

# 2021 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SPD	015	B	001

**Budget Action Title:** Cut \$450,000 GF from SPD for contracted mental health providers (MHPs), add \$450,000 GF to HSD and add \$1.0 million GF to HSD for 11 additional MHPs, and impose a proviso

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Dan Strauss

Council Members: Lisa Herbold, Kshama Sawant, Alex Pedersen, Andrew Lewis

Staff Analyst: Greg Doss

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	TM	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

### Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2021 Increase (Decrease)	2022 Increase (Decrease)
<b>General Fund</b>		
<b>General Fund Revenues</b>	\$0	
<b>General Fund Expenditures</b>	\$1,000,000	
<b>Net Balance Effect</b>	<b>\$(1,000,000)</b>	
<b>Total Budget Balance Effect</b>	<b>\$(1,000,000)</b>	

### Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would transfer \$450,000 GF from the Seattle Police Department (SPD) to the Human Services Department (HSD) to fund existing contracts with five Mental Health Professionals (MHPs) who work as part of the SPD Crisis Response Unit (CRU). The action would also add \$1.0 million in contract funding to HSD to support the addition of 11 MHPs to the SPD CRU, and imposes a proviso.

SPD currently has one CRU unit, consisting of one MHP and one officer, in each of its five precincts. The teams respond to individuals experiencing both chronic and acute behavioral health issues. When responding to calls involving such issues, the 911 calls most often classified as 'disturbances' in which callers have voiced concerns about the words, actions, or behaviors of those in crisis. When CRU is responding to these types of calls, the primary role of the officer is to ensure overall 'scene safety' and

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then defer to the MHP's for verbal engagement. SPD has indicated that there are many 911 calls that would benefit from a CRU response, but the department does not currently have the staffing resources to expand its CRU call response.

This Council Budget Action imposes the following proviso:

“Of the appropriation in the 2021 budget for the Seattle Police Department (SPD), \$500,000 may not be spent until the Chair of the Council’s Public Safety Committee files a certification with the City Clerk that SPD has provided a report that contains an analysis and recommendations on the issues identified in Executive Order 2020-10 Section 2B(i)(ii), with particular attention paid to a process that would allow mental health providers to respond without officers to 911 calls that identify persons in crisis or suffering from mental health related issues.”

### Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Add \$450,000 GF and add \$1.0 million GF for additional contracted mental health providers for the SPD Crisis Response Unit		0	0	HSD - HS000	HSD - BO-HS-H4000 - Supporting Safe Communities	00100 - General Fund	2021	\$0	\$1,450,000
2	Cut \$450,000 GF from SPD for contracted mental health providers		0	0	SPD - SP000	SPD - BO-SP-P4000 - Collaborative Policing	00100 - General Fund	2021	\$0	\$(450,000)