



Memorandum

Date: 10/15/2024  
Meeting of: City Council

File No. AM No. 24-156  
Type: Public Hearing

TO: Members of the City Council  
FROM: Mayor Angela Birney  
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Finance	Kelley Cochran	425-556-2748
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Finance	Haritha Narra	Deputy Finance Director
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**TITLE:**  
Public Hearing on the Preliminary 2025-2026 Biennial Budget

**OVERVIEW STATEMENT:**

This is the third of four public hearings related to the 2025-2026 biennial budget. The purpose of this public hearing is to gather public comments on the preliminary 2025-2026 biennial budget. Public Hearings are a chance for Council and staff to hear the priorities of the community as a budget is developed for the next biennium.

Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Receive Information       Provide Direction       Approve

**REQUEST RATIONALE:**

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**  
N/A
- **Required:**  
Public hearings are required under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 84.55 and RCW 35.34 allowing the community to give public testimony on the upcoming budget.

This public hearing on the preliminary 2025-2026 biennial budget is required under RCW 35.34.090: The legislative body or a committee thereof shall schedule hearings on the budget or parts thereof, and may require the presence of department heads to give information regarding estimates and programs.

The City is required to hold at least three public hearings during the budget development process: 1) property tax levy and other revenue sources; 2) preliminary budget; and 3) final budget. Because the Capital Improvement Program and Business Technology Investment Program are critical components of the budget development process, an additional public hearing is dedicated to these programs.

- **Council Request:**  
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**  
N/A

**OUTCOMES:**

Public hearings provide a formal opportunity for public testimony regarding the preliminary 2025-2026 biennial budget.

**COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:**

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**  
On July 16, 2024, the first public hearing on the 2025-2026 biennial budget was held. This public hearing provided an opportunity for the community to share feedback on the proposed 2025-2030 Capital Investment Program and Business Technology Investment program, the first two years of which will be incorporated into the 2025-2026 biennial budget that is currently being developed.  
  
On October 1, 2024, the second public hearing on the 2025-2026 biennial budget was held. This public hearing provided an opportunity for the community to share feedback regarding the proposed tax and fee increases in the preliminary 2025-2026 biennial budget.  
  
A fourth public hearing on the preliminary 2025-2026 biennial budget is scheduled for November 4, 2024.
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**  
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**  
N/A

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

**Total Cost:**  
N/A

**Approved in current biennial budget:**       Yes       No       N/A

**Budget Offer Number:**  
N/A

**Budget Priority:**  
N/A

**Other budget impacts or additional costs:**       Yes       No       N/A  
*If yes, explain:*  
N/A

**Funding source(s):**  
N/A

**Budget/Funding Constraints:**

N/A

Additional budget details attached

**COUNCIL REVIEW:**

**Previous Contact(s)**

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
2/13/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Provide Direction
2/27/2024	Study Session	Provide Direction
3/19/2024	Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services	Provide Direction
4/9/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Provide Direction
4/23/2024	Study Session	Provide Direction
5/28/2024	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Provide Direction
6/11/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Provide Direction
6/25/2024	Study Session	Receive Information
7/9/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Receive Information
7/9/2024	Study Session	Provide Direction
7/16/2024	Business Meeting	Receive Information
8/13/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Receive Information
9/10/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Receive Information
9/24/2024	Study Session	Receive Information
10/1/2024	Business Meeting	Receive Information
10/8/2024	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Receive Information

**Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)**

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
10/22/2024	Special Meeting	Provide Direction

**Time Constraints:**

Public hearings on the preliminary budget must be scheduled prior to the final public hearing, which must be on or before the first Monday in December. The final public hearing on the preliminary 2025-2026 biennial budget is scheduled for November 4, 2024.

**ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A