

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 6557, adopted December 14, 2020 and previously amended, to amend the 2021-2022 budget by increasing the General Fund appropriation by \$358,482 and amend the Development Services Fund appropriation by \$869,035 to allow the addition of 12 full-time revenue-backed employee positions for the Development Services line of business; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Gregg Schrader, Interim Co-Director, 452-6451

Jake Hesselgesser, Business Services Director, 452-6964

Teri Jones, Fiscal Manager, 452-5293

Development Services Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As directed by Council on March 21, this Ordinance authorizes expenditures for five positions in the General Fund budget and seven positions in the Development Services Fund budget. These positions will be revenue-backed by development permit fees charged to applicants and will allow Development Services to provide the necessary staffing to meet the accelerated pace of development activity across the City.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6655.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On March 21, the City Council directed staff to return with legislation authorizing expenditures associated with the addition of 12 full-time employee positions to support the review and inspection of Development Services permit applications. Development activity in Bellevue continues at a high level with strong interest in new projects, including office and residential development. This sustained activity represents significant developer and investment interest in Bellevue and continues to deliver projects that contribute to the high-quality built environment across the City.

The record-setting development cycle that has now extended over eight consecutive years is continuing into 2022 and beyond with key workload indicators at peak levels. The value of construction represented by issued building permits in 2021 exceeded \$1.6 billion, with over 85,000 inspections conducted, and application volumes reaching a record high of more than 16,000. The positions authorized by City Council on March 21 will be supported by development permit fees charged to applicants and will allow Development Services to provide the necessary staffing to adjust to this continued high level of development as many projects transition from land use and building review to construction.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**Policy Impact**

N/A

Fiscal Impact

The 12 requested full-time employee positions are revenue-backed by development permit fees charged to applicants. Seven of the requested positions will reside in the Development Services Fund and five positions will reside in the General Fund. The Ordinance will increase appropriation to the 2021-2022 General Fund budget by \$358,482 and the Development Services Fund budget by \$869,035.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 6557, adopted December 14, 2020 and previously amended, to amend the 2021-2022 budget by increasing the General Fund appropriation by \$358,482 and amend the Development Services Fund appropriation by \$869,035 to allow the addition of 12 full-time revenue-backed employee positions for the Development Services line of business; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

Proposed Ordinance No. 6655

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N/A