

2016 Seattle City Council Green Sheet

Ready for Notebook

Tab	Action	Option	Version
46	1	C	2

Budget Action Title: C.B. 118533 Related to the Allocation of Admission Tax Revenues: Amend and Pass as Amended

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Councilmembers: Burgess; Harrell; Licata; Sawant

Staff Analyst: Dan Eder

Council Bill or Resolution: C.B. 118533

Date		Total	SB	BH	JO	TR	NL	TB	JG	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Budget Action description:

This green sheet would amend C.B. 118533 as described below and then pass C.B. 118533 as amended. C.B. 118533 would increase the allocation of Admission Tax revenues to the Arts Account beginning in 2016 and enact changes to the Seattle Municipal Code that will increase the Arts Account funding beginning in 2017.

Increased 2016 Arts Account Funding:

Admission Tax revenues are a flexible revenue source that may be used for any municipal purpose. However, the City has adopted policies by ordinance requiring that no less than 75 percent of Admission Tax revenues must be used to invest in Seattle’s arts and cultural community through the City’s Arts Account; and the balance (25 percent) must be placed in the General Subfund (GSF).

This bill would increase the Arts Account’s share of Admissions Tax revenues to 80 percent in 2016 (adding \$406,000 more in 2016 to the Arts Account than a 75 percent allocation) and decrease the GSF’s share to 20 percent (reducing the GSF’s funding in 2016 by \$406,000).

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This green sheet would amend these provisions to require future steps beginning in 2017 as shown in Attachment 1 to this budget action.

In summary, this green sheet would increase the required Admission Tax allocations to the Arts Account as follows:

2017: 90 percent

2018: 100 percent

The budget action indicates that the Mayor may propose for Council’s consideration legislation decreasing one or more annual allocations in the event that the Mayor determines that the City’s financial condition and revenue growth is not sufficient to offset the resulting loss of General Subfund resources.

Goal for Future Arts Account Funding:

Section 2 of the proposed legislation “establishes the goal of dedicating 100 percent of the Admission Tax revenue to the Office of Arts and Culture, if the City’s financial condition remains strong and revenue growth is sufficient to offset the resulting loss of General Fund resources.” The proposed legislation would achieve this goal through “a phased approach that increases the share of Admissions Tax revenues dedicated to Arts in graduated steps so as to minimize the General Fund impact in any given year.” This would allow for future step increases through future legislation after considering the overall impact on the General Fund. However, there is no requirement that the 100 percent allocation goal be achieved; and there is no specific articulation of planned steps or timing.

As shown in Attachment 1 to this budget action, this green sheet would amend the bill to strike the goal statements in Section 2.