



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Finance and Housing Committee

### Agenda - Revised

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

9:30 AM

Remote Meeting. Call 253-215-8782; Meeting ID: 586 416 9164; or  
Seattle Channel online.

Teresa Mosqueda, Chair  
Lisa Herbold, Vice-Chair  
M. Lorena González, Member  
Andrew J. Lewis, Member  
Dan Strauss, Member  
Tammy J. Morales, Alternate

Chair Info: 206-684-8808; [Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov](mailto:Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov)

[Watch Council Meetings Live](#) [View Past Council Meetings](#)

Council Chamber Listen Line: 206-684-8566

For accessibility information and for accommodation requests, please call  
206-684-8888 (TTY Relay 7-1-1), email [CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov](mailto:CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov), or visit  
<http://seattle.gov/cityclerk/accommodations>.



**SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Finance and Housing Committee**  
**Agenda - Revised**  
**March 16, 2021 - 9:30 AM**

**Meeting Location:**

Remote Meeting. Call 253-215-8782; Meeting ID: 586 416 9164; or Seattle Channel online.

**Committee Website:**

<http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/finance-and-housing>

---

This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business.

*In-person attendance is currently prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation 20-28.15, until the COVID-19 State of Emergency is terminated or Proclamation 20-28 is rescinded by the Governor or State legislature. Meeting participation is limited to access by telephone conference line and online by the Seattle Channel.*

Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the 9:30 a.m. Finance and Housing Committee meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>.

Online registration to speak at the Finance and Housing Committee meeting will begin two hours before the 9:30 a.m. meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

Submit written comments to Councilmember Mosqueda at [Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov](mailto:Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov)

Sign-up to provide Public Comment at the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>

Watch live streaming video of the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/watch-council-live>

Listen to the meeting by calling the Council Chamber Listen Line at 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 586 416 9164

One Tap Mobile No. US: +12532158782,,5864169164#

*Please Note: Times listed are estimated*

**A. Call To Order**

**B. Approval of the Agenda**

**C. Public Comment**

**D. Items of Business**

1. [Res 31999](#) **A RESOLUTION identifying the City Council’s priorities to maximize local use of future federal funding to support COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts.**

*Supporting Documents:*

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Amendment 1 - Gender-based Violence Services](#)

[Presentation- Use of Federal COVID Response Funds](#)

**Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote**

**Presenters:** Aly Pennucci, Yolanda Ho, and Amy Gore, Council Central Staff

2. **Overview of American Recovery Act**

*Supporting Documents:*

[Presentation - Federal COVID Funding and Council Priorities](#)

**Briefing and Discussion**

**Presenters:** Aly Pennucci, Tom Mikesell, and Jeff Simms, Council Central Staff

3. [CB 120019](#) **AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance 126237, which adopted the 2021 Budget, including the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP); changing appropriations to various departments and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget; and adding or modifying provisos; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.**

*Supporting*

*Documents:* [Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

**Briefing, Discussion and Possible Vote**

**Presenter:** Jeff Simms, Council Central Staff

4. [CB 120018](#) **AN ORDINANCE relating to grant funds from non-City sources; amending Ordinance 126237, which adopted the 2021 Budget; authorizing the Mayor or Mayor's designees to accept specified grants and execute related agreements for and on behalf of the City; changing appropriations to various departments; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.**

*Supporting*

*Documents:* [Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Presentation](#)

**Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote**

**Presenters:** Emily Alvarado, Director, Kelli Larsen, Office of Housing; Robert Cromwell, Seattle City Light; Kahreen Tebeau, Seattle Public Utilities; Traci Ratzliff, Council Central Staff

## E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

---

**File #:** Res 31999, **Version:** 1

---

**CITY OF SEATTLE**

**RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_**

A RESOLUTION identifying the City Council's priorities to maximize local use of future federal funding to support COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts.

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, the Washington Governor issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a state of emergency for all counties throughout the state of Washington in response to new cases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, Mayor Jenny A. Durkan proclaimed a civil emergency in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution 31937 affirming the civil emergency, modifying orders transmitted by the Mayor related to the emergency, and establishing Council's expectations related to future orders and reporting by the Mayor during the civil emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that COVID-19 is officially a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as of March 11, 2021, the State of Washington has confirmed 327,000 COVID-19 infections and 5,100 residents of Washington have died of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the immediate economic impacts from the COVID-19 emergency have been drastic and are expected to last much longer than the civil emergency itself; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 crisis has had a significant impact on the local economy, impacting the retail, restaurant, construction, gig economy, and other industries, resulting in loss of income for many

businesses; and

WHEREAS, performing arts and live music venues closed due to State prohibitions against large gatherings on March 11, 2020, and most, if not all, remain closed to this day despite the recent loosening of restrictions, and small, locally owned live music venues are an essential component of Seattle's music ecosystem, serving as the primary employer of local musicians and performing artists; and

WHEREAS, at the end of August 2020, over 3,000 businesses in the Seattle metropolitan area were closed, with an estimated 59 percent of those closures being permanent, and over 32,700 people in Seattle were unemployed; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created a grave economic crisis. People in our community have been laid off or have had their work hours reduced, and many people are struggling to feed and house their families. Social services are strained, given the increased demand for resources. Businesses are struggling to pay their employees and cover operating costs; and

WHEREAS, at the national level, mothers of children aged 12 years and younger lost jobs at a rate three times greater than fathers of young children between February and August 2020, and in December 2020, all 156,000 net job losses in the U.S. were held by women. Throughout the pandemic, women, particularly women of color, have experienced higher levels of unemployment, threatening to undo decades of progress towards gender equity; and

WHEREAS, the affordable housing crisis, homelessness emergency, and the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic and unemployment emergencies are deeply impacting the lives of people throughout Seattle and the region and disproportionately harming Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other communities of color, immigrants, the LGBTQIA community, disabled community members, and women, who already struggle against entrenched inequality; and

WHEREAS, based on the January 20 to February 1, 2021 data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey, it is estimated that approximately 31,000 Seattle renter households were behind in paying rent

over the last month; and

WHEREAS, individual investor landlords, commonly known as “mom and pop” landlords, own 77 percent of small rental properties (buildings with two to four units) nationally. Tenants of small buildings have lower median household incomes as compared to tenants of other types of buildings and 44 percent of these tenants are Black or Hispanic. These landlords depend on rental income, may themselves be suffering other pandemic-related economic hardships, and are increasingly at risk of defaulting on their properties and destabilizing their tenants; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, many services, workplaces, and schools were forced to shift online, with stark consequences for Black, Latinx, and low-income households, who have disproportionately less access to the internet at home. Having internet service at home is essential so that people can work remotely, engage their children in distance learning, connect with health care services, and access government services, including financial assistance and other resources; and

WHEREAS, the number of people in shelters, encampments, and hotels has grown due to investments in these interventions during the pandemic, but there is a need to provide permanent affordable housing into which these individuals can move in order to address the homelessness problem; and

WHEREAS, the current multifamily housing rental market may provide opportunities to purchase existing buildings that would immediately increase the stock of permanently affordable housing in a cost efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which will provide \$1.9 trillion in pandemic relief; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 will provide Seattle an estimated \$239 million in direct funding, of which about 50 percent is anticipated in 2021, for pandemic relief that can be used for a broad range of uses, including restoring government services cut or reduced in response to pandemic-related revenue losses; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 will provide \$46 billion for testing and contract tracing capacity and \$14 billion for vaccine distribution support, portions of which are likely to be provided to the Washington Department of Health and Public Health - Seattle and King County and subsequently provided to the City; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 includes \$25 billion in restaurant relief grants that will initially be available to women- and minority-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 includes \$19 billion for emergency rental assistance and \$5 billion for homelessness services; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 includes \$10 billion for a Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund; and

WHEREAS, according to a presentation by the City Budget Office Director to the Finance and Housing Committee on February 19, 2021, the City has \$17.2 million of Coronavirus Relief Funds that were previously held in reserve but are available for expenditure until December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the \$900 billion Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 that became law in December 2020 provides \$23 million directly to Seattle to provide rental assistance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority to appropriate funds and set spending priorities; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle should utilize federal resources to support programs and services that provide critical and immediate relief to people and small businesses in Seattle, and support strategies that will support a more resilient, prosperous, and equitable recovery; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

Section 1. The City of Seattle (“City”) shall prioritize use of anticipated federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to maintain programs and services that support the City’s public health response, provide critical resources to those disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, immigrant and refugee communities, small and micro-businesses, low-income households, people experiencing homelessness or



housing insecurity, and workforce development. Future spending should focus on addressing the ongoing health needs and both the short- and long-term economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, building on and expanding the types of investments funded in the Jump Start COVID Relief Plan in 2020 and 2021. The following principles shall guide decisions by the Council when appropriating funds the City will receive from the federal government to support COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts:

A. Equity. There is a disproportionate rate of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths within Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) communities. The severe impact of the disease on these communities is directly related to the dangerous combination of chronic health conditions caused by a historic lack of access to health care and lack of access to critical social services fueled by systemic racism that results in severe economic inequality. Further, these same populations are overrepresented among the frontline workforce, and thus are disproportionately more likely to be exposed to COVID-19. The City has an essential duty to use its resources and leadership to address these disparities and provide all residents with equitable services. City investments should prioritize Seattle's most impacted populations by using a racial equity lens when making funding decisions.

B. Coordination. The City should coordinate its efforts with county, regional, state, community, and institutional partners, and leverage shared resources to ensure that the City's response is addressing gaps in service provision. The City shall continue to expand its financial partnership with King County to support County programs and services that primarily benefit households, workers, nonprofit organizations, and small businesses in Seattle. Further, the City should maximize all available strategies to finance the response (including grants and reimbursable expenditures) to scale the City's response commensurate to the magnitude of the impacts of the pandemic.

C. Flexibility. The City should be flexible and responsive in its approach as it learns and actively prioritizes resources as needed to maximize impact.

D. Resilience. Federal funding should be appropriated so that the City can continue to deliver critical

services to communities most impacted by COVID-19 and is well-prepared to weather future economic uncertainty as the economy recovers. These funds should be used so that the City is positioned to implement the Jump Start spending plan for 2022, established in Ordinance 126109 and Resolution 31957, that calls for investments in new housing, the Equitable Development Initiative, Economic Revitalization, and the Green New Deal for Seattle. Maximum levels of payroll expense tax revenues should be dedicated to those uses intended to inject critical stimulus in Seattle's economy to support a more resilient, prosperous, and equitable city, rather than relying substantially on payroll expense tax revenues to address the pandemic-related revenue losses that support base services.

Section 2. Based on these guiding principles, the Council shall prioritize uses that will advance an equitable economic recovery for Seattle. These priorities focus on expenditures, within federal funding limitations, will accelerate the city's recovery from the pandemic in the short-term, and create a more resilient, diversified, and just local economy in the long-term. Investments shall be made in the following categories:

A. Vaccines and testing. Vaccine delivery and COVID-19 testing through 2021, including pop-up clinics and mobile vaccination teams and other strategies called for in Resolution 31992 to ensure that vaccines are provided equitably and reach populations that may not easily access vaccines due to technology or mobility challenges, language or communication barriers, or medical distrust.

B. Food assistance

1. Extension of the Emergency Grocery Voucher program, or similar direct assistance, through 2021;
2. Expanded food support programs through 2021, including food banks, meal delivery, meals in shelters and permanent supportive housing, and other food assistance; and
3. Innovative new programs that partner with restaurants, local farms, and food entrepreneurs to provide meals.

C. Homelessness and housing services

1. Investments in rental assistance, eviction prevention, and foreclosure prevention programs.

Rental assistance programs should minimize the application burden on tenants and allow landlords to apply directly for assistance, under the condition that they forgive any unpaid rent; and foreclosure prevention programs should target low- and middle-income “mom and pop” landlords to ensure stability for their tenants through 2021;

2. Financial assistance for tenants to cover internet service costs;

3. Non-congregate shelter services that achieve the goals outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by allowing people experiencing homelessness who are at increased risk of contracting or having severe outcomes from COVID-19 to achieve adequate social distancing;

4. Housing services that achieve the goals outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by allowing people experiencing homelessness who are at increased risk for contracting or having severe outcomes from COVID-19 to move into non-congregate accommodations that allow for adequate hygiene and social distancing;

5. Acquisition of buildings for emergency or permanent housing to allow social distancing for populations at increased risk for COVID-19; and

6. Hygiene services for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

#### D. Immigrant and refugee support

1. Assistance to Seattle’s low-income immigrant and refugee workers and households who have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and who are not eligible for many relief programs;

2. Advice to recipients on potential impacts that temporary financial assistance may have on other income-tested benefits and programs; and

3. Services that provide language access support for low-income people who need help accessing and understanding federal, state, and local assistance programs, testing, and vaccines.

