



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

CB 119420

Record No.: CB 119420

Type: Ordinance (Ord)

Status: Passed

Version: 2

Ord. no: Ord 125781

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 10/11/2018

Final Action: 03/08/2019

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to The City of Seattle's datum point; updating the vertical and horizontal reference datum for City of Seattle departments and outside entities as a standard elevation reference plane; requiring certain measurements for preliminary plats to be based on the updated vertical and horizontal datum; amending Chapter 1.20 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and amending Sections 23.22.020, 23.75.100, 25.06.030, 25.06.070, and 25.06.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: Herbold

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments: Full Text: CB 119420 v2

Drafter: bob.hennessey@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	10/19/2018	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	10/23/2018	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	Notes:						

Legislative Summary Continued (CB 119420)

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------|---------------------------------|---|------|
| 1 | Council President's Office | 11/16/2018 | sent for review | Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee | |
| | Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | |
| 1 | City Council | 12/03/2018 | referred | Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee | |
| 1 | Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee | 01/25/2019 | discussed | | |
| | Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was discussed. | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | |
| 1 | Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee | 02/26/2019 | pass as amended | | Pass |
| | Action Text: The Committee recommends that City Council pass as amended the Council Bill (CB). | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | |
| | | | In Favor: 1 | Chair Herbold | |
| | | | Opposed: 0 | | |
| 2 | City Council | 03/04/2019 | passed | | Pass |
| | Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill: | | | | |
| | | | In Favor: 8 | Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember González , Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember Mosqueda, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant | |
| | | | Opposed: 0 | | |
| 2 | City Clerk | 03/07/2019 | submitted for Mayor's signature | Mayor | |
| | Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | |
| 2 | Mayor | 03/08/2019 | Signed | | |
| 2 | Mayor | 03/08/2019 | returned | City Clerk | |
| 2 | City Clerk | 03/08/2019 | attested by City Clerk | | |
| | Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk. | | | | |
| | Notes: | | | | |
-

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE 125781

COUNCIL BILL 119420

AN ORDINANCE relating to The City of Seattle's datum point; updating the vertical and horizontal reference datum for City of Seattle departments and outside entities as a standard elevation reference plane; requiring certain measurements for preliminary plats to be based on the updated vertical and horizontal datum; amending Chapter 1.20 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and amending Sections 23.22.020, 23.75.100, 25.06.030, 25.06.070, and 25.06.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the local vertical datum, known as the City of Seattle Datum, was established in 1883 by Ordinance 383 and amended in 1891 by Ordinance 1836; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of The City of Seattle (City) to have a standard, regional, and consistent vertical and horizontal reference system; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the public safety, health, and welfare that elements of the City's infrastructure share a common vertical and horizontal reference system; and

WHEREAS, chapter 58.20 RCW establishes the "Washington coordinate system of 1983," based on the North American Datum of 1983, as determined by the National Geodetic Survey of the United States Department of Commerce, as a system for expressing positions or locations of points on the surface of the earth; and

WHEREAS, state, local, and regional entities adopted the Washington Coordinate System as a standard for expressing positions and locations of utilities, transportation elements, and other infrastructure in Geographic Information Systems, engineering records, mapping and land records; and

WHEREAS, published coordinates for the National Geodetic Survey geodetic control monuments, that provide the physical constraints for establishing coordinate values in the Washington Coordinate System, represent the most current adjustment of the North

1 American Datum of 1983, and the City of Seattle's primary control network monuments
2 have been constrained to said monuments and adjusted to the North American Datum of
3 1983 most current per WAC 332-130-060; and

4 WHEREAS, present surveying, engineering, and Geographic Information Systems methods and
5 technologies provide for and make practicable the establishment and adherence to a
6 common horizontal reference system; and

7 WHEREAS, the Central Geographic Data Base of the City of Seattle Geographic Information
8 System was developed in and maintained in the North American Datum of 1983 (most
9 current adjustment), and a longstanding goal of the City of Seattle Geographic
10 Information Systems is to include elements from engineering design projects and other
11 sources of horizontally reference spatial features; and

12 WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, in advance of federal
13 changes to horizontal and vertical datum measurement standards in 2022, is pursuing
14 legislation to amend chapter 58.20 RCW to refer to the new standards and future
15 standards, and Seattle has the same need to amend its code to refer to the new standards;
16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

18 Section 1. Chapter 1.20 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance
19 121291, is amended as follows:

20 **CHAPTER 1.20 DATUM POINT**

21 **1.20.010 (~~(Datum point established.)~~) Historical datum point**

22 ~~((A. Original))~~ Historical datum point. A base or datum point or line is established on the lower
23 step at the entrance to the Pioneer Block in The City of Seattle, at the southwest corner thereof,

1 the point or datum line being ((19.79)) 18.79 feet below the top of the step, the point or datum
2 line being in correspondence with the datum point or line heretofore fixed by Ordinance No. 383.
3 To distinguish between the historical and current vertical datum, when it is necessary to refer to
4 both, this historical datum point shall be known as the "City of Seattle Datum."

