



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

Res 31613

Record No.: Res 31613

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 1

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 08/18/2015

Final Action: 09/11/2015

Title: A RESOLUTION creating the Demographic Data Task Force to recommend strategies to standardize and disaggregate demographic data used by City departments in allocating resources and developing City policies, programs, and services.

Notes:

Date
Filed with City Clerk: 9/11/2015

Mayor's Signature: 9/11/2015

Sponsors: Okamoto, Burgess, Harrell

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: jodee.schwinn@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published: Yes No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	City Clerk	08/25/2015	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	Notes:						
1	Council President's Office	09/01/2015	sent for review	Full Council			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Full Council						
	Notes:						
1	Full Council	09/08/2015	referred	Full Council			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was referred. to the Full Council						
	Notes:						
1	Full Council	09/08/2015	adopted				Pass
	Action Text: The Motion carried, the Resolution (Res) was adopted by the following vote, and the President signed the Resolution:						
	Notes: Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution No. 31613.						

Legislative Summary Continued (Res 31613)

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

Opposed: 0

- 1 City Clerk 09/10/2015 submitted for Mayor
Mayor's signature
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor
Notes:
- 1 Mayor 09/11/2015 Signed
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was Signed.
Notes:
- 1 Mayor 09/11/2015 returned City Clerk
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was returned. to the City Clerk
Notes:
- 1 City Clerk 09/11/2015 attested by City
Clerk
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was attested by City Clerk.
Notes:
-

CITY OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION 31613

1
2
3
4
5 A RESOLUTION creating the Demographic Data Task Force to recommend strategies to
6 standardize and disaggregate demographic data used by City departments in allocating resources
7 and developing City policies, programs, and services.
8

9
10 WHEREAS, in 2004 The City of Seattle (City) launched a Race and Social Justice Initiative with
11 the vision of achieving racial equity in the community and the mission of ending
12 institutionalized racism in City government, promoting inclusion and full participation of
13 all residents, and partnering with the community to achieve racial equity across Seattle;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, in 2014, the Mayor expanded the Race and Social Justice Initiative, mandating that
16 the City track outcomes that address racial and social disparities persisting across key
17 indicators of success, including education, equitable development, health, housing, jobs,
18 criminal justice, environment, service equity, and arts and culture; and

19 WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of collecting and analyzing demographic data to
20 inform its policy decisions and effectively provide services to its fast-growing and
21 increasingly diverse population; and

22 WHEREAS, Resolution 31425 established the Council's expectations that new or expanded
23 programs articulate clear, specific, and measurable goals and outcomes and include
24 evaluation components when not already evidence-based; and

25 WHEREAS, some City departments collect and analyze client data to inform how to allocate
26 their resources, but data collection methods and demographic categories are not
27 standardized across departments; and

1 WHEREAS, client data only captures the needs of people who are already receiving services and
2 neglects those who have not yet accessed services; and

3 WHEREAS, the City supplements its data with federal data from the U.S. decennial census and
4 the American Community Survey; and

5 WHEREAS, the U.S. decennial census disaggregates data but is infrequent, and the American
6 Community Survey has a high margin of error for disaggregated populations; and

7 WHEREAS, federal and City race data both fold diverse immigrants and refugees from Europe,
8 the Middle East, and North Africa into the “White” category; those from other parts of
9 Africa into the “Black” category; those from Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific
10 Islands into the “Pacific Islander” category; those from the Far East, Southeast Asia, or
11 the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea,
12 Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam, into the “Asian
13 American” category; and original people from North and South America who maintain
14 tribal affiliation or community attachment into the “American Indian or Alaskan Native”
15 category; and

16 WHEREAS, race and ethnicity are considered as separate concepts with ethnic categories
17 including people of Hispanic or Latino origin; and

18 WHEREAS, data that aggregates diverse populations in broad race and ethnicity categories
19 masks the socioeconomic, educational, and health needs of subpopulations and hinders
20 the City’s attempts to achieve equity in policy outcomes; and

21 WHEREAS, in 2010, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington
22 State Education Research & Data Center began collecting disaggregated education data

