



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Housing and Human Services Committee

### Agenda - Revised

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

9:30 AM

Council Chamber, City Hall  
600 4th Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

Cathy Moore, Chair  
Tammy J. Morales, Vice-Chair  
Sara Nelson, Member  
Rob Saka, Member  
Tanya Woo, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8805; [Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov](mailto:Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov)

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**SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Housing and Human Services Committee**  
**Agenda - Revised**  
**July 10, 2024 - 9:30 AM**

**Meeting Location:**

Council Chamber, City Hall , 600 4th Avenue , Seattle, WA 98104

**Committee Website:**

<https://seattle.gov/council/committees/housing-and-human-services-x154115>

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This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business.

Members of the public may register for remote or in-person Public Comment to address the Council. Details on how to provide Public Comment are listed below:

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the meeting at

<https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>

Online registration to speak will begin one hour before the meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

In-Person Public Comment - Register to speak on the Public Comment sign-up sheet located inside Council Chambers at least 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time. Registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

Pursuant to Council Rule VI.C.10, members of the public providing public comment in Chambers will be broadcast via Seattle Channel.

Submit written comments to Councilmembers at [Council@seattle.gov](mailto:Council@seattle.gov).

*Please Note: Times listed are estimated*

**A. Call To Order**

**B. Approval of the Agenda**

**C. Public Comment**

**D. Items of Business**

**1. Current Challenges for Housing Providers**

Supporting Documents: [Presentation](#)

**Briefing and Discussion**

**Presenters:** Michael Seiwerath, SouthEast Effective Development (SEED); Andrew Oommen, Community Roots Housing; Ayda Cader, Small Landlord in District 5

**2. Human Services Department Community Safety Investments**

Supporting Documents: [Presentation](#)

**Briefing and Discussion**

**Presenters:** Tanya Kim, Director, and Erika Pablo, Human Services Department; Brianna Thomas, Mayor's Office

**E. Adjournment**



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 2505, **Version:** 1

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Current Challenges for Housing Providers

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING CHALLENGES

Seattle City Council

Housing and Human Services Committee

July 10, 2024

# AFFORDABLE, SAFE & HEALTHY HOMES

Seattle City Council

July 10, 2024

# AFFORDABLE

- The cost of housing is a crisis – too many people can't afford to rent.
- Affordable housing provides a safety net and a spring board for low-income families.
- Our ability to provide affordable, safe, and healthy homes is under threat.

# HEALTH & SAFETY

- Since Covid-19, we have seen compounding effects of the fentanyl and opioid crises.
  - More drugs are being used in our buildings – creating health risks for residents and staff.
  - Increases in violent and criminal behavior in our buildings put the whole community at risk.



# HEALTH & SAFETY

- In some cases, this behavior causes neighbors to flee, displacing families.
- In other cases, this behavior requires leaving units vacant, to repair significant damage and to avoid moving families into harms way.

# HEALTH & SAFETY

- Property managers and maintenance increasingly serve as crisis responders.
- When staff call 911, they often receive no response or severely delayed response.
- It takes 6-12 months to remove someone from a building, even in the case of violent behavior.

# HEALTH & SAFETY

- The lack of a comprehensive behavioral health system is leaving some of our residents without the care and support they need.
- The lack of a responsive legal system is leaving our residents to bear the consequences of the health and safety crisis.

# A COMMUNITY CORNERSTONE AT RISK OF BREAKING

MICHAEL SEIWERATH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SOUTHEAST EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Seattle City Council

July 10, 2024

# INVESTING IN STRONG COMMUNITIES

- Home is the foundation from which people thrive
- Urgently need collaborative solutions that braid together our public health, affordable housing and homelessness systems.
- All residents have an appropriate, safe, and stable place to live.

# A CHALLENGED SECTOR

- Major increases in operating costs for increased repairs and workforce.
- Insurance costs rising 30% - 200% *each year*.
- Costs have not come down since pandemic.

# SYSTEMS FAILING THE VULNERABLE

- Same building, much more challenged population.
- Serving some of the most vulnerable, without the sufficient funding or options.
- Dire need for more options to serve untreated mental illness, substance abuse and family needs.

# RENT COLLECTIONS NOT COVERING COSTS

- Non-payment of rent remains unprecedented.
- Under funded and aging properties.
- Jeopardizing public investments and the creation of more affordable housing.
- Non-profits deferring maintenance and selling buildings.



# REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

- Complex financing for new projects.
- Critical partnership with City and County to close gaps and make projects viable.
- Significant risk for organization in developing new projects; changing market conditions can make lease up and conversion to perm financing challenging.
- Need more financial tools and resources to support new development and maintenance of existing portfolio, including strategic dispositions.

