

2020 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SDOT	17	A	3

Budget Action Title: Pass CB 119699 - Free Floating Car Share Permit Fee Ordinance

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Mike O'Brien

Council Members: Abel Pacheco, Debora Juarez, Sally Bagshaw, Lorena González

Staff Analyst: Calvin Chow

Council Bill or Resolution: CB 119699

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

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action recommends passage of Council Bill 119699.

This legislation would adjust the fee schedule for free floating car share permits to reduce the annual per vehicle Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) fee from \$700/year to \$200/year. This would reduce the total free floating car share per vehicle fee from \$1,730/year to \$1,230/year.

The RPZ fee was initially established in 2012 at \$200/year to cover costs for administrating car share permitted vehicles in RPZ zones. The RPZ fee was later increased in 2015 to \$700/year to account for higher administrative costs as the car share permitting program was expanded to allow more operators and vehicles. A portion of the RPZ fee is used to support activities to expand access to improved mobility options, including for low-income residents. Expenditures in this program area have been lower than projected due to staffing changes, and SDOT has accrued a balance of funds for this program

Since 2015, Seattle has seen an increase in alternative transportation services, including free floating bike share and transportation network companies. In 2019, two free floating car share operators (ReachNow and Limepod) ceased operations, leaving one operator (Car2Go) in Seattle. The 2020 Endorsed Budget anticipated 1,938 permitted car share vehicles. The current projection for 2020 is 750 permitted car share vehicles.

A reduced RPZ permit fee of \$200/year would fully recoup the administration costs associated with free floating car share in the current market environment. There is no anticipated 2020 impact to SDOT's mobility options program, however future expenditures will need to be aligned to expected revenues in the 2021 budget and beyond.

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This Council Budget Action would reduce Transportation Fund revenues by \$1,325,400 in 2020. This reduction consists of two components: (1) a \$950,400 in 2020 to reflect fewer vehicles permitted than was anticipated in the 2020 Proposed Budget, and (2) a \$375,000 reduction to reflect the lower RPZ fee proposed in Council Bill XXXX.

While RPZ Fee proceeds are directed to the Transportation Fund, a portion of the remaining fees included in the Car Share vehicle permit are directed to the General Fund. The reduction in anticipated General Fund in 2020 due to the reduced number of anticipated vehicles is \$1,104,840. This revenue adjustment will be included in a separate Council Budget Action for CBO's November Revenue Update.