E. Child care

1. Financial assistance to family child care providers and child care centers through 2021;
2. Resources to support the construction of new child care centers or to assist with capital improvements to existing child care centers;
3. Investments in mentoring and other programs designed to assist child care providers in obtaining licensing and navigating the process of establishing child care programs; and
4. Investments in training and coaching for child care workers to support their professional development and expand career opportunities.

F. Small businesses, worker assistance, and workforce recovery

1. Financial assistance for small and micro-businesses (including nonprofit organizations), artists, performing arts venues, and entrepreneurs, with a focus on the creative industries, restaurants, and bars; and technical and language support for small and micro-businesses and nonprofit organizations seeking to apply for federal, state, and other resources through 2021;
2. Financial assistance for workers in the hospitality and restaurant/bar industries impacted by job or wage losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic through 2021;
3. Hazard pay for essential workers funded through City contracts;
4. Financial and/or technical assistance for organizers of free outdoor community events that support small businesses, contribute to neighborhood identity, and encourage community cohesion;
5. Resources to assist small businesses with preparing permit applications and navigating City permitting processes;
6. Workforce development investments tailored towards supporting workers most impacted by the combination of: pandemic-related job losses in the retail, food, arts, entertainment, and hospitality sectors; and the disruptions to child care and the shift to online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
7. Investments in employment, apprenticeship, and educational opportunities for young people,

prioritizing BIPOC youth.

G. Community wellbeing

1. Investments in essential household needs, such as diapers, for households impacted by the COVID-19 crisis;

2. Services and resources to reduce isolation and address mental health impacts of pandemic-related isolation for seniors; and

3. Investments in alternatives to using law enforcement to respond to hate violence and resources to address underlying causes of hate violence, particularly as it relates to hate violence against populations that have been associated with the origins of the virus that causes COVID-19.

H. Transportation

1. Investments in the public right-of-way and other public spaces to encourage walking, rolling, and biking;

2. Investments in transit services, particularly those that serve BIPOC communities;

3. Investments in critical transportation infrastructure, such as bridges; and

4. Restoration of funds that were cut from transportation infrastructure investments, including maintenance, in response to pandemic-related revenue losses.

I. Revenue replacement and financial resilience

1. Replacement of revenues that were lost due to the economic downturn caused by the pandemic, and strengthened financial resiliency by rebuilding the balances of the City's general-purpose fiscal reserves; and

2. Funding to ensure continuity of City services and stability of the City's workforce.

Adopted by the City Council the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

## SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE\*

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Contact/Phone:</b>
LEG	Pennucci x8148 / Ho x5989	N/A

*\* Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

### **1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:** A RESOLUTION identifying the City Council’s priorities to maximize local use of future federal funding to support COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts.

**Summary and background of the Legislation:** On March 10, 2021, the U.S. Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to provide \$1.9 trillion for COVID relief programs nationally, including direct aid for cities and counties, and aid for targeted programs (e.g., rental assistance, homelessness service investments, and restaurant grants). Of the amount allocated for local governments, Seattle is expected to receive about \$239 million (of which it will receive about 50 percent in 2021) in direct aid that can be used to: respond to or mitigate the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts; provide premium pay for employees of the City or other eligible employers who perform essential work; replace decreased revenues due to such emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year; or make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

This resolution would identify the Council’s priorities for this federal funding, based on priorities previously identified by Council through the 2020 Budget Revisions, Jump Start COVID Relief Plan, and the 2021 Adopted Budget. Development of the resolution included the following considerations: a need to begin pivoting the City’s efforts from acute emergency relief to long-term economic and community recovery; the potential to leverage other programs and partners; and a recognition of the City’s capacity constraints that limit its ability to deliver services. The spending priorities are guided by the principles of equity (prioritizing investments for those most impacted by COVID); coordination (ensuring that investments are coordinated with other entities to address gaps in service provision); flexibility (being nimble and prepared to respond as needed); and resilience (guarding against future uncertainty and positioning the City to make new investments as per Resolution 31957 – Jump Start Spending Plan). The priorities are grouped within the following categories:

- Vaccines and testing
- Food assistance
- Homelessness and housing services, including rental assistance
- Immigrant and refugee support
- Child care
- Small businesses, worker assistance, and workforce recovery
- Community wellness
- Transportation
- Revenue replacement and financial resilience

## 2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? \_\_\_ Yes X No

## 3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? \_\_\_ Yes X No

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?  
No.

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?  
No.

## 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**  
If federal funding is allocated as described in the resolution, a multitude of departments and offices (including but not limited to the Human Services Department, Office of Sustainability and Environment, Office of Economic Development, Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, and the Department of Education and Early Learning) would be involved in either providing services directly to residents or contracting with partner organizations to provide services.
- b. **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**  
No.
- c. **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**  
No.
- d. **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**  
No.
- e. **Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?**  
This resolution would identify how the Council intends to appropriate future federal funding, which will prioritize Latinx and BIPOC populations, who have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID pandemic. Short- and longer-term investments that prioritize these populations will help to address underlying systemic racial inequities, with the ultimate goal of emerging from the economic and public health crisis with a more equitable local economy.



**f. Climate Change Implications**

**1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?**

No.

**2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

No.

**g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).**

Not applicable.

**List attachments/exhibits below:**

None.

**Amendment #1 to  
RES 31999 – 2021 Federal COVID Relief Funds**

**Sponsor:** Councilmember Herbold

Amending subsection 2.G to include investments in gender-based violence response services.

Amend subsection 2.G as follows:

\* \* \*

G. Community wellbeing

1. Investments in essential household needs, such as diapers, for households impacted by the COVID-19 crisis;
2. Services and resources to reduce isolation and address mental health impacts of pandemic-related isolation for seniors; ~~and~~
3. Investments in alternatives to using law enforcement to respond to hate violence and resources to address underlying causes of hate violence, particularly as it relates to hate violence against populations that have been associated with the origins of the virus that causes COVID-19; ~~and~~
4. Investments in gender-based violence response services, including mobile, housing, and culturally specific advocacy, bilingual advocacy services, housing and relocation assistance, advocacy for victim-defendants, emergency financial assistance, civil legal aid, peer support, and systems coordination.

