



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Sustainability and Renters' Rights Committee

Agenda

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

2:00 PM

Remote Meeting. Call 253-215-8782; Meeting ID: 586 416 9164; or
Seattle Channel online.

Kshama Sawant, Chair
Tammy J. Morales, Vice-Chair
Debora Juarez, Member
Andrew J. Lewis, Member
Alex Pedersen, Member
Teresa Mosqueda, Alternate

Chair Info: 206-684-8803; Kshama.Sawant@seattle.gov

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Committee Website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/sustainability-and-renters-rights>

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.

In-person attendance is currently prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation 20-28.15, until the COVID-19 State of Emergency is terminated or Proclamation 20-28 is rescinded by the Governor or State legislature. Meeting participation is limited to access by telephone conference line and online by the Seattle Channel.

Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the 2:00 p.m Sustainability and Renters' Rights Committee meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>.

Online registration to speak at the Sustainability and Renters' Rights Committee meeting will begin two hours before the 2:00 p.m. 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.

Submit written comments to Councilmember Sawant at Kshama.Sawant@seattle.gov

Sign-up to provide Public Comment at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>.

Watch live streaming video of the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/watch-council-live>

Listen to the meeting by calling the Council Chamber Listen Line at 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 586 416 9164

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Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

(20 minutes)

D. Items of Business

1. Extending the Eviction Moratorium Through At Least the End of 2021

Supporting Documents: [Testimony on Extending the Eviction Moratorium](#)

Briefing and Discussion (45 minutes)

Presenters: Arianna Laureano, University District renter, an essential worker and activist in the #CancelRent Movement; Esther Little Dove John, Beacon Hill renter and retired educator; Maya Garfinkel, Organizer, Be:Seattle; Lydia Rubenstein, Resolve Housing Organizer, Tenants Union of Washington; Edmund Witter, Senior Managing Attorney, King County Bar Association

2. Creating a Right to Counsel for Renters Facing Eviction

Supporting Documents: [Right to Counsel for Evictions Ordinance 1.22.21 DRAFT](#)

Briefing and Discussion (45 minutes)

Presenters: John Pollock, National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel; Edmund Witter, Housing Justice Project; Asha Venkataraman, Council Central Staff

3. [Appt 01780](#) **Reappointment of ChrisTiana ObeySumner as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2021.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote for Items 3 - 7 (10 minutes)

Presenter: ChrisTiana ObeySumner, Commission Appointee

4. [Appt 01781](#) **Reappointment of Laurie Goff as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2021.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenter: Laurie Goff, Commission Appointee

5. [Appt 01782](#) **Reappointment of Mercedes T. Taitt-Lamar as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2022.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenter: Mercedes T. Taitt-Lamar, Commission Appointee

6. [Appt 01783](#) **Appointment of Sharon E. Crowley as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2022.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenter: Sharon E. Crowley, Commission Appointee

7. [Appt 01784](#) **Appointment of Maya Garfinkel as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2023.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote

Presenter: Maya Garfinkel, Commission Appointee

E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 1748, **Version:** 1

First name	Last name	If you are in Seattle, what neighborhood do you live or work	In your own words, tell the Seattle City Council why we need to extend the current eviction moratorium, protecting tenants and struggling small businesses, through at least December 2021.
Sharon	Zweiback	Greenlake /Greenwood	<p>The increase in homeless individuals and families is alarming since the pandemic. I know this as a resident of Seattle and a school teacher. My students have been affected and clearly the community.</p> <p>Additionally, as a renter myself and an educator it's extremely challenging to house myself and my two children. I'm a single parent with one income. The pandemic has actually increased rents in my community. They are down outside of my community, but this would mean leaving my community of 20 plus years. Landlords, such as mine are eager to sell with the demand increasing for people wanting to leaving the downtown area. My landlord tried to raise my rent, but I advocated and let him know it was illegal at this time. Now he wants to sell and I be will forced to move as soon as he can ask me to leave.</p> <p>Due to the pandemic there is little on the market and prices increasing drastically in my community, I'm fearful I will have to leave the city. This will effect my own children. Now during this uncertainty is not when you want to move due to health concerns.</p> <p>Regardless of my own situation many of my students lives are filled with uncertainty, many have experienced homelessness and parents are essential workers. This has increased since the pandemic and they are moving from relative to hotels to friends.</p> <p>Off course the moratorium is only a bandaid for a already present housing crisis in Seattle. Please now isn't the time to not take action!</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Julie	McGowan	Highland Park	<p>As a social worker, I see regularly the impact that facing losing housing has on families. I work at a Children's Hospital and every single family that has faced homelessness this year is facing an insurmountable amount of obstacles that are completely out of their control. Housing stability, at least removing that fear of being kicked out, allows parents to focus on troubleshooting other difficulties. When this one big stressor is off their plate, families are able to create healthier lives over all for their children. Please extend the eviction moratorium for renters through December 2021 to ensure that children in our community have one less traumatic event happen to them this year.</p> <p>Sincerely, Julie McGowan</p>

