



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

CB 118792

Record No.: CB 118792

Type: Ordinance (Ord)

Status: Passed

Version: 1

Ord. no: Ord 125220

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 08/09/2016

Final Action: 12/16/2016

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to street and sidewalk use; amending Section 11.40.250 of the Seattle Municipal Code to authorize the Play Street program as an allowable use of the public place.

Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: O'Brien

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: amy.gray@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Mayor	08/16/2016	Mayor's leg transmitted to Council	City Clerk			
	Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was Mayor's leg transmitted to Council. to the City Clerk						
	Notes:						
1	City Clerk	08/16/2016	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	Notes:						
1	Council President's Office	08/19/2016	sent for review	Sustainability and Transportation Committee			
	Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Sustainability and Transportation Committee						
	Notes:						
1	Full Council	09/06/2016	referred	Sustainability and Transportation Committee			

- 1 Sustainability and Transportation Committee 12/06/2016 pass Pass

Action Text: The Committee recommends that Full Council pass the Council Bill (CB).

Notes:

In Favor: 2 Chair O'Brien, Vice Chair Johnson

Opposed: 0

- 1 Full Council 12/12/2016 passed Pass

Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill:

Notes:

In Favor: 8 Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Council President Harrell, Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant

Opposed: 0

- 1 City Clerk 12/14/2016 submitted for Mayor's signature Mayor

- 1 Mayor 12/16/2016 Signed

- 1 Mayor 12/16/2016 returned City Clerk

- 1 City Clerk 12/16/2016 attested by City Clerk

Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk.

Notes:

CITY OF SEATTLE
ORDINANCE 125220
COUNCIL BILL 118792

AN ORDINANCE relating to street and sidewalk use; amending Section 11.40.250 of the Seattle Municipal Code to authorize the Play Street program as an allowable use of the public place.

WHEREAS, the transportation system of Seattle is an extraordinary public asset and is vital and integral to the City's economic health, environmental quality, and social and community fabric; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Seattle City Council passed Resolution 31157 approving the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan, which establishes the intent to make Seattle the most walkable city in the nation by addressing safety, equity, vibrancy, and health; and

WHEREAS, Objective Five of the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan calls for creating vibrant public spaces that encourage walking for multiple purposes including transportation, recreation, and health; and

WHEREAS, Strategy 5.2 of the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan recommends developing guidelines and protocols for car-free and shared-space streets, including designating pedestrian-only streets in order to reclaim and activate public spaces for pedestrian use; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian-oriented spaces such as play streets are a foundational element of transportation-oriented communities, as defined by the Seattle Planning Commission in the Seattle Transit Communities report; and

WHEREAS, the Move Seattle 10-year Strategic Vision supports the active use of neighborhood streets to promote a vibrant and interconnected city; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Municipal Code subsection 11.16.125A authorizes the Director of Transportation to close, or authorize closure of, any street or alley or portion thereof to any or all traffic pursuant to the provisions of Seattle Municipal Code Title 11, Subtitle I;

WHEREAS, the Seattle Department of Transportation has managed a pilot play streets program since May 2014 with 260 applicants having participated in the program to date; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Department of Transportation has prepared technical guidance documents and regulations in advance of a permanent play streets program; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 11.40.250 of the Seattle Municipal Code, enacted by Ordinance 108200, is amended as follows:

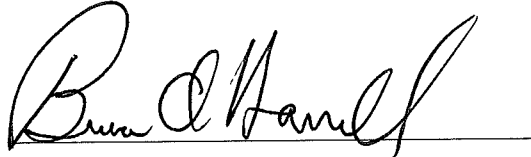
11.40.250 Playing in streets((-))

No person ~~((upon))~~ on roller skates, or riding ~~((in or by means of any))~~ a coaster, skateboard, toy vehicle, or similar device, shall go ~~((upon))~~ on the roadway of any arterial street or transit coach route, except while crossing ~~((such))~~ the street at a crosswalk; or engage in any sport, amusement, or exercise or play in the roadway of any street, except where allowed by a street use permit.

Section 2. The Director of Transportation may promulgate rules to administer the Play Streets program, as authorized in Section 3.12.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

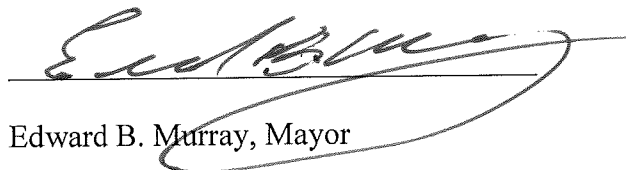
Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the 12th day of December, 2016, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 12th day of December, 2016.



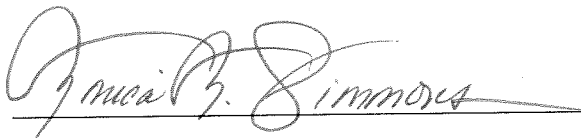
President _____ of the City Council

Approved by me this 6th day of December, 2016.



Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this 16th day of December, 2016.



Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
Seattle Department of Transportation	Seth Geiser 615-1035	Christie Parker 684-5211

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title:

AN ORDINANCE relating to street and sidewalk use; amending Section 11.40.250 of the Seattle Municipal Code to authorize the Play Street program as an allowable use of the public place.

Summary and background of the Legislation:

Since May 2014, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has been operating a pilot Play Streets Program and has issued 260+ permits to date. The program has been met with widespread support from applicants and their neighbors and SDOT is moving to formalize the program.

In support of this formalization, we are proposing an amendment to the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) that is intended to clear up a potential point of confusion between two code sections. In SMC Section 11.16.125 “Director of Transportation – Authority – Street and Alley Closures”, the SDOT Director is granted authority to permit the closing of streets to traffic. This authority has been the basis for allowing numerous forms of temporary street closures including neighborhood block parties and special events. By extension, the issuance of Play Street permits would also fall under this authority.

