

2015 - 2016 Seattle City Council Green Sheet

Ready for Notebook

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101	1	A	1

Budget Action Title: Add \$75,000 in 2015 for an economic impact analysis of oversize loads

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Councilmembers: Burgess; Clark; O'Brien

Staff Analyst: Peter Lindsay

Council Bill or Resolution:

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

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

	2015 Increase (Decrease)	2016 Increase (Decrease)
General Subfund		
General Subfund Revenues	\$0	\$0
<u>General Subfund Expenditures</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Net Balance Effect	\$0	\$0
Other Funds		
Transportation Operating Fund (10310)		
Revenues	\$0	\$0
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>\$75,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Net Balance Effect	(\$75,000)	\$0
Total Budget Balance Effect	(\$75,000)	\$0

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Budget Action description:

This green sheet would add \$75,000 to the Transportation Operating Fund using fund balance in 2015 for the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) to conduct a cost-benefit and economic impact analysis for various approaches to managing oversize container loads traveling in and out of the Port of Seattle.

Council requests SDOT analyze and evaluate the proposed heavy haul corridor within the City of Seattle as well as other approaches for transporting overweight containers such as the use of special chassis and rigging. The analysis of the heavy haul corridor should include potential on-going or systemic costs related to maintenance and enforcement of the proposed route, potential alternatives to developing a heavy haul corridor, and explain what role, if any, the heavy haul corridor plays in the overall Freight Master Plan.

A Statement of Legislative Intent 101-2-A provides SDOT direction on Council expectations regarding the study.

Background

Seattle’s working waterfront is an essential component of Seattle’s economy. Port operations generate nearly 200,000 jobs throughout our region and the goods that move through the Port of Seattle reach families and households throughout the United States. The City is committed to being a strong partner with the Port of Seattle to ensure that goods and services can move in and out of the city in efficient and cost effective ways.

SDOT is working with the Port of Seattle to implement upgrades for a heavy haul corridor to facilitate oversize container loads between the container terminal and the Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail yard facilities. The Port of Seattle maintains that Seattle port operations are at a competitive disadvantage because City of Seattle truck weight regulations create a burden on shippers. Shippers must utilize special equipment to stay below the City of Seattle’s 80,000 Gross Vehicle Weight limit. In order to remain a competitive point of entry for discretionary international cargo, the Port would like to increase truck weight limits along designated city streets. Allowing heavier vehicles along the route would lower logistical costs and provide a time savings; as a result, potential shippers would find the Port of Seattle a more attractive entry point for international cargo.

SDOT is also in the midst of developing the Freight Master Plan and has indicated a desire to identify the heavy haul corridor prior to any major capital project. Since the Mayor’s 2016 budget proposes a financial investment in the corridor, the Council requests SDOT develop a study and report findings regarding the economic basis for the City’s participation in the project and explain any potential operating costs related to enforcement.

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Budget Action Transactions

Budget Action Title: Add \$75,000 in 2015 for an economic impact analysis of oversize loads

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Add \$75,000 in fund balance to the Transportation Operating Fund				SDOT	USE OF FUND BALANCE	379100	10310	2015	\$75,000	
2	Increase appropriation for Heavy Haul Corridor study				SDOT	Mobility-Operations	17003	10310	2015		\$75,000