

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Legislative	Ketil Freeman, 206.684.8178	NA

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to land use and zoning; adopting a moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, or approval of applications for the establishment, expansion, or change of use for detention centers; adding a definition for detention centers; amending Section 23.84A.008 of the Seattle Municipal Code; approving a work plan; declaring an emergency; and establishing an immediate effective date; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

Summary and Background of the Legislation:

This legislation would: (1) make findings of fact related to the lack of current regulations in the Seattle Municipal Code for detention centers and the potential impacts of those facilities, absent regulations, on the public health, safety, and welfare; (2) declare a public emergency; (3) define “detention center” consistent with the definition in RCW 36.70A.200(1)(b); (4) establish a year-long moratorium on permit applications for development, expansion, or conversion of existing structures to detention centers; and (5) establish a work plan to consider permanent regulations by January 2027

The legislation would be adopted on an emergency basis and immediately effective. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390, the Council would hold a public hearing on the legislation within 60 days after passage. The moratorium in the legislation would be effective for one year and may be renewed for one or more additional six-month periods.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

No.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

Not implementing the legislation could result in siting or expansion of a detention center. Such a facility could increase demands for public services, including, but not limited to, public safety resources implementing the requirements of Executive Orders 2025-07, 2025-08, and 2026-03.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.

This legislation directly affects the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, the Seattle Department of Transportation, Seattle Public Utilities, and other departments that play a role in approving and inspecting new development for compliance with City codes. The legislation indirectly affects departments that would play a role in ensuring public safety in and around detention centers.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?** Yes. The hearing would occur within 60 days of passage, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390.
- b. Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation?** Yes.
- c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?** No.
- d. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.**
 - i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.** N/A.
 - ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.** N/A.
 - iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?** N/A.

e. Climate Change Implications

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response. N/A.**
 - ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects. N/A.**
- f. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals? N/A.**
- g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization? N/A.**

5. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: