

Budget Amendment Cosponsor Request

Office of Councilmember Kshama Sawant, October 12, 2021

Summary		Cosponsor (yes/no)
Housing		
1	<p><u>Add \$106.85 million for affordable housing</u></p> <p>When the Payroll Expense Tax was passed in 2020, 62% was intended to fund affordable housing. However, Mayor Durkan’s proposed 2022 budget dedicates only \$38.6 million of the expected \$145.45 million of these funds in 2022, a reduction of \$106.85 million in funding for affordable housing. Those funds were instead used to increase the General Fund, effectively supporting the rest of the Mayor’s proposed budget.</p> <p>This budget amendment would increase the big business tax rate of the Payroll Expense Tax to raise the additional \$106.85 million required to fully fund its affordable housing commitment.</p>	
2	<p><u>Add \$635 million for affordable housing</u></p> <p>This is a scaled-up version of the increase in affordable housing described in budget amendment 1. It fully funds the Solidarity Budget demand for \$635 million for affordable housing. \$106.85 million should be paid for by increasing the big business tax rate of the Payroll Expense Tax. This budget amendment would also authorize a \$529 million LTGO bond to fund the remainder of that \$635 million. Bond payments will be funded in future years with revenue generated by that \$106 million / year increase in the big business payroll taxes.</p>	
3	<p><u>Add \$10 million bridge funding to purchase Squire Park Plaza for affordable housing.</u></p> <p>Squire Park Plaza, containing 60 mostly affordable units, was recently put up for sale. To prevent the displacement of the Squire Park Plaza residents, the New Hope Community Development Institute (NHCDI) is partnering with LIHI to purchase the building and guarantee the ongoing affordability of all 60 units. Over 75% of residents are from marginalized communities and many are very low-income. Bids are due in December of 2021, so this budget amendment would authorize the Office of Housing to make the funding available before the start of 2022</p>	
4	<p><u>Add \$2,827,000 to fund Operations and Maintenance of 5 new Permanent Supportive Housing buildings (257 units)</u></p> <p>In 2021, affordable housing providers in Seattle used state funds to rapidly acquire 5 market-rate buildings and convert them into Permanent Supportive Housing. This budget amendment funds the operations and maintenance for the following:</p>	

PSH Operating & Maintenance	Property	Location	Provider	Units	2022 PSH O&M
	Boylston	Capitol Hill	LIHI	55	\$605,000
	Harvard	Capitol Hill	LIHI	67	\$737,000
	10th Ave E	Capitol Hill	YouthCare	32	\$352,000
	13th Ave S	Beacon Hill	SeaMar	40	\$440,000
	Goldfinch	Fremont	TBD	63	\$693,000
Total			257	\$2,827,000	

Green New Deal

5 Add \$13 million for building weatherization and conversion from oil and natural gas heat

When the Payroll Expense Tax was passed in 2020, 9% was intended to fund Green New Deal programs. However, Mayor Durkan's proposed 2022 budget allocates only \$8 million for GND initiatives, \$13 million less than intended. This budget amendment would restore GND funding, to be allocated to the Office of Housing for building weatherization and low-income subsidies to transition homes from oil and natural gas heaters to electric.

6 Add \$85 million for Green New Deal initiatives

This is a scaled-up version of the increase in Green New Deal funding described in budget amendment 5. It fully funds the Solidarity Budget demand for \$85 million/year to accelerate the transition of homes and buildings off fossil fuels. This budget amendment would also increase the big business tax rate of the Payroll Expense Tax to raise \$85 million in additional revenue, making this budget amendment revenue neutral.

Eligible uses of the funds include:

- Subsidies to transition low-income homes off natural gas and oil heat, and for building weatherization and energy efficiency retrofits for low-income homes;
- Renewable energy investments on public buildings such as community centers, schools, and libraries;
- \$100,000 for rooftop solar on Duwamish Longhouse to support energy independence, sustainability and sovereignty;
- \$100,000 for clean water infrastructure such as water cisterns, catchments, and home water filtration systems to support the sovereignty of local Tribes;
- \$80,000 for rain garden and green roof infrastructure for the Duwamish Longhouse; and
- Workforce development and job pathways in the growing clean energy economy, particularly for fossil fuel worker retraining and transition assistance/

Renters Rights	
7	<p><u>Add funding to SDCI to administer the Economic Displacement Relocation Assistance Program</u></p> <p>On September 27, Council passed the Economic Displacement Relocation Assistance Ordinance, requiring landlords to pay relocation assistance to tenants they economically displace with rent increases of 10% or more. All relocation assistance applications and payments are processed by the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections who have indicated they will require additional resources. This budget amendment will fund any additional resources SDCI will need to administer this program.</p>
8	<p><u>Add \$500,000 to Support Renter Rights Education and Organizing</u></p> <p>This Budget action adds \$500,000 to SDCI to increase funding to contract with non-profit and community based organizations such as the Tenant's Union of Washington and Be:Seattle to support renter right education and organizing.</p>
Homeless Services	
9	<p><u>Add a proviso to protect the funding for Tiny House Villages</u></p> <p>This budget amendment places a proviso on all Tiny House Village funds in the Human Services Department's budget, stating that those funds may be used for no other purpose.</p>
10	<p><u>Add \$4.6 million to fund three additional Tiny House Villages in 2022</u></p> <p>This budget action adds \$4.6 million to contract with a non-profit organization to expand the number of professionally operated tiny house villages in Seattle by three villages for a total of 16 in 2022. Tiny House Villages continue to be one of the most successful supports for homeless people in Seattle providing a safe and secure non-congregate shelter within a village that provides a community.</p>
11	<p><u>Fund three safe parking lots, garbage pick up, and septic cleaning for vehicular residents</u></p> <p>This budget amendment adds funding to the Human Services Department to fund services for vehicular residents in Seattle including: Three new safe parking lots with case management and other services; and funding for garbage removal and septic system pump-outs for RVs and other vehicular residents both in safe parking lots and on City streets.</p>
Community Development	
12	<p><u>Add \$30,000 to fund senior meal and activity programming for the Vietnamese Senior Association</u></p>

