Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

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2020 Proposed Budget Overview

September 27, 2019

1. Legislative & Policy Framework

Change	Detail	Effects/Outcomes
National Federal Immigration Enforcement (2017-2018)	• 11% increase in ICE arrests • 13% increase in ICE removals (deportations)	Fear and negative health and wellness impacts to immigrants across the country
Seattle Area Immigration Enforcement (2016-2018)	• 14% increase in ICE arrests • 96% increase in ICE removals	Demand for legal services exceeds capacity
DACA in jeopardy (2018)	3 district court decisions	• No new applicants • Fear to renew • Fee barrier for applicants • Employment barriers for ~16K youth without DACA in WA

Legislative & Policy Framework (cont.)

Change	Detail	Effects/Outcomes
Elimination of Temporary Protective Status (TPS) (2018)	TPS eliminated for 10 countries*	~320,000 in US could become undocumented beginning in Jan. 2020; employment barriers, need for legal services
Public Charge (2018)	Rule change to affect US entry and LPR applicants	Chilling effect: self-withdrawal; US-citizen children second-class status; undermines Seattle equity values and programs

*El Salvador, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Nepal

Legislative & Policy Framework (cont.)

Change	Detail	Effects/Outcomes
U.S. House Bills (2019/20)	• New American Dreams • Protect and DREAM Act	Bill to federally fund integration programs such as naturalization; path to citizenship for undocumented youth, TPS/DED (Deferred Enforced Departure)
Naturalization Barriers for lawful permanent residents (LPRs) (2019/20)	Interview relocation change; fee waiver change/ elimination; fee increase; Notice to Appear	Increased risk and difficulty, particularly for low-income applicants

Legislative & Policy Framework (cont.)

Change	Detail	Effects/Outcomes
Refugee Reductions (2019/20)	Federal Administration threatens to reduce refugee admittance cap to **zero**	Loss of capacity for 5 VOLAGs (refugee resettlement agencies), reduced population eligible for City's naturalization services
Family Separation & Indefinite Detention (2019/20)	Detention Centers, Flores Settlement	Trauma for kids, stress on community partners*
OLAP Reorganization (2019/20)	Eliminating DOJ Office of Legal Access Programs	Threat to LDN, NCP and NCC programs reliant on OLAP accredited representative staff

*Some children separated from their families at the border & unaccompanied minors transferred to facilities in Washington State, e.g. Cowlitz County Juvenile Detention Center

2. Strategic Priorities for 2020

	Priorities	Goal(s)	Outcome(s) in 2020
LOCAL	• Administrative rule changes • SCOTUS DACA decision	Protect residents from unjust federal policies and decisions	• Public comment • Education • Support of legal strategies
STATE	Keep Washington Working Act	Ensure City readiness	• Updated Mayoral directive • City staff trained
FEDERAL	US House immigration bills: • New American Dreams • Protect and DREAM Act	Support federal immigration reform	• Endorse • Advocacy (City & C4A)

Strategic Priorities for 2020 (cont.)

Priority	Goal(s)	Action(s)	Outcome(s) in 2020
Engage, Collaborate, Coordinate	• Pursue public-private partnership opportunities • Community engagement for Mayoral and Council priorities, Census 2020 • Public charge education and communications		Increased community awareness of new barriers and support for immigrant safety and well-being
Maintain Excellent Services	• Accountability, performance • Service sector resiliency	• Maintain high-performing contracts with community providers • Mitigate barriers for clients and community partners	OIRA program models and contracts reflect increased time and services to ensure client success

3. Four-Year Budget Summary

	2017 Actual ($000s)	2018 Actual ($000s)	2019 Adopted ($000s)	2020 Proposed ($000s)
Appropriation (GF)	$3,106	$4,628	$5,278	$3,954
Change Year to Year (in $, %)	$657 27%	$1,522 49%	$650,115 14%	($1,323) (25%)
Appropriation (Other)	$456	-	-	-
Change Year to Year ($, %)	($86) (16%)	($456) (100%)	0%	0%
Employment (FTEs)	9.5	9	9.5	9.5
Change Year to Year (Count, %)	n/a	(0.5) (5%)	0.5 6%	0.5 0%