



Legislative Department Seattle City Council Memorandum

Date: July 5, 2011

To: Parks and Seattle Center Committee Members

From: Sara Belz and Mike Fong, Council Central Staff

Subject: **Council Bill (CB) 117219: Project services agreement between the Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) related to the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program**

Summary

CB 117209 would authorize the Parks Superintendent to enter into a project services agreement with WSDOT related to the replacement of the SR 520 Bridge. Under the terms of the agreement, WSDOT would provide Parks with up to \$350,000 to cover staffing and consultant costs associated with mitigation efforts for Parks facilities. WSDOT would provide the funding on a reimbursement basis as part of its investment in the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program.

As the 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Program for Parks does not include any projects related to the SR 520 Bridge, CB 117219 would create a new capital improvement project (“SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Mitigation”) under the Parks Infrastructure Budget Control Level (BCL). Although the legislation would allow the 2011 appropriation from the Cumulative Reserve Subfund to the Parks Infrastructure BCL to be increased by \$350,000 to support the new capital project, any use of those funds to support Parks staff work consistent with CB 117219 would be reimbursed by WSDOT. In order to allow the reimbursable staff work to be completed by the end of 2011, CB 117219 also includes a ratify and confirm clause.

Background

In April 2010, WSDOT announced its Preferred Alternative for the planned replacement of the SR 520 Bridge. The future construction and operation of the Preferred Alternative will impact several Parks facilities, and these impacts will need to be mitigated. The Parks facilities that will be affected by the construction of the Preferred Alternative include Bagley Viewpoint, Montlake Playfield, McCurdy Park, East Montlake Park, the Ship Canal Waterside Trail, the Bill Dawson Trail, the Arboretum Waterfront Trail and, most significantly, the Washington Park Arboretum.

Actively collaborating with WSDOT on mitigation planning efforts for these Parks facilities is estimated to require about 1,500 hours of Parks staff and consultant time in 2011. This equates to about \$179,000 in staff labor costs and \$169,000 for a consultant design contract.

As Parks does not have the financial resources to fund a new, short-term project of this scope, WSDOT has agreed to reimburse Parks for these expenses.

The costs to Parks that would be eligible for WSDOT reimbursement under CB 117219 are as follows:

Task	Estimated Parks Staffing / Consultant Cost
1. Section 4(f), Section 6(f) and natural environment mitigation review.*	\$72,000
2. Develop conceptual design plans and estimates for the Foster Island, North Entry, and multi-use trail mitigation projects in the Washington Park Arboretum.	\$239,000
3. Collaborate with WSDOT-led mitigation efforts associated with Arboretum Creek and Azalea Way Pond in the Washington Park Arboretum.	\$20,000
4. Coordinate with WSDOT on the development of a Memorandum of Agreement to document implementation roles and responsibilities for Arboretum mitigation projects.	\$17,000
Total	\$348,000

* Parks facilities are regulated by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act and Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

Staff Recommendation

Central Staff recommends approval of CB 117219.

Next Steps

If the P&SC Committee does not take action on CB 117219 at its July 7 meeting, the Committee’s next opportunity to vote will be on July 21. If you have any questions about the content of the legislation, please contact Sara Belz (sara.belz@seattle.gov / 4-5382) or Mike Fong (michael.fong@seattle.gov / 5-1675).