BILL SUMMARY & FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
Legislative	Nate Van Duzer/4-8806	NA

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE requiring the reporting of lost and stolen firearms; and creating a new Chapter 10.78 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and background of the Legislation:

This legislation requires individuals to report to the Seattle Police Department when firearms they owned have been lost or stolen. The report shall be made within 24 hours after the theft or loss is first discovered. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be a civil infraction subject to a fine of up to $500.

Background

Federal law currently requires firearms businesses with a federal license to report lost or stolen guns, but the law does not extend to individual gun owners. Illegal guns pose a threat to public safety in Seattle. The Seattle Police Department has taken 2,657 firearms into custody since January 2012 through the course of its regular duties. Crime statistics show guns play a significant role in many crimes against persons in Seattle, with crime reports indicating the involvement of a firearm in 69% of homicides, 17% of robbery incidents and 8% of aggravated assaults that took place from January 2012 to May 2015.

Reporting requirements promote public safety by enabling law enforcement to better track the flow of illegal guns, returning lost guns to their rightful owners, and protecting gun owners from being implicated in crimes committed with lost or stolen guns. Two different national polls from 2011 and 2012 found strong support for mandatory reporting of lost or stolen guns among both the general public and gun owners.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

____ **This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.**

Project Name:	Project I.D.:	Project Location:	Start Date:	End Date:	Total Cost:

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Please check one:

____ This legislation has direct financial implications.

_X__ This legislation does not have direct financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a) Does the legislation have indirect or long-term financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above?
Gun violence carries substantial costs to its victims and society at large. Every effort that reduces the probability of gun violence from taking place will save lives and money.

b) Is there financial cost or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?
Public Health of Seattle & King County estimated the total economic costs of firearm deaths and injuries in the County to average $181 million per year from 2009-2013.

c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?
The Seattle Police Department will be responsible for logging reports of lost or stolen guns.

d) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?
No

e) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?
No

f) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?
No

g) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?
Interpersonal gun violence takes a particular toll on communities of color; young African American men are most acutely at risk. Efforts to reduce opportunities for gun violence in our community will benefit this population.

h) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program's desired goals.
NA

i) Other Issues:

List attachments below: