

FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
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Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE related to Orion O. Denny Park; authorizing the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation to enter into an Operation and Maintenance Agreement with the City of Kirkland for Orion O. Denny Park.

Summary of the Legislation:

The proposed Council Bill will authorize an agreement with the City of Kirkland for operation and maintenance of Orion O. Denny Park.

Background: The City owns O.O. Denny Park, located in the City of Kirkland. Seattle’s ownership of a park in Kirkland stems from the pioneering Denny family. Orion Denny, the son of Seattle pioneer Arthur Denny, bought 46 acres on the east side of Lake Washington for a country estate. After Mr. Denny died, his wife willed the property to the City of Seattle to be a public park. The park first opened in 1922 and was used for many years as a summer camp for City children.

King County operated and maintained the park at an annual cost of approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000. Due to budget constraints, the County discontinued this funding in January 2001 and the park was left untended. On November 7, 2002, voters within the Finn Hill neighborhood approved Proposition No. 1, creating the Finn Hill Park and Recreation District (FHPRD), a metropolitan parks district created to fund operation and maintenance of O.O. Denny Park. In 2012, the City of Kirkland annexed the Finn Hill neighborhood, including the park, and with the passage of Proposition No. 2, on November 6, 2012 funding was authorized for Kirkland to operate and maintain the O.O. Denny Park.

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) wishes to ensure the continued operation of the park by Kirkland, as DPR had previously done with the FHPRD. The proposed agreement:

- Assigns all on-going maintenance and operations costs to Kirkland;
- Establishes maintenance standards; and
- Sets a five-year term for the agreement, allowing either party to opt out with prior notice, and providing for annual renewals after the initial five-year term.

As with other properties the City owns but does not operate, the City retains responsibility for major capital improvements and major repairs. Because the majority of O.O. Denny Park is forest land and open space, with one picnic shelter and one comfort station, it is not anticipated

that there will be significant major maintenance requirements. The most recent example of Seattle improving the park was a 2001 reimbursement of \$2,000 to a neighborhood group for installation of an information kiosk. The proposed agreement caps the City's major capital improvements and major repair responsibilities, should they arise, at \$5,000 per year in each category.

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

This legislation has financial implications.

Other Implications:

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**
Annual operating and maintenance costs are solely funded by Kirkland and implemented through the proposed agreement with the City. DPR will not incur or be obligated for any ongoing expenditures as a result of this legislation.
- b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?**
The City would could either operate and maintain the park itself, which historically has not been funded by the City, or close the park.
- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
No.
- d) **What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?** There are none.
- e) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?** No.
- f) **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?** No.
- g) **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?** Yes.
- h) **Other Issues:** None

List attachments to the fiscal note below:

Attachment A: Map of O.O. Denny Park

Attachment A: Map of O.O. Denny Park in the City of Kirkland

