

Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee
Proposed Budget Amendments | Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE)

CBA #	Title	Sponsor	Packet Page
OSE-001-A-001-2023	Add \$2.5 million GF (2023) and \$2 million GF (2024) to OSE for clean energy pre-apprenticeship and green building apprenticeship programs and impose a proviso	Morales	2
OSE-002-A-001-2023	Add \$220,000 GF (2023) and \$220,000 GF (2024) to OSE for a green building certification program	Morales	4
OSE-003-A-001-2023	Add \$455,000 GF (2023) to OSE for a climate resilience hub in South Beacon Hill	Morales	6
OSE-005-A-001-2023	Add \$147,000 GF (2023) and \$190,000 GF (2024) and 1.0 FTE Strategic Advisor 3 to OSE for a City Urban Forester position	Pedersen	8
OSE-301-A-001-2023	Request that OSE provide a report on Citywide funding for tree planting and maintenance activities	Strauss	18
OSE-510-A-001-2023	Pass CB _____ - Heating Oil Tax Repeal and reduce revenues of \$1.4 million GF (2023) and \$1.25 million GF (2024) in FG	Morales	20

2023 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	001	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Add \$2.5 million GF (2023) and \$2 million GF (2024) to OSE for clean energy pre-apprenticeship and green building apprenticeship programs and impose a proviso

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: Yes

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Tammy Morales

Council Members: Dan Strauss, Andrew Lewis

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2023 Increase (Decrease)	2024 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	\$0
General Fund Expenditures	\$2,500,000	\$2,000,000
Net Balance Effect	\$(2,500,000)	\$(2,000,000)
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(2,500,000)	\$(2,000,000)

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would add \$2.5 million GF in 2023 and \$2 million GF in 2024 to the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) for clean energy pre-apprenticeship and green building apprenticeship programs. Of the amount in 2023, \$500,000 GF (one-time) would increase proposed funding for the existing clean energy pre-apprenticeship scholarship program administered jointly by OSE and the Department of Finance and Administrative Services from \$1 million to \$1.5 million. The 2023-2024 Proposed Budget includes \$1 million of ongoing JumpStart Green New Deal funds for this program, which supports individuals (with a focus on those who are underrepresented in the construction and building trades) as they receive training necessary to enter a career in the construction industry.

The remaining \$2 million GF in 2023 and \$2 million GF in 2024 would be used for a new green building apprenticeship program. This could include providing funds for program development and

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OSE	001	A	001-2023

implementation, if needed, and support for program participants. Funding should prioritize youth experiencing homelessness and those who are underrepresented in the industry (e.g., Black, Indigenous and other people of color and women).

This Council Budget Action would impose the following proviso:

"Of the appropriation in the 2023 budget for the Office of Sustainability and Environment, \$2,000,000 is appropriated solely to support a green building apprenticeship program and may be spent for no other purpose."

This proposal is intended to complement OSE-002-A-001-2023, which would provide funding for a green building certification program for workers in the building and construction trades. Together, these investments are intended to diversify and grow the workforce in the building and construction trades by creating a pathway from pre-apprenticeship to apprenticeship to a career in the green building industry. Additionally, investments in clean energy pre-apprenticeship training programs and/or job readiness programs that focus on Priority Hire individuals and youth (i.e., individuals residing in economically distressed ZIP codes, woman, and/or Black, Indigenous and other people of color) align with the Green New Deal Oversight Board's recommended use of JumpStart Green New Deal funds.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase appropriations for clean energy pre-apprenticeship scholarships		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$0	\$500,000
2	Increase appropriations for green building apprenticeship program		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$0	\$2,000,000
3	Increase appropriations for green building apprenticeship program		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2024	\$0	\$2,000,000

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Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	002	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Add \$220,000 GF (2023) and \$220,000 GF (2024) to OSE for a green building certification program

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Tammy Morales

Council Members: Dan Strauss, Andrew Lewis

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2023 Increase (Decrease)	2024 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	\$0
General Fund Expenditures	\$220,000	\$220,000
Net Balance Effect	\$(220,000)	\$(220,000)
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(220,000)	\$(220,000)

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would add \$220,000 GF in 2023 and \$220,000 GF in 2024 to the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) to contract with an organization that offers a green building certification program for workers in the building and construction trades who are actively engaged in the construction of housing in Seattle. This program would educate and provide certification to these workers, prioritizing those who are underrepresented in the industry (e.g., Black, Indigenous and other people of color and women) in the practices and techniques involved in building housing that meets green building standards, such as LEED, Passive House, Built Green, and the Living Building Challenge. This funding may be used for program design and implementation and/or to support program participants.

This proposal is intended to complement OSE-001-A-001-2023, which would expand funding for clean

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Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	002	A	001-2023

energy pre-apprenticeship scholarships and establish a green building apprenticeship program. Together, these investments are intended to diversify and grow the workforce in the building and construction trades by creating a pathway from pre-apprenticeship to apprenticeship to a career in the green building industry.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase appropriations for a green building certification program		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$0	\$220,000
2	Increase appropriations for a green building certification program		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2024	\$0	\$220,000

2023 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	003	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Add \$455,000 GF (2023) to OSE for a climate resilience hub in South Beacon Hill

Ongoing: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Tammy Morales

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Andrew Lewis

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2023 Increase (Decrease)	2024 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	\$0
General Fund Expenditures	\$455,200	\$0
Net Balance Effect	\$(455,200)	\$0
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(455,200)	\$0

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would add \$455,000 GF in 2023 (one-time) to the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) to support the development of a community-led climate resilience hub project in South Beacon Hill. This amount is anticipated to help cover the costs for decarbonizing and weatherizing existing buildings on the campus of Bethany United Church of Christ. Funding would also be used to install a solar photovoltaic array and a battery backup system. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$735,000, of which \$280,000 would be covered by private donations.

This proposal aligns with the Green New Deal Oversight Board's recommended use of JumpStart Green New Deal funds for climate resilience hubs at existing community and cultural anchors.

Budget Action Transactions

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Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	003	A	001-2023

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase appropriations for resilience hub in South Beacon Hill		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$0	\$455,200

2023 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	005	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Add \$147,000 GF (2023) and \$190,000 GF (2024) and 1.0 FTE Strategic Advisor 3 to OSE for a City Urban Forester position

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Alex Pedersen

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Dan Strauss

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2023 Increase (Decrease)	2024 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	\$0
General Fund Expenditures	\$147,475	\$189,710
Net Balance Effect	\$(147,475)	\$(189,710)
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(147,475)	\$(189,710)

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action would add \$147,000 GF in 2023 and \$190,000 GF in 2024 and 1.0 FTE Strategic Advisor 3 to the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) for a City Urban Forester position. The 2022 Adopted Budget included Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) MO-001-A-002-2022 requesting that the Mayor's Office provide "a report with recommendations for the creation of a 'chief arborist' position that would promote the preservation of Seattle's tree canopy and provide independent oversight of the City's management of trees, with an initial focus on the preservation of exceptional trees."

OSE submitted a SLI response (see Attachment A) on September 30, 2022, that provided recommendations for the position's job responsibilities and qualifications and described opportunities and challenges related to the proposed position. In this response, Executive staff recommended that this

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OSE	005	A	001-2023

position's title should be City Urban Forester and that it "work with executive leadership and staff across urban forestry departments to establish and/or affirm citywide and department-specific strategy intended to support a healthy and robust tree canopy and urban forest in Seattle; provide an on-going assessment on the efficacy of policies and programs in meeting these goals; and recommend changes as needed to decision-makers."

In addition to the job responsibilities described in the SLI response, this position would be expected to evaluate the City's rules and regulations and propose changes as necessary to the Mayor and City Council that would provide the City Urban Forester with the necessary authority to accomplish its duties as envisioned.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Pocket Adjustments		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$0	\$147,475
2	Pocket Adjustments		0	0	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2024	\$0	\$189,710
3	Pocket Adjustments	StratAdvsr3,General Govt	1	1	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$0	\$0
4	Pocket Adjustments	StratAdvsr3,General Govt	1	1	OSE - SE000	OSE - BO-SE-X1000 - Office of Sustainability and Environment	00100 - General Fund	2024	\$0	\$0

Response to 2022 Statement of Legislative Intent MO-001-A-002-2022: Regarding a Chief Arborist**Introduction**

On behalf of the Mayor's Office, the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) is responding to City Council Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) [MO-001-A-002-2022](#) requesting "a report with recommendations for the creation of a "chief arborist" position that would promote the preservation of Seattle's tree canopy and provide independent oversight of the City's management of trees, with an initial focus on the preservation of exceptional trees."

