

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Legislative	Chow, x4-4652	n/a

** 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 authorizing the Seattle Department of Transportation Director to approve the transfer of the railway franchise granting the right, privilege, and accompanying authority to locate, lay down, construct, maintain, own, and operate standard gauge railway tracks along the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company's former Washington Branch Line right-of-way, between 6th Avenue NW and NW 67th Street, from the Ballard Terminal Railroad Company to the Meeker Southern Railroad, subject to the operating agreement and all other conditions approved under Ordinance 118734; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Summary and Background of the Legislation:

This legislation would transfer an existing 30-year railway franchise agreement from the Ballard Terminal Railway Company to Meeker Southern Railroad. The franchise agreement covers a portion of the former Burlington Northern and Santa Fe's Fremont to Ballard Branch Line from 6th Avenue Northwest to Northwest 67th Street. The franchise agreement expires on September 29, 2027.

In consideration of this legislation's passage, the Ballard Terminal Railway Company and the Meeker Southern Railroad have agreed to allow the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) to pave over a portion of the right-of-way covered by the franchise agreement. This section is located beneath the 15th Avenue Northeast bridge where the Burke-Gilman Trail crosses the existing railroad tracks. A preliminary design for this improvement is shown in Summary Attachment 1.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? Yes 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?

This legislation does not have direct financial impacts. If approved, SDOT would undertake an asphalt paving project beneath the 15th Avenue Northeast bridge (see preliminary design as shown in Summary Attachment 1).

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

No financial costs identified.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

This legislation impacts SDOT as the department holding jurisdiction over the right-of-way. SDOT would also be responsible for the asphalt paving project described in Summary Attachment 1.

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 would transfer an existing 30-year railway franchise agreement from the Ballard Terminal Railway Company to Meeker Southern Railroad. The franchise agreement covers a portion of the former Burlington Northern and Santa Fe's Fremont to Ballard Branch Line from 6th Avenue Northwest to Northwest 67th Street. The franchise agreement expires on September 29, 2027.

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?

No RSJI implications identified.

f. Climate Change Implications

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

No impact to emissions identified.

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.

No implications for climate resiliency identified.

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)?

Not applicable.

Summary Attachments:

- Summary Attachment 1: Proposed extent of asphalt paving.