

2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
CJ	1	B	1

Budget Action Title: Request the City Auditor conduct a review of Seattle Municipal Court's probation program

Ongoing: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Lorena González

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Bruce Harrell, Kshama Sawant, Abel Pacheco, Debora Juarez, Mike O'Brien

Staff Analyst: Asha Venkataraman

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

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests that the City Auditor conduct a review of the Seattle Municipal Court's (SMC's) probation program. This assessment should focus on the impacts of probation on people of color who are currently or have previously been under the Court's jurisdiction as part of probation and the racial proportionality of the imposition, conditions of compliance, length, and successful completion of probation, as well as early release from probation.

The audit should also identify gaps in the collection, analysis, and use of data as well as recommendations on how to fill these gaps.

Before initiating this work, the City Auditor should consult with the Chair of the committee with jurisdiction over public safety (currently Gender Equity, Safe Communities, New Americans, and Education) about the review's scope and objectives to ensure that it is informed by the Vera Institute of Justice's report on probation. The report is anticipated for completion in November 2019.

Upon completion of the probation audit, Council requests that the auditor evaluate the City's criminal legal system to identify impacts communities of color who are most impacted by the criminal legal system. This secondary phase of the audit should not be undertaken until the auditor has consulted with the chair of the committee with jurisdiction over public safety about the scope of the audit, which should be informed by ongoing criminal legal system alignment work.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Gender Equity, Safe Communities, New Americans & Education

Date Due to Council: September 15, 2020