The source of potential confusion lies in SMC Section 11.40.250 “Playing in the streets”. As written, this section would seem to prohibit any use of the roadway that involves “any sport, amusement or exercise or play”. Our proposed amendment would make note of SDOT’s existing permitting authority to clarify that use of the roadway for play is allowed when a closure permit has been granted by the Street Use division of SDOT.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

☐ This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

☒ This legislation does not have direct financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect or long-term financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above?**

SDOT will incur minor costs associated with provision of Play Street signs to permit

holders. Four signs will be provided to each host at a cost to SDOT Street Use Cost Center of approximately \$200. At current application rates, this works out to an annual cost of approximately \$25,000.

b) Is there financial cost or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

There are no financial costs for non-implementation.

c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

No other departments are affected.

d) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No.

e) Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?

No.

f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No.

g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

h) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?

This program has been evaluated for its RSJI impacts. Outreach and support will be provided to better support geographic equity of the program. This program allows for free and simple use of the public right-of-way and provides usable active space in areas where parks or private yards may be limited.

i) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program's desired goals.

This legislation will enable the formalization of a two-year pilot program. Continuation of the Play Streets program will allow neighbors and their families to use their streets for active play and social interaction. Current goals of the program are continued growth in application numbers and equitable geographic distribution of applications.

j) Other Issues: None.

List attachments/exhibits below:

Summary Attachment A – SDOT Play Streets Handbook

Summary Attachment B – SDOT Play Streets Briefing Report

PLAY STREET PROGRAM

HANDBOOK



SEATTLE PLAY STREETS!

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) launched a pilot Play Streets Program in May 2014, which has since rapidly expanded across the city. Since that time, 240+ interested neighbors applied for and held a play street event to enliven their neighborhood streets with safe, active play.

Due to the rapid growth and sustained interest in the program, SDOT is making the program permanent. This document provides background on the history of the program and is a useful resource for those who'd like to host a play street near where they live.



[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

Program Goals

The Play Street Program is guided by the following objectives:

- 1/ Encourage use of neighborhood streets for safe, active play
- 2/ Promote social interaction between neighbors of all ages
- 3/ Provide additional public space in areas where parks or private yards are limited
- 4/ Ensure local access into and out of homes during play street events

Public Space Management

Play streets were developed as part of SDOT's Public Space Management Program. The public right-of-way, which includes streets, sidewalks, and street trees, makes up 27% of Seattle's land, providing many opportunities to expand and activate public spaces. The Public Space Management Program supports creative improvements in our streets and sidewalks and makes it easier for community groups and businesses to enliven the city's public spaces.

The program is driven by four goals that help us promote and regulate a vibrant, safe, accessible, and attractive shared right-of-way:

ENCOURAGE: Promote the activation of public space

IMPLEMENT: Ensure that opportunities to activate the right-of-way are not missed due to perceived obstacles or implementation hurdles

INNOVATE: Identify opportunities for activation

REGULATE: Manage our public spaces in a transparent and predictable way

Program Basics

Here's a quick list of questions you might have getting started. If you want to host your own play street, all the information you need can be found later in this handbook.

What is a play street?

Play streets are a way neighbors can go out and play together in the street. With a free permit, you can temporarily close your street (except to folks living on the block) which provides more space for kids (and adults) to play and be physically active.

Who can host a play street?

Play streets can be hosted by neighbors, schools, or community groups. Neighborhood/community play streets help neighbors create more space for play. School-organized play streets provide additional space for recess or other after-school play.

Where do play streets work well?

Play streets work on a wide variety of streets in all neighborhoods, with these four main characteristics:

- 1/ Residential-oriented streets with low volumes of traffic
- 2/ Not an arterial or bus route
- 3/ Where there's significant neighbor support
- 4/ Where access to parks/open space is difficult

How often can I have a play street?

The frequency of your play street should be determined by your willingness to host and the interest of your close neighbors. Play streets can happen anywhere from a one-time event during the year to a maximum of three times per week.

Is there a season for play streets?

Play streets are allowed and encouraged year round. We have separated the year into two application seasons, so you can adjust your play street to the changing amount of light and warmth during the year, school schedules, and your ability/interest in hosting the play streets.

Do I need to buy anything for my play street?

While many play street hosts have planned activities, play equipment, or food during their events, all you really need for a play street are some barricades and people who want to play. Barricades can be rented from local providers, but you can also use household furniture or trash bins to block off the ends of your streets. More detail on barricade requirements are provided on page 7.

We've had a block party before, is a play street like that?

Yes, play streets are very similar to the neighborhood block parties that happen across the city, but play streets tend to be smaller in scale and focused on active play. Both permits are simple and easy to get and allow neighbors to activate the streets near their homes.

What are the benefits of having a play street?

During the pilot program, we heard a lot of positive things about having a play street from both hosts and their neighbors. Play street allow us to better use our shared public street for a wide range of activities that can benefit our health and expand available open space. Hosts have told us that they made friends with their neighbors and kids were able to get more quality, active play in a safe setting.

Program Background

For many neighborhood streets in Seattle, only a handful of vehicles use the street per hour. On these low-volume streets, there is the potential for more active uses of that public space.

Seattle has a long history of encouraging neighbors to make use of their streets. Three other programs that shaped the Play Streets Program are shown below.

Given this collective experience with temporarily closing neighborhood streets for social interaction and play, it's little surprise that the Play Streets Pilot was quickly embraced by neighbors across the city.

To develop the pilot program, we looked closely at the performance of our own Neighborhood Block Party program and also the best practices of play street programs in contemporary cities. For this research, we looked at similar efforts being made in New York City, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, and London.



BLOCK PARTIES

Every year for decades, neighbors have been using neighborhood block party permits to temporarily block off their streets to hold community-oriented parties. In 2015 alone, we issued over 250 of these permits.



NIGHT OUT

In coordination with the Seattle Police Department, Night Out provides an annual event every August aimed at increasing neighborhood support for anti-crime efforts while also celebrating community and spending time with neighbors. Over 1,200 Night Out applications were registered in 2015.



SUMMER PARKWAYS

From 2008-2014, the Summer Streets Program closed 3-4 streets in different neighborhoods during summer weekends. These events create a festival-like atmosphere for residents to interact in normally busy streets. In 2015, the program changed to Summer Parkways which closes a loop of streets in specific neighborhoods with the focus on active transportation.

Play Street Checklist

From the beginning, we wanted to make play streets accessible for everyone, so we've kept the program simple and free to apply.

Below is a checklist of steps you'll need to complete in order to have a successful play street. More details on each of these steps are provided later in this handbook.

PRE-APPLICATION

- ☐ Talk with neighbors about their interest in participating
- ☐ Decide on your date/time schedule
- ☐ Fill out application package
- ☐ Create a program of what activities you'll be hosting

APPLICATION

- ☐ Submit application package to SDOT (annualpermits@seattle.gov or 700 5th Ave, 41st Floor, Seattle, WA 98104)
- ☐ Receive a copy of your permit (this will be emailed directly to you)

AFTER APPROVAL

- ☐ Notify your neighbors that your permit has been approved
- ☐ Pick up closure signs from SDOT office (23rd Floor, 700 5th Ave)

BEFORE FIRST EVENT

- ☐ Publicize the event to your neighbors (fliers, social media, in person)
- ☐ Select or rent barricade objects
- ☐ Print out a copy of your permit

DAY OF EVENT

- ☐ Place barricades at both ends of your block with the proper spacing
- ☐ Attach signs to the barricades
- ☐ Keep copy of your permit on you in case anyone asks to see it
- ☐ Make sure that someone is near each end of the block to answer questions or move barricades for local and emergency access
- ☐ Have fun!

AFTER EVENT

- ☐ Remove all play equipment from the street, then remove barricades
- ☐ Talk with neighbors about how things went and what you would like to do next time



Application Process

To apply for a play street permit, you'll need to submit an application package. These quick and easy forms help us understand where you'd like the play street to be, what you want to do with your play street, and how much neighbor support you have.

Copies of these documents can be found at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/playstreets.htm>

1/ APPLICATION FORM: This is the main application form which asks for some basic information about who you are, where you live, and when you'd like to have your play street.

2/ SITE MAP: This map shows which block you want to temporarily close and where you will be placing barricades. You can get an aerial of your street from many online mapping websites or request that one be provided to you by SDOT.

3/ OUTREACH METHOD: To make sure that your neighbors know about your play street plans, we'd like to see a copy of whatever method you used to contact your neighbors. This could take a variety of forms from fliers, emails, posts on neighborhood message boards, or personal conversations. Whatever type you think is most effective is up to you, but it's crucial that the people who live around you have the info they need to plan for and/or participate in your play street.

4/ SIGNATURE SHEET (optional): If you plan on having your play street more than once a month, we recommend that you submit a roster of support from the neighbors on your block in addition to the copy of your outreach method. While there's no requirement to how many signatures you need on the roster, the more the better.

[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

Timing

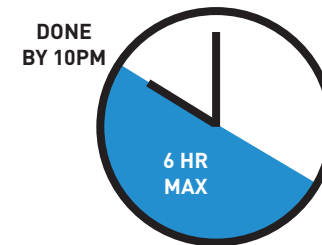
How often you hold your play street is mostly up to the interest on your block, but we have some rules developed from the pilot process.

Frequency: At most, you can have a play street three times per week

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN



Time: Play streets are limited to 6 hours/day and need to be completed by 10pm or dusk, whichever is earlier



Seasons: You can apply at anytime in the year, but permits will be issued for a maximum of six months at a time. When applying, please consider the change in light and weather when selecting dates/times.

SUMMER SEASON

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

WINTER SEASON

WINTER SEASON

Barricades

Properly barricading your street during the play street event is crucial to ensuring safety for those playing and neighbors who may need local access on the block.

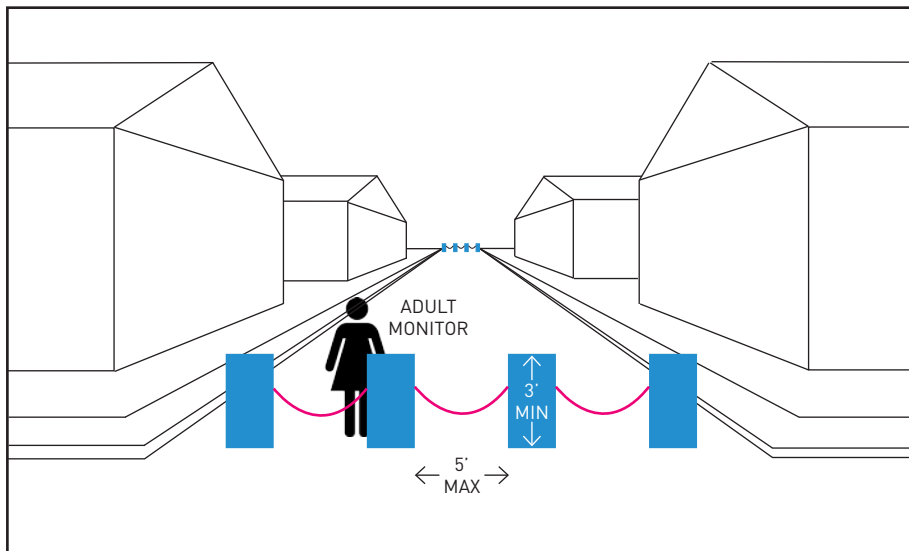
For barricading you have two options:

- 1/ Use personal trash bins or furniture
- 2/ Rent barricades from local providers. These can be rented at relatively low costs and we recommend getting 'Type 3' barricades if you go this route

For either barricade type, they should be placed with these requirements:

- 5 feet spacing or less in between each of the objects
- Elements need to be at least 3 feet tall
- Link objects together with banners, rope, streamers, etc
- At both ends of the block

During the play street event, it's crucial that at least one adult remains near each of the barricades so that they can answer any questions people may have or move barricades if people need local access to their homes.



[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

Signage

When you receive your play street permit, we will provide you with two sets of signs that need to be placed at the ends of your play street. These can be picked up at the SDOT Street Use counter (700 5th Ave, 23rd Floor).



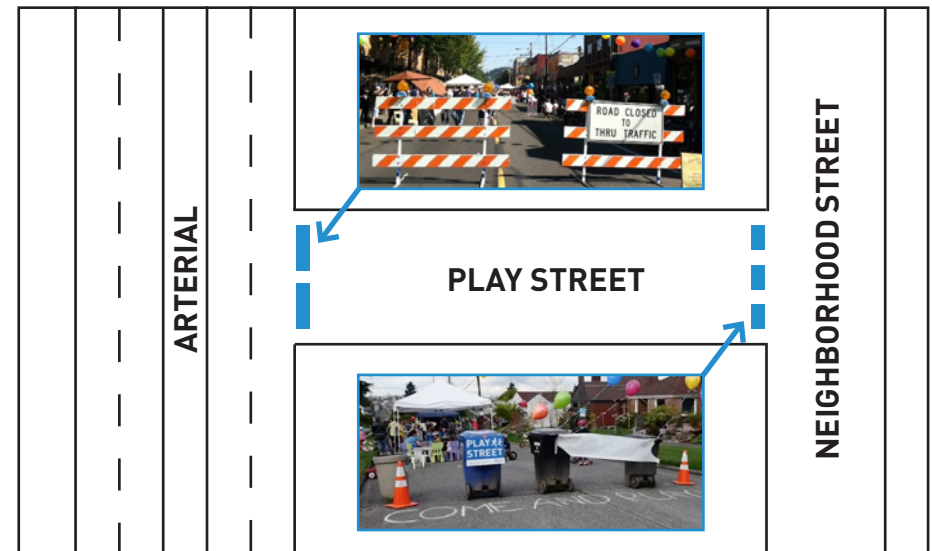
Play street sign: This sign lets passers-by know that a play street is happening that they can come participate in. It also provides contact information for SDOT in case they want more information about the program.



Street closed sign: This sign lets drivers know that the street is closed except to local access. This will quickly let drivers know not to drive down your block during the play street while people are in the roadway.

Adjacent to Arterials

If your street abuts an arterial, you will need to use 'Type 3' barricades at the arterial intersection. There is generally more and faster-moving traffic on arterials, so it's important that more visible barricades are used at those intersections.



Play Street Ideas

[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

Now that you know about play streets and how to apply, you should think about what to do with your play street. We're interested in what activities you're planning, and you should include them on your application form.

Luckily, the possibilities are endless for you and your neighbors to play, create, and interact.

Here are some quick examples we saw during the pilot, but you're free to use your imagination! More information on these and other ideas can be found at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/playstreets.htm>



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



WATER BATTLE



BIKE RIDE



CHALK ART



GAMES



MEET NEIGHBORS



Seattle Department of Transportation
700 5th Ave, Suite 3800
PO BOX 34996
Seattle, WA 98124-4996
(206) 684-ROAD (7623)
www.seattle.gov/transportation



Seattle Department of Transportation

BRIEFING REPORT



PLAY STREETS PROGRAM

BRIEFING REPORT

The Play Streets program was launched as a pilot in May 2014 and has since rapidly expanded across the city. Since that time, over 240 interested neighbors have applied for and held a play street event on their street to enliven their neighborhood streets with safe, active play.

Due to the growth and sustained interest in play streets, Seattle's Department of Transportation is formalizing the program in 2016.

This document highlights findings from the pilot and outlines steps needed to establish an ongoing play streets program.



CREDIT: HOST TOVA WREN

[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

Play Streets Goals

Seattle's Play Streets Program is guided by the following objectives:

- 1/ Encourage use of neighborhood streets for safe, active play
- 2/ Promote social interaction between neighbors of all ages
- 3/ Provide additional usable public space in areas where parks or private yards are limited
- 4/ Maintain local and emergency access into and out of the block during events

Public Space Management

Play streets were developed as an element of SDOT's Public Space Management Program. The public right-of-way, which includes streets, sidewalks, and street trees, makes up 27% of Seattle's land, providing many opportunities to expand and activate public spaces. The Public Space Management Program supports creative improvements in our streets and sidewalks and makes it easier for community groups and businesses to enliven the city's public spaces.

The program is driven by four goals that help us promote and regulate a vibrant, safe, accessible, and attractive shared right-of-way:

ENCOURAGE: Promote the activation of public space

IMPLEMENT: Ensure that opportunities to activate the right-of-way are not missed due to perceived obstacles or implementation hurdles

INNOVATE: Identify opportunities for activation

REGULATE: Manage our public spaces in a transparent and predictable way

Program Timeline



Recommended Next Steps

1/ Formalize play streets program

After two years of successful performance and growth, we recommend approval of an ongoing play streets program. This will provide stability for hosts and neighbors while allowing SDOT to focus on long-term program success.

2/ Approve code amendment

To clear up potential confusion between code sections, we recommend that City Council approve a minor code amendment.

3/ Conduct community and media outreach

The Play Streets Program has seen widespread participation across the city. From our research, Seattle already issues the most play street permits per year of any contemporary city. SDOT should continue to share information about the program to further program awareness.

4/ Host play street events in underrepresented neighborhoods

While play streets have been hosted in every district of the city, some neighborhoods are underrepresented. From our observations, play street applications tend to cluster based on word-of-mouth or direct participation. SDOT should host a series of play street events to prime future applications in these neighborhoods.

5/ Continue program monitoring and evaluation

Like all of our Public Space Management programs, play streets was carefully developed to encourage participation and maximize the benefit to the right-of-way while continuing to maintain mobility and safety. Part of this process is conducting consistent evaluation of program performance, which we will continue to track as the program matures.

History

Play in the right-of-way was identified as a priority program in the initial work plan for Public Space Management. To develop our Play Streets Program we relied on best-practice research of other play street programs and Seattle's own experience with street closures.

We chose to match the pilot regulations for play streets closely to those of our existing block party permit. Our initial set of rules allowed for a wide range of dates, times, and activities so that we could assess which arrangements worked best.

Between May 2014 and Jan 2016, SDOT issued 185 play street permits. As seen in Chart 1, there was steady participation in the program through its initial year. After the pilot was extended, we saw a remarkable spike in applications during the summer of 2015.

Based on the continued growth in applications and the stated intent of previous hosts to reapply, we expect a sustained interest for a permanent play streets program into 2016 and beyond.

Program Basics

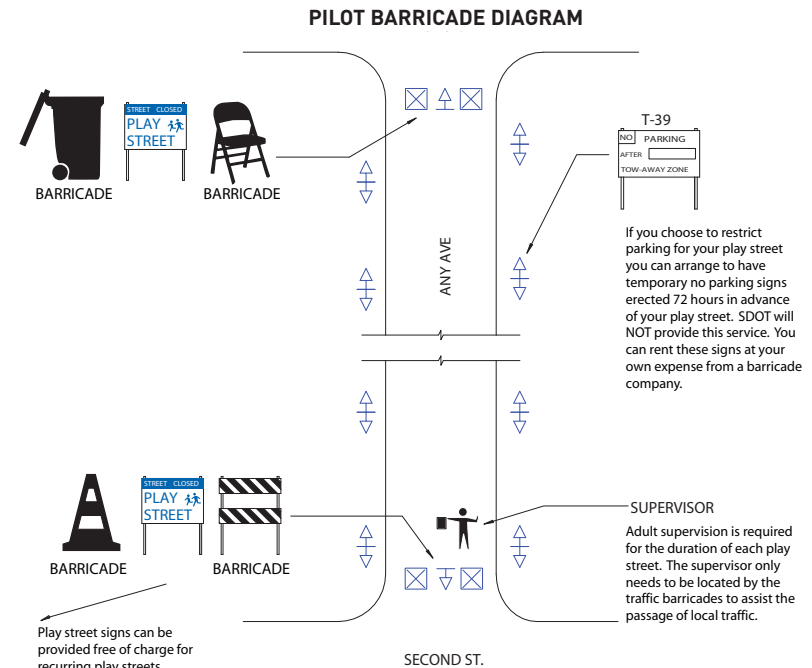
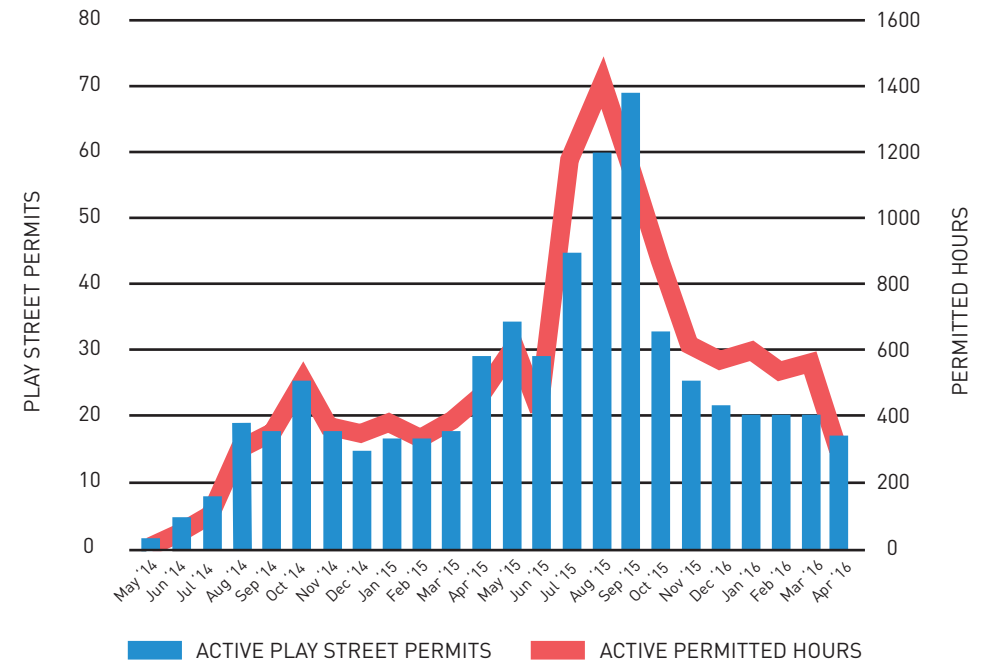
Since 2008, SDOT has issued block party permits at no cost to strengthen neighborhood spirit and support increased pedestrian use of the right-of-way. To allow for easy participation and a wide variety of location, we kept play street applications free and simple, as well. Interested hosts need to complete a basic application about which block they wanted to close and for how long.

Applicants are required to notify their neighbors about their plans prior to applying to make sure that there aren't potential conflicts and to promote participation.

During play street events, hosts need to block their street with household objects, trash cans, or rented barricades. To allow for local and emergency access, adults are posted at each end of the block to move barricades as needed. They can also provide information to neighbors and passers-by.

[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

CHART 1: PERMIT GROWTH



Relation to Block Parties

While developing the program, we were cautious about a potential substitution effect given the similarities between our existing block party permit and the new play streets program. Both permits allow neighbors to temporarily close their street to through traffic, but at different scales of activity and attendance.

Despite the similarity to block parties, we found that play streets are fulfilling a distinct interest for those who'd like to close their block. The lower graph shows annual application rates for both programs.

