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LEG Human Rights City RESO
December 4, 2012
Version #5

CITY OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION 31420

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A RESOLUTION proclaiming Seattle to be a Human Rights City in celebration of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

WHEREAS, The United States endorsed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and

WHEREAS, The United States has ratified (1) the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, (2) the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, (3) the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and (4) the Charter of the Organization of American States; and

WHEREAS, The United States has signed (1) the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, (2) the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, (3) the Convention on the Rights of the Child, (4) the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and (5) the American Convention on Human Rights, all of which now await ratification; and

WHEREAS, The human rights instruments mentioned above constitute an important framework of human rights principles for cities to strengthen and improve the impact of laws and policies on local communities and work on their commitment to protecting, respecting and fulfilling the full range of universal human rights, including civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle has long been committed to promoting human rights as demonstrated by the creation in 1963 of the Seattle Human Rights Commission "to act in an advisory capacity in respect to matters affecting human rights" and make recommendations "with regard to the development of programs for the promotion of equality, justice and understanding among all citizens of the City" as well as recommend policies "affecting civil rights and equal opportunity;" and

WHEREAS, Thirty-seven years ago the Seattle City Council recognized December 10th as the official date for commemoration of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and



1 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle has applied human rights principles in its policymaking, as
2 demonstrated by implementation of the Race and Social Justice Initiative, a citywide
3 initiative to address racial and social disparities and achieve racial equity; and endorsed
4 the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County, partnering with “other levels of
5 government, the United Way, faith-based and civic groups, affected communities,
6 philanthropies, the business community, non-profit housing and service providers, and
7 others to implement this plan”; and

8 WHEREAS, The idea of a “Human Rights City” developed to provide a model for municipal
9 government to translate and implement universal human rights principles at the local
10 level; and

11 WHEREAS, Six cities in the United States and 17 cities in the world have been proclaimed a
12 “Human Rights City” serving as models for leadership and advocacy on behalf of human
13 rights for all people; and

14 WHEREAS, A “Human Rights City” consciously aspires to respect, protect and fulfill universal
15 human rights as spelled out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the human
16 rights instruments previously enumerated; and

17 WHEREAS, On the occasion of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the signing of the Universal
18 Declaration on Human Rights, and the thirty-seventh anniversary of the City of Seattle’s
19 celebration of Human Rights Day, the City of Seattle seeks to reaffirm and deepen its
20 commitment to promote human rights by proclaiming Seattle a Human Rights City and
21 adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

22 NOW, THEREFORE,

23 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
24 **MAYOR CONCURRING:**

25 Section 1. In recognition of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the signing of the Universal
26 Declaration of Human Rights, the City Council proclaims Seattle to be a Human Rights City,
27 endorses the human rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and commits
28 to their progressive realization in the City of Seattle.

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.



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Adopted by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2012, and signed by
me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2012.

President _____ of the City Council

THE MAYOR CONCURRING:

Michael McGinn, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2012.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

Attachment: Universal Declaration of Human Rights



Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge,

Now, therefore,

The General Assembly,

Proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by



teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Article 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 3

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.



Article 6

Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Article 7

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Article 8

Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10

Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Article 11

1. Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.
2. No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier



penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 14

1. Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.
2. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 15

1. Everyone has the right to a nationality.
2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

Article 16



1. Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.
2. Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.
3. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.

Article 17

1. Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.
2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.
2. No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

Article 21



1. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.
2. Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his country.
3. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Article 22

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
2. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
3. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.
4. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 24

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.



Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.
3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 27

1. Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.



2. Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Article 28

Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

Article 29

1. Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.
2. In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.
3. These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 30

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Jennifer Samuels/4-8572	N/A

Legislation Title: A RESOLUTION proclaiming Seattle to be a Human Rights City in celebration of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Summary of the Legislation: On the occasion of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and the thirty-seventh anniversary of the City of Seattle’s celebration of Human Rights Day, the City of Seattle seeks to reaffirm and deepen its commitment to promote human rights by proclaiming Seattle a Human Rights City and adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a framework for incorporating human rights standards into laws and policies.

Background: The United States endorsed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The United States has ratified or signed other numerous international human rights laws and standards. Together, these declarations and laws provide a valuable framework for strengthening and improving the impact of laws and policies on local communities and work on their commitment to protecting, respecting and fulfilling the full range of universal human rights, including civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights. Universal human rights principles work to ensure that the dignity, equality and well-being of all people are respected and protected. These principles are the foundation to the American tenets of fairness and opportunity.

The City of Seattle has long been committed to promoting human rights as demonstrated by the creation in 1963 of the Seattle Human Rights Commission “to act in an advisory capacity in respect to matters affecting human rights” and make recommendations “with regard to the development of programs for the promotion of equality, justice and understanding among all citizens of the City” as well as recommend policies “affecting civil rights and equal opportunity.”

Thirty-seven years ago the Seattle City Council recognized December 10th as the official date for commemoration of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, the City of Seattle implemented human rights principles in its policymaking, as demonstrated by actions such as the Race and Social Justice Initiative, a citywide initiative to address racial and social disparities and achieve racial equity; and the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County.



The idea of a "Human Rights City" developed to provide a model for municipal government to translate and implement universal human rights principles at the local level.

A "Human Rights City" consciously aspires to respect, protect and fulfill universal human rights as spelled out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the human rights instruments enumerated in the Human Rights City Resolution.

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

This legislation has financial implications.

Other Implications:

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**
No.
- b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?**
(Estimate the costs to the City of not implementing the legislation, including estimated costs to maintain or expand an existing facility or the cost avoidance due to replacement of an existing facility, potential conflicts with regulatory requirements, or other potential costs.) None.
- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
(If so, please list the affected department(s), the nature of the impact (financial, operational, etc), and indicate which staff members in the other department(s) are aware of the proposed legislation.) None.
- d) **What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?** (Include any potential alternatives to the proposed legislation, such as reducing fee-supported activities, identifying outside funding sources for fee-supported activities, etc.) None.
- e) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
(If yes, what public hearing(s) have been held to date, and/or what public hearing(s) are planned for the future?) No.
- f) **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**
(For example, legislation related to sale of surplus property, condemnation, or certain capital projects with private partners may require publication of notice. If you aren't sure, please check with your lawyer. If publication of notice is required, describe any steps taken to comply with that requirement.) No.
- g) **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
(If yes, and if a map or other visual representation of the property is not already included as an exhibit or attachment to the legislation itself, then you must include a map and/or other visual representation of the property and its location as an attachment to the fiscal note. Place a note on the map attached to the fiscal note that indicates the map is intended for illustrative or informational purposes only and is not intended to modify anything in the legislation.) No.
- h) **Other Issues:**

List attachments to the fiscal note below:

