



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Legislative Summary

CB 118330

Record No.: CB 118330

Type: Ordinance (Ord)  
124740

Status: Attested by City  
Clerk

Version: 2

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 02/05/2015

Final Action: 04/06/2015

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; amending Ordinance 123256 to clarify the role of and support for the City Light Review Panel.

### Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: Sawant

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: jaci.dahlvang@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

### History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

Yes

No

Version:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Full Council	02/09/2015	referred	Energy Committee			
1	Energy Committee	03/11/2015	pass				Pass
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Committee recommends that Full Council pass the Council Bill (CB). In Favor: 3 Chair Sawant, Vice Chair Clark, Member O'Brien Opposed: 0					
1	Full Council	03/16/2015	held				
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Council Bill (CB) was held.					
1	Full Council	03/30/2015	passed as amended				Pass
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Motion carried and the Council Bill (CB) passed as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill:					
	<b>Notes:</b>	<u>ACTION 1:</u>					

Motion was made by Councilmember Harrell, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill No. 118330, by adding a new subsection (h) to Section 4 of Ordinance 123256, as shown below:

(h) The Council continues to expect the Panel to provide the Mayor and the Council with analyses and recommendations on significant elements of the strategic plan including, but not limited to, financial policies, cost allocation, rate design, operational efficiency, and to submit its recommendations to Mayor and the Council or, if a collective recommendation cannot be reached, a recommendation indicating the majority and minority positions and the rationales for those positions.

ACTION 2:

Motion was made and duly seconded to pass Council Bill 118330 as amended.

In Favor: 9 Councilmember Bagshaw, Council President Burgess, Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember Sawant

Opposed: 0

- 2 City Clerk 04/01/2015 submitted for Mayor  
Mayor's signature  
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor  
Notes:
- 2 Mayor 04/06/2015 Signed  
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was Signed.  
Notes:
- 2 Mayor 04/06/2015 returned to Clerk City Clerk  
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was returned to Clerk. to the City Clerk  
Notes:
- 2 City Clerk 04/06/2015 attested by City Clerk  
Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk.  
Notes:
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**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**ORDINANCE** 124740  
**COUNCIL BILL** 118330

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; amending Ordinance 123256 to clarify the role of and support for the City Light Review Panel.

WHEREAS, the Council established the City Light Review Panel ("Panel") through Ordinance 123256 to assist it and the Mayor in guiding the utility through the Six-Year Strategic Plan and updates to it, and in setting rates to support those plans; and

WHEREAS, the Council and the Mayor find Ordinance 123256 unnecessarily limits the effectiveness of the Panel; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 4 of Ordinance 123256 is amended as follows:

Section 4. Role of the Panel.

The Panel shall

(a) review and assess City Light's strategic plan and provide an opinion on the merits of the plan and future revisions to it to the Mayor and the Council. The Council anticipates that the strategic plan will at a minimum consider long term strategies to rehabilitate and maintain City Light's infrastructure, provide for labor-force continuity, maintain a portfolio of resources adequate to meet the needs of its customers, and ensure continued regulatory compliance. The Panel will advise the Council to include other issues that should be part of City Light's strategic planning framework;

(b) assist the Mayor and the Council in engaging rate payers in discussions of the merits and implications of the strategic plan and revisions thereto;

- 1 (c) ~~Reserved~~((provide an assessment to the Mayor and the Council of the adequacy of  
2 financial policies to protect the financial integrity of the utility and the sufficiency of  
3 the policies to support implementation of the adopted strategic plan));
- 4 (d) review changes to City Light's rates not already authorized by the Seattle Municipal  
5 Code and provide an opinion to the Mayor and the Council on the adequacy and  
6 prudence of such rate changes in light of adopted planning assumptions and financial  
7 policies;
- 8 (e) ~~Reserved~~((in its second year or earlier, and at least once every three years thereafter,  
9 assess City Light's rate design to ensure that rates send the appropriate signals to  
10 customers to use electricity efficiently; and))
- 11 (f) ~~Reserved~~((in its second year or earlier, and at least every three years thereafter, assess  
12 City Light's implementation of marginal cost allocation among customer classes to  
13 ensure that it provides a fair allocation of costs among customer classes and takes  
14 account of changes in costs and consumption.)); and
- 15 (g) after the adoption of each update to the strategic plan, work closely with staff  
16 designated by the Mayor and the Council to propose, in writing, a biennial work  
17 program to the Mayor and Council. Work program items may include, but are not  
18 limited to, financial policies, cost allocation, rate design, operational efficiency,  
19 issues requested by the Mayor or the Council, and issues the Panel believes the  
20 Mayor and the Council should consider.
- 21 (h) The Council continues to expect the Panel to provide the Mayor and the Council with  
22 analyses and recommendations on significant elements of the strategic plan including,  
23 but not limited to, financial policies, cost allocation, rate design, operational  
24 efficiency, and to submit its recommendations to Mayor and the Council or, if a

1           collective recommendation cannot be reached, a recommendation indicating the  
2           majority and minority positions and the rationales for those positions.

3  
4           Section 3. Section 6 of Ordinance 123256 is amended as follows:

5           Section 6. Reserved.~~((Rate Setting.~~

6           ~~The Council will not adopt rate changes proposed by the Mayor for at least sixty days~~  
7 ~~after the Council Bill authorizing the rate change has been referred by the Council to the relevant~~  
8 ~~standing Committee to allow the Panel sufficient time to review the proposed changes and~~  
9 ~~sufficient opportunity for the public to provide input to both the Panel and the Council.~~  
10 ~~However, this restriction does not apply to rate changes initiated by the Council to address~~  
11 ~~emergent issues or to protect the financial integrity of the utility.))~~

12  
13           Section 4. Section 8 of Ordinance 123256 is amended as follows:


14           Section 8. Support for the Panel.

15           ~~((The Executive shall provide logistical and staff support to the Panel, and will))~~ Each  
16 year, funding for the Panel shall be determined by the Office of the Mayor in consultation with  
17 City Light and the City Budget Office. The funding for the Panel will be included in City  
18 Light's annual budget and City Light shall transfer the budgeted amount to the General Subfund  
19 to support the work of the Panel. The City Budget Office or the Office of the Mayor, in  
20 consultation with the Panel and the City Council, shall administer the funds appropriated by City  
21 Light for the support of the Panel. City Light shall make all reasonable efforts to address Panel  
22 requests for information or analysis pertinent to the issues under consideration by the Panel, and  
23 to do so in a timely manner.


1           ~~((The Panel shall work closely with staff designated by both the Council and the Mayor~~  
2 ~~to ensure that, as it discharges its duties, the Panel understands the issues and concerns of the~~  
3 ~~elected representatives of the City.))~~

4  
5           Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by  
6 the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it  
7 shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

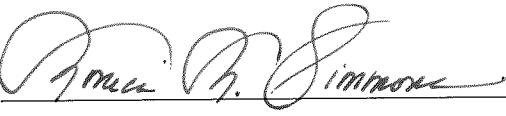
1 Passed by the City Council the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015, and  
2 signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this  
3 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.

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5   
6 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

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8 Approved by me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

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10   
11 Edward B. Murray, Mayor

12  
13 Filed by me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

14  
15   
16 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

17 (Seal)