

Resolution No. 31445

A RESOLUTION responding to the Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI) review of the South Lake Union rezone by the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team, and creating a work plan for advancing RSJI goals in response to that review.

# The City of Seattle - Legislative Department

Resolution sponsored by: [Signature]

## Committee Action:

Date	Recommendation	Vote
4/22/13	Adopt	9-0

Related Legislation File: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Introduced and Referred: <u>4.22.13</u>	To: (committee): <u>South Lake Union</u>
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action: <u>5/6/13</u>	Date Presented to Mayor: _____
Date Signed by Mayor: _____	Date Returned to City Clerk: <u>5/6/13</u>
Published by Title Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date Returned Without Concurrence:
Published in Full Text _____	

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. RC 4/24/13

## Full Council Action:

Date	Decision	Vote
May 6, 2013	Adopted	9-0

**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**RESOLUTION 31445**

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3 A RESOLUTION responding to the Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI) review of the South  
4 Lake Union rezone by the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team, and creating a  
5 work plan for advancing RSJI goals in response to that review.

6 WHEREAS, social justice is one of the four core values of the Seattle Comprehensive Plan,  
7 which was first developed through a community process in the 1990's; and

8 WHEREAS, these core values are intended to guide decision making in City government; and

9 WHEREAS, to ensure the City carries out its commitment to social justice, as well as its  
10 longstanding commitment to ending racism, the City has developed a Race and Social  
11 Justice Initiative (RSJI); and

12 WHEREAS, the goal of this initiative is to provide information and tools to help City leaders and  
13 staff understand issues of race and social justice, and to ensure that the City's actions  
14 accord with its values; and

15 WHEREAS, often those who are privileged in society by virtue of social and economic standing  
16 have the most input to City actions, because they know who to talk to and how to talk to  
17 them, and the goal of RSJI is to ensure that the City's decisions are also informed by the  
18 voices of those who are not heard as often; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2011, the City Council asked staff members on the Legislative Department's  
20 RSJI Change Team, a group of staff volunteers, to look at several pieces of legislation to  
21 see if applying an RSJI lens would help the Council make inclusive decisions that reflect  
22 its social justice values; and

23 WHEREAS, the Change Team chose the South Lake Union (SLU) rezone for one of its first  
24 reviews, and the team completed its work in December, 2012, and formally reported to  
25 the Council's Special Committee on SLU on Monday, February 25, 2013; and

26 WHEREAS, the Change Team's analysis identified five key areas where opportunities exist to  
27 provide more equitable outcomes in SLU:

1. SLU is growing into a "community of opportunity" with access to family-wage jobs,  
housing, transit and open space;
2. Key areas of potential impact for race and social justice are in housing and jobs;



3. Risks of displacement of current residents in the Cascade neighborhood may be mitigated by retaining existing zoning in that area;
4. There may be opportunities to increase the provision of workforce housing in SLU through incentive zoning;
5. Creating pathways for communities of color to access the jobs and opportunity being created in SLU could help advance racial equity in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, the analysis offered five strategies to advance racial equity:

1. Do not change heights in the Cascade neighborhood;
2. Maximize affordable housing through incentive zoning;
3. Use education and job-training partnerships to expand access to job opportunities for communities of color;
4. Promote community gathering spaces like a community center or school;
5. Utilize revenues from a proposed tax increment financing (TIF) program to achieve social equity goals; and

WHEREAS, the Council values and appreciates the work of the Change Team and wishes to follow up on its recommendations; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

Section 1: The Council thanks the Change Team for their work, respects the work of the Change Team, and concurs with the analysis and direction suggested by the Change Team.

Section 2: In response to the Change Team's analysis, the Council will take the following actions:

- A. The Council commits to ensuring that any changes to maximum building heights in the Cascade neighborhood will be targeted to areas where there are vacant lots or significantly underutilized properties, will not create incentives to demolish existing affordable housing, and will increase the opportunity for more housing to be built in the neighborhood. The Council will also consider providing a transfer of development rights provision to encourage preservation of historic, affordable structures.



