

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Legislative	Brian Goodnight x4-5597	N/A

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Channel; stating the City Council’s intent to establish dedicated and ongoing funding sources for the operating and capital costs of the Seattle Channel; and requesting that the Executive submit a funding plan by September 3, 2025.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: The bill states the Council’s intent to establish a dedicated and ongoing funding plan sufficient to meet the operating and capital needs of the Seattle Channel, such that the Seattle Channel may continue to provide essential governmental programming and the types of civic, cultural, and community programming that it currently produces. The Executive is requested to present a funding plan to the Council, along with any necessary implementing legislation, by September 3, 2025. The funding plan should include, at a minimum: a) at least 50 percent, but not less than \$1.7 million, of cable franchise fee revenues; b) cost allocation to City departments that are supported by Seattle Channel’s programming and services; and c) General Fund for coverage of meetings, press conferences, and other public events of the City Council and other City elected officials. The Council anticipates that the Executive will utilize the research and recommendations of any advisory workgroups established to study the Seattle Channel’s operations and financing.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? Yes No
If yes, please fill out the table below and attach a new (if creating a project) or marked-up (if amending) CIP Page to the Council Bill.
Please include the spending plan as part of the attached CIP Page. If no, please delete the table.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? Yes No
If there are no projected changes to expenditures, revenues, or positions, please delete the table below.

This legislation does not have direct financial impacts to the City, but it does relate to future financing for the Seattle Channel. Please see the response to Question 3.d. for more information.

If there are no changes to expenditures, revenues, or positions, please delete Sections 3.a, 3.b, and 3.c and answer the questions in Section 4.

3.a. Appropriations

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes appropriations.

3.b. Revenues/Reimbursements

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

3.c. Positions

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes positions.

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

This legislation does not have direct financial impacts, but it does request a financing plan sufficient to cover the expenses of the Seattle Channel in future years. Cable franchise fee revenues, the historic revenue source for Seattle Channel operations, are declining and are at risk of being insufficient to fund Seattle Channel's costs and other currently supported programs.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Please describe how this legislation may affect any departments besides the originating department.

This legislation impacts Seattle Information Technology, as that is the department within which Seattle Channel and its staff and funding reside.

- b. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? If yes, please attach a map and explain any impacts on the property. Please attach any Environmental Impact Statements, Determinations of Non-Significance, or other reports generated for this property.**

No.

- c. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.**

- i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.**

The Seattle Channel provides valuable information to the public on City operations and enhances governmental transparency by broadcasting all City Council meetings and many other City events.

- ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.**

N/A

- iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?**

N/A

- d. Climate Change Implications**

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.**

N/A

- ii. 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.**

N/A

- e. 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)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

5. CHECKLIST

Please click the appropriate box if any of these questions apply to this legislation.

- Is a public hearing required? No.**
- Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required? No.**
- If this legislation changes spending and/or revenues for a fund, have you reviewed the relevant fund policies and determined that this legislation complies? N/A**
- Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization? No.**
If yes, please review requirements in Resolution 31203 for applicability and complete and attach “Additional risk analysis and fiscal analysis for non-utility partner projects” form.

6. ATTACHMENTS

List Summary Attachments (if any): N/A