

2020 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
SDCI	900	B	1

Budget Action Title: Add \$304,522 (ongoing) GF to SDCI for eviction legal defense and reduce SDOT congestion pricing outreach funding

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Kshama Sawant

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Ketil Freeman

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2020 Increase (Decrease)	2021 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund		
General Fund Revenues	\$0	
General Fund Expenditures	\$0	
Net Balance Effect	\$0	
Total Budget Balance Effect	\$0	

Budget Action Description:

This Budget Action adds \$304,522 General Fund (GF) to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) Compliance BCL to contract with the Housing Justice Project of the King County Bar Association or similar organization to provide legal representation for Seattle renters facing eviction. The action also cuts \$304,522 from the Seattle Department of Transportation's (SDOT) proposed budget for congestion pricing public engagement and outreach.

This action, combined with the eviction legal defense add in SDCI-7-C-1, would appropriate \$534,522 to SDCI for eviction legal defense. That would fund six tenant rights attorneys. The 2020 Endorsed and Proposed Budgets include an ongoing appropriation of \$615,000 for tenant services grants and contracts. The 2019 Adopted Budget also included \$96,000 for eviction defense legal services. That appropriation was one-time and is not included in the Mayor's proposed budget. SDCI will recomplete

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tenant service grants and contracts in 2020.

The 2020 Proposed Budget includes approximately \$538,000 of carryforward SDOT 2019 appropriations in the Mobility Operations BSL to support outreach and public engagement on congestion pricing efforts. The source of this funding is one-time Commercial Parking Tax.

This Council Budget Action would reduce commercial parking tax funding for congestion pricing outreach and public engagement by \$304,522. The Council Budget Action would use these commercial parking tax funds to offset a matching reduction in GF spending in the Mobility Operations BSL. The net result is to cut \$304,522 of GF from SDOT's budget for other uses identified in this Council Budget Action.

If this Council Budget Action is approved, the remaining GF contributions to SDOT would be sufficient to meet the minimum requirements established by the Move Seattle Levy.

Budget Action Transactions

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BSL	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Increase appropriation for eviction prevention legal defense		0	0	SDCI - CI000	SDCI - BO-CI-U2400 - Compliance	00100 - General Fund	2020	\$0	\$304,522
2	Decrease appropriation for congestion pricing outreach		0	0	SDOT - TR000	SDOT - BO-TR-17003 - Mobility Operations	00100 - General Fund	2020	\$0	\$(304,522)