

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: *Authorize grant agreement with C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group Inc., for \$25,000 to fund the multi-city Green Economy project (Ordinance)

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Presenter name: Michael Armstrong (ordinance is proposed for consent agenda)

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

This ordinance authorizes a grant agreement to C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group to contribute \$25,000 to a multi-city analysis of the size and nature of the “green economy” in each city. Sustainable industries appear to have been a significant source of economic growth in Portland over the past two decades, and PDC’s Strategic Plan identifies “green cities” as one of the clusters with potential to strengthen Portland’s competitiveness and create jobs and inclusive growth. It has been difficult to quantify the economic impact of these sectors, however, since the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), the data standard used by the federal government, does not identify environmentally beneficial goods and services. In the absence of a standard definition of what constitutes “sustainable industries” or the “green economy,” different cities assess and report on widely varying metrics with limited ability to compare and understand relative strengths and opportunities across cities.

The project that will result from this grant agreement will establish a standard definition and methodology and apply this analysis to a cohort of participating cities that includes Copenhagen, London, Oslo, Portland, Sydney, and Vancouver, BC. Each city is providing funding to the effort. The result of this project will provide Portland with a thoroughly vetted and consistent methodology for assessing and tracking the composition and change in Portland’s “green economy” over time, improving our ability to support business development and create opportunities for Portland firms.

PDC staff have participated in initial discussions with C40 about the methodology, data requirements, and expected results and will participate in the project advisory team. BPS staff participate in other C40 work groups and will help share information across the multiple C40 efforts that Portland staff participate in.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The \$25,000 to be provided to C40 was allocated to BPS in the Spring BuMP. PDC and BPS will allocate the modest staff time required to participate in the project within existing staff workplans. There are no expected subsequent budget or financial impacts.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The results of the project will likely be of interest to the Portland business community and to efforts like Portland Pulse. It is unlikely to have immediate impacts on the community more widely but will inform future economic development initiatives.

There is no known opposition to this effort.

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Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

☐ YES: Please complete the information below.

☒ NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount