

FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

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Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION responding to the Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI) review of the South Lake Union rezone by the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team, and creating a work plan for advancing RSJI goals in response to that review.

Summary of the Legislation:

This resolution recognizes the Change Team's report on the South Lake Union rezone proposal and identifies associated next steps to be taken by the Council.

Background:

In 2011, the City Council asked staff volunteers on the Legislative Department's RSJI Change Team to look at several pieces of legislation to see if applying an RSJI lens would help the Council make inclusive decisions that reflect its social justice values. The Change Team chose the SLU rezone for one of its first reviews and the team completed its work in December, 2012, and formally reported to the Council's Special Committee on SLU on Monday, February 25, 2013.

The Change Team's analysis identified five key areas where opportunities exist to provide more equitable outcomes in SLU:

1. SLU is growing into a "community of opportunity" with access to family-wage jobs, housing, transit and open space;
2. Key areas of potential impact for race and social justice are in housing and jobs;
3. Risks of displacement of current residents in the Cascade neighborhood may be mitigated by retaining existing zoning in that area;
4. There may be opportunities to increase the provision of workforce housing in SLU through incentive zoning; and
5. Creating pathways for communities of color to access the jobs and opportunity being created in SLU could help advance racial equity in Seattle.

Their analysis also offered five strategies to advance racial equity in SLU:

1. Do not change heights in the Cascade neighborhood;
2. Maximize affordable housing through incentive zoning;
3. Use education and job-training partnerships to expand access to job opportunities for communities of color;
4. Promote community gathering spaces like a community center or school; and

5. Utilize revenues from a proposed tax increment financing (TIF) program to achieve social equity goals.

Please check one of the following:

 X **This legislation does not have any financial implications.**

 This legislation has financial implications.