

2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Agenda

| Tab | Action | Option | Version |
|-----|--------|--------|---------|
| HSD | 5 | A | 1 |

Budget Action Title: Request a report from HSD on subsidizing transit passes for employees of HSD contracted service providers

Ongoing: No

Primary Sponsor: Lisa Herbold

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Karina Bull

| Date | | Total | LH | BH | KS | AP | DJ | MO | SB | TM | LG |
|------|---------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | Yes | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| | No | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Abstain | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Absent | 0 | | | | | | | | | |

Statement of Legislative Intent:

The Council requests that the Human Services Department (HSD) provide a report on the cost, feasibility, and methods of providing resources to subsidize transit passes for employees of HSD-contracted service providers. The report should include one or more options for how the City could cover some or all costs necessary for an HSD-contracted service provider to provide fully or partially subsidized transit benefits to its employees. HSD should work with Council staff and relevant stakeholders beginning in January 2020 to develop a work plan for this report, and meet as needed through June 30, 2020.

Building on the information provided in the response to SLI-35-7-A-2-2019, the report should address the following issues:

- 1) Approximately how many employee salaries at HSD-contracted service providers are contingent on the funding provided through HSD contracts? (Given that HSD contracts are not directly based on number of employees, how can the City determine or estimate the number of employees or FTEs supported by each contract?)
- 2) What are feasible methods and associated costs for providing transit benefits to these employees?
- 3) What transit benefits do HSD-contracted service providers already offer to their employees?
- 4) If the City were to offer funds to subsidize transit benefits for employees covered by an HSD contract, on the condition that a service provider offer the same benefit to all its Seattle employees, how many HSD-contracted service providers would likely participate in the program, and what are the projected costs?
- 5) What opportunities are there for collaboration with King County to develop a joint program that also covers the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) contracts?
- 6) What are the potential funding sources, existing or new, that could subsidize transit passes for HSD-contracted service providers.

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The final report should be submitted to the Chair of the Human Services, Equitable Development, and Renters' Rights Committee, or successor committee, and to the Central Staff Executive Director, by June 30, 2020.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Human Services, Equitable Development & Renter Rights

Date Due to Council:

June 30, 2020