- 1 B. The Council commits to adopting an incentive zoning program for SLU, to beginning a  
2 process to review options for increasing affordable housing, and to taking additional  
3 future actions that will increase opportunities for affordable housing.
- 4 C. The Council requests that the Office of Economic Development coordinate the  
5 development of a work plan that will specifically target education and job training  
6 partnerships in SLU in order to expand access to job opportunities throughout the  
7 neighborhood.
- 8 D. The Council commits to taking an active role in promoting and finding resources to  
9 support community center development in SLU, and to encouraging and facilitating the  
10 development of a school to serve the area.
- 11 E. The Council commits to using the RSJI screening process to guide the investment of  
12 future TIF revenues in SLU.

13 Adopted by the City Council the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013, and  
14 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 6<sup>th</sup> day  
15 of May, 2013.

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17 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

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19 Filed by me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013.

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22 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

23  
24 (Seal)

**FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Contact Person/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Analyst/Phone:</b>
Legislative	Sara Belz / 4.5382	NA

**Legislation Title:**

A RESOLUTION responding to the Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI) review of the South Lake Union rezone by the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team, and creating a work plan for advancing RSJI goals in response to that review.

**Summary of the Legislation:**

This resolution recognizes the Change Team's report on the South Lake Union rezone proposal and identifies associated next steps to be taken by the Council.

**Background:**

In 2011, the City Council asked staff volunteers on the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team to look at several pieces of legislation to see if applying an RSJI lens would help the Council make inclusive decisions that reflect its social justice values. The Change Team chose the SLU rezone for one of its first reviews and the team completed its work in December, 2012, and formally reported to the Council's Special Committee on SLU on Monday, February 25, 2013.

The Change Team's analysis identified five key areas where opportunities exist to provide more equitable outcomes in SLU:

1. SLU is growing into a "community of opportunity" with access to family-wage jobs, housing, transit and open space;
2. Key areas of potential impact for race and social justice are in housing and jobs;
3. Risks of displacement of current residents in the Cascade neighborhood may be mitigated by retaining existing zoning in that area;
4. There may be opportunities to increase the provision of workforce housing in SLU through incentive zoning; and
5. Creating pathways for communities of color to access the jobs and opportunity being created in SLU could help advance racial equity in Seattle.

Their analysis also offered five strategies to advance racial equity in SLU:

1. Do not change heights in the Cascade neighborhood;
2. Maximize affordable housing through incentive zoning;
3. Use education and job-training partnerships to expand access to job opportunities for communities of color;
4. Promote community gathering spaces like a community center or school; and



5. Utilize revenues from a proposed tax increment financing (TIF) program to achieve social equity goals.

Please check one of the following:

**This legislation does not have any financial implications.**

**This legislation has financial implications.**



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STATE OF WASHINGTON -- KING COUNTY

--SS.

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298058  
CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

No. TITLE ONLY

**Affidavit of Publication**

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

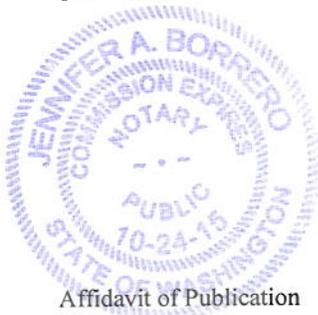
The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

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was published on

05/23/13

The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$57.75 which amount has been paid in full.



*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Subscribed and sworn to before me on

05/23/2013

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary public for the State of Washington,  
residing in Seattle

## State of Washington, King County

### City of Seattle

The full text of the following legislation, passed by the City Council on May 6, 2013, and published below by title only, will be mailed upon request, or can be accessed at <http://clerk.seattle.gov>. For information on upcoming meetings of the Seattle City Council, please visit <http://www.seattle.gov/council/calendar>. Contact: Office of the City Clerk at (206) 684-8344.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 31444

A RESOLUTION calling for a thorough review and update of Seattle's incentive zoning and other affordable housing programs and policies focused on creating affordable Workforce Housing by establishing an Expert Advisory Team that will advise and make recommendations to the City Council.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 31445

A RESOLUTION responding to the Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI) review of the South Lake Union rezoning by the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team, and creating a work plan for advancing RSJI goals in response to that review.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 31449

A RESOLUTION declaring the City Council's intent to support the growth and livability of the South Lake Union Urban Center by working with other City departments to implement initiatives that complement changes to land use regulations.

Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, May 23, 2013.

5/23(298058)