	<p>This budget action adds \$30,000 to HSD to fund the congregate senior meal and activity programming of the Vietnamese Senior Association via their fiscal sponsor ACRS. The City of Seattle funded this programming prior to the COVID health emergency and the Vietnamese Senior Association is looking forward to resuming those services.</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Add \$200,000 to expand Clean Greens Farm & Market</p> <p>The budget action adds \$200,000 to expand free local produce access in the Central Area. Clean Greens directly distributes fresh organic local produce free of charge in Seattle’s Central Area to increase access to fresh produce, which is farmed locally with the help of community volunteers. They are currently supported by funding from the City of Seattle. Adding \$200,000 will allow them to hire staff to increase capacity and add youth programming on the farm. Clean Greens reports that they receive far more requests for produce than they are currently able to fulfill, demonstrating a clear need to expand capacity.</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>Add \$188,200 to support Capacity Building for the Garfield Superblock</p> <p>In the summer 2021 Supplemental Budget, the Council allocated \$500,000 to support the predevelopment costs of the Garfield Superblock (GSB). With those funds, the design and engineering for this important park project is now fully funded. The lead landscape architect has been contracted to complete construction documents, permitting and bidding for the project. The Mayor’s proposed budget allocates \$1 million in Parks funding for GSB Capital Improvements.</p> <p>This budget amendment allows the GSB to hire or maintain the following part time staff to maintain that momentum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part Time Project Coordinator - Part Time Arts Team Project Manager - Part Time Fundraising Consultant - Part Time Youth Coordinator - Part Time Bookkeeper <p>The budget amendment also allows the GSB to make available artist stipends and fund community events in 2022.</p>	
<p>Worker Rights</p>		
<p>15</p>	<p><u>Add \$1.4 million to the Office of Labor Standards to hire 10 additional workers’ rights laws investigators</u></p> <p>This budget action adds \$1.4 million to the Office of Labor Standards (OLS) to fund 10 new investigators to enforce Seattle’s worker rights such as the minimum wage. OLS has the responsibility for enforcing 17 workers' rights laws. Currently there are 51 cases on the OLS waitlist with a current waitlist time of 528 days, close to 2 years. In 2021, OLS resolved 31 investigations, with an average age of 558 days. Hiring an additional 10 investigators will</p>	

	allow OLS to substantially reduce the waitlist to investigate violations in workers' rights.	
16	<p><u>Add \$750,000 for a human services pay equity analysis</u></p> <p>This budget action adds \$750,000 to the HSD to fund a pay equity analysis to evaluate the chronically low pay of human services workers. Workers providing human services are paid far less than workers in other industries requiring similar levels of education and sacrifice, making careers in the human services often unsustainable and creating damaging workforce turnover. The Seattle Human Services Coalition is advocating for research to be done into the underpayment of human services workers, to build momentum support for pay equity. This budget amendment would fund that study.</p>	
Police Accountability		
17	<p><u>Cut \$1,087,500 from the Seattle Police Department budget allocated for hiring bonuses.</u></p> <p>This budget action removes \$1,087,500 from the Mayor's proposed SPD budget. In her proposed budget, those funds are allocated to provide hiring bonuses for new police officers, rather than to underpaid human service workers, or other vital city employees.</p>	
18	<p><u>Cut Mayor Durkan's proposed \$14 million increase to the Seattle Police Department budget</u></p> <p>This budget action removes the \$14 million increase to the Seattle Police Department budget proposed by Mayor Durkan. The SPD budget in 2021 was reduced in response to the Justice for George Floyd movement and as part of general budget cuts stemming from the COVID emergency. The mayor's proposed budget reverses those reductions. This budget action restores the partial defunding won by the Black Lives Matter movement in 2020.</p>	
19	<p>Defund the Police by 50%</p> <p>This budget amendment would cut \$182.7 million from the SPD budget, reducing it by 50% in recognition of the demands of the Justice for George Floyd movement. This is also a demand of the Solidarity Budget.</p>	
20	<p>Remove the \$650,000 increase in the Office of the Inspector General Budget</p> <p>The mayor's proposed budget expands the Office of the Inspector General by two positions and \$650,000. The Office of the Inspector General has played no valuable role in police accountability since its inception and has ample resources to fulfil all its legal responsibilities without an expansion.</p>	

This budget amendment would remove that expansion to fund other Council priorities.	
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