Question Addressed in Draft Council Bill

The following table summarizes key elements of the proposed Seattle Public Campaign Financing Program.

Question	Answer
Does a candidate need an opponent to qualify for matching funds?	YES
How many contributors does a candidate need to qualify?	600
What is the minimum qualifying donation value?	\$10
What is the maximum value of a qualifying donation that will be matched	\$50
At what rate will qualifying donations be matched?	6:1
What is the maximum amount a participant can receive?	\$210,000
What is the maximum amount a participant can receive in the Primary?	\$105,000
What is the maximum amount a participant can receive in the Primary if they only have	\$36,000
one opponent?	
Must qualifying donations come from residents of Seattle?	YES
Must qualifying donations come from registered voters in Seattle?	NO
Must qualifying donations come from <i>individuals</i> (<u>not</u> corporations or groups)?	YES
Are participants prohibited from taking donations from corporations or groups?	NO
When do you need to declare your intent to participate in the program?	Between Jan.1 and May 31 of the election
	year
How long do you have to collect the minimum qualifying contributions to officially	5 months – Jan. 1 to May 31
become eligible for public match funds?	
Once you are certified to have qualified for the program, when does the first	One week after the last day of official King
disbursement of public funds happen?	County filing week
When are subsequent public funds disbursed?	On a rolling basis – minimum \$1,000 in
	matching contributions claims (\$200
	within 14 days of an election)
Should participants be held to a spending limit?	YES
What should that Cap be?	\$140,000 in the Primary and \$245,000
	Overall
Should there be different Caps for races with only two candidates that would not	YES
appear on the Primary election ballot?	

What should the Cap be for two-candidate races?	\$71,000 in the Primary and \$176,000 Overall
Should that limit be lifted in the event the combined spending and funds raised by an	
opponent and Independent groups supporting the opponent exceed the limit?	YES
How will Independent Expenditures be attributed to specific candidates?	SEEC Director will make initial
	determination based on assessment of
	which candidate(s) benefited
	The Commission would hear appeals
When the Cap is lifted, is it removed entirely or incrementally?	Entirely
What other key requirements are in place for becoming a Participating Candidate?	Agree to participate in a minimum of 3 public forums or debates
Should the program and the administration of it be funded by a tax levy?	YES
What should be the term of the levy?	6 years
What elements of the program can be modified by the Council?	Any program dollar value by no more than
	15% or number of matching contributions
	by no more than 100 after Commission has
	made a recommendation
*What should be the amount of the levy?	\$2M per year
*Does an opponent need to meet a specific threshold prior to a Participating Candidate	YES
being eligible for full amount of matching funds?	\$6,000 raised or be Participating
	Candidate
*Is there a limit on how much in personal funds a participant can contribute or loan to	YES - \$5,000
their own campaign?	
*Should the spending limit also be combined with a fundraising limit to set a Program	YES
Cap?	
*What happens to the Program if the District elections ballot measure is approved by	Program would only apply to "at-large"
voters?	Council seats elected citywide

^{*}Policy items identified for additional discussion today – June 10, 2013