

2021 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SFD	003	A	003

Budget Action Title: Add \$1.6 million GF to SFD to restore recruit class and testing cuts

Ongoing: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Lisa Herbold

Council Members: Tammy Morales, Kshama Sawant, Alex Pedersen, Debora Juarez, Dan Strauss, Andrew Lewis, Lorena González

Staff Analyst: Greg Doss

Council Bill or Resolution:

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	BC	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)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	
General Fund Expenditures	\$1,565,317	
Net Balance Effect	\$(1,565,317)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$(1,565,317)	

Budget Action Description:

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would add \$1.6 million GF to the Seattle Fire Department (SFD) to restore full funding for the 2021 recruit class and to continue funding for annual firefighter testing.

The 2021 Proposed Budget would reduce \$1,345,825 GF in funding for pre-employment testing, recruitment, salaries and benefits, personal protective equipment, and other operating costs associated with 20 firefighter recruits on a one-time basis. The change would cut the annual recruit class size from 60 recruits to 40. Additionally, the 2021 Proposed Budget would reduce \$219,492 GF in overtime funding associated with administering firefighter written exams. The reduction would defer the application period and entry level firefighter written and oral exams by one year.

This CBA would restore both of these reductions. SFD has been experiencing above average attrition of

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firefighter personnel in 2020 and SFD expects to be carrying 75 vacancies at the end of 2021 and will have 412 firefighters eligible for retirement. If increased separations continue, it could require SFD to meet minimum operational staffing requirement through an increased use of overtime. Should this occur, it may lead to firefighter fatigue and potentially affect morale and job performance.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Add \$1.6 million to SFD to restore recruit class and testing		0	0	SFD - FD000	SFD - BO-FD-F1000 - Leadership and Administration	00100 - General Fund	2021	\$0	\$762,416
2	Add \$1.6 million to SFD to restore recruit class and testing		0	0	SFD - FD000	SFD - BO-FD-F3000 - Operations	00100 - General Fund	2021	\$0	\$802,901