If policymakers were to decide such a position is needed in the City, OSE would recommend the position be focused on strategic oversight of the City's urban forest, with an emphasis on City owned property. The position described below aims to fill that strategic role through performing tasks related to citywide strategic planning, technical expertise in tree work decisions, communications strategy, and partnership building.

Process

OSE staff provided an opportunity to all Urban Forestry (UF) Commissioners to participate in a small group that would inform the content of this SLI response. The small group met with OSE staff and leadership three times. OSE staff also discussed the response with the full Commission at two meetings. OSE staff also met several times with the Urban Forestry Core Team to discuss the UF needs of the city and to develop details for this SLI response.

Background

Seattle has urban forestry needs beyond what can be met with existing staff and resources. These needs have been discussed for several years. There are nine departments in the city that have responsibilities around the urban forest (see appendix A); these responsibilities include protection through regulation and policy, management through planting and caring for trees on public lands, and educating residents on the need for and care of trees. There are staff teams in these departments who carry out those responsibilities and participate in the city's urban forest coordination teams, as outlined in the Trees for Seattle charter (Interdepartmental Team, Core Team, Management Team.) There is a position with the Office of Sustainability and Environment, the Urban Forestry Policy Advisor, that facilitates and coordinates the work of these teams; acts as liaison to the Urban Forestry Commission; and manages specific projects. Given this position's myriad duties, they do not have the capacity to lead high-level Citywide planning, monitoring of urban forest activities or partner deeply with departments in specific departmental policy, funding, and implementation issues. There is not another position that works across City departments to ensure effective management of the urban forest. A graphic of the Citywide urban forest management structure is included in Figure 1 below.

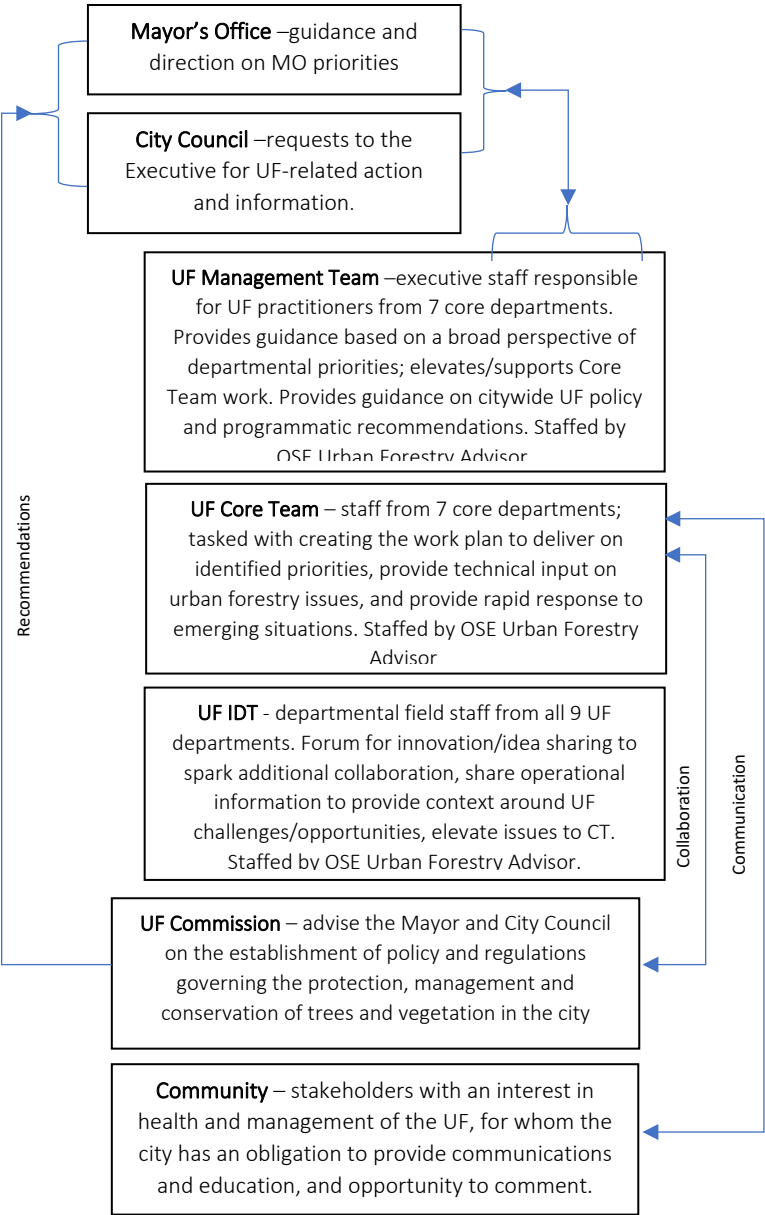


Figure 1. Current Interdepartmental Urban Forestry Structure

Position Description – “City Urban Forester”

All parties engaged in the development of this SLI response recommended the title of City Urban Forester rather than Chief Arborist for this position, to better reflect the proposed job responsibilities, which are broader than those of an arborist. Based on the City’s current urban forestry staffing and management structure and the preliminary results from the recent Canopy Cover Assessment report, the following section provides a position description for a City Urban Forester, as requested in the SLI.

