

Substitute to RES 31752 – PLUZ 07/18/17

Sponsor: Councilmember Johnson

*This version replaces Attachment 4 (version D3) that was attached to the Central Staff Memo dated 7/14/17*

**CITY OF SEATTLE**

**RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_**

..title

A RESOLUTION recognizing the extensive efforts of the Central Area community to create the 23rd Avenue Action Plan (Union-Cherry-Jackson) and Urban Design Framework (UDF), the commitment and efforts of the 23rd Avenue Action Community Team (23rd Avenue ACT), for taking the lead to implement Central Area community vision and priorities as reflected by these plans, and identifying actions of the City and its partners to work with the community to implement these plans.

..body

WHEREAS, the Central Area is the historic home of the African American community in

Seattle, and the 23rd & Union-Jackson Urban Village remains the heart of the African

American community within the Central Area~~((:)); and~~

~~WHEREAS, ((However,:))~~ according to 2010 U.S. Census data, the Black/African American

population within the 23rd & Union-Jackson Urban Village declined from 64 percent in

1990 to 28 percent in 2010, while the white population increased from 16 percent to 44

percent in the same time period; and

WHEREAS, the Central Area is a diverse and inclusive neighborhood with a rich history of civic

engagement on matters affecting the Central Area; and

WHEREAS, ~~Thethe~~ City of Seattle is committed to building strong partnerships ~~((building))~~

with communities engaged in inclusive and innovative community planning, visionary

neighborhood plans, and effective action plans; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, the City Council recognized the Central Area Neighborhood Plan; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2013 and 2014, the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD,  
2 previously the Department of Planning and Development) and Department of  
3 Neighborhoods (DON) conducted significant public outreach in the Central Area,  
4 including outreach to historically underrepresented communities with a focus on the  
5 community nodes along 23rd Avenue at Union, Cherry, and Jackson Streets; and

6 WHEREAS, in March 2013, the 23rd Avenue Action Community Team (ACT) was formed to  
7 work in partnership with the City and the community to hold the Central Area vision  
8 while balancing the different interests of the community; ~~((:))~~ and

9 WHEREAS, ((The)) the 23rd Avenue ACT consists of local leaders representing diverse  
10 backgrounds: over 50 percent are Black/African American, over 30 percent are small  
11 business owners, and over 50 percent are long-time Central Area residents; ~~((They~~  
12 have)) who have worked together to oversee the creation and implementation of the 23rd  
13 Avenue Action Plan (Union-Cherry-Jackson), the amendments to the Comprehensive  
14 Plan Central Area Neighborhood Planning Element, the Urban Design Framework  
15 (UDF), and proposed rezones; and

16 WHEREAS, under the 23rd Avenue ACT's leadership, over 2,000 Central Area residents,  
17 business owners, and stakeholders have been engaged in 93 public workshops and  
18 meetings to create the 23rd Avenue Action Plan (Union-Cherry-Jackson), the UDF, and  
19 proposed rezones for these three community nodes that reflect the vision of the  
20 Comprehensive Plan Central Area Neighborhood Planning Element; and

21 WHEREAS, on September 27, 2014, the 23rd Avenue ACT organized the first annual Central  
22 Area Block Party; ~~((Over))~~ at which over 1,000 diverse community members, including  
23 many who once called the Central Area home, met to celebrate a very successful

1 planning effort and offer additional comments on the proposed 23rd Avenue Action Plan  
2 (Union-Cherry-Jackson), UDF, and rezones; and

3 WHEREAS, this robust engagement process with the 23rd Avenue ACT and the broader  
4 community resulted in an Action Plan with five priorities: a destination with a unique  
5 identity, connected people and community, a great business community, livable streets  
6 for all, and a healthy and stable community. The Action Plan seeks to coordinate existing  
7 and anticipated public and private investments in the Central Area to achieve the  
8 community's vision, ~~((:))~~ and a UDF containing a broad set of recommendations to  
9 address community concerns and indicate and provide options for zoning changes in the  
10 neighborhood; and

11 WHEREAS, on April 28, 2014, and October 12, 2015, the City Council passed Ordinances  
12 124458 and 124887 respectively, amending the Seattle Comprehensive Plan with updates  
13 to the Central Area Neighborhood Planning Element and the Future Land Use Map  
14 changes recommended in the 23rd Avenue Action Plan (Union-Cherry-Jackson); and

15 WHEREAS, after four years as community leaders and stewards, the 23rd Avenue ACT  
16 ~~continue~~continues to work with other community groups to transform the Action Plan  
17 from a vision into actions that advance the economic vitality, cultural legacy, and social  
18 equity of the Central Area; NOW, THEREFORE,

19 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**  
20 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

21 Section 1. The City acknowledges the 23rd Avenue Action Plan (Union-Cherry-Jackson)  
22 and Urban Design Framework (UDF) as created in partnership between the community and the  
23 City, and identified as the latest versions are attached hereto as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

1 respectively. The City recognizes the tremendous effort and deep commitment of the Central  
2 Area community in creating and implementing these plans to achieve the community's goals.

3 Section 2. The City recognizes the ongoing commitment and efforts of the 23rd Avenue  
4 ACT in taking the lead to implement the Action Plan and the overall Central Area community  
5 vision and priorities.

6 Section 3. The City recognizes that displacement in the Central Area has already  
7 occurred, resulting in the aforementioned demographic shifts and loss of Black-owned small  
8 businesses. The City further recognizes the potential for displacement as property in the Central  
9 Area undergoes continues to undergo public and private development.- As property values and  
10 rents increase citywide, the City is committed to careful consideration of the racial and social  
11 justice impacts in decisions regarding public investments.

12 Section 4. The City recognizes the importance of the Central Area as the historic home  
13 of the Black/African American community in Seattle and as a diverse and inclusive  
14 neighborhood with a variety of businesses, housing types, community organizations, and  
15 institutions. The City is committed to collaborating with Central Area residents and community  
16 organizations, including, but not limited to, the 23rd Avenue ActACT, Historic Central Area  
17 Arts and Cultural District, Central Area Collaborative, Africatown-Central District Preservation  
18 and Development Association, Africatown Community Land Trust, Black Community Impact  
19 Alliance, Centerstone and its Community of Practice participants, Central Area Land Use  
20 Review Committee, Central Area Chamber of Commerce, and the African American Veterans  
21 Group of Washington State, to take the following actions to manage growth and change in a  
22 manner that supports this rich history and furthers the community's vision expressed in the 23rd  
23 Avenue Action Plan:

1 A.- Continued engagement with the community and consideration of the 23rd Avenue  
2 Action Plan and the UDF to help inform future land use changes in the Central Area, including  
3 the upcoming citywide rezones to implement MHA.

4 B.- The Council requests that the Office of Planning and Community Development  
5 (OPCD) and the ~~Seattle~~ Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) ~~completescomplete~~  
6 the work with the Central Area Design Guideline Coalition to:

7 1.- Create neighborhood design guidelines for future development to reflect  
8 the Central ~~Area~~Area's history and cultural identity;

9 2.- Prepare recommendations for ~~the geographic boundaries and the~~  
10 ~~composition of~~ a new Central Area Design Review Board; and

11 3.- Submit legislation for consideration that would enact these Land Use Code  
12 changes to the City Council by December, 2017. If OPCD and SDCI are unable to deliver  
13 legislation by the end of 2017, the Council requests that OPCD and SDCI submit a status report  
14 at that time that identifies any outstanding issues that need to be resolved, and a timeline for  
15 completion.

16 C.- Identify opportunities to build capacity among Central Area-based community  
17 organizations to take a leadership role in the development process and promote opportunities for  
18 community ownership and benefits in redevelopment projects in the Central Area. This includes,  
19 but is not limited to:

20 1.- Continued support for ~~the Equitable Development Initiative~~  
21 ~~(EDI)~~community-driven projects, including ~~continuing~~ to work in a timely manner to develop  
22 projects like the William Grose Cultural Innovation Center, ~~in coordination with Seattle's~~  
23 ~~Equitable Development Initiative (EDI), ((Centerstone (Fire Station 23)), and the Central Area~~

1 Senior Center)), and ~~to use EDI funds to build~~consider opportunities to support capacity building  
2 among local community organizations to develop those projects through the EDI or other  
3 sources.

4 2. ~~Exploring~~Actively encouraging opportunities for the re-use of City-owned  
5 property and/or City partnership and support for re-use of property owned by other public  
6 entities and neighborhood institutions for new affordable housing, affordable commercial/retail  
7 and non-profit community uses in the neighborhood. ~~This includes and~~ opportunities to support  
8 community ownership models such as community land-trusts and recommendations for  
9 community ownership of City-owned property to support programs serving the Central Area,  
10 such as the Central Area Senior Center and Centerstone/Fire station 23.

11 3.- Furthering the Office of Housing’s efforts to encourage proposals that use  
12 innovative financial or project delivery structures, such as projects that capitalize on partnerships  
13 between community-based organizations with local expertise and larger companies with  
14 development expertise, and that direct construction jobs and other economic opportunities to  
15 community-based firms and to low-income persons residing in the community where the project  
16 is located.

17 4.- Working with residents and business owners of the Central Area to  
18 identify opportunities to coordinate with neighboring property owners, the local development  
19 community, and lending institutions to redevelop their property in a manner that allows them to  
20 build wealth and continue to live and/or operate businesses in the Central Area.

21 5.- Working with community organizations and other government agencies to  
22 identify and implement services that support older adults aging in place in the Central Area,

1 including programs that provide technical and financial assistance for property taxes and  
2 property maintenance, health care services, and accessible public transportation.

3 D.- Continue to support existing repair and weatherization programs and pursue  
4 policies to provide assistance to homeowners with financial hardships that threaten their housing.

5 E.- Work with local businesses, community organizations, and customers to promote  
6 economic development and commercial stability in order to establish and grow small, local, and  
7 culturally- relevant businesses in the Central AreasArea as guided by the Central Area  
8 CommunityCommercial Revitalization Plan, the 23rd Avenue Action Plan and the Commercial  
9 Affordability Action Plan. Toward this goal, the Council ~~requests that will continue to support~~  
10 the Office of Economic Development's ~~work-continues~~ to provide and expand upon  
11 opportunities for financial and technical assistance to local businesses in the Central Area.

12 F.- Continue to support the work of the Historic Central Area Arts and Cultural  
13 District to preserve the African and African-American legacy in the Central Area and sustain and  
14 strengthen the physical identity and sense of place for cultural relevancy.

15 G.- Maintain support for the efforts of the Office of Housing's work with Central  
16 Area properties ~~funded by the Office of Housing~~, participating in the Multifamily Tax  
17 Exemption (MFTE) and MHA programs to affirmatively market vacancies to Central Area  
18 residents who are at risk of displacement, and to community organizations with ties to former  
19 residents who would like to return to the Central areaArea, to promote fair access to City-  
20 supported housing.