1 in response to recommendations from the state's Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight
2 and Accountability Committee; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2015, the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander
4 Research in Education (NCARE) studied disaggregated data in K-12 schools and some
5 public colleges and universities in Washington; and

6 WHEREAS, the NCARE study found stark educational disparities within the Asian American
7 and Pacific Islander student population, with eight subgroups having educational
8 attainment rates that fell below the state average between 2011 and 2013;

9 WHEREAS, the NCARE study recommended the use of disaggregated data to help target
10 interventions and support services; and

11 WHEREAS, standardized, disaggregated data is necessary to improve the City's policymaking
12 and resource allocation strategies; NOW, THEREFORE,

13 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
14 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

15 Section 1. The Seattle City Council and the Mayor are committed to using data-driven
16 decisions to achieve specific and measurable policy outcomes. As broader policies affect
17 demographic subgroups differently, it is vitally important to track disaggregated data among
18 subgroups in order to more accurately ensure equity in policy outcomes.

19 Section 2. The Seattle City Council and the Mayor establish the Demographic Data Task
20 Force ("Task Force") to identify and recommend improvements to the City's demographic data
21 collection, disaggregation, and analysis practices. The Task Force will develop ways to increase
22 the standardization of demographic data across City departments.

1 A. Composition. The Task Force shall be staffed by the Executive as determined by the
2 Mayor or the Mayor's designee and be composed of the following:

3 1. City Demographer

4 2. One representative from each of the following departments and agencies to be
5 appointed by the head of such department or agency:

6 a. City Budget Office

7 b. Office of Civil Rights

8 c. Office of Economic Development

9 d. Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

10 e. Department of Planning and Development, or its equivalent

11 f. Department of Education and Early Learning

12 g. Department of Information Technology

13 h. Human Services Department

14 i. Public Health – Seattle and King County

15 j. Legislative Department

16 3. Other members deemed necessary by the Mayor or the Mayor's designee.

17 B. Purpose. The purpose of the Task Force is to study the demographic data collection
18 and analysis methods currently employed by City departments. The Task Force will identify the
19 limitations of available datasets and create a strategy to more effectively standardize and
20 disaggregate demographic data across all City departments while maintaining City privacy
21 principles. The strategy shall include (1) a proposed mechanism that will allow departments to
22 easily access data for policymaking and resource allocation decisions and (2) a methodology for
23 data collection and analysis that is common to all City departments.

1 C. Scope of work. The Task Force shall:

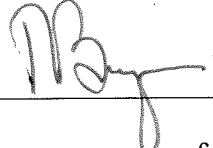
- 2 1. Inventory existing demographic data collected by City departments; and
- 3 2. Perform a gap analysis on the inventory to determine where demographic data
- 4 is lacking or insufficient for the City to make data-driven decisions on policies and resource
- 5 allocation; and
- 6 3. Recommend new data collection methods based on the gap analysis; and
- 7 4. Explore best practices and models to increase the standardization of
- 8 demographic data collection and analysis among departments; and
- 9 5. Evaluate the barriers to disaggregating data and recommend strategies to
- 10 overcome the barriers; and
- 11 6. Develop a data collection and analysis methodology that will be used by all
- 12 City departments and aid in establishing priority populations; and
- 13 7. Propose a mechanism for demographic data to be centralized and easily
- 14 accessed by City departments in order to make policy and resource allocation decisions; and
- 15 8. Determine the fiscal implications of the recommended models and strategies
- 16 for standardizing and disaggregating the City's demographic data; and
- 17 9. Determine a timeline for the implementation of the proposed strategies.

18 Section 3. The City requests that the Task Force submit a report to the City Council and


19 the Mayor detailing its findings no later than July 1, 2016.

20


1 Adopted by the City Council the 8th day of September, 2015, and
2 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 8th day
3 of September, 2015.

4 
5 _____
6 President _____ of the City Council

7 The Mayor concurred the 11th day of September, 2015.

8 
9 _____
10 Edward B. Murray, Mayor

11
12 Filed by me this 11th day of September, 2015.

13 
14 _____
15 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

16
17 (Seal)
18
19
20
21