\* \* \*

**Effect:** This amendment adds investments in gender-based violence response services to the list of activities which may be funded with future federal funding to support COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts.

This funding would be in response to an anticipated 25% reduction in federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding allocated for domestic violence and sexual assault services in 2021 and 2022.



# **RESOLUTION 31999: Council's Priorities for Use of Federal COVID Response Funds**

---

YOLANDA HO, AMY GORE, ALY PENNUCCI, ANALYSTS

FINANCE & HOUSING COMMITTEE

MARCH 16, 2021

# Guiding Principles

---

- Equity
- Coordination
- Flexibility
- Resilience

# Council's Spending Priorities

---

- Vaccines and testing
- Food assistance
- Homelessness and housing services (including rental assistance)
- Immigrant and refugee support
- Child care
- Small businesses, worker assistance, and workforce recovery
- Community wellbeing
- Transportation
- Revenue replacement and financial resilience

# Amendment 1 – Councilmember Herbold

---

- Amending subsection 2.G to include the following in the “Community wellbeing” category.

*Investments in gender-based violence response services, including mobile, housing, and culturally specific advocacy, bilingual advocacy services, housing and relocation assistance, advocacy for victim-defendants, emergency financial assistance, civil legal aid, peer support, and systems coordination*

# Next Steps

---

- If the Committee votes to approve today, final action on RES 31999 is expected at the Council meeting on Monday, March 22.



Legislation Text

---

**File #:** Inf 1768, **Version:** 1

---

Overview of American Recovery Act





SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
**CENTRAL STAFF**

# Federal Funding & Council Priorities

---

ALY PENNUCCI, TOM MIKESELL, AND YOLANDA HO, ANALYSTS

FINANCE & HOUSING COMMITTEE

MARCH 16, 2021

# Presentation Overview

---

- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – high level summary
- Crosswalk of the spending priorities identified by Council in RES 31999 and certain targeted aid included in the ARPA
- Next steps

# Defining terms for purposes of this discussion

---

- **Support for Individuals / Households:**  
*Describes funding in ARPA that directly is distributed or used by individuals or households (e.g., stimulus checks; extended tax credits)*
- **Direct Aid:**  
*Describes funds in ARPA that will be granted directly to the City that can be used to support City's COVID response with significant flexibility on use of funds*
- **Targeted Aid:**  
*Describes funds in the ARPA for specific uses that ultimately will be distributed by State, County, or in some cases, City, agencies*

# H.R.1319 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021

---

\$1.9 trillion to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses. Includes funding for:

- agriculture and nutrition programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program);
- schools and institutions of higher education;
- child care and programs for older Americans and their families;
- COVID-19 vaccinations, testing, treatment, and prevention;
- mental health and substance-use disorder services;
- emergency rental assistance, homeowner assistance, and other housing programs;
- payments to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments for economic relief;
- multiemployer pension plans;
- small business assistance, including specific programs for restaurants and live venues;
- programs for health care workers, transportation workers, federal employees, veterans, and other targeted populations;
- international and humanitarian responses;
- tribal government services;
- scientific research and development;
- state, territorial, and tribal capital projects that enable work, education, and health monitoring in response to COVID-19; and
- health care providers in rural areas.

# ARPA – Individual/household support

---

- Individual/household Support\*
  - Direct stimulus payments to Individuals (\$1,400)
  - Extends enhanced unemployment benefits until September 6, 2021
  - \$10,200 of 2020 unemployment compensation tax-free;
  - Increases and extends the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit
  - Student loan forgiveness tax-free through 2025
  - Requires coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and treatment under Medicaid and CHIP

*\*Not an exhaustive list of all items in ARPA that will directly support individuals/households*

# ARPA – Direct Aid to Local Governments \$130.2 billion

---

Anticipated direct aid to the City of Seattle: \$239 million

- Distributed in two tranches
  - First Tranche: 50% within 60 days of enactment
  - Second Tranche: 50% not earlier than 12 months after the date of the first tranche was paid to the City
- Deadline to spend direct aid: December 31, 2024

# Eligible Uses of ARPA Direct Aid

---

- to respond to the public health emergency (including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality);
- to respond to workers performing essential work by providing premium pay to eligible City workers, and grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
- for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency; or
- to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

# Resolution 31999

## Council's Spending Priorities by Categories

---

- Vaccines and testing
- Food assistance
- Homelessness and housing services (including rental assistance)
- Immigrant and refugee support
- Child care
- Small businesses, worker assistance, and workforce recovery
- Community wellbeing
- Transportation
- Revenue replacement and financial resilience



## A guide to reading slides #9 - #19 of this presentation:

# [Priority Spending Category identified in RES 31999]

### Council Identified Priorities

- Lists of spending priorities under each category in the RES
- Items highlighted in pink indicate that staff has not identified ARPA targeted aid to date for the same or similar use
- Common abbreviations:
  - B = billion
  - M = million

### ARPA Targeted Aid

- Targeted aid in the final ARPA identified to date that could support:
  - the same or similar uses as the priorities identified in RES 31999
  - other activities related to previous Council discussions on the City's COVID response and budget deliberations

# Vaccines and Testing

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Vaccines
- Testing
- Strategies to ensure vaccines are provided equitably

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$14B for vaccine distribution, procuring vaccines and supplies, vaccine confidence activities
- \$47.8B for testing (includes contract tracing, IT solutions for public health data)

# Food Assistance

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Emergency Grocery Voucher program, or similar direct assistance
- Food support programs (including food banks, meal delivery, meals in shelter)
- New programs that partner with restaurants, local farms, and food entrepreneurs to provide meals

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- Extends 15% increase in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits through 9.30.2021
- \$1.15B for SNAP benefits through FY2023
- Extends Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) program, which replaces school meals with direct financial assistance, through summer 2021
- \$490M to increase Women, Infants and Children (WIC) vouchers through 9.30.2021
- Reimburse emergency shelter institutions for meals provided to those under the age of 25
- \$750M for nutrition programs for older Americans)

# Homelessness and Housing Services (1/2)

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Rental Assistance, Eviction Prevention, and Foreclosure Prevention Programs
- Internet service costs

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$21.6B for Rental Assistance (rent, utility payments, and other housing expenses)
- \$5B for Housing Vouchers
- \$10B for Mortgage Assistance + \$100M for housing counseling
- \$4.5 billion for utility assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- \$500 million for water assistance through the Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program.

