District Project Fund
Program Overview and Operational Procedures

Seattle City Council
Transportation Committee

September 2, 2025

Seattle Department of Transportation

Council District Fund Overview

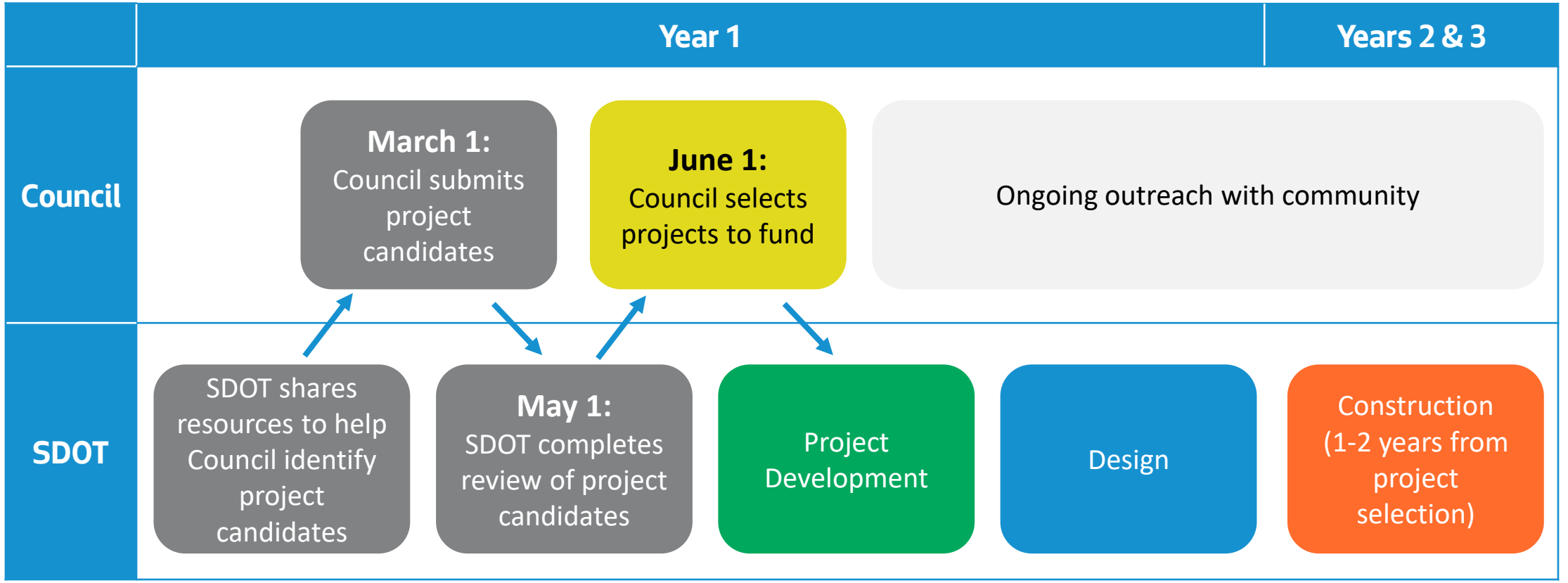
Council District Fund established in the 2025 Adopted Budget and CIP:

- Funds neighborhood-scale traffic safety improvements and other district priorities at the direction of the City Council
- Budget and CIP identified $7 million in 2025 and $7 million in 2026
- Any unspent funding automatically carries forward to future years
- No secured funding for 2027 or beyond

Today, we will share proposed operational procedures including:

- Project selection process
- Project selection considerations
- Project implementation schedule and considerations

Annual Program Schedule



- This is the proposed schedule for typical project selection and delivery
- Simple projects may be completed sooner, and complex projects may take longer

Seattle Department of Transportation

How to Submit Project Candidates

Councilmembers should submit project candidates to SDOT annually by March 1

Project criteria:

- Neighborhood-scale traffic safety projects that address emerging safety concerns and requests
- Must adhere to City and federal standards, guidelines, and best practices
- $1 million max annual project cost per district
- Can fund one larger improvement or multiple smaller improvements

How to Submit Project Candidates

SDOT will provide a form for Councilmembers to submit project ideas, requesting the following information:

- Project location
- Project goals
- Description of existing issues
- Design solution(s) to address issues
- Background on prior outreach and other community considerations

➢ We highly encourage Councilmembers to submit multiple projects in the event that specific projects are later determined to be infeasible

How to Submit Project Candidates

SDOT created resources to help Councilmembers identify project candidates:

Project Idea Toolbox

- A list of improvements used to address common transportation safety issues such as crossing improvements and traffic calming
- Includes conceptual cost estimates

Crossing Improvements

A range of options to help people walking and rolling safely cross busy streets

Improvement	Description	Typical Cost Range	Photo
Marked Crosswalk	• A marked crosswalk alerts drivers to frequent crossing locations • Often combined with other crossing improvements	$10,000-$20,000 per crossing	
Rapid Flashing Beacon	• Blinking lights that turn on when pedestrians or bicyclists push a button to cross the roadway • Alerts drivers to pedestrians or bikes crossing the street	$200,000-$250,000 per crossing	
Pedestrian/ Half Signal	• A signal that stops vehicle traffic on the busier streets to allow pedestrians to cross • Note that complex intersections	$900,000-$1,000,000 per crossing	

Unfunded Community Requests

- A list of unfunded community requests for safety improvements received through other SDOT programs including the Neighborhood Street Fund, Your Voice Your Choice, and Safe Routes to School

Seattle Department of Transportation

How SDOT will Review Project Candidates

After Councilmembers submit project candidates, SDOT will:

- Review project candidate feasibility based on City and federal standards, guidelines, and best practices
- Collect necessary data such as vehicle speeds and pedestrian and bike counts
- Identify potential risks and opportunities
- Develop cost estimates

Reporting back:

- SDOT will share its review and cost estimates with each District Councilmember by May 1
- Councilmembers will have one month to consider SDOT's feedback and make final project selection by June 1

How SDOT will Review Project Candidates

Many factors go into determining project feasibility and cost:

- Street characteristics
- Existing conditions
- Local and federal standards and guidelines
- Additional required work
- Agency approval

➢ If a project candidate is determined to be infeasible or higher than anticipated cost, SDOT will work with Councilmembers to reduce scope or find an alternate solution to help address the issue.

Seattle Department of Transportation

After Projects are Selected for Funding

- SDOT will start design for selected projects
- Construction will occur 1-2 years after project selection – simple projects may be completed sooner, and complex projects may take longer
- SDOT will provide ongoing updates to Councilmembers and community:
  - Quarterly updates on the progress of projects
  - Annual program update by September 30
  - Ongoing communication, such as updates on construction schedules

Seattle Department of Transportation

Next Steps

- **Council action on Resolution 32179 and Council Bill 121058 to guide program and lift budget proviso**
- **SDOT to share program resources with Councilmembers:**
  - Project Idea Toolbox
  - List of Unfunded Community Requests
  - Project Request Form
- **Councilmembers to consider and submit project candidates by March 1, 2026**

Questions?

Seattle Department of Transportation