

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Parks and Recreation

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to King County Conservation Futures Levy proceeds; authorizing the Mayor or designee to enter into Amendment 6 to the Conservation Futures Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between King County and The City of Seattle for Open Space Acquisition Projects; authorizing the deposit of both the 2025 reallocations and the 2026 allocations from King County Conservation Futures Levy proceeds into The City of Seattle’s Park and Recreation Fund; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Background: The Conservation Futures Levy is a county-wide property tax collected by King County for the acquisition of open space and natural areas, urban greenspaces, trails, and agricultural lands dating back to 1989. The City has maintained an interlocal funding agreement with King County since 1990 which has been successively amended based on both available funding and eligible projects. In 2021, the City passed Ordinance 126477 which authorized King County’s revised Interlocal Agreement with the City, which restarted the amendment sequencing. As such, this legislation authorizes Amendment 6 to the current Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (“Interlocal”) between The City and King County for the Acquisition of Open Space Projects. The legislation is authorizing the reallocation of \$280,000 in available 2025 King County

Conservation Futures funding (County-wide reallocated funds) to reimburse costs for properties SPR has already acquired and the acceptance of up to \$6,968,000 in 2026 funding for properties that may be acquired as detailed in following table.

2025 REALLOCATION AWARDS	Additional funds to reimburse costs for properties already acquired with Conservation Futures Levy funding.
Longfellow Creek Addition (otherwise known as Longfellow Creek Greenspace) – (SSC) ¹	\$100,000
North Beacon Hill/Mt. Baker Urban Villages – 17 th Ave S & S Walker St – (ACQ) ²	\$80,000
North Beacon Hill/Mt. Baker Urban Villages - 17 th Ave S & S Walker St (otherwise known as 17 th Ave S & S Walker St) - (SSC)	\$50,000
Westwood – Highland Park Residential Urban Village (RUV) Gap (otherwise known as Westwood Highland Park) – (ACQ)	\$50,000
SUBTOTAL	\$280,000
2026 ALLOCATION AWARDS	Funding for properties that may be acquired with Conservation Futures Levy proceeds.
Belltown Portal Bellwether Parcel – (ACQ)	\$1,000,000
Lakeridge Park Addition – (ACQ)	\$300,000
Lakeridge Park Addition – (SSC)	\$50,000
Delridge Native Forest – (ACQ)	\$5,618,000

¹ **SSC:** Site stabilization expenses include demolition, signage, fencing, etc.

² **ACQ:** Acquisition expenses include purchase and/or associated costs to acquire property (i.e., title, appraisal, environmental, etc.)

SUBTOTAL	\$6,968,000
TOTAL	\$7,248,000

This legislation relates to the funding for these potential acquisitions. Separate legislation will address the acquisition.

Summary Attachment:

Summary Attachment A – Maps of Conservation Futures Levy Projects

2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

Yes

No

a. CIP Project Name: Park Land Acquisition & Leverage Fund

b. Master Project ID: MC-PR-21001

c. Project Location: Citywide

d. Start Date: N/A

e. End Date: N/A

f. Total Project Cost Through 2030: \$39.2M

3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

Yes

No

b. Revenue Change to Other Funds

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
\$280,000	\$6,968,000 (est)			

3b. Revenues/Reimbursements

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

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept.	Revenue Source	2026 Revenue	2027 Estimated Revenue
Park And Recreation Fund (10200)	SPR	Building For the Future	\$280,000	
Park And Recreation Fund (10200)	SPR	Building For the Future		\$6,968,000

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes: No appropriation is necessary as revenue backs existing and prior appropriation. Further, it is anticipated that King County may directly fund escrow for the Delridge Native Forest and Lakeridge properties identified as 2026 acquisitions estimated at \$5,968,000, Therefore, while the legislation authorizes accepting revenues up to \$6,968,000 as land is acquired, SPR may not receive all of these proceeds for those acquisitions.

3d. Other Financial Impacts

a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.

SPR will incur maintenance costs to maintain the acquired land-banked sites until future development funding is identified and appropriated.

b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle

these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?

SPR's associated maintenance costs for these land-banked sites are minimal until properties are developed. SPR will absorb the additional maintenance costs within existing budget appropriation.

c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?

This funding is integral to SPR's land acquisition program, and without it, these acquisition projects (notably Delridge Native Forest and Lakeridge Park Addition) will have to be abandoned, severely impacting the City's ability to preserve natural areas, increase tree canopy, and provide neighborhood park sites to those urban areas experiencing population growth together with park service gaps.

d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?

Not applicable.

4. Other Impacts

a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?

Yes

No

b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?

Yes

No

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No, this is not a property acquisition ordinance, this is an ordinance seeking approval to accept funding.

d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:

1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion?

Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.

Conservation Futures Levy funding is used to match City funding for the acquisition of parks and open space. One of the priorities for the use of these funds is the acquisition of property in areas of the city lacking parks and open space, which tend to be high-density, low-income communities experiencing equity and health issues as identified in the Park and Open Space Plan. As mentioned, two of the 2026 grant applications totaling \$5,968,000 qualified for match waivers because the demographic data met the threshold based on this Open Space Plan. These match-waived grants will cover almost 100% of the acquisition costs for both the Delridge Native Forest and the Lakeridge Park Addition (both of which are designated “higher disadvantage and priority” in the City’s Race and Social Equity Index). Without this waiver, the City would have been required to provide a 25% match.

2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.

There were not Racial Equity Toolkits used for the development of this legislation. SPR’s Park Development Plan & Gap Analysis Update Vol. 2 analyzes the geographic service gaps for park space within communities, including a map by Racial and Social Equity Composite Index. The Gap Analysis is included in the link below:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/2576566fd50747eb8a25432380b2f018>

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?

This legislation requests the reallocation of 2025 Conservation Futures Levy funds and the acceptance of 2026 funds. Broader and inclusive communications plans are included in the eventual development of acquired properties.

e. Climate change impacts:

1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.

This funding supports green space and neighborhood park land acquisitions (including the Delridge Native Forest) to help maintain carbon neutrality/decrease carbon emissions at these locations, as they will ultimately be developed or redeveloped for park and recreation uses.

2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.

This legislation provides for the preservation of park land and open space to support Seattle's resiliency to climate change.

f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?

Not applicable.

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?

No.