# Homelessness and Housing Services (2/2)

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Non-congregate shelter and housing services
- Building acquisition
- Hygiene Services

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$5B Homelessness Assistance & Supportive Services Program
- \$30M for community-based overdose prevention, syringe services, and other harm reduction services
- \$50M for community-based local behavioral health needs

# Immigrant and Refugee Support

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Direct financial assistance
- Advice to recipients
- Language access support

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- n/a

# Child Care

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Financial assistance to family child care providers and child care centers through 2021
- New child care centers / improvements to existing centers
- Mentoring and other programs
- Training and coaching for child care workers

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$15B for the Child Care and Development Block Grant
- \$24B for Child Care Stabilization Grant

# Small businesses, worker assistance, and workforce recovery (1/2)

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Financial assistance for small and micro-businesses (includes nonprofits), artists, performing arts venues, and entrepreneurs;  
Focused on:
  - creative industries, restaurants, bars; and
  - technical and language support for small and micro-businesses and nonprofit organizations

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$7.25B for expanded PPP and expands eligibility
- \$15B for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (\$10k grants) ...
- \$28.6B for SBA grants to restaurants
- \$1.25B to expand Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program
- \$200M for libraries to reopen
- \$270M for arts and cultural organizations
- \$1.25B for Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program



# Small businesses, worker assistance, and workforce recovery (2/2)

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Financial assistance for workers in the hospitality and restaurant/bar industries
- Hazard pay for essential workers
- Financial assistance for organizers of free outdoor community events
- Resources to assist small businesses with preparing permit applications
- Workforce development investments
- Investments in employment, apprenticeship, and educational opportunities for young people, prioritizing BIPOC youth

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- n/a

# Community wellbeing

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Essential household needs (e.g., diapers)
- Senior isolation response
- Hate violence response

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$1.4B to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965
- \$7.2B to reimburse schools and libraries for internet access and connected devices
- \$10B to states to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring
- \$1.5B community mental health services
- \$1.5B to HHS substance abuse services

# Transportation

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- ROW projects to encourage walking, rolling, and biking
- Transit services
- Transportation infrastructure

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- \$30.4B to transit agencies to prevent layoffs and service cuts
  - \$100M to preserve intercity bus services
- \$10B to states to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring

# Revenue replacement and financial resilience

---

## Council Identified Priorities

- Replace lost revenues and rebuild reserves
  - 2021 Adopted Budget: \$40.7M from fiscal reserves
  - 2020 Revised Budget: \$29M from fiscal reserves + \$20M for Joint COVID Relief Plan
  - Compared to 2019, based on current revenue projections, base General Fund revenues down about \$150M annually in 2020 and 2021
- Continuity of Services

## ARPA Targeted Aid

- n/a

# Next Steps

---

Develop proposals for use of direct aid anticipated in 2021. Considerations:

- Additional research needed on (1) how and when targeted aid will be distributed (2) what resources may be provided by the State; and (3) where there may be gaps in service that could be supported by direct aid;
- Consider re-opening costs, including revisiting assumptions in the 2021 Adopted Budget about reopening;
- Identify resources to ensure continuity of services in future years that otherwise may be reduced due to projected ongoing pandemic induced base revenue losses;
- Determine appropriate level of funding flexibility to allow for programmatic adjustments in response to targeted aid distribution and changing COVID response needs.



Legislation Text

---

**File #:** CB 120019, **Version:** 1

---

**CITY OF SEATTLE**

**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**

**COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance 126237, which adopted the 2021 Budget, including the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP); changing appropriations to various departments and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget; and adding or modifying provisos; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, the Washington Governor issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a state of emergency for all counties throughout the state of Washington in response to new cases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, Mayor Jenny A. Durkan proclaimed a civil emergency in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution 31937 affirming the civil emergency, modifying orders transmitted by the Mayor related to the emergency, and establishing Council's expectations related to future orders and reporting by the Mayor during the civil emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that COVID-19 is officially a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend against removing encampments while there is community spread of COVID-19 unless there is adequate housing available, defined as individual housing and shelter options; and

WHEREAS, King County's Department of Community and Human Services has demonstrated success

utilizing hotels to provide non-congregate shelter to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with its funding of the JustCARE program and use of hotels to deintensify and increase social distancing for people utilizing shelters operated by the Downtown Emergency Services Center (DESC) and Catholic Community Services; and

WHEREAS, the number of people experiencing homelessness who are considered at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19 is estimated to exceed the number of non-congregate shelter beds that the City has created in 2020 and early 2021; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle should take steps to provide additional non-congregate shelter for people who are experiencing homelessness and are at high risk related to COVID-19 as quickly as possible to mitigate further spread of COVID-19 and protect individuals from severe illness, hospitalization, and the risk of death; and

WHEREAS, in addition to helping address the needs of people experiencing homelessness who are at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19, the reduction of encampments in the Pioneer Square and Chinatown-International District neighborhoods has had a substantial impact on businesses and neighbors in those areas; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. In order to pay for necessary costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred in 2021, but for which insufficient appropriations were made due to causes that could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of making the 2021 Budget, appropriations for the following items in the 2021 Budget are increased from the funds shown, as follows:

Item	Department	Fund	Budget Summary Level/BCL Code	Amount
1.1	Human Services Department	General Fund (00100)	Addressing Homelessness (HSD-BO-HS-H3000)	\$12,000,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$12,000,000</b>

Section 2. This ordinance imposes a proviso, as follows:

“Of the appropriation in the 2021 budget for the Addressing Homelessness Budget Summary Level (HSD-BO-HS-H3000) in the General Fund (00100) and notwithstanding powers provided to the Mayor by Section 3 of the Proclamation of Civil Emergency dated March 3, 2020, \$12,000,000 is appropriated solely to provide non-congregate shelter in hotel rooms, tiny home villages, and non-congregate enhanced shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are at increased risk for contracting or having severe outcomes from COVID-19 using a competitive procurement process and obtaining federal approval or pre-approval for the program, if necessary, and may be spent for no other purpose.”