In the 2010-2015 period, block party applications grew by roughly 8.4% per year. The 185 play street applications we received were in addition to, rather than substituting for, block parties.

This finding matches conversations with hosts that the play street program is perceived as distinct from block parties in scale and purpose.

Participation and RSJI

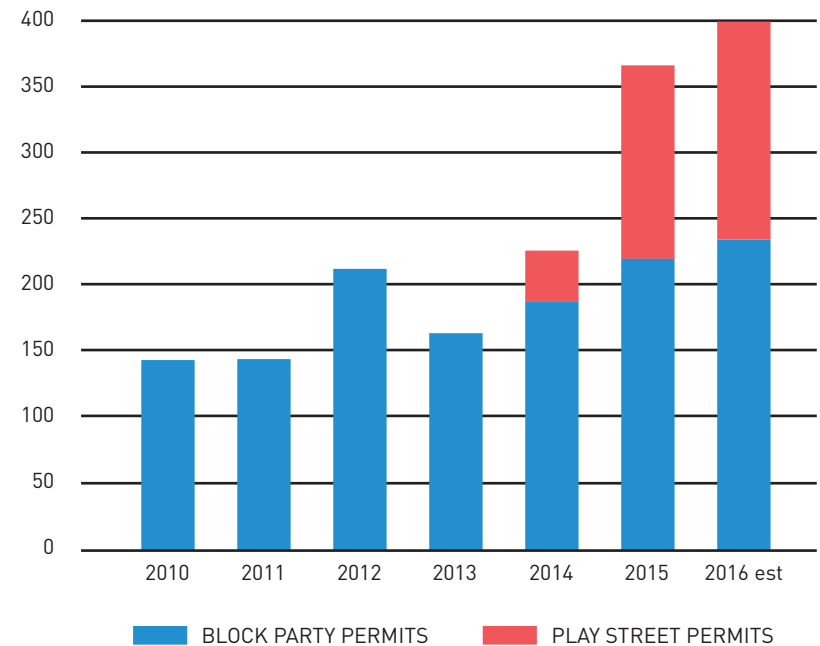
As an applicant-driven program, the location of play streets were determined by neighbor interest and awareness. In general, play streets were held in primarily-residential areas and tended to cluster around each other (see Map 1 on page 6).

While play streets were held in all 7 districts, they were not evenly distributed. Some neighborhoods with high volumes and percentages of children did not have any play street applications, most notably in SW and SE Seattle (see Map 2 on page 6).

The program's set-up as a free and simple permit has led to rapid growth in overall applications, but we want to ensure that the program is equitably distributed in Seattle neighborhoods.

PSMP intends to partner with neighborhood organizations in the summer of 2016 to host larger play street events in these underrepresented areas. We're also developing materials for non-English speaking or ESL applicants.

[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]
CHART 2: PERMIT ISSUANCE

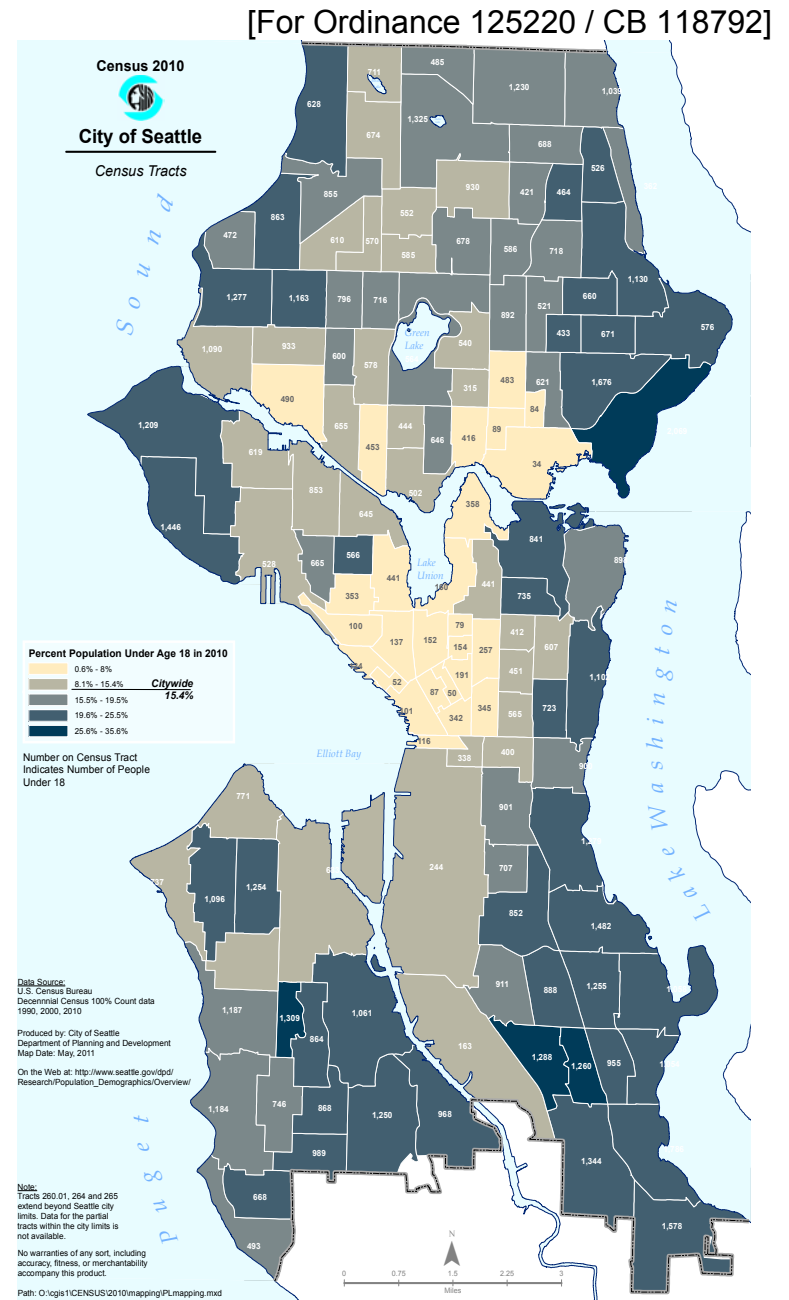


CREDIT: HOST JENNIFER WITTENBERG



Map 1: Play Street Locations (as of January 2016)

This map shows the location of blocks that were closed. Ongoing or upcoming play streets are shown in blue. Previous play streets are shown in red.



