



Legislation Text

File #: Res 31866, Version: 2

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION establishing a Watch List of large, complex, discrete capital projects that will require enhanced quarterly monitoring reports for the 2019 calendar year.

WHEREAS, Seattle's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies planned spending and revenues for City capital projects during the upcoming six-year period; and

WHEREAS, updates to the CIP are adopted by the Seattle City Council ("Council") as part of the annual and supplemental budget process; and

WHEREAS, CIP oversight is a critical function of the Council; and

WHEREAS, effective CIP oversight ensures transparent, accountable use of public dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Council's ability to perform effective capital oversight is dependent on access to thorough information and the opportunity to review and process this information in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, City capital projects such as the Elliott Bay Seawall Project and the utilities' New Customer Information System cost millions of dollars over their original proposed budget and enhanced, timely reporting could have improved the Council's oversight by communicating potential project risks before the risks were realized; and

WHEREAS, oversight for the 2018-2023 Adopted CIP was improved via Council and City Budget Office review of capital project development and delivery, including seeking information from and holding conversations with some of the major capital departments on their project management practices and contingency budgeting, and conducting meetings to jointly discuss capital project issues across departments; and

WHEREAS, there is opportunity to improve CIP reporting and accountability to the Council and to use the Council's budgeting authority to improve financial oversight; and

WHEREAS, the City benefits from effective Executive management controls and Council oversight for projects that have a significant financial, policy, or programmatic impact on the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Levy to Move Seattle Oversight Committee members sent a letter to the Mayor and the Council on August 23, 2018, recommending "regularly reporting on progress and challenges as projects move through their development process, especially as the true cost to deliver these projects comes into greater focus"; and

WHEREAS, in November 2016 the Council adopted and the Mayor signed Resolution 31720 to "institute new rigor in capital project oversight that will increase appropriate and timely oversight and provide more transparency to the public," through, among other things, "[e]nhanced regular CIP reporting developed in conjunction with the City Budget Office, including but not limited to quarterly reports to the Budget Committee on project scope, schedule, or budget deviations"; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide uniformity across City departments, and to communicate progress of projects during the budget process and in monitoring reports, City capital departments agreed to use common terminology identifying project stages; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has imposed stage-based provisos for selected projects in 2018, to allow spending of authorized appropriations only for specified activities unless and until the City Council passes future separate ordinances lifting such provisos; and

WHEREAS, the City Council Briefings Committee reviewed and provided feedback on May 7, 2018, to the City Budget Office and the Council's Central Staff on a proposed new quarterly report format with more in-depth budget, schedule, and scope information about a limited number of capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the City Budget Office transmitted on September 5, 2018, the first quarterly capital projects

“Watch List” report and summary information about discrete and programmatic projects with more in-depth information about capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the Council adopted Resolution 31853 <<https://seattle.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3718436&GUID=3DE31EEF-F70E-4885-B5BC-245C47FB89EA&Options=Advanced&Search=>>, establishing enhanced reporting requirements for the City’s Capital Improvement Program projects and establishing the City’s intent to use a stage-gate appropriation process for selected projects; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2019, the Executive transmitted for Council’s consideration a Proposed Watch List of projects requiring enhanced quarterly reports; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR

CONCURRING, THAT:

Section 1. The Seattle City Council (“Council”) establishes the following as the 2019 Watch List of capital projects as shown in Table 1:

Table 1: 2019 Watch List

	Department	CIP Project ID	Project Name
A.	Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR)	MC-PR-21007	Parks Central Waterfront Piers Rehabilitation
B.	DPR	MC-PR-21005	Smith Cove Park Development
C.	DPR	MC-PR-41040	Lake City Community Center Improvements
D.	Seattle City Light (SCL)	MC-CL-ZT8307	Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement - Utility Relocations
E.	SCL	MC-CL-YT7125	Denny Substation Transmission Lines
F.	Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)	MC-TR-C072	Alaskan Way Main Corridor
G.	SDOT	MC-TR-C040	Center City Streetcar Connector
H.	SDOT	MC-TR-C073	Overlook Walk and East-West Connections Project
I.	SDOT	MC-TR-C051	Madison Street Bus Rapid Transit
J.	SDOT	MC-TR-C066	Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement
K.	SDOT	MC-TR-C028	S Lander St. Grade Separation
L.	SDOT	MC-TR-C013	Roosevelt Multimodal Corridor
M.	SDOT	MC-TR-C037	23rd Avenue Corridor Improvements

N.	SDOT	MC-TR-C030	Northgate Bridge and Cycle Track
O.	SDOT	MC-TR-C042	Delridge Multimodal Corridor
P.	SDOT	MC-TR-C012	Center City Gateway and South Michigan Street Intelligent Transportation Systems
Q.	Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)	MC-SU-C3614	Ship Canal Water Quality Project
R.	SPU	MC-SU-C3806	South Park Stormwater Program

Section 2. The Council requests that the Mayor submit an enhanced quarterly report for each project on the 2019 Watch List in the manner and on the timeline described in Resolution 31853 <<https://seattle.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3718436&GUID=3DE31EEF-F70E-4885-B5BC-245C47FB89EA&Options=Advanced&Search=>>>. The Council further requests that the Mayor continue to provide information as soon as practicable about these and other large, complex, discrete capital projects whenever significant budget, schedule, or scope risks are developing that may require Council decisions. Similarly, and consistent with Resolution 31853, the Council invites the Mayor to add any other projects to the 2019 Watch List through the course of the year and then to provide enhanced quarterly reporting for those other capital projects in order to enable the Council to make critical policy choices - changing funding, adjusting scope, etc. - as early as possible and before identified risks develop into actual implementation challenges.

Section 3. The Council intends to review the enhanced quarterly reports and to determine whether and how to stage Council approval of funding for each project on the 2019 Watch List.

Section 4. The City Council anticipates that the Finance and Neighborhoods Committee (or successor committee) will review the enhanced quarterly reports.

Adopted by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2019, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2019.

 President _____ of the City Council

The Mayor concurred the _____ day of _____, 2019.

 Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2019.

 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)