

**2011 - 2012 Seattle City Council Green Sheet**

**Approved**

Tab	Action	Option	Version
54	1	A	1

**Budget Action Title:** C. B. 117005: False Alarm Fee Ordinance

Councilmembers: Budget Committee

Staff Analyst: Peter Harris

Council Bill or Resolution: C. B. #117005, tab 17 in gray notebook

**Budget Committee Vote:**

Date	Result	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
11/12/2010	Pass 9-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

***Budget Action description:***

Do pass C. B. 117005 (tab 17 in gray notebook).

This ordinance raises the fees for false alarms to the Police Department. Currently the fee for a false alarm from either an automatic property alarm or a human-activated panic alarm is \$90. The ordinance raises the fee for a false alarm from an automatic property alarm to \$115, and raises the fee for a false alarm from a panic alarm to \$230.

The ordinance has two purposes. One is to allow the City to fully recover the \$1.3 million annual cost of responding to false alarms. The other is to reduce the number of false alarms in the future, thereby making more patrol officer time available for fighting real crime. The rate of false alarms for both property alarms and panic alarms currently is greater than 97%.

The fiscal note estimates that the increase in fees will increase General Subfund revenue over today by \$147,000 in 2011 and \$94,000 in 2012. The projected increase is less in 2012 than in 2011 because the Executive expects the new fees to deter and reduce false alarms. These increases are assumed in the proposed budget.