5 ~~((B. New datum point. The North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) and the~~
6 ~~North American Datum of 1983 (1991 adjustment) [NAD83 (1991)] are adopted as the new~~
7 ~~official vertical and horizontal datums of the City of Seattle; said datums being defined by a~~
8 ~~series of stable, monumented points and reference stations established and maintained by the~~
9 ~~United States National Geodetic Survey.))~~

10 **1.20.020 Current datums**

11 The official geodetic datums to which geodetic coordinates, including, but not limited to,
12 latitude, longitude, ellipsoid height, orthometric height, or dynamic height, are referenced within
13 Seattle city limits shall be as defined for the National Spatial Reference System (or its
14 successor).

15 Section 2. Work that constitutes the "practice of engineering" or the "practice of land
16 surveying", chapter 18.43 RCW, including but not limited to, land survey maps, plans, records of
17 surveys, plats, short plats, descriptions of real property, and boundary line adjustments, which
18 are performed by or for The City of Seattle, or on properties and/or infrastructures owned,
19 funded, or maintained by The City of Seattle, shall reference the current datums for Seattle
20 whenever there is a reference to a horizontal datum (any reference to bearings, azimuths, or
21 geographical or state plane coordinates) or a vertical component of the work, or an elevation is
22 noted.

Section 3. All land survey maps and plans, records of surveys, plats, short plats, boundary line adjustments, and legal descriptions submitted to the City for its approval, and all plans, elevations, maps, drawings, and legal descriptions submitted to obtain permits for construction and development of private improvements, shall reference the current datums for Seattle whenever there is a reference to a horizontal datum (any reference to bearings, azimuths, or geographical or state plane coordinates) or a vertical component of the work, or an elevation is noted.

Section 4. The City of Seattle Standard Specifications for Road, Bridge, and Municipal Construction, Standard Specification 1-05.5, shall be revised to require the horizontal and vertical datums for Seattle current at the time this ordinance takes effect for all work referenced in Section 2 of this ordinance.

Section 5. Subsection 23.22.020.A of the Seattle Municipal Code, which section was last amended by Ordinance 123963, is amended as follows:

23.22.020 Content of preliminary plat application

A. Every preliminary plat application shall consist of one ((~~1~~)) or more maps together with written data including the following:

1. The name of the proposed subdivision;
2. North arrow and scale; the location of existing property lines; streets, building, if any; watercourses and all general features;
3. The legal description of the land contained within the subdivision;
4. The names and addresses of all persons, firms, and corporations holding interest in the lands, including easement rights and interest;

1 5. The proposed names, locations, widths, dimensions, and bearings of proposed
2 streets, alleys, easements, parks, lots, building lines, if any, and all other information necessary
3 to interpret the plat, including the location of existing utility and access easements ((which)) that
4 are to remain, all horizontal references (any reference to bearings, azimuths, or geographical or
5 state plane coordinates) shall reference the ((~~North American Datum of 1983 (1991 adjustment)~~))
6 horizontal datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020;

7 6. The location of streets in adjoining plats and the approximate locations of
8 adjoining utilities and proposed extensions into the plat;

9 7. The names of adjoining plats;

10 8. The name, address, ((and)) telephone number, and seal of the registered land
11 surveyor who made the survey or under whose supervision it was made;

12 9. The date of the survey;

13 10. All existing monuments and markers located by the survey;

14 11. The zoning classification applicable to the land within the subdivision;

15 12. The conditions of or the limitations on dedications, if any, including slope
16 rights;

17 13. Contour intervals as required, based upon the ((~~North American Vertical~~
18 ~~Datum of 1988~~)) vertical datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020;

19 14. Property information including, but not limited to, address, legal description,
20 and Assessor's Parcel number;

21 15. Evidence of ownership or authorization from the property owner to make the
22 application;

1 16. A signed statement of financial responsibility by the applicant and owner
2 acknowledging financial responsibility for all applicable permit fees;

3 17. Drainage plan;

4 18. Landscape plan;

5 19. Identification of any adjacent property within ~~((three hundred-))~~300((~~+~~)) feet
6 of the proposed subdivision that is owned or controlled by the applicant; and

7 20. Specific location and description of all trees at least ~~((six-))~~6((~~+~~)) inches in
8 diameter measured ~~((four and one-half-))~~4 1/2((~~+~~)) feet above the ground, with species indicated.

