

2014 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

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| Tab | Action | Option | Version |
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Budget Action Title: Measuring Neighborhood Public Safety and Street Disorder

Councilmembers: Budget Committee

Staff Analyst: Peter Harris; Traci Ratzliff; Christa Valles

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

Statement of Legislative Intent:

The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program and the Center City Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) both focus their operations on individuals, but are intended to improve the street environment by reducing crime and disorder. The more we know about the specific neighborhood problems we are trying to solve with these and other public safety efforts, the more focused these efforts can be, and the more likely we will know whether they are effective.

To these ends, the Council requests that the Executive clearly identify the problems to be addressed in downtown neighborhoods, measure and document the extent and location of the problems, and report quarterly to the Council on progress being made to resolve the identified problems.

This means measuring street crimes and infractions by time and location. It means connecting those crimes and infractions, where possible, to proximate causes, and identifying locations where similar or related crimes and infractions cluster. This is primarily a job for the Police Department.

It also means measuring other forms of street disorder that may also contribute to street crime and fear of crime, such as graffiti, litter, vacant storefronts, poor lighting and broken facilities. This would be a job for multiple Departments, including but not limited to Police, to be led by the Executive.

It also means determining whether street crime and disorder are concentrated in small geographic areas, as is often the case. The Council requests that the Executive identify any such areas and explain whether and how LEAD, the MDT and any other interventions will be focused on them.

The Council requests that the Police Department and Executive specify the problems to be measured by February 1, 2014, produce the initial baseline measures by June 30, 2014, and report quarterly to the Council on progress being made to resolve the identified problems.

While the initial focus of this SLI is our downtown neighborhoods, the protocols and practice developed here to diagnose, treat and monitor harms can be applied as well in other neighborhoods.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology

Date Due to Council: February 1 and June 30, 2014, and quarterly thereafter