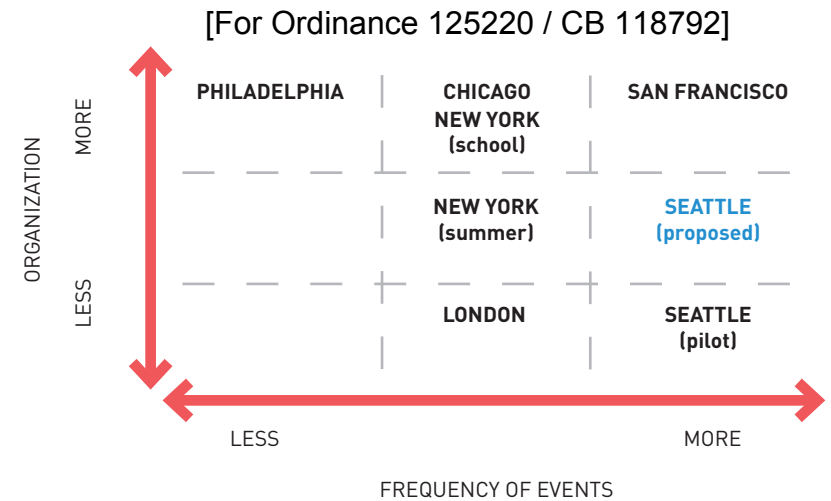
Map 2: Percent of Population under Age 18

This map shows the percent of total population by census tract that are age 18 or younger, with larger percentages shown in darker blue. Total numbers of those 18 and under are also shown in the center of each tract.

Contemporary Programs

As part of our program evaluation, we looked at similar play street programs in five other cities. The primary differences between the programs were the degree of central organization and the intended frequency of events. This breakdown is shown to the right.

In general, our pilot had the least up-front requirements and was the most widespread of the programs we found. This served the learning by experimentation aspect of the pilot well, but we found areas where we feel updated requirements would serve applicants and their neighbors better. These proposed changes are found on the following page.



PHILADELPHIA	CHICAGO	NEW YORK - SUMMER
Philadelphia sets a high bar for play street applicants, requiring 75% of households on the block to sign their approval for the closure. For each block, there is a maximum of five days per year and there is a permit fee of \$25 per date.	Implemented in 2012, Chicago has seen 422 hosted events. Of the play streets programs, theirs is the most controlled, but with good reason. A \$300k+ grant is distributed to community organizations who plan out a calendar of play street events. Local aldermen need to sign off on applications.	Limited to July 1 through August 31, NYC's Summer Play Streets allows community groups to apply to the program. Applicants must provide signatures from a majority of the block residents and then receive approval from the community board, local police precinct, and DOT engineer.
NEW YORK - SCHOOLS	HACKNEY BOROUGH, LONDON	SAN FRANCISCO
Similar to their summer program, NYC's School Play Streets allows community organizations and schools to close a street next to a school facility. Applicants must also receive approval from the community board, local police precinct, and DOT engineer.	Of the programs studied, Hackney has the one most similar to our pilot program. Requirements are minimal and the applications are widespread. They require proof of neighbor notification, but no signatures. Applicants are encouraged to partner with neighborhood organizations, and a local non-profit assists with programming and resources.	Currently, play streets hosts in SF apply for block party permits. A formalized and separate play street program is in development. Applications are subject to a \$167-\$223 fee and must be approved at a public hearing. Barricades must be provided by a private vendor. There is no calendar restriction on when play streets can be held.

Policy Changes

[For Ordinance 125220 / CB 118792]

PROGRAM ELEMENT	CURRENT POLICY	RECOMMENDED POLICY	REASON FOR CHANGE
Application	1/ Single application sheet with basic information and checkboxes indicating that the applicant will barricade the street under our requirements and has notified their neighbors	1/ Application sheet with basic information 2/ Site plan indicating block to be closed and location of barricades 3/ Copy of neighbor outreach method (email, flyer, description of phone call or in-person contact)	Additional documentation will provide documentation that both the applicant and SDOT agree on permit requirements.
Neighbor Support	Applicants self-report that they have conducted outreach and have gained support from other neighbors on their block	Applicants will need to show how they contacted their neighbors and submit a signature sheet if they intend to have their play street more than once per month	Complaints had been filed about inadequate notification for neighbors. This will ensure that those immediately affected are notified.
Location	Can be on any street in the city so long as it is only one-block long and doesn't block an arterial or bus route	No change	No change recommended
Barricading	1/ Must barricade at both ends of the street 2/ Barricade objects should be placed no further than 5 feet apart 3/ Hosts can use standard road closure barricades or personal objects such as trash bins, household furniture, or cones 4/ SDOT provides two 'Play Street' signs to be displayed at each barricade	Same as current policy, with these additions: 5/ Barricades objects must be at least 3 feet in height 6/ Barricade objects should be linked together with rope, streamers, etc 7/ Type 3 barricades must be rented if the play street abuts an arterial	Some confusion about what is sufficient barricading in pilot requirements. The additional rules will make sure that barricade objects are of adequate size and spacing to ensure safety for those playing in the street and drivers.
Date/Frequency	1/ No restriction on date or frequency that the play street can be held	1/ Applications will be issued in two seasons (summer and winter) 2/ Maximum 3 days per week	To better balance use of the street and add efficiency to permit intake and issuance
Time	1/ Road must be cleared by 10pm 2/ No limit on number of hours per day	1/ Road must be cleared by 10pm or dusk, whichever is earlier 2/ Maximum 6 hours per day	Will also balance use of the street and promote safety by limiting to daylight hours
Programming	Programmed activities are encouraged	No change	No change recommended
Supervision	At least one adult needs to be present at each end of the block to answer questions and move barricades for local or emergency access	No change	No change recommended

Legislative Action

Historically, Seattle has encouraged the temporary use of the roadway for social and active uses when not crucial for the movement of traffic. With proper notification, barricades, and neighbor participation, local access to neighborhood streets can be maintained while allowing for other uses of the roadway.

