

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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<https://www.seattle.gov/oir>

Department Overview

The Office of Intergovernmental Relations (OIR) provides advice and information to, and on behalf of, City elected officials, City departments, and external partners. The primary goal of these efforts is to ensure the City's interests are advanced with regional, state, federal, tribal, and international entities to enable the City to better serve the Seattle community. OIR is also responsible for engaging with other jurisdictions and governmental entities to collaborate and advocate for outcomes that are in the interest of the City and region. OIR implements and manages lobbying contracts and ensures the City's lobbying resources align with the City's strategic advocacy priorities.

Budget Snapshot

	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
Department Support				
General Fund Support	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Total Operations	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Total Appropriations	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Full-Time Equivalents Total*	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

** FTE totals are provided for informational purposes only. Changes in FTEs resulting from City Council or Human Resources Director actions outside of the budget process may not be detailed here*

Budget Overview

The City's 2027 Proposed Budget maintains core services for the Office of Intergovernmental Relations. The department will continue to invest in all areas of services supporting regional, state, federal, tribal, and international affairs. The proposed budget restores funding for the Tribal Nations Summit, which occurs every other year so was previously removed from the 2026 Adopted Budget. The budget also makes technical adjustments to align budget with position costs accounts, internal service costs and retirement contribution rates.

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Incremental Budget Changes

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	Dollars	FTE
2026 Adopted Budget	3,529,826	10.00
Baseline		
Citywide Adjustments for Standard Cost Changes	(4,912)	-
Reduce SCERS Retirement Contribution Rate	(26,493)	-
Proposed Operating		
Restore Funding for 2027 Tribal Nations Summit	55,000	-
Proposed Technical		
Transfer Budget for Tribal Relations Director from Consultant to Labor Costs	-	-
Total Incremental Changes	\$23,595	-
Total 2027 Proposed Budget	\$3,553,421	10.00

Description of Incremental Budget Changes

Baseline

Citywide Adjustments for Standard Cost Changes

Expenditures \$(4,912)

Citywide technical adjustments made in the baseline phase reflect changes to internal services costs, including rates from the Department of Finance & Administrative Services, Seattle Information Technology Department, Seattle Department of Human Resources, and for healthcare and other central cost factors. These adjustments reflect initial assumptions about these costs and inflators early in the budget process.

Reduce SCERS Retirement Contribution Rate

Expenditures \$(26,493)

The City's employee retirement system, the Seattle City Employees Retirement System (SCERS) is a defined benefit pension program funded by a combination of salary-based employer (i.e., the City) and employee contributions, and investment earnings. Based on the updated actuarial valuation for 2026, this item reduces the employer contribution rate from the endorsed rate of 15.06% to the SCERS minimum actuarial required rate of 13.48% for 2027 and 13.52% for 2028.

Proposed Operating

Restore Funding for 2027 Tribal Nations Summit

Expenditures \$55,000

This change increases OIR's budget by \$55,000 to restore 2027 funding for the bi-annual Tribal Nations Summit,

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previously reduced in the 2026 Adopted Budget as a one-time action. The next Tribal Nations Summits are intended to occur in 2027 and 2029. The Tribal Nations Summit is a bi-annual opportunity for the City to identify actions and desired outcomes that uphold the sovereignty and treaty rights of federally recognized tribes and to build partnerships, strengthen collaborations, and enhance diplomacy.

Proposed Technical

Transfer Budget for Tribal Relations Director from Consultant to Labor Costs

Expenditures	-
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This ongoing, budget-neutral item makes an account-level transfer to reflect that the Tribal Relations work is managed by a City employee not a consultant.

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Expenditure Overview

	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
Appropriations				
OIR - BO-IR-X1G00 - Office of Intergovernmental Relations				
00100 - General Fund	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Total for BSL: BO-IR-X1G00	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Department Total	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Department Full-Time Equivalents Total*	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

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Budget Summary by Fund Office of Intergovernmental Relations

	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
00100 - General Fund	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Budget Totals for OIR	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532

Revenue Overview

2027 Estimated Revenues

Account Code	Account Name	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
341900	General Government-Other Rev	1,786,039	1,644,356	1,745,332	1,759,477
Total Revenues for: 00100 - General Fund		1,786,039	1,644,356	1,745,332	1,759,477
Total OIR Resources		1,786,039	1,644,356	1,745,332	1,759,477

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Appropriations by Budget Summary Level and Program

OIR - BO-IR-X1G00 - Office of Intergovernmental Relations

The purpose of the Intergovernmental Relations Budget Summary Level is to promote and protect the City's federal, state, regional, tribal, and international interests by providing strategic advice, representation, and advocacy to, and on behalf of, City elected officials on a variety of issues. These include: federal and state executive and legislative actions; issues and events relating to the City's tribal and international relations; and jurisdictional issues involving King County, suburban cities, and regional governmental organizations.

Program Expenditures	2025 Actuals	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	2028 Proposed
Office of Intergovernmental Relations	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Total	3,376,919	3,529,826	3,553,421	3,528,532
Full-time Equivalents Total*	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

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