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by a 3/4 vote of all the members of the City Council the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor



Filed by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

---

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

**SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE\***

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Contact/Phone:</b>
Legislative	Jeff Simms 206-475-9046	

\* Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.

**1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance 126237, which adopted the 2021 Budget, including the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP); changing appropriations to various departments and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget; and adding or modifying provisos; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

**Summary and background of the Legislation:** The legislation appropriates \$12 million to provide non-congregate shelter services in hotel rooms, tiny home villages, or enhanced shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are at increased risk for contracting or having severe outcomes from COVID-19. As possible, other Federal and State funding sources would be pursued to offset the cost of these services.

**2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?  Yes  No

**3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget?  Yes  No

Appropriation change (\$):	General Fund \$		Other \$	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
	12,000,000	-	-	-
Estimated revenue change (\$):	Revenue to General Fund		Revenue to Other Funds	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
	-	-	-	-
Positions affected:	No. of Positions		Total FTE Change	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
	-	-	-	-

**Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?**

The legislation appropriates funds to support non-congregate shelter services in 2021 but does not provide on-going funding for this activity. Additional funding would be necessary to continue providing these services in future years.

**Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?**

Continued community spread of COVID-19 will have on-going costs for the affected individuals, the City of Seattle, King County, Public Health-Seattle and King County, and medical providers. Providing non-congregate shelter for those most likely to contract or have severe outcomes from COVID-19 will help to diminish the spread of COVID-19.

**3.a. Appropriations**

**This legislation adds, changes, or deletes appropriations.**

Fund Name and number	Dept	Budget Control Level Name/#*	2021 Appropriation Change	2022 Estimated Appropriation Change
General Fund (00100)	Human Services Department	Addressing Homelessness (HSD-BO-HS-H3000)	12,000,000	-
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>12,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>

**Is this change one-time or ongoing?** This is a one-time change in appropriations.

**Appropriations Notes:**

**3.b. Revenues/Reimbursements**

**This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.**

**3.c. Positions**

**This legislation adds, changes, or deletes positions.**

**4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department? No
- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation? No
- c. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation? No
- d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? No
- e. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public? Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are disproportionately affected by COVID-19. In addition, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color disproportionately

experience homelessness, of which unsheltered homelessness is an especially acute condition. An intervention that will simultaneously lessen the risk of contraction and severe outcomes of COVID-19 for people most at risk and ameliorate some of the conditions of homelessness is, therefore, likely to disproportionately benefit Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, both the housed and those experiencing homelessness.

Previous efforts to provide outreach regarding COVID-19 and homelessness services have incorporated a variety of plans and publication strategies to ensure language access and cultural sensitivity. Acceptance of people who are at high risk regarding COVID-19 into the shelter beds created with these funds could leverage those efforts.

**f. Climate Change Implications**

1. **Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?** No. Utilizing hotels to provide shelter as a means to prevent COVID-19 transmission, rather than allowing a person to remain unsheltered, will result in carbon emissions. However, people experiencing unsheltered homelessness may otherwise access day center programs and burn items for warmth or food preparation. It is unclear which of these pathways creates the greatest emissions. In addition, the care costs associated with a person who requires isolation or hospitalization due to COVID-19 would increase carbon emissions by unknown amounts. Because the program is short-term, it is further unlikely that carbon emissions will increase in a material way.
2. **Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.** Unlikely to impact resiliency in a material way.

- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).** The new program is anticipated to provide enhanced shelter services for people experiencing homelessness who are at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19. Metrics demonstrating success in enrolling clients who are at high risk related to COVID-19 and reduced occurrence of COVID-19 transmission or severe outcomes from COVID-19 would be necessary to document program effectiveness. Enhanced shelters contracting with the City of Seattle typically have the following minimum and target performance standards, though it is unclear whether these continue to be required of programs during the COVID-19 pandemic or would apply for a short-term program intended to diminish COVID-19 transmission, hospitalization, and deaths:

	<b>Exit Rate to Permanent Housing</b>	<b>Length of Stay (Days)</b>	<b>Return Rate to Homelessness</b>	<b>Entries from Homelessness</b>	<b>Utilization Rate</b>
<b>Minimum Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles: 40%</li> <li>• Families: 65%</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 35%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles &amp; Families: 90</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 30</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles &amp; Families: 10%</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 20%</li> </ul>	90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles &amp; Families: 85%</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 90%</li> </ul>
<b>Target Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles: 50%</li> <li>• Families: 80%</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 50%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles &amp; Families: 30</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 20</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singles &amp; Families: 8%</li> <li>• Youth and Young Adults: 5%</li> </ul>	90%	95%



Legislation Text

---

**File #:** CB 120018, **Version:** 1

---

**CITY OF SEATTLE**

**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**

**COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE relating to grant funds from non-City sources; amending Ordinance 126237, which adopted the 2021 Budget; authorizing the Mayor or Mayor's designees to accept specified grants and execute related agreements for and on behalf of the City; changing appropriations to various departments; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

WHEREAS, more than half of Seattle's residents are renters, and even before COVID-19, a substantial share of renters paid more than 30 percent of their income to remain stably housed; and

WHEREAS, the global COVID-19 crisis shows that our collective health depends on people being stably housed; and

WHEREAS, Seattle renters are facing job loss, struggling with childcare, and dealing with other unprecedented financial burdens stemming from the global COVID-19 crisis, leaving many unable to pay rent; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding Governor Inslee's eviction moratorium, renters need to pay their rent to ensure long-term housing stability; and

WHEREAS, before the COVID-19 pandemic, people of color already experienced more negative health and life outcomes due to systemic inequities and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, these outcomes have become especially apparent during the pandemic as reflected in communities of color being disproportionately impacted by infections, deaths, and the resulting economic fallout; and

WHEREAS, national best practices highlight that, in order to have the most effective and greatest impact in providing equitable access to rent assistance programs by those most impacted by the pandemic, racial equity strategies are necessary; and

WHEREAS, these strategies are best informed and implemented by the people most deeply and directly impacted by the pandemic, most often by organizations based in communities of color and led by members of those communities with priorities on cultural competence, language access, and focused on addressing barriers caused by institutional and structural inequities; and

WHEREAS, data shows that those most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 include the following communities: Black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic/Latinx, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders, and Immigrant/Refugees; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Mayor, the Director of the Office of Housing, the Director of Seattle Public Utilities, the General Manager of Seattle City Light, and their respective designees, are authorized to accept the following non-City funding from the grantors listed below; and to execute, deliver, and perform, on behalf of The City of Seattle, agreements for the purposes described below. The funds, when received, shall be deposited in the receiving funds identified below to support the appropriations in Section 2 of this ordinance.

