

2011 - 2012 Statement of Legislative Intent

Approved

Tab	Action	Option	Version
74	3	A	1

Budget Action Title: Increasing housing opportunities for victims of domestic violence

Councilmembers: Bagshaw; Conlin; Harrell

Staff Analyst: Sara Belz; Elaine Ko

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:

Raising awareness about domestic violence and increasing the effectiveness of the City’s domestic violence programs is one of the Council’s stated priorities for 2010. Consistent with this priority, the Council requests that the Human Services Department (HSD) work with the Office of Housing (OH) to study and explore opportunities for addressing the unmet housing needs of domestic violence survivors that reside in the City of Seattle. It is the Council’s intent that HSD, with assistance from OH, complete the following in 2011:

- 1) Determine the extent to which the housing needs of domestic violence survivors in Seattle are unmet and develop recommendations for addressing those needs.
- 2) Identify and present a prioritized set of actions the City could take to increase the availability of emergency, transitional and permanent housing for victims of domestic violence. These actions should be informed by the research findings and recommendations resulting from the body of work described in 1), above. Policy measures or operational changes that might better prevent domestic violence survivors from experiencing homelessness or allow for rapid re-housing of displaced victims should also be considered.
- 3) Research the feasibility of partnering with financial institutions and other private entities to identify bank-owned properties that could be donated and converted into housing for victims of domestic violence and their families.
- 4) Consider the feasibility and possible design of a new City program that would encourage landlords to make privately-owned apartment units available to domestic violence survivors for free or reduced rent.

HSD’s formal response to this SLI should take the form of a written report and be delivered to the memberships of the Council’s Public Safety and Education (PS&E) and Housing, Human Services, Health, and Culture (HHS&C) committees by no later than June 30, 2011. Staff presentations on

the content of the SLI response will be scheduled for subsequent PS&E and/or HSH&C committee meetings following the Council's receipt of the written report.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Housing, Human Services, Health, & Culture; Public Safety and Education

Date Due to Council: June 30, 2011