Position details:

- **Position title, classification, department, and position within the department's organization chart**

Title: City Urban Forester

Classification: TBD, but possibly a Strategic Advisor II or III, HR would need to be consulted

Department: OSE, reporting to the Director or Healthy Communities Director; other departments are also possibilities but having position in OSE recognizes the multi-departmental aspect of this position.

- **Job responsibilities**

This position would work with executive leadership and staff across urban forestry departments to establish and/or affirm citywide and department-specific strategy intended to support a healthy and robust tree canopy and urban forest in Seattle; provide an on-going assessment on the efficacy of policies and programs in meeting these goals; and recommend changes as needed to decisionmakers. Specific position responsibilities could include:

Citywide strategic planning

- Engage with executive leadership across urban forestry departments to develop integrated plans for urban forestry, assessing budget and operational needs, identifying issues and recommendations, and reporting on Citywide progress.
- Identify policy and implementation issues and work across and with departments to lead or support development of policies, procedures, regulations, and ordinances.
- Research, apply for, and administer available grants to support Urban Forestry programs.
- Work with City Urban Forestry teams to develop and implement Citywide plans such as a Tree Canopy Equity and Resilience Plan, to guide the City in future tree planting and maintenance with an eye towards climate resilience and environmental justice.
- Lead the development of a Citywide urban forestry monitoring framework, including aligning tree inventories across land use types (e.g., street trees, park trees, other public trees, and trees on private property).
- Work with the city's Urban Forestry Core Team to conduct research, analyze data and compile special narratives and statistical reports. Monitor the health, diversity, and other trends of Seattle's urban forest, on both public and private property.
- Partner with subject-specific teams on urban forestry projects such as the development of a Pest Readiness Plan and exploration of career pathways in the urban forestry sector.
- Work closely with the City's Urban Forestry, Sustainability, Green New Deal, and Environmental Justice staff/work groups in implementing programs and policies that support the City's overall environmental and sustainability goals.

Technical expertise

- Support and potentially recommend adjustments to department decisions by conducting independent review of decisions to remove or heavily prune trees. Participate in landscape

inspections to determine identification and health analysis of trees on site and site restrictions that may impact tree plantings and removals.

- Provide technical expertise and assistance as necessary to City leadership and urban forestry managers regarding: urban forest risks and hazards; proper tree care practices; species selection, siting, installation and maintenance; insect and disease identification, treatment and prevention; and distribution and growth of the City's urban forest.

Communications strategy

- Develop and implement a citywide Urban Forestry communications strategy to share progress and drive action and engagement.
- Develop and present public outreach, technical information, and community participation programs; address public concerns and questions, and explain City programs, codes, and policies.

Partnership building

- Build partnerships and represent City interests in collaborative city and regional urban forestry and natural resource management efforts; work cooperatively with County, State and Federal Agencies on holistic management of urban forests for the benefit of regional communities.
- Work with the City's Urban Forestry Core Team to develop partnerships, which could include areas such as holistic partnerships with Seattle Public Schools related to urban forestry and natural spaces, and a coordinated interdepartmental restoration team to coordinate work across the city in management of natural areas and steep slopes to significantly enhance health and resilience of the urban forest for Seattle residents.
- Build partnerships with environmental justice communities to understand how best to preserve and increase tree canopy in low-canopy neighborhoods in alignment with climate and environmental justice priorities.
- Pursue Seattle engagement in relevant national and international efforts to highlight the importance of trees, such as Seattle's Tree City USA status and the Partners in Community Forestry annual conference through the Arbor Day Foundation.