Item	Department	Grantor	Purpose	Fund	Amount
1.1	Executive (Office of Housing)	U.S. Treasury - Emergency Rental Assistance	Rental assistance and eviction prevention	Low-Income Housing Fund (16400)	\$20,522,605
1.2	Executive (Office of Housing)	U.S. Treasury - Emergency Rental Assistance	Rental assistance program administration	Office of Housing Fund (16600)	\$700,000
1.3	City Light (SCL)	U.S. Treasury - Emergency Rental Assistance	Emergency utility assistance	Light Fund (41000)	\$1,000,000
1.4	Seattle Public Utilities	U.S. Treasury - Emergency Rental Assistance	Emergency utility assistance	Water Fund (43000)	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$22,722,605</b>

Section 2. Contingent upon the execution of the grant or other funding agreement authorized in Section

1 of this ordinance, the appropriations for the following items in the 2021 Budget are increased from the funds shown, as follows:

Item	Department	Fund	Budget Summary Level/ BCL Code	Amount
2.1	Executive (Office of Housing)	Low-Income Housing Fund (16400)	Multifamily Housing (BO-HU-3000)	\$20,522,605
2.2	Executive (Office of Housing)	Office of Housing Fund (16600)	Leadership & Administration (BO-HU-1000)	\$700,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$21,222,605</b>

Unspent funds so appropriated shall carry forward to subsequent fiscal years until they are exhausted or abandoned by ordinance.

Section 3. Of the appropriations in items 2.1 and 2.2 of this ordinance,

A. \$6,200,000 from item 2.1 will be appropriated to community based agencies that have an established track record of serving communities that 1) have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19; and, 2) have a disproportionate need for rental assistance; and that have experience in managing rent assistance and/or homeless prevention dollars particularly during the current COVID-19 public health emergency for the purposes of rent assistance, homelessness prevention services, and associated administration costs, and may be spent for no other purpose.

B. \$8,000,000 from item 2.1 is appropriated via a subaward as a subrecipient to United Way of King County for the purposes of rent assistance, homelessness prevention services, and associated administration costs, and may be spent for no other purpose.

C. \$6,322,605 from item 2.1 and \$700,000 from item 2.2 is appropriated to the Office of Housing for the purposes of rent assistance, homelessness prevention services, and associated administration costs, for publicly-subsidized rent- and income-restricted affordable housing units, and may be spent for no other purpose.

Section 4. Any act consistent with the authority of this ordinance taken after its passage and prior to its



effective date is ratified and confirmed.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

**SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE\***

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Contact/Phone:</b>
OH	Rebecca Guerra/233-0066	Miguel Jimenez/684-5805

*\* Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

**1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to grant funds from non-City sources; amending Ordinance 126237, which adopted the 2021 Budget; authorizing the Mayor or Mayor’s designees to accept specified grants and execute related agreements for and on behalf of the City; changing appropriations to various departments; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

**Summary and background of the Legislation:** In order to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Treasury allocated \$25 billion in Emergency Rental Assistance funding in December 2020, of which the City of Seattle will receive approximately \$22.7 million. The funding will be allocated as follows:

- \$8M sub-award to the United Way of King County (UWKC) as a subrecipient to provide rental assistance (including rent arrearages) through the Office of Housing. Up to 10% of this may be used by the United Way for administrative costs.
- \$7M through the Office of Housing to assist tenants in publicly-subsidized rent- and income-restricted affordable housing. Of this total, 10% will be used for administrative costs, which includes 1.0 FTE term-limited Senior Grants & Contracts Specialist, as well as the purchase of a technology solution that will benefit all components of the grant and all partner agencies.
- \$6.2M to community-based organizations to achieve targeted racial equity outcomes. Funds will be awarded to agencies that have an established track record of serving communities that 1) have been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19; and, 2) have a disproportionate need for rental assistance; and that have experience in managing rent assistance and/or homeless prevention dollars particularly during the current Covid-19 public health emergency. Up to 10% of this may be used by the recipient agencies for administrative costs.
- \$1.5M for SCL/SPU emergency utility assistance to customers who have outstanding balances on their utility bills and are eligible for current emergency assistance programs. Of this amount, \$1M would be allocated to SCL and \$500,000 to SPU. It is anticipated that these funds would reduce arrearages thereby helping to prevent rental evictions.
  - o SCL – this would provide assistance to approximately 215 UDP delinquent accounts and fund up to 2% of the non-UDP customer delinquent amounts.
  - o SPU – these amounts would help 119 SPU UPD customers with their combined arrears of \$240,000 in excess of the emergency assistance credits SPU can

provide. In addition, it can help roughly 5% of the 2156 non-UDP customers who have combined delinquent balances of \$4.8 million beyond the emergency assistance SPU is able to provide.

The recommended funding allocation builds upon successes accomplished through City-funded COVID-19 rent assistance delivery in 2020 and expands partnerships to further racial equity outcomes. The recommended funding allocation reflects national best practices to: 1) allocate rent assistance to renters most vulnerable to COVID-19's health and economic impacts, particularly, communities of color; 2) administer rent assistance funds through existing channels; and 3) target resources to those with the lowest incomes.

To ensure racially equitable outcomes the recommended funding allocation includes awards to community based organizations with expertise serving populations who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and awards offered to providers of publicly-subsidized rent- and income-restricted affordable housing. This reflects input from BIPOC-led community-based organizations and national best practices, which both recommend partnerships with organizations embedded in communities most impacted by housing instability and COVID-19.

**2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? \_\_\_ Yes  X  No

**3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget?  X  Yes \_\_\_ No

Appropriation change (\$):	General Fund \$		Other \$	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
			\$21,222,605	
Estimated revenue change (\$):	Revenue to General Fund		Revenue to Other Funds	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
			\$22,722,605	
Positions affected:	No. of Positions		Total FTE Change	
	2021	2022	2021	2022

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?  
 No.

