

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
CBO	Dave Hennes/4-0537	Dave Hennes/4-0537

** 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 authorizing the levy of regular property taxes by The City of Seattle for collection in 2019, representing an increase above the regular property taxes levied for collection in 2018; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Summary and background of the Legislation: This legislation, commonly known as the “Short Property Tax Ordinance” reflects changes in the regular property taxes in terms of dollars and percentages. It is a companion to the ordinance authorizing Seattle’s property tax levies, commonly known as the “Long Property Tax Ordinance.”

Since the approval of Referendum 47 in November 1997, state law has required that taxing jurisdictions adopt, by a majority of their legislative body, a separate ordinance authorizing regular property tax increases, other than increases due to certain excluded assessed property values identified below. The ordinances must show the authorized increase in terms of both dollars and percentages. Due to the exclusion of increases due to new construction, construction of wind turbine facilities classified as personal property, improvements to property, the value of state-assessed property, and refund adjustments to the levy amount, the actual year-over-year change in the City’s regular levy will differ from the calculated change in this legislation. Seattle’s Long Property Tax legislation, which is the authorizing legislation for the City’s property tax levy, provides a more detailed description of Seattle’s actual property tax levy and revenues.

Due to the 1 percent increase in the regular non-voted property tax levy, the “Move Seattle” Transportation levy lid lift and the Library levy lid lift proposed in the attached Bill, the City of Seattle’s 2018 levy for collection in 2019 includes a first year levy amount of \$85,900,000 for the recently approved Families, Education, Pre-School and Promise levy lid lift. Two lid lifts expired in 2018, the Families and Education levy and the Seattle Pre-School levy. The City of Seattle’s 2018 levy for collection in 2019 represents an overall increase of \$41,052,037 (8.69 percent) from 2018. As noted above, this does not include the “refund fund levy,” or additional taxes resulting from new construction, construction of wind turbine facilities classified as personal property, improvements to property, or an increase in the value of state-assessed property.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

_____ This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

X This legislation has direct financial implications.

Please see the Fiscal Note to the 2019 Long Property Tax Ordinance, which authorizes the actual property tax levies.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

See Summary above, Seattle Department of Transportation and the Seattle Public Library and the “Anticipated Revenue” Table in the companion Fiscal Note for the Long Property Tax Ordinance for affected departments.

b) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

Yes. Public hearings will take place on October 4, 2018 and October 23, 2018.

c) Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?

No.

d) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No.

e) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

f) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?

The revenues generated through the property tax, both general expense and levy lid lifts for particular purposes, support a broad range of government services, many of which support vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities. This legislation has no policy or program implementation ramifications affecting vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities beyond providing the underlying funding that supports City programs.

g) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program’s desired goals.

NA

h) Other Issues:

None.