Seatle City Council Select Budget Committee

Councilmember Budget Proposals| Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA)

Number	Title	Sponsor	Packet Page
OIRA-001-A-1	Increase OIRA by $300,000 GF (2027) and $300,000 GF (2028) to support workforce development for refugee and immigrant women artisans	Juarez	2

2027-2028 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

OIRA-001-A

Increase OIRA by $300,000 GF (2027) and $300,000 GF (2028) to support workforce development for refugee and immigrant women artisans

SPONSORS

Debora Juarez, Dan Strauss, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fund	2027 Increase (Decrease)	2028 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(300,000)	$(300,000)
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(300,000)	$(300,000)

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This CBA would increase appropriations in the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) by $300,000 GF in 2027 and $300,000 GF in 2028 (one-time) to support workforce development for refugee and immigrant women artisans to help them achieve economic stability.

According to a 2019 report by Georgetown University, refugee women face significant barriers to employment and typically have much lower rates of employment than host populations. The funding should be used for an organization that supports refugee and immigrant women artisans through job skills training, microbusiness support, wraparound support, and connection with employment opportunities, such as the Refugee Artisan Initiative.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONE-TIME

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
OIRA	Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs	00100-BO-IA-X1N00	2027		$300,000
OIRA	Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs	00100-BO-IA-X1N00	2028		$300,000