

2021 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SDOT	500	B	001

Budget Action Title: Add \$29.8 million of Seattle Transportation Benefit District Fund to SDOT to implement voter-approved Proposition 1 and add a new Seattle Transportation Benefit District - Transit Improvements (MC-TR-C108) project to the CIP

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: Yes Has Attachment: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Alex Pedersen

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Calvin Chow

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	BC	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2021 Increase (Decrease)	2022 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	
General Fund Expenditures	\$0	
Net Balance Effect	\$0	
Other Funds		
Transportation Benefit District Fund (19900)		
Revenues	\$33,403,631	
Expenditures	\$29,784,685	
Net Balance Effect	\$3,618,946	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$3,618,946	

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would add \$29.8 million of appropriations from the Seattle Transportation Benefit District (STBD) Fund to the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) to implement the Proposition 1 transit funding measure that was approved by Seattle voters on November 3, 2020.

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Proposition 1 authorized a 0.15 percent sales tax for transit service and related transportation programs as described in Ordinance 126115. This funding partially replaces the 2014 voter-approved measure for transit service that expires on December 31, 2020, which enacted a 0.1 percent sales tax and a \$60 vehicle license fee.

The 2021 Proposed Budget included \$7.3 million of appropriations related to the ramp down of transit service for the expiring 2014 measure. This Council Budget Action would repurpose this funding together with the new Proposition 1 tax proceeds to authorize a total of \$37 million for the implementation of transit service and related transportation programs in 2021.

The anticipated 2021 spending includes:

- 1) \$21 million for transit service purchases,
- 2) \$5 million for emerging needs and West Seattle mobility,
- 3) \$3 million for youth ORCA opportunity transit passes,
- 4) \$2 million for essential worker transit passes,
- 5) \$1 million for administration, including staffing, and
- 6) \$5 million for infrastructure maintenance and capital improvements.

This Council Budget Action creates a new Seattle Transportation Benefit District - Transit Improvements (MC-TR-C108) CIP project to provide capital funding for the infrastructure maintenance and capital improvements. The new CIP page is shown in Attachment A.

This Council Budget Action would also convert two sunseting positions to permanent positions to provide for continued staffing of SDOT's transit program. These position adjustments include:

1) Converting a Term-Limited Temporary (TLT) Strategic Advisor 2 position to a permanent position. This position manages and oversees the overall transit program and budget, including negotiating service investments with Metro transit. This position is currently scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2021.

2) Converting a TLT Strategic Advisor 1 position to a permanent position. This position oversees the low-income access to transit program. The position is currently scheduled to expire on December 31, 2020.

This Council Budget Action anticipates \$33.4 million of revenue in 2021 from the 0.15 percent sales tax. The tax is expected to be in place by April 1, 2021.

This Council Budget Action has a net balancing effect of \$3.6 million. This funding would carry forward as fund balance in the STBD Fund to support transit program spending over the 6 year term of Proposition 1, and it would provide a reserve in the event that future sales tax revenues do not grow at the same pace as operational expenses.

The Executive will propose stand-alone legislation to enact the 0.15 percent sales tax after the November vote has been certified.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
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1	Back out SDOT-114 - STBD O&M adj		0	0	SDOT - TR000	SDOT - BO-TR-17003 - Mobility Operations	19900 - Transportation Benefit District Fund	2021	\$0	\$(2,343,447)
2	Funding for positions		0	0	SDOT - TR000	SDOT - BO-TR-17003 - Mobility Operations	19900 - Transportation Benefit District Fund	2021	\$0	\$846,996
3	Funding for STBD transit infrastructure		0	0	SDOT - TR000	SDOT - BC-TR-19003 - Mobility-Capital	19900 - Transportation Benefit District Fund	2021	\$0	\$5,000,000
4	Revenue line for 0.15% STBD Sales Tax		0	0	SDOT - TR000	SDOT - BO-TR-17003 - Mobility Operations	19900 - Transportation Benefit District Fund	2021	\$33,403,631	\$0
5	STBD Transit Programs		0	0	SDOT - TR000	SDOT - BO-TR-17003 - Mobility Operations	19900 - Transportation Benefit District Fund	2021	\$0	\$26,281,136