

**2011 - 2012 Statement of Legislative Intent**

**Approved**

Tab	Action	Option	Version
103	1	A	1

**Budget Action Title:** Rowing and sailing centers transition plan

**Councilmembers:** Bagshaw; Clark; Harrell

**Staff Analyst:** Dan Nolte

**Budget Committee Vote:**

Date	Result	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
11/10/2010	Pass 9-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

**Statement of Legislative Intent:**

The Council requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), in cooperation with the Associated Recreation Council and the advisory councils for the Green Lake Small Craft Center and the Mount Baker Rowing and Sailing Center, develop a transition plan for successful long-term operations of both centers. This plan should identify the operations goals of DPR’s rowing and sailing program, evaluate utilization of the centers, analyze possible alternative management models, and, if possible, make recommendations about how the centers should be operated in the long-term. At least one management option should explore whether the centers could become self-sufficient under a concession agreement or other arrangement. The plan should evaluate the benefits and costs of different operating models. Comparison to models in other cities should be included.

The City’s small craft centers serve adults and youth through an array of fee-based programs including rowing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, sail boarding and conditioning. Both the Green Lake Small Craft Center and the Mount Baker Rowing and Sailing Center provide physical conditioning, team-building and competition opportunities for participants. Youth rowing programs at both centers have won multiple national championships and given young athletes opportunities for college scholarships. More recently, Rainier Valley Rowers has used the Mount Baker facility as its base for introducing rowing to more young people of color. Both facilities are successful due in large part to active community supporters who fundraise for operations, scholarships and capital improvements.

Seattle enjoys a unique advantage over many cities when it comes to water activities, but the advantage of lake access is not sufficient to ensure the success of the City’s small craft centers. As DPR seeks ways to minimize General Subfund expenditures and maximize earned income, review of the operations of the small craft boating centers makes sense.

Council requests a draft plan be provided to the Parks & Seattle Center Committee by December 31, 2011.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Parks and Seattle Center

**Date Due to Council:** December 31, 2011