

2015 - 2016 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

Tab	Action	Option	Version
101	2	A	2

**Budget Action Title:** Heavy Haul Corridor Implementation

**Councilmembers:** Burgess; Clark; O'Brien

**Staff Analyst:** Peter Lindsay

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

**Statement of Legislative Intent:**

This Statement of Legislative Intent requests SDOT to prepare a written report on the proposed Heavy Haul Corridor that includes the following information:

1. An analysis of the costs associated with transporting oversize container loads between the Port of Seattle's container terminals and the rail yards on City streets. The report should identify who pays the direct cost of trucking equipment modifications related to oversize container loads and describe any cost impacts to drayage drivers operating between the container terminals and the rail yards.
2. Identification of the policy rationale for a City contribution to developing a Heavy Haul Corridor and an explanation of why the City should pay any of the costs related to creation of the Corridor.
3. Identification of the core principles framing cost sharing negotiations between the Port of Seattle and the City of Seattle with regards to:
  - a. the proportionate responsibility for capital investment on streets included in the Heavy Haul Corridor, and

- b. the proportionate responsibility for operating and capital costs associated with enforcing equipment and haul regulations along the Heavy Haul Corridor.
4. Detailed reporting of the proposed Heavy Haul Corridor enforcement and inspection process including a description of the anticipated enforcement activities, any anticipated capital requirements supporting enforcement, any estimates of potential on-going operating costs related to enforcement, and an analysis of potential permit fee revenues.
5. Evaluation of how the proposed Heavy Haul Corridor capital improvements and operating elements are linked to or reflected in the Freight Master Plan.
6. Descriptions and timing of anticipated Council actions related to the planning and implementation of the Heavy Haul Corridor.
7. Identification of the proposed Heavy Haul Corridor routes and discussion of the process and rationale that justifies the specific routing structure.

Council requests that a written report be submitted to the Council's Transportation Committee by April 3, 2015.

### **Background**

SDOT is working with the Port of Seattle to implement upgrades for a Heavy Haul Corridor to facilitate oversized container loads between the container terminals 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. 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; potential shippers would find the Port of Seattle a more attractive entry point for international cargo.

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.

The Mayor's 2016 proposed budget includes a \$1.5M investment in the Heavy Haul Corridor. The Council is interested in understanding more about the potential impacts of the proposed investment, the principles framing negotiations with the Port of Seattle, and what role (if any) does the Heavy Haul Corridor play in the Freight Master Plan. It is the Council's intent to provide the \$1.5M in 2016 contingent upon the report's findings.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Transportation

**Date Due to Council: 4/3/15**