Seatle City Council Select Budget Committee

Councilmember Budget Proposals| Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Department of Neighborhoods (DON)

Number	Title	Sponsor	Packet Page
DON-001-A-1	Increase DON by $2.5 million GF support (2027) and $2.5 million GF support (2028) and add 2.0 FTE for Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Program	Hollingsworth	2
DON-002-A-1	Increase DON by $100,000 GF (2027) and $100,000 GF (2028) for neighborhood councils	Hollingsworth	4
DON-003-A-1	Proviso $50,000 GF in DON for local government 101 grants	Rivera	5
DON-004-A-1	Increase DON by $115,000 GF (2027) and $115,000 GF (2028) for community safety coordination in SODO	Saka	6
DON-005S-A-1	Request that DON report on improvements to engagement, outreach, and language access	Foster	7

2027-2028 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-001-A

Increase DON by $2.5 million GF support (2027) and $2.5 million GF support (2028) and add 2.0 FTE for Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Program

SPONSORS

Joy Hollingsworth, Rob Saka, Dionne Foster

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fund	2027 Increase (Decrease)	2028 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(2,500,000)	$(2,500,000)
Other Funds	$0	$0
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(2,500,000)	$(2,500,000)

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This CBA would increase appropriations in the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) by $2.5 million Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Fund (CDSSR Fund) in 2027 and $2.5 million CDSSR Fund in 2028 and add 2.0 FTE to establish and support the Central District and Southeast Seattle Reinvestment Program (CDSSR Program.) The CDSSR Fund appropriations would be supported by GF resources.

The CDSSR Program would provide ongoing and dedicated support to the organizations that aim to preserve and revitalize Seattle's Central District and Southeast Seattle Community. Council intends that DON design the program in collaboration with the Council President's office to provide accessible financial resources through a structured application process and that DON implement and maintain the program.

The 2.0 FTE would include one Strategic Advisor 2 position and one Administrative Specialist 2 position to staff the CDSSR Program. The Program Manager (Strategic Advisor 2) would lead the collaborative efforts with Council President's office to design the program. Once launched, the Program Manager would implement and maintain the program. The Administrative Specialist would provide support and prioritize providing technical assistance to applicants as well as to recipients.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Building	00102-BO-DN-I3300	2027		$2,500,000

2027-2028 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

FG	Appropriation to Special Funds	00100-BO-FG-2QA00	2027		$2,500,000
FG	Appropriation to Special Funds	00102-BO-FG-2QA00	2027	$2,500,000	
DON	Community Building	00102-BO-DN-I3300	2028		$2,500,000
FG	Appropriation to Special Funds	00100-BO-FG-2QA00	2028		$2,500,000
FG	Appropriation to Special Funds	00102-BO-FG-2QA00	2028	$2,500,000	

POSITIONS

Dept	BCL	Year	Position Title	Positions	FTE
ARTS	00102-BO-AR-2VMA0	2027	Strategic Advisor 2, Exempt	1	1
ARTS	00102-BO-AR-2VMA0	2028	Strategic Advisor 2, Exempt	1	1
DON	00102-BO-DN-I3300	2027	Administrative Specialist II-BU	1	1
DON	00102-BO-DN-I3300	2028	Administrative Specialist II-BU	1	1

2027-2028 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-002-A

Increase DON by $100,000 GF (2027) and $100,000 GF (2028) for neighborhood councils

SPONSORS

Joy Hollingsworth, Debora Juarez, Robert Kettle

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fund	2027 Increase (Decrease)	2028 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(100,000)	$(100,000)
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(100,000)	$(100,000)

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This CBA would increase appropriations in the Department of Neighborhoods by $100,000 GF in 2027 and $100,000 GF in 2028 to support neighborhood councils and groups and their local neighborhood projects. Active organizations funded with this appropriation would be characterized by coordination among multiple neighborhood groups across the City, sharing of resources, and mutual support such as the Seattle Neighborhood Alliance.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2027		$100,000
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2028		$100,000

2027-2028 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-003-A

Proviso $50,000 GF in DON for local government 101 grants

SPONSORS

Maritza Rivera, Rob Saka, Joy Hollingsworth

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fund	2027 Increase (Decrease)	2028 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$0	$0
Total Budget Balance Effect	$0	$0

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This CBA would impose a proviso on $50,000 GF in the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) for "local government 101" grants through DON's Small Sparks Fund grant program. For the 2026 Adopted Budget, Council increased appropriations to DON's Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) by $100,000 GF (one-time) for the Small Sparks program to support education and awareness matching grants, known as local government 101 grants (DON-011-A-2 2026.) The purpose of the grants is to engage and inform constituents about the roles of local government branches, city departments and how the government works in general. The grants support community councils, neighborhood, and other constituent groups in their efforts toward educating and informing residents.

As of October 9, 2026, the Small Sparks Fund program has received applications and awarded grants to six local government 101 projects, totaling about $26,000 in awards. DON will continue to accept applications for local government 101 projects through the end of October 2026. If DON does not receive more eligible applications by the October 30 deadline and does not award more applications, then the remaining funds (about $74,000) would be included in the NMF unspent balance for 2026. This NMF balance for awards, encumbered or unencumbered, will carry forward into 2027, as allowed by Ordinance 125721.

This CBA would impose the following proviso:

"Of the appropriations in Department of Neighborhood's 2027 budget for the for the Community Grants Budget Summary Level (DON - BO-DN-I3400), $50,000 is appropriated solely for local government 101 grant awards via the Small Sparks Fund program and may be spent for no other purpose."

ATTACHMENT: No

2027-2028 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-004-A

Increase DON by $115,000 GF (2027) and $115,000 GF (2028) for community safety coordination in SODO

SPONSORS

Rob Saka, Joy Hollingsworth, Robert Kettle

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fund	2027 Increase (Decrease)	2028 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(115,000)	$(115,000)
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(115,000)	$(115,000)

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would increase appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) by $115,000 GF in 2027 and $115,000 GF in 2028 for contracting for community safety coordination in the SODO neighborhood with an organization such as SODO Business Improvement Association (BIA).

The contract would support a dedicated coordinator to improve business communication, connect service and public-safety partners, track recurring locations of safety concerns, and close gaps between agencies.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2027		$115,000
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2028		$115,000

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

2027 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

DON-005S-A

Request that DON report on improvements to engagement, outreach, and language access

SPONSORS

Dionne Foster, Eddie Lin, Debora Juarez

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This SLI would request that the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) explore opportunities to better coordinate and streamline community engagement, outreach, and language access work across City departments, including staffing and contracting practices. Through this SLI, Council intends to better understand how DON collaborates with and supports other departments' outreach efforts; identifies opportunities for greater alignment and shared resources; and considers operational adjustments that strengthen coordination, maximize the impact of existing investments, and ensure resources are effectively allocated to meet the needs of residents seeking to access City services.

The Council requests that DON submit their report to the Libraries, Education, & Neighborhoods Committee by April 1, 2027.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Libraries, Education & Neighborhoods

DUE DATE: April 1, 2027