• **Desired qualifications**

- Bachelor's degree in urban forestry, forestry, horticulture, environmental science, landscape architecture, public policy, urban planning, agriculture or related field and four years of experience in forestry, planning, arboriculture or landscape architecture relating to urban forest management and/or forest management, including managerial experience.
- OR any equivalent combination of training, education, and experience that provides the required skills and knowledge to perform the essential functions of the job.
- Certification as an arborist.
- Considerable knowledge of the principles and techniques of urban forest management and of the methods, materials, and equipment used in landscaping, plant and tree maintenance.

- Knowledge of or experience with: interpreting and applying local, state, and federal natural resource policies; local community issues and regional community resources available to citizens; and analyzing natural resource issues, evaluating alternatives, and developing recommendations.
- An understanding of the complexities of managing the urban forest and the multiple roles of government in doing so, including regulation, managing trees in an urban environment, community engagement, and program development and delivery.
- Experience seeking and securing grants and partnerships to continually expand scope and capabilities.
- Ability to create and share strategic communications and dialogue that reinforce the important connection between trees, nature, community, health, equity, and resilience.
- Experience serving as a key advisor and liaison to leadership on urban forestry issues.
- Experience evaluating options, developing recommendations, navigating political and policy processes to drive action and reach mutually agreeable solutions to challenging issues.
- Knowledge of and experience with city budget processes.
- Ability to develop, interpret, and communicate plans, policies, procedures, and objectives.
- Ability to read and interpret landscaping plans, specifications, and drawings and determine their compliance with codes, regulations and established standards.
- Ability to plan, organize, and present information effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Thorough knowledge of current arboricultural and horticultural practices including Puget Sound area trees and plants, plant material and physiology, and general horticultural principles of soil, fertilization and maintenance.
- Ability to conduct analytical, interpretive, and/or constructive thinking in varied situations.
- Ability to research horticultural/arboricultural/ecological problems, which may range from a particular plant concern to a problem city wide and develop solutions.
- Strong organizational and project management skills; ability to facilitate teams towards shared goals.
- Knowledge of the basic principles of land development and construction.
- Ability to author codes and ordinances relating to tree and horticultural issues.
- Ability to prepare and defend clear and concise written reports, recommendations, records, memoranda, etc.
- Ability to prepare and make an effective presentation to a variety of audiences.
- Ability to establish and maintain an effective working relationship with City employees within the Department and other City departments, outside agencies and the general public.
- Ability to work and communicate on a technical level with landscape architects, contractors, developers, and the general public.

Assessment of opportunities and challenges related to establishing the new position

- **Opportunities**

- If the Executive were to decide such a position is needed in the City, this position would add capacity to align a Citywide, strategic approach to urban forestry, and to further the goals of the Urban Forest Management Plan, the Climate Justice Agenda, the Green New Deal, and other Citywide policies and frameworks.
- Climate change has added new stresses to our existing trees and new complexities to our planting activities. A City forester could help bring focus, grounded in science, to the development of a resilience strategy for our urban forest that addresses climate threats at plant level, ecosystem level, and City level, and builds on the climate opportunity that tree planting and management provides.
- Developing a citywide strategy provides an opportunity for deep, intentional work with communities, particularly environmental justice communities, to understand how best to preserve and increase tree canopy in low-canopy neighborhoods in alignment with climate and environmental justice priorities.
- If the Executive were to decide such a position is needed in the City, further assessment of the interdepartmental coordination structure (see figure 1, above), and the roles and responsibilities of this position and the interdepartmental teams, would be warranted.

- **Challenges**

- Managing the urban forest is a complex undertaking. Departments who manage urban forestry crews (SDOT, SCL, SPR, SPU, Seattle Center) have different strategies for managing their trees based on funding, staffing, and shared uses of the land where trees stand. Working to create a citywide strategy will take deep, intentional partnership work with leadership and staff in each department to understand and work through challenges and opportunities specific to their operations and departmental context.
- In working to develop and refine citywide and department-specific strategy intended to support a healthy and robust tree canopy and urban forest for the city, the position would need to work with leadership across operations departments to affect development of plans and evaluate budget needs. The position would need a sufficient level of authority to be effective.
- Urban forestry staff across departments are stretched thin with existing operational work and advancement of the Urban Forest Management Plan. The position responsibilities described here represent a large body of work for the City Urban Forester and will require time and engagement from staff and leadership across urban forestry departments. The job responsibilities described here will require prioritization and sequencing to align with these constraints.

