

**2013 - 2014 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent**

**Ready for Notebook**

Tab	Action	Option	Version
107	2	A	1

**Budget Action Title:** Community Center Attendance and Usage Analysis by DPR

**Councilmembers:** Bagshaw; Clark; Conlin

**Staff Analyst:** Kathy Nyland; Traci Ratzliff

Date		Total	SB	BH	TR	RC	TB	NL	JG	SC	MO
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

**Statement of Legislative Intent:**

The Council requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation provide a report to the Council’s Parks and Neighborhoods Committee by September 9th, 2013 that would include information on usage of all community centers, and whether additional funding is needed to provide hours to some community centers that cannot be provided via reallocation of hours as part of the Geographic Management Model.

The Council also requests that DPR provide a progress report on attendance figures in early June 2013- approximately one year after the last of the infrared “people counters” was installed.

In the fall of 2010, City Council adopted Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) 101-1-A-1, also known as the Community Center Partnership and Planning Analysis. This SLI requested that the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) examine new models of operation and management for the community center system.

DPR worked closely with community leaders and their recreational partners (including the Associated Recreation Council and Advisory Councils), the City Budget Office, and the City Council. As a result of this nine-month effort, DPR announced an alternative management, staffing, and operating hours model for the City’s Community Centers in the summer of 2011.

The Geographic Management of Community Centers created five teams within the city and each team had tiered service levels for the Community Centers. The service levels are Level 1 (70 public hours per week), Level 2a (45 public hours per week), and 2b (25 public hours per week).

The new management model included coordinated management, staffing, and program planning for the four or five centers clustered within each geographic team. One geographic team manager is responsible for the management of all the centers within his/her sector and programming is to

complement each center within a cluster. Geographic team managers can also adjust hours and programming at individual centers to meet the demand and need of different centers within a cluster.

Because the new Geographic Management Model of Operation is based on proven demand and need, Council included \$205,000 funding in the 2012 Adopted budget so DPR could purchase and install infrared “people counters” at each center. These counters have now been installed at each Community Center and data is being collected to show the number of people utilizing the center by time of day.

During deliberations of the 2013 2014 proposed budget, DPR has stated that it is premature to make modifications to the classifications and tiers of community centers. They would prefer to gather 15 to 18 months of data before revisiting and making adjustments.

Council desires to monitor this effort closely to ensure the new management model of the community centers is a success. This SLI would request DPR to provide a comprehensive report on the attendance and usage of all the community centers within the DPR system.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Parks and Neighborhoods

**Date Due to Council:** June 1, 2013 (Progress Report)  
September 9, 2013