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?  
 The City would forego \$22.7 million of federal funding directly made available to the City in order to provide residents with emergency rental and utility assistance.

**3.a. Appropriations**

X This legislation adds, changes, or deletes appropriations.

Fund Name and number	Dept	Budget Control Level Name/#*	2021 Appropriation Change	2022 Estimated Appropriation Change
Low-Income Housing Fund (16400)	Exec (OH)	Multifamily Housing (BO-HU-3000)	\$20,522,605	
Office of Housing Fund (16600)	Exec (OH)	Leadership & Administration (BO-HU-1000)	\$700,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$21,222,605</b>	

\*See budget book to obtain the appropriate Budget Control Level for your department.

**Is this change one-time or ongoing?**

One-time

**3.b. Revenues/Reimbursements**

X This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

**Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from this Legislation:**

Fund Name and Number	Dept	Revenue Source	2021 Revenue	2022 Estimated Revenue
Low-Income Housing Fund (16400)	Exec (OH)	US Treasury – Emergency Rental Assistance Funds	\$20,522,605	
Light Fund (41000)	City Light (SCL)	US Treasury – Emergency Rental Assistance Funds	\$1,000,000	
Water Fund (43000)	Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)	US Treasury – Emergency Rental Assistance Funds	\$500,000	
Office of Housing Fund (16600)	Exec (OH)	US Treasury – Emergency Rental Assistance Funds	\$700,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$22,722,605</b>	

**Is this change one-time or ongoing?**

One-time

### 3.c. Positions

\_\_\_\_\_ This legislation adds, changes, or deletes positions.

**Position Notes:** OH proposes addressing its administrative needs with a term-limited out-of-class position for a Senior Grants & Contract Specialist.

### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

**a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**

Multiple City departments are affected, as described above.

**b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**

No.

**c. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**

No.

**d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**

No.

**e. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?**

The pandemic has had disproportionate health and economic impacts on people of color and low-income residents. In the Seattle MSA (King, Pierce, Snohomish Cos.), recent data showed that 11% of white households report they are not current on rent, compared to 21% of Latino households and 18% of Black households, which compounds pre-COVID housing instability and homelessness disproportionately experienced by households of color. This proposed funding allocation seeks to deepen equitable outcomes through targeted racial equity strategies, including with BIPOC-led or focused organizations. In addition, OH will partner with community organizations to provide equitable engagement and language access assistance to non-English speaking communities through funds offered by OIRA.

**f. Climate Change Implications**

**1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?**

No.

**2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

No.

- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).**

N/A

**List attachments/exhibits below:**

# Emergency Rental Assistance Proposed Allocations for Federal Funding

March 16, 2021

Office of Housing



**City of Seattle**

# Emergency Rental Assistance

Federal Emergency Rental Assistance, passed December 2020,  
Treasury Allocation of \$22.7M for the City of Seattle

Proposed legislation to accept funds and make allocation for  
uses throughout 2021

Builds on framework established for COVID-19 rental assistance

Proposal includes Rent & Utility Assistance Uses





# Building on Recent Work

In 2020 City distributed a combination of federal and local funds using three methods:

- United Way of King County's expanded Home Base program
- Operators of publicly subsidized buildings
- Community-based organizations



# Implementing National Best Practices

Utilizing lessons learned from national partners implementing rental assistance to:

- Leverage existing systems
- Prioritize funding based on need and vulnerability
- Invest in strategies designed to achieve racial equity



# Ongoing Rental Assistance Needs Are Significant

- An estimated 13,000 low-income households in Seattle are delinquent on rent
- Typical arrears of 1½ to 3 months of rent (\$3,000-\$5,000)
- 11% of white households report they are not current on rent, compared to 21% of Latino households and 18% of Black households

Extrapolated from Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue Metro Area Pulse Survey data



# Emergency Rental Assistance Allocations

Total Funding Available: \$22.7 Million

Funding Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury

Amount	Administrator	Purpose
\$8M	United Way of King County	Subaward for rental assistance to low-income residents
\$7M	Publicly subsidized affordable housing	Rental assistance for the lowest income residents
\$6.2M	Community-based organizations to achieve targeted racial equity outcomes	Rent assistance and support services through community outreach
\$1.5M	Seattle City Light / Seattle Public Utilities	Bill-paying assistance through emergency assistance programs



# Emergency Rental Assistance Eligibility

## Eligible Households

1. Qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19;
2. Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and
3. Has a household income at or below 80 percent AMI.

## Eligible Costs

1. 90% for direct financial assistance, including rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utilities and home energy costs arrears, and other expenses related to housing
2. 10% for housing stability services and administrative costs



# Emergency Rental Assistance Allocation 1

## \$8 million for United Way of King County (UWKC)

- Funding for UWKC to administer direct financial assistance to Seattle renters in need
- Leverage established system and align with King County
- Demand expected to be robust; aid provided in 2020 was consistently oversubscribed
- Over 70% of 2020 rent assistance provided to households headed by a person who was Black, Indigenous or a person of color



# Emergency Rental Assistance Allocation 2

\$7 million for publicly subsidized buildings

Strategy focused on reaching the lowest income households

- As in 2020, operators of publicly subsidized buildings will seek rent reimbursement on behalf of impacted tenants
- Sample organizations include Inter\*Im CDA, SCIDpda, Bellwether, Community Roots Housing, LIHI, El Centro de la Raza, and more
- A new technology solution for streamlined grant and data management and a 1.0 FTE term-limited Sr Grants and Contracts Specialist



# Emergency Rental Assistance Allocation 3

\$6.2 million for community-based organizations

Strategy focused on achieving racial equity outcomes

Funds will be competitively awarded to agencies with:

- established records serving communities that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and have a disproportionate need for rental assistance
- experience managing rental assistance and/or homelessness prevention funds, particularly during the current COVID-19 public health emergency





# Emergency Rental Assistance Allocation 4

## \$1.5 million for Seattle City Light & Seattle Public Utilities

- Funding for utility assistance for eligible renters who are behind on water/sewer and electricity payments
- Builds on the administrative infrastructure of the emergency assistance programs



# Timing and Next Steps

- Secure technology solution
- Establish process for quick contracting
- Discussions and questions?