SMC 11.16.125A “Director of Transportation—Authority—Street and alley closures” provides wide authority for SDOT to close streets to traffic. This authority allows for closures to occur for construction or utility work, and also for neighborhood and community events of all sizes. Our historic allowance of block party closures fall under this authority.

Currently, there is a section of code that could cause potential confusion given a formalized play street program. Unpermitted play in the roadway of any street is prohibited by SMC 11.40.250 “Playing in Streets”. This ordinance, enacted in 1979, broadly prohibits a number of activities from occurring in the roadway with the intent of minimizing potential collisions between vehicles and people.

To recognize Seattle’s use of its streets for neighborhood gathering and to clear up any potential confusion in the code, we’re seeking to make this minor amendment to SMC 11.40.250:

“No person upon roller skates, or riding in or by means of any coaster, skateboard, toy vehicle or similar device, shall go upon the roadway of any arterial street or transit coach route, except while crossing such street at a crosswalk; or engage in any sport, amusement or exercise or play in the roadway of any street, **except where allowed by a street use permit.**”

Feedback from Hosts and Neighbors

Throughout the pilot, we asked for feedback from play street hosts, neighbors, and passers-by about their experiences of the program. The vast majority of comments were in strong support of the program and its continuation.

Of the 240+ play street permits issued, we only received concerns or complaints for 4%. The most common concern was around barricading, which informed our recommended changes to that requirement. Other complaints stemmed from lack of awareness of the program or inadequate outreach to neighbors. Both of these concerns have also been addressed in our policy changes.

In the two years of the pilot, no injuries or collisions occurred during or as a result of a play street closure.

Hosts have been highly supportive of an ongoing program. Below are sample feedback directly from hosts:

“This program was SO successful for our block. Every Thursday we were outside, eating and playing together, getting to know all of our neighbors and really created a community.”

“We’ve really enjoyed this and it has made our street a lot safer for the kids to play in. All of our neighbors are very happy and attentive to the rules as well.”

“I love the program. I feel like I know a lot of my neighbors that I didn’t before, even from other streets. People walk by and strike up conversations while their kids join the fun.”

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STATE OF WASHINGTON -- KING COUNTY

--SS.

345054

No. 22,23,24

CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

Affidavit of Publication

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12th day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

CT:ORDINANCE 125219,20,21

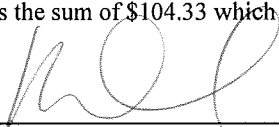
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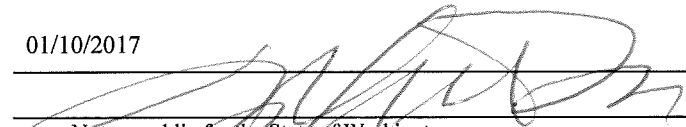
The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$104.33 which amount has been paid in full.



Affidavit of Publication


Subscribed and sworn to before me on

01/10/2017


Notary public for the State of Washington,
residing in Seattle

State of Washington, King County

City of Seattle

The full text of the following legislation, passed by the City Council on October 3, 2016, and published below by title only, will be mailed upon request, or can be accessed at <http://seattle.legistar.com>. For information on upcoming meetings of the Seattle City Council, please visit <http://www.seattle.gov/council/calendar>.

Ordinance 125219

AN ORDINANCE vacating the remaining north 40 feet of the alley in Block 18, being the remaining portion of the alley in the block lying between East Cherry Street on the north and East Jefferson Street on the south, the alley being located approximately 140 feet west of 12th Avenue, on the petition of Seattle University (Clerk File 305367).

Ordinance 125220

AN ORDINANCE relating to street and sidewalk use; amending Section 11.40.250 of the Seattle Municipal Code to authorize the Play Street program as an allowable use of the public place.

Ordinance 125221

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Office of the Waterfront; authorizing submission of application(s) for grant funding assistance for a Boating Facilities Program project (Pier 62 Boat Dock) to the State's Recreation and Conservation Funding Board as provided in chapter 79A.25 RCW and WAC 286; authorizing acceptance of the grant if awarded; authorizing entry into a project agreement if the grant is awarded; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Ordinance 125222

AN ORDINANCE relating to residential rental properties; amending Sections 7.24.020, 7.24.030, 7.24.040, 7.24.050, 7.24.060, 7.24.070, and 7.24.080 of the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC); adding new Sections 7.24.035, 7.24.036, 7.24.038, 7.24.110, 7.24.120, 7.24.130, 7.24.140, 7.24.150, 7.24.160, 7.24.170, 7.24.180, 7.24.190, 7.24.200, and 7.24.210 to the SMC; and repealing Section 7.24.090 of the SMC; all to limit the amount of security deposits and non-refundable move-in fees, to allow residential tenants to pay security deposits, non-refundable move-in fees, and last month's rent in installments, and to establish enforcement provisions for Chapter 7.24.

Ordinance 125223

AN ORDINANCE vacating the alley in Block 14, Heirs of Sarah A. Bell's Addition, bounded by Westlake Avenue, Virginia Street, 6th Avenue, Lenora Street, and 7th Avenue, on the petition of Acorn Development LLC (Clerk File 312260).

Ordinance 125224

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money to pay certain audited claims and ordering the payment thereof.

Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, January 10, 2017.

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