Evan	Wiederspan	Beacon Hill	<p>I am a homeowner and landlord living in Beacon Hill. So many renters in Seattle are struggling right now due to COVID, and cannot meet the demands of their rental agreements. These people are struggling due to no fault of their own, and allowing evictions during this time will only increase suffering in our city. If someone cannot afford to keep paying rent, how could they possibly afford the costs of finding a new place to rent? A mass wave of evictions will come unless the city council takes a stand and blocks them. Please extend the eviction moratorium through the entirety of 2021 to protect our most vulnerable citizens during this time.</p>
Quinn Dolyn	Harley	Wedgwood	<p>Before all of this, I had just been hired as a head chef at a restaurant that had just refurbished and was preparing to re-open with a new menu. The past year of COVID has completely decimated the industry I spent 10 years in, and I've had to spend all of my time learning new skills so that I can pivot and provide for my family. Before now, I was always current with rent, always responsible, always saving, but COVID has decimated my savings and caused me to be unable to keep food on the table and pay rent at the same time. If I am evicted now, my life is ruined, and I have no recourse. I will become homeless, and I will likely die. I have no fallback plan. I have no savings. I have nothing.</p>

Justice	McCartney	South Park	<p>While i am fortunate to not be unemployed during the pandemic and have a landlord who actively works for tenant rights, I have several friends who are not as fortunate. There are a number of my friends who are not as fortunate. Prior to this pandemic several of them had difficulty just making their normal rent. To now have a 9 month period where their rent keeps stacking up with them barely having money for food, has them all worried about how they will manag to pay the back rent as well as current rent once the eviction moratorium expires. What we really need isn't just a moratorium on evictions, we need to have rent and mortgage forgiveness so that people aren't being forced to bear the weight of those expenses, as has been done in most other nations of the world. Right now even if they can't be evicted they will face the reality that their landlords may go into foreclosure with the banks that hold the note on their homes because they couldn't pay the back rent fast enough for the owner to pay the back mortgage which is also continuing to accrue interest extending their financial obligation on that mortgage. If the landlord goes into foreclosure in a active real estate market like we have in Seattle the bank will promptly sell that home, which will result in an eviction for the tenant EVEN IF THEY ARE ABLE TO PAY BACK RENT. The banks will then sell the homes to the highest bidders who are all likely to be the wealthier citizenry and further consolidate wealth at the top and disenfranchise more of the middle, working class, working poor, and the broke. We are in danger of becoming a corporate feudal state where our leige lords are the corporations like Berkshire Hathaway, who own most of the rental properties, and only the very wealthy can even hope to own a home. This is already a reality in Seattle where someone who makes a decent wage can't even contemplate home ownership in the city they work in, Please protect and preserve our citizens who are struggling, and don't compound an already shameful crisis of homelessness by adding more people who can't make money due to the pandemic. As someone who had to move in April because my landlord decided to sell the home I was in, it is a nightmare getting into a home. Almost every place I wanted to rent wanted a credit score of 650 or higher. To put that into perspective Rocket Home Mortgage only wanted 630. If I hadn't been forced to spend any savings I had due to a broken healthcare system to get discs in my neck replaced I would have probably tried to buy a home in Tacoma, which even now</p>
Danisva	Carter	I live in auburn Washington	<p>In March i was let go of my job due to Covid while 5 months pregnant leaving my husband to work, We remained afloat until i went into preterm labor 3 months early. After my husband working full time , paying bills, and trying to prepare for our premature babies home coming we quickly fell behind in bills. We are now \$9,000 behind and giving everything we have each week from my unemployment and his checks to our landlord. Due to me being over 24 years old (I'm 25) i was unable to receive help with rent after applying for a Covid relief program through YMCA which we were pretty much banking on helping us catch up. It is taking into consideration how much we owe and how much my husbands job plus my unemployment pays it is mathematically impossible to catch to catch up before March.</p>

James	Martinez	Capitol Hill	I work at Fred Hutch. Our researchers already know that the pandemic will likely last until 2022. We need as many protections for our residents as possible including eviction moratoriums for tenants and small businesses. If the city is committed to racial justice and social equity, we have to provide as many social safety nets as possible to cover our residents. Remember that the people in need are there only because of the situation and not because of their own actions. Government serves no purpose if not for the needs of the people.
Noel	Kat	Capitol Hill	I was in the middle of a career change when the lockdown started. I have been job hunting, reaching out to people online, and applying to roles nearly every day for the past 9 months. It is incredibly difficult to get a job in a new field when there are fewer positions available and the market is flooded with workers who've been laid off and have more experience and connections. It is even more daunting with the stress of trying to pay rent with no income or unemployment and the threat of eviction looming over your head.
Samantha	Shafer	Beacon Hill	To have the GALL to evict someone for falling into poverty during a woefully mismanaged global pandemic would be to honestly lose touch with any sense of humanity. Being a landlord is a choice; Having housing is a human right. Let's not get that twisted.
Tristin	Pendergrast	Greenlake	As a social worker, I can tell you from direct experience that our neighbors need your protection to stay housed and healthy. We are nowhere near a recovery stage. Everyone, but particularly our vulnerable neighbors and essential workers, has been impacted by the pandemic which is compounding our housing crisis. Keep our communities safe and housed - extend the eviction moratorium.

Emily	Murphy	Ravenna - D4	<p>Dear Councilmembers,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to extend the eviction moratorium for a full year.</p> <p>One in nine renters in WA are behind on rent and balancing on a razor's edge to survive. My mother - a renter in D5 for 35 years - is one of thousands of low-income seniors who struggled to make rent before the pandemic, is now out of work, unable to cover her rent on social security and would be thousands of dollars behind in rent without my income, or as she would say, if not for the grace of God.</p> <p>Without this extension, thousands of renters could face homelessness after the moratorium is lifted, in particular black women who in King County are seven times more likely to be evicted than white men (source: WLIHA).</p> <p>This proposal is vital to make rental assistance funding effective and I strongly urge your support.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Emily Murphy</p>
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Tobias	Gurl	Bryant	<p>My name is Tobias Gurl. I work as the Health and Wellness Counselor at a private school in the Seattle area. Prior to my current position, I worked with the Co-LEAD team at the Public Defender Association, where I helped members of the community who are experiencing homelessness to shelter in place during the COVID crisis. Prior to that, I worked for the Eviction Defense Collaborative in San Francisco, a clinic that offers legal help to tenants facing eviction. My opinion on the proposal to extend the eviction moratorium is based on my personal and professional experience in the field of public health, specifically regarding homelessness and evictions.</p> <p>Evictions lead to homelessness. When a tenant falls behind on rent and loses their home, they're robbed of the solid foundation they need to find another one. At the Eviction Defense Collaborative it wasn't unusual for us to find clients who'd lost their cases wandering around on the street weeks later. When someone is down it's brutally difficult for them to pick themselves up, especially with the pandemic recession we have now, and the toll homelessness takes on their health can make survival even more difficult.</p> <p>People who are experiencing homelessness have limited access to hygiene care, nutrition, and other basic public health necessities, and the more people in the area there are experiencing homelessness, the more likely it is that communicable diseases will spread. If the moratorium is allowed to expire then on top of COVID Seattle will likely see outbreaks of hepatitis A, hepatitis C, shigella, norovirus, strep and staph infections, lice, scabies, bedbugs, flu, tuberculosis, STDs, shingles, and pneumonia. People experiencing homelessness are also at a higher risk of stroke, heart attacks, and chronic health conditions. All of those conditions cost money and time to treat, resources that are in short supply right now. For the homeless Seattle residents who experience them, they're miserable, debilitating, and sometimes even lethal.</p>
Tiff	Silengo	I live in White Center and work in Ballard	<p>For most of 2020, I was unemployed due to COVID-19. I was finally able to get work near the end of 2020, but not before falling behind on rent. Now I'm working long hours to try to get caught up. I'm missing out on time with my kid just to keep a roof over our head. If our landlord were to ask for the money we owe, we would be faced with homelessness. If you extend the moratorium, I can earn back the money we owe and safely keep a roof over our head. Especially since there's a new strain that's easier to spread. For the safety of everyone, please extend this moratorium. I'm working as hard as I can to pay back what we couldn't afford due to COVID</p>

Nicole	Black	Lower Queen Anne	Hello, please consider extending the current eviction moratorium. I work as a therapist in Community Mental Health in Rainier Beach and I see the impact of covid and the housing crisis on all my clients. Many of them have lost jobs and are so worried about now losing their homes. Stable housing is integral to Mental Health and well-being. Thank you for taking the time to hear from me.
Lauren	Tozzi	Wallingford (live) Fremont/Ballard (work)	I was unemployed for several months. I took "odd jobs" to pay rent, food, etc. Now I have found another job- but could only work part time for months. Finally, I am working full time at a school. I am struggling to make ends meet!
Cassidy	Lewis		Recently had my daughter in August & leave ended in dec. My job wasn't there to go back to due to covid 19 and I am fighting to make ends meet
Anna	Culotti	Wallingford, West Seattle	I work with Native American families in Seattle and King County, and they need an eviction moratorium so they do not lose their housing during this pandemic where many people have been pushed into poverty.
Heather	Bergey	Maple Leaf	The 3 month extensions have been putting people, families who are on the brink of eviction and rent repayments, through a roller coaster of emotions regarding their means of living. Please grant them some relief in this chaotic time by extending the moratorium.

Raquel	Perez	Capitol Hill/ Madison Valley	<p>The City of Seattle should absolutely extend the current eviction moratorium to protect families and individuals on the brink of survival. Bare minimum, (it should go without saying; really is a goddamn shame) people need a safe place to be right now to protect themselves and their families from becoming ill or worse death. The reason people can't pay their overpriced rents is because they lost their jobs and there isn't opportunities currently for work. The future looks bleak for the working class. However, whoever is reading this or maybe it's just going into some pile, I'm sure you have a bed and a safe place to be after your workday ends, but put yourself into some else's shoes who lost their job and livelihood. Now is forced into debt, can't feed themselves or their families, has little to no opportunity of getting a job again anytime soon especially if they have little ones to care for... yeah maybe just kick them out onto the street! What a fucking solution!!! It's winter and there's a pandemic, new mutations on the horizon and people are dying all over the USA. Have you walked at night in some areas of the city? Its boiling with despair. By not extending the eviction moratorium you are hurting the already beaten and bloodied working class even further. Consider all the jobs these people did, or are still doing and the pay! It's already a struggle sometimes to make it happen and hopefully have a little left over to feed yourself. Anyone against extending is a coward. You should try and survive on the streets at night right now.</p>
Daniel	Oron	Maple Leaf	<p>I have lived for 17 years (the large majority of my life) in Northeast Seattle. As I've grown, I've watched my city become a less hospitable place for some of its vital communities. I have friends my age who have faced homelessness in this city and I have watched the number of people on the street rise astronomically over the past years (especially during the pandemic). This is a serious humanitarian crisis. Seattle is failing its residents and actively making their lives harder with sweeps and over-policing. I have watched my mom's small business and many of her fellow Pike Place Market artists struggle to bring in money during 2020. Countless family restaurants have faced closure or threat of closure. Ending the eviction moratorium will do nothing but make these problems TEN TIMES WORSE.</p>

Catherine	Dichter	D6 Ballard	I work at Seattle Central Community College and became a sort of surrogate parent/caregiver to one of our students. He used to be homeless and is now working his butt off to get his Associate Degree and move on to UW. He's brilliant. And very poor. When the pandemic hit, he had a job at QFC in Capitol Hill and had just moved into an apodment in the U District, moving up from a shared housing situation in which rats had infested his house. His apodment is \$700/month for about 300 square feet and shared living and kitchen areas. QFC stopped giving him hours for some reason, but didn't fire him. He was under the impression that if he quit because he wasn't actually working, he would get unemployment insurance. He didn't. So now he has no job, no income whatsoever, and even though he has interviewed for a couple jobs, not many job prospects. It will take him quite some time to dig himself out of the economic hole he's in, and I worry about him every day. His SNAP benefits sometimes run out, and so he goes without food or uses the food bank. Listen, the fact is he has the potential to be great. He's just poor. If he has to start paying rent in March, he'll get evicted and be homeless again. And as he puts it, "at least I'll be alive." We have to do better for those among us who need more