Appendix A. City of Seattle Urban Forestry Departments

		Department	Responsibilities
Inter-departmental Team	Core Team	Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)	Regulatory: Development, permitting, and enforcement of regulations for trees on private property both during and outside of the development process, including tree protection, landscaping, environmentally critical area, and nuisance requirements.
		Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD)	Policy: Stewards the City's Comprehensive Plan, which includes broad policy direction for managing the urban forest.
		Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE)	Policy: Leads policy development and coordination for citywide urban forest issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitation of the UF Core Team and the UF IDT • Staffing the Urban Forestry Commission • Coordination of interdepartmental issues; reporting progress • Updating the Urban Forest Management Plan • Staffing Green Seattle Partnership's Executive Council and Management Team.
		Seattle City Light (SCL)	Operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures safe and reliable power delivery through comprehensive and environmentally responsible management of the trees and vegetation that their lines and infrastructure impact. • Maintains an Urban Tree Replacement Program that works closely with the City's Trees for Seattle program and its Trees for Neighborhoods program. • Challenged by a prevalence of inappropriately sized trees that grow into utility lines.
		Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)	Operations/Regulatory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of trees in the right-of-way (street trees), including design, installation, and stewardship of trees and landscapes associated with public right-of-way and permitting of actions that could impact these trees. • Maintains over 40,000 street trees and regulates planting and maintenance of another 200,000 street trees. • Must balance canopy cover goals with the need to minimize tree conflicts with surrounding infrastructure and transportation safety requirements.

Inter-departmental Team	Core Team	Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR)	<p>Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages trees on almost 6,500 acres of developed parks, boulevards, natural areas, and other publicly-owned open spaces, including about 100,000 trees in developed parks and over 585,000 trees in the forested areas of parks. Must balance a wide range of recreational goals including the desire for picnics, sports, and play areas. <p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Seattle Partnership engages residents in efforts to restore the city's forested parklands; have been increasing their efforts to engage youth in job training and leadership development opportunities.
		Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)	<p>Operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains trees on the property it owns, and actively plants trees to meet drainage, capital project, and riparian habitat needs. <p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports several programs that promote healthy urban forests including the City's Trees for Seattle program, Green Seattle Partnership, and the Green Stormwater Infrastructure program.
		<p>Trees for Seattle (T4S)</p> <p>T4S is the branding for citywide UF efforts; encompasses the coordinating structure as well as the communications umbrella. SPU houses the T4S team managing the work noted here.</p>	<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The communications umbrella for all the City's urban forestry efforts. Works to make the City's urban forestry work accessible and relevant to the public, particularly residents. Builds partnerships and strategies to grow and care for the urban forest on private property. Works across departments to manage the Trees for Neighborhoods and Tree Ambassador projects, an interdepartmental urban forestry website, the City's urban forestry Facebook page, and monthly newsletter.
		Seattle Center	<p>Operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages trees on its 74-acre campus, as it hosts hundreds of community events and three major festivals each year. <p>There is constant pressure on the trees and landscape from resident organizations, promoters, and city residents.</p>
		Finance and Administrative Services (FAS)	<p>Operations: Manages trees on properties and facilities owned or leased by the City.</p>

2023 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	301	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Request that OSE provide a report on Citywide funding for tree planting, stewardship, and other urban forestry-related activities

Ongoing: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Dan Strauss

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Alex Pedersen

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

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

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent would request that the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) and the City Budget Office collaborate with the Urban Forestry Interdepartmental Team (IDT) to develop a report on the City's funding and expenditures for tree planting, stewardship, and other related activities. Currently, there are nine City departments that have a role in managing Seattle's urban forest:

- OSE coordinates citywide policy development, updates the Urban Forest Management Plan and monitors its implementation, and provides administrative support for the Urban Forestry Commission;
- Seattle Department of Transportation manages trees in the public right-of-way;
- Department of Finance and Administrative Services (FAS), Seattle Center, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) manage trees on their property;
- SPU engages community in urban forest stewardship on both private property and in the right-of-way;
- Seattle City Light maintains trees near power lines;
- Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) and the Office of Planning and Community Development develop policies and plans; and
- SDCI enforces regulations for trees on private property.

This distributed structure of the City's urban forest management functions makes it challenging for the public to have a comprehensive understanding of how the City invests in maintaining and enhancing Seattle's urban forest. FAS has recently agreed to create a Funding Source code to track revenue from illegal tree removal penalties and ensure that this revenue is used to support tree planting, stewardship, and planning activities. This modified accounting system will be implemented beginning on January 1, 2023.