9 * * *

10 Section 6. Section 23.75.100 of the Seattle Municipal Code, enacted by Ordinance
11 123963, is amended as follows:

12 **23.75.100 Structure height**

13 A. Structure height is not allowed to exceed the applicable height limit established in
14 Exhibit A for 23.75.100. In areas shown in Exhibit A for 23.75.100 where the height limit is
15 "85/" followed by a second number, 85 feet is the applicable height limit for non-highrise
16 structures. The number following the "/" is the applicable height limit for highrise structures.

17 B. The number, distribution, and maximum gross floor area per story of highrise
18 structures are restricted according to Section 23.75.120.

19 C. Structure height is measured pursuant to ~~((Section))~~ subsection 23.86.006.A, except in
20 the view corridor height restriction areas depicted in Exhibit A for 23.75.100, where solely for
21 the purposes of this Section 23.75.100 and Section 23.75.110, structure height is measured from
22 an elevation above ~~((a fixed sea level measurement, the North American Vertical Datum of 1988~~
23 ~~(NAVD 88)))~~ the vertical datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020.

D. If a structure is within more than one of the areas designated on Exhibit A for
23.75.100, the height limits apply separately to the portions of the structure in each area.

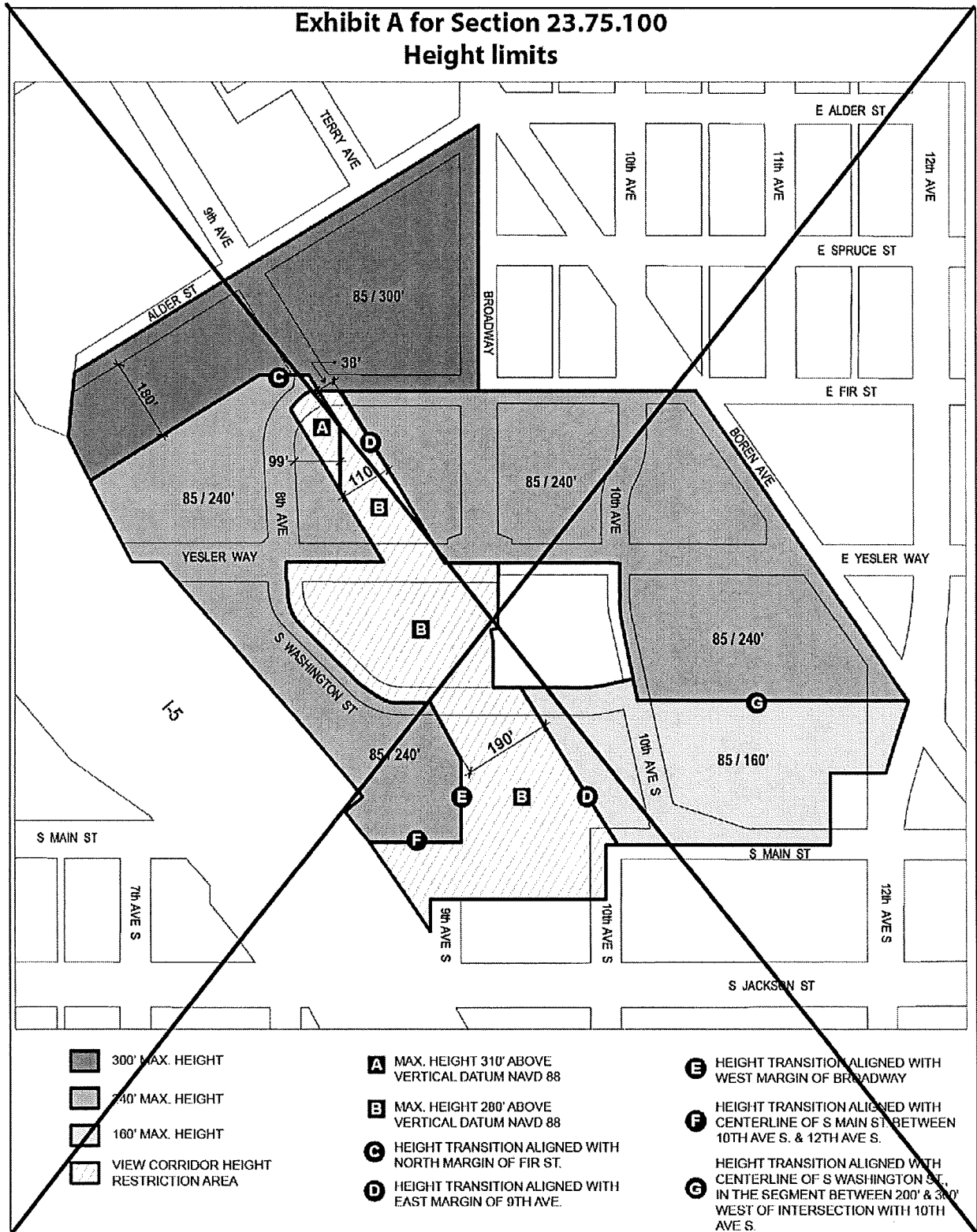


Exhibit A for Section 23.75.100 Height limits



- 300' MAX. HEIGHT
- 240' MAX. HEIGHT
- 180' MAX. HEIGHT
- VIEW CORRIDOR HEIGHT RESTRICTION AREA

- A** MAX. HEIGHT 310' ABOVE VERTICAL DATUM
- B** MAX. HEIGHT 280' ABOVE VERTICAL DATUM
- C** HEIGHT TRANSITION ALIGNED WITH NORTH MARGIN OF FIR ST.
- D** HEIGHT TRANSITION ALIGNED WITH EAST MARGIN OF 9TH AVE.

- E** HEIGHT TRANSITION ALIGNED WITH WEST MARGIN OF BROADWAY
- F** HEIGHT TRANSITION ALIGNED WITH CENTERLINE OF S MAIN ST. BETWEEN 10TH AVE S. & 12TH AVE S.
- G** HEIGHT TRANSITION ALIGNED WITH CENTERLINE OF S WASHINGTON ST., IN THE SEGMENT BETWEEN 200' & 300' WEST OF INTERSECTION WITH 10TH AVE S.

Section 7. Subsection 25.06.030.C of the Seattle Municipal Code, which section was last amended by Ordinance 124919, is amended as follows:

25.06.030 Definitions

* * *

C. "Base flood level" and "base flood elevation" both mean the level or elevation above mean sea level, as calculated by reference to the ~~((National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)))~~ vertical datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020, of floodwaters in a particular area during flood having a one ~~((1))~~ percent chance of occurring in any given year.

