and expresses its strong desire to partner with the NBA to make this vision a reality and affirms that the Climate Pledge Arena (Arena) fully NBA-ready and capable of serving as a premier home venue, supported by lease terms, operational readiness, and infrastructure aligned with league requirements. Critical to the successful operation of the Arena and its readiness to host an NBA franchise is a skilled and experienced workforce of more than 1,500 part-time employees represented across eight collective bargaining units, reflecting Seattle's strong labor partnerships and commitment to high-quality event operations. The Arena has hosted 144 basketball games to date (out of nearly 1,000 total public and private events), which includes 90 WNBA/Seattle Storm games, 23 Seattle University Men's games, 15 NCAA Men's and Women's Tournament games, 4 NBA Pre-Season games and more. The Seattle Storm, a WNBA franchise, has achieved sustained local and national success and strong fan support, further demonstrating the region's deep commitment to professional basketball.

**Summary Attachments:** None.

---

## 2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**

Yes

No

a. CIP Project Name:

b. Master Project ID:

c. Project Location:

d. Start Date:

e. End Date:

f. Total Project Cost Through 2030:

---

## 3. Summary of Financial Implications

**Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?**

Yes

No

The legislation does not have financial impacts to the City. However, the intent of the resolution is to promote the return of the Seattle SuperSonics to Seattle with the expectation of generating significant economic, cultural, and community benefits, including job creation, increased tourism, small business growth, continued downtown revitalization benefits, further activation of Seattle Center and enhanced national and international visibility for Seattle and the region.

---

## 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?**

Indirectly, yes. The resolution declares Climate Pledge Arena on the Seattle Center campus ready for a National Basketball Association (NBA) team. The City owns the property and ArenaCo leases and operates the building.

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.** This legislation will not have a material impact on vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities.

**2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.** N/A

**3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?** N/A

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 impact identified.

**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.** No impact identified.

LEG Basketball City SUM  
Eric McConaghy  
D1a

**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? N/A**

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