The report should include funding and expenditures for tree planting, stewardship, planning, and other related activities by department. Where possible, the report should provide information over multiple years to help reveal trends. Additionally, the report should offer recommendations for how the City can improve its practices on reporting the requested information moving forward and identify areas where additional funding may be needed so that the City can successfully implement the actions described in Seattle's 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan.

2023 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	301	A	001-2023

OSE should submit the report to the Land Use Committee and the Central Staff Director by June 2, 2023.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Land Use

Date Due to Council:

June 2, 2023

2023 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	510	A	001-2023

Budget Action Title: Pass CB _____ - Heating Oil Tax Repeal and reduce revenues of \$1.4 million GF (2023) and \$1.25 million GF (2024) in FG

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Tammy Morales

Council Members: Kshama Sawant, Debora Juarez

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2023 Increase (Decrease)	2024 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$(1,403,408)	\$(1,251,512)
General Fund Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Net Balance Effect	\$(1,403,408)	\$(1,251,512)
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(1,403,408)	\$(1,251,512)

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action recommends passage of Council Bill (CB) XXXXXX that would repeal the heating oil tax and reduce projected tax revenues of \$1.4 million GF in 2023 and \$1.25 million GF in 2024 in Finance General. Attachment A is the draft legislation and accompanying summary and fiscal note. The legislation is planned for introduction at the City Council meeting on November 1.

In September 2019, the Council passed Ordinance (ORD) 125934, establishing a new tax on heating oil beginning on September 1, 2020. The tax rate is \$0.236 per gallon of heating oil (excluding biodiesels) sold by heating oil service providers in Seattle and the tax impacts are anticipated to be passed directly onto customers. Tax proceeds are intended to fund a variety of programs, including covering the costs of converting from oil heat to an electric heat pump system for low-income households, supporting workforce development for oil service providers, expanding the existing rebate program for all

2023 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
OSE	510	A	001-2023

households to convert from oil heat to electric heat pumps, and providing direct reimbursement to low-income households to offset the anticipated tax impacts. Tax revenues will diminish over time as fewer homes use oil heat; ultimately, the tax will generate no revenue once all oil heat systems are converted to other systems in Seattle.

To avoid imposing an additional financial burden on residents with oil heat during the pandemic, the Council delayed the effective date of the tax three times: (1) ORD 126144 in August 2020 delayed the date by one year to September 1, 2021; (2) ORD 126391 in July 2021 delayed the date a further six months from September 1, 2021, to April 1, 2022; and (3) ORD 126541 in March 2022 delayed the date an additional nine months to January 1, 2023.

The 2022 Adopted Budget appropriated \$1.7 million of one-time JumpStart Fund dollars for low-income household conversions, electric heat pump system rebates for all households seeking to convert from oil heat, outreach efforts, and program administration that were originally planned to be supported by heating oil tax revenues. The 2023 Proposed Budget includes \$2.6 million in ongoing JumpStart Fund support to continue these programs (\$1.8 million to the Office of Housing and \$800,000 to the Office of Sustainability and Environment).

When the Council established the heating oil tax in 2019, the City had no alternative source of ongoing funding to fully cover the costs of converting oil heated homes to electric heat pump systems for low-income residents or to expand the rebates for all households. Given that the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget would use the JumpStart Fund to support these programs (as recommended by the Green New Deal Oversight Board), this revenue source is no longer essential to the City's efforts to eliminate climate emissions generated by oil-heated homes.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Decrease heating oil tax revenues		0	0	FG - FG000	FG - BR-FG-REVENUE - Finance General - Revenue	00100 - General Fund	2023	\$(1,403,408)	\$0
2	Decrease heating oil tax revenues		0	0	FG - FG000	FG - BR-FG-REVENUE - Finance General - Revenue	00100 - General Fund	2024	\$(1,251,512)	\$0

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

..title

AN ORDINANCE relating to heating oil; repealing Ordinance 125934 relating to imposing a tax on heating oil service providers and adding a new Chapter 5.47 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

..body

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2019, the City Council passed Ordinance 125934 that imposed a new tax on heating oil providers beginning on September 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2020, the City Council passed Ordinance 126144 that delayed the effective date of the heating oil tax to September 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2021, the City Council passed Ordinance 126391 that delayed the effective date of the heating oil tax to April 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2022, the City Council passed Ordinance 126541 that delayed the effective date of the heating oil tax to January 1, 2023; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Ordinance 125934, relating to heating oil, passed by the City Council on September 23, 2019, and signed by the Mayor on September 30, 2019, is repealed.

Yolanda Ho
LEG Heating Oil Tax Repeal ORD
D1a

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2022,
and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____, 2022.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2022.

_____, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
LEG	Yolanda Ho / 256-5989	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 relating to heating oil; repealing Ordinance 125934 relating to imposing a tax on heating oil service providers and adding a new Chapter 5.47 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: The Council passed Ordinance 125934 in 2019, imposing a heating oil tax to take effect on September 1, 2020. Tax revenues are intended to fund a variety of programs, including covering the costs of converting from oil heat to an electric heat pump system for low-income households, supporting workforce development for oil service providers, expanding the existing rebate program for all households to convert from oil heat to electric heat pumps, and providing direct reimbursement to low-income households to offset the anticipated tax impacts.

Because of economic concerns as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and based on feedback from community organizations, the Council delayed the effective date of the heating oil tax three times: Ordinance 126144 in August 2020 delayed the date by one year to September 1, 2021; Ordinance 126391 in July 2021 delayed the date a further six months from September 1, 2021, to April 1, 2022; and Ordinance 126541 in March 2022 delayed the date an additional nine months to January 1, 2023.

This proposed legislation would repeal the tax so as to avoid imposing an additional financial burden on residents with oil heat systems. Programs that were to be funded by the tax revenues, specifically the conversions to electric heat pumps for low-income households and the expansion of rebates available to all households, could instead be supported by revenues from the JumpStart Payroll Expense Tax (established by the Council in 2020 via Ordinance 126108). The 2023-2024 Proposed Budget includes \$2.3 million in ongoing payroll expense tax revenues for these programs, which were initially funded with \$1.7 million of one-time JumpStart Green New Deal funds in the 2022 Adopted Budget.

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? X Yes No

Appropriation change (\$):	General Fund \$		Other \$	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
	-	-	-	-
Estimated revenue change (\$):	Revenue to General Fund		Revenue to Other Funds	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
	-	(1,403,408)	-	-
Positions affected:	No. of Positions		Total FTE Change	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
	-	-	-	-

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 is estimated to result in the City forgoing a total of \$4.5 million in tax revenue from 2023 to 2029. As homes convert from oil heat to other systems, the City anticipates receiving little to no revenue from the tax after 2029.

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

If this legislation is not implemented, the tax will go into effect on January 1, 2023.

3.b. Revenues/Reimbursements

X This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept	Revenue Source	2022 Revenue	2023 Estimated Revenue
General Fund 00100	OSE	Tax on sale of home heating oil	-	(1,403,408)
TOTAL			-	(1,403,408)

Is this change one-time or ongoing?

This is an ongoing change, but, as noted previously, revenues are projected to decline over time such that there will be little to no revenue after 2029.

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

None.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

The Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) is responsible for overall program oversight and implementation and would receive tax revenues. The Office of Housing (OH) is implementing the low-income conversions.

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?

No.

- 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?**
Repealing this tax will prevent the City from imposing an additional financial burden on low- to middle-income households already impacted by both the COVID-19 pandemic and high inflation rates, which have disproportionately affected Black, Indigenous, and other people of color. Similar to the outreach process for the multiple delays, OSE is anticipated to communicate this change to heating oil service providers and all Seattle residents with oil-heated homes, which would include an in-language statement providing a phone number to call for help getting the information translated.

f. Climate Change Implications

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

Forgoing heating oil tax revenues permanently will eliminate a dedicated revenue source for conversions from oil heat to electric heat pumps for low-income homes and ongoing expansion of the rebate program for all households. The intent of this tax is to accelerate the rate of conversions from oil heat to electric heat pump systems with the ultimate goal of eliminating oil heat systems by 2028, which currently account for about eight to nine percent of the Seattle's total greenhouse gas emissions. While repealing the tax will decrease funding for these key programs, JumpStart Green New Deal funds will allow the City to fund more low-income conversions and rebates than would have been possible with the heating oil tax.

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.

Converting oil heat systems to electric heat pumps adds air conditioning and air filtration capacity to homes that may not currently have it, better preparing residents for hot weather and wildfire smoke, which are predicted to become more common as a result of global warming. This legislation would reduce funding to convert oil-heated homes and thus could result in fewer households being prepared for such events. However, as mentioned previously, JumpStart Green New Deal funds will be used to support conversions from oil heat to electric heat pump systems.

- 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:

None.