* * *

Section 8. Section 25.06.070 of the Seattle Municipal Code, enacted by Ordinance 114395, is amended as follows:

25.06.070 Application for floodplain development approval or license~~((r))~~

Application for a floodplain development license or for floodplain development approval shall be made on forms furnished by the Administrators. The application shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following information:

A. Elevation prepared by a licensed surveyor or a registered professional civil engineer in relation to mean sea level, as calculated based on the ~~((National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)))~~ vertical datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020, of the lowest floor (including basement) of all structures;

B. Elevation prepared by a licensed surveyor or a registered professional civil engineer in relation to mean sea level, as calculated based on the ~~((National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)))~~ vertical datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020, to which any structure has been or will be floodproofed;

C. Certification by a registered professional civil engineer that the floodproofing methods for any nonresidential structure meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 25.06.110; and

D. Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of the proposed development.

Section 9. Section 25.06.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 121115, is amended as follows:

25.06.090 Functions of the Administrators((;))

Functions of the Administrators under this ((chapter)) Chapter 25.06 shall include the following:

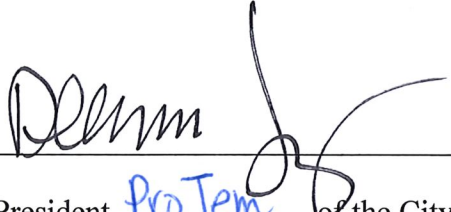
* * *

D. Where base flood elevation data is provided through the Flood Insurance Study or required and obtained through subsection 25.06.090.C above, obtain and record the actual (as-built) elevation (in relation to mean sea level as calculated based on the ((National Geodetic Vertical Datum))) vertical datum for Seattle under Section 1.20.020) of the lowest floor, including basement, of all new or substantially improved structures, and indicate whether or not the structure contains a basement;

* * *

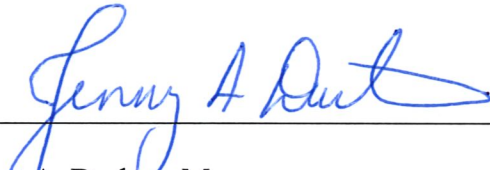
Section 10. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the 4th day of March, 2019,
and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 4th day of
March, 2019.



President Pro Tem of the City Council

Approved by me this 8th day of March, 2019.



Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this 8th day of MARCH, 2019.



Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
Seattle Public Utilities	Chris Royak/4-0560	Aaron Blumenthal/3-2656

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

- 1. Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to The City of Seattle's datum point; updating the vertical and horizontal reference datum for City of Seattle departments and outside entities as a standard elevation reference plane; requiring certain measurements for preliminary plats to be based on the updated vertical and horizontal datum; amending Chapter 1.20 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and amending Sections 23.22.020, 23.75.100, 25.06.030, 25.06.070, and 25.06.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code.
- 2. Summary and background of the Legislation:** A datum point is a reference point used in surveying and construction to provide a known location for measuring the position or height of an object in relation to the datum point. Seattle's original local vertical datum was established, in 1883. The City in 2003 adopted the current official horizontal and vertical datums which are defined as The North American Datum of 1983 and The North American Vertical Datum of 1988. The datums comprise a series of stable, monumented points and reference stations, established and maintained by the United States National Geodetic Survey (NGS). The NGS continually monitors its datum reference station and adjusts it over time, the most recent of which occurring in 2011. In the interest of public safety, health and welfare the City's utility, transportation and other assets have a common vertical and horizontal reference system. This proposed legislation would amend the Seattle Municipal Code to bring the City's Horizontal and Vertical Datums into alignment with current and future NGS datums by putting forth language that defines the official City of Seattle datums as the most current NGS datums. This would eliminate the need for future code updates each time the NGS adjusts its datums.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- a. Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ___ Yes ___X No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes X No
- b. Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?
No.
- c. Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?
No.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?
N/A
- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?
No
- c. Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?
No
- d. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?
No
- e. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?
No
- f. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?
No
- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).
N/A

List attachments/exhibits below:

None

STATE OF WASHINGTON -- KING COUNTY

--SS.

371865

No.

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.

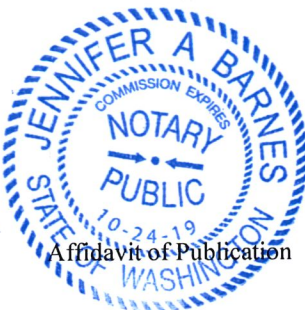
The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

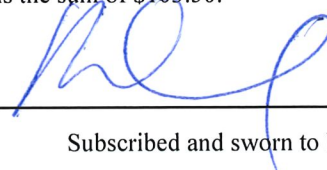
CT:125780-125784 TITLE

was published on

03/25/19

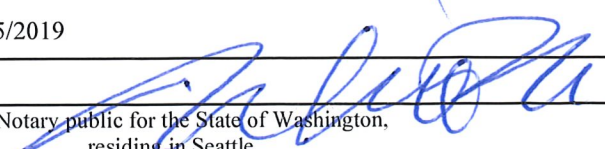
The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$103.50.





Subscribed and sworn to before me on

03/25/2019



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 March 04, 2019, 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 125780

Council Bill 119470

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

Ordinance 125781

Council Bill 119420

AN ORDINANCE relating to The City of Seattle's datum point; updating the vertical and horizontal reference datum for City of Seattle departments and outside entities as a standard elevation reference plane; requiring certain measurements for preliminary plats to be based on the updated vertical and horizontal datum; amending Chapter 1.20 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and amending Sections 23.22.020, 23.75.100, 25.06.030, 25.06.070, and 25.06.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Ordinance 125782

Council Bill 119464

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the General Manager/CEO of Seattle Public Utilities to execute a contract with Waste Management of Washington for construction waste collection services; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Ordinance 125783

Council Bill 119467

AN ORDINANCE relating to historic preservation; imposing controls upon the Broad Street Substation, a landmark designated by the Landmarks Preservation Board under Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code, and adding it to the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in Chapter 25.32 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Ordinance 125784

Council Bill 119468

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Police Department; creating an incentive program for hiring police officers; and repealing obsolete Sections 4.20.530, 4.20.540, and 4.20.550 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, March 25, 2019.

3/25(371865)