

2013 - 2014 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Approved

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48	1	A	1

Budget Action Title: DPD Rental Housing Registration and Inspection Program implementation

Councilmembers: Bagshaw; Clark; Licata

Staff Analyst: Ketil Freeman

Budget Committee Vote:

Date	Result	SB	BH	TR	RC	TB	NL	JG	SC	MO
11/07/2012	Pass 8- 1-Absent	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Statement of Legislative Intent:

The Council requests that the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) report to the Council by March 31, 2013 with an implementation plan for the Rental Housing Registration and Inspection Program codified in Seattle Municipal Code Section 22.214.010 *et seq.* The implementation plan should, at a minimum, estimate resources needed by quarter over the biennium to undertake the following implementation steps:

- Establishing a publicly accessible database of properties regulated under the program;
- Outreach to regulated property owners;
- Registration of property owners;
- Outreach to tenants;
- Establishing a training program for private inspectors;
- Promulgating a rule for random inspections; and
- Commencement of random inspections.

The report should also include a proposed fee structures and distinguish implementation costs that will be reimbursed through fee revenue from costs that will be reimbursed through other revenue sources.

Background

In 2012 the Council passed Ordinance 124011 and Ordinance 123311, which together created a regulatory program to register and inspect rental housing. The Rental Housing Registration and Inspection Program requires registration of rental housing beginning on January 1, 2014. Under the program rental units would be subject to inspection to ensure that the units meet minimum Housing Code requirements. Inspections would be performed by inspectors who have completed a training program administered by DPD.

The proposed budget does not appropriate funds for program start-up activities nor does the proposed fee ordinance propose a fee structure to recover the cost of program administration. Start-up activities could include, but are not limited to, creating a database of properties subject to the program, developing a training program for inspectors, and conducting outreach to property owners who may be regulated under the program.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Housing, Human Services, Health, & Culture

Date Due to Council: March 31, 2012