# WHAT'S NEEDED

- More coordination among first responders, elected officials, and the courts to address these challenges.
- Behavioral health system coordinating with the affordable housing sector to help residents.
- Compassionate and easily connection of residents to the type of housing that best supports their needs.

# WHAT'S NEEDED

- Better tools to open a dialogue with residents who have stopped paying rent.
- Swift eviction proceedings for individual engaging in violent behavior and threatening the well-being of their neighbors.

# SAFETY AND HOUSING JUSTICE FOR ALL

- Supporting the most marginalized- those suffering from severe trauma, mental illness and substance abuse.
- Dignified and compassionate response that meets residents needs.
- City, County and State collaboration to scale up investments in behavioral health, housing and homelessness services.



Legislation Text

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Human Services Department Community Safety Investments

# HSD's Community Safety Investments

**Tanya Kim**, Director, Human Services Department (HSD)

**Erika Pablo**, Safe & Thriving Communities Division Director, HSD

**Brianna Thomas**, Operations Manager, Mayor's Office



# Human Services Department (HSD)

The Human Services Department's (HSD) mission is to **connect people with resources and solutions during times of need** so we can all live, learn, work and take part in strong, healthy communities.

HSD's six impact areas are:

- Preparing Youth for Success
- Supporting Affordability and Livability
- Addressing Homelessness
- Promoting Public Health
- **Supporting Safe Communities**
- Promoting Healthy Aging



**Seattle**  
Human Services  
Equity • Support • Community

# Agenda

- History Matters
- Local, Regional, & National Activities
- Safe & Thriving Communities (STC) Investments
- In Process: Community Safety Investments
- Looking Forward: 2024 Timeline
- Next Steps
- Questions



# History Matters

## Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative (2009)

Created to address a significant spike in gun violence in ages 11-24

In three neighborhoods with the highest violence (Southeast, Central, and Southwest)

Dismantled in 2014 and investments rebid to focus on current needs (Mayor Murray)

## 2020 Civil Rights Reckoning

The murder of George Floyd & community demand for alternatives to policing

Mayor Durkan invested \$100 million in BIPOC communities

Seattle City Council created a new Division in HSD called Safe & Thriving to focus on community demands

\$10.4 million was released for competitive bid and the highest scoring agencies awarded

## Current Status

Safe & Thriving Communities Division's overall budget is \$35.8 million

Gun Violence has risen to an all-new high and requires an investment shift

The schools and neighborhoods at highest risk remain the same

The focus age group has shifted to ages 12-30

A new investment strategy is being created

# Local, Regional, & National Activities

## City of Seattle Activities with HSD Involvement

- Executive Order to Address Gun Violence in Schools
- One Seattle Public Safety Framework
- Community Safety Investments rebid
- Cities United Annual Conference in Seattle

## Regional Activities with HSD Involvement

- King County Regional Peacekeepers Collective
- Harborview Hospital-Based Intervention
- Executive Leadership Advisory Group on Gun Violence Prevention
- King County 100 Days of Action Plan

## National Partnerships

- Cities United
- National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform

# Safe & Thriving Communities Investments

- **Seattle Community Safety Initiative (SCSI)**
- **King County Regional Peacekeepers Collective and Hospital-based Intervention**
- **Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault - Gender-Based Violence Investments**
- **Crime Survivor Services – Victim Advocates**

# Seattle Community Safety Initiative (SCSI)

**Goal:** Community-led strategies to reduce gun violence.

**How:** Community safety efforts through partnerships among four BIPOC-led organizations located at three community safety hubs: Central District, West Seattle, and South Seattle.



# Regional Peacekeepers Collective and Hospital Based Intervention

**Goal:** Focus on recovery, mitigate retaliation, and address basic needs.

**How:** Supporting survivors and their families immediately following a gun violence incident.



# In Process - Executive Order Addressing Gun Violence in Schools and Protecting Youth

**Goal:** HSD will develop recommendations to improve safety outcomes for young people.

**How:** Convene community providers to focus on the upcoming 2024-2025 school year and the highest risk of young people who are directly impacted by violence.

## Timeline

- Hold convenings in July and issue a school year plan in August.

# In Process - Community Safety Request for Proposals (RFP)

**Goal:** Align investments based on best and promising practices to meet the significant increase in gun violence

**How:** Investments in prevention, intervention, and restorative services for young people between the ages of 12 and 30, with the potential to make a significant impact.

## Timeline

- RFP release in early September 2024 with up to \$5.7M in available funding.

# Looking Forward: 2024 Timeline





# Next Steps

2024 Months	Action
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mayor's Office convenes key partners for School Year Plan</li><li>Human Services Department (HSD) convenes community safety providers</li></ul>
August	Mayor's Office, Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) and HSD finalize School Year Plan with key partners
September	HSD releases Community Safety Request for Proposals (RFP)
October	Cities United Annual Conference in Seattle
December	HSD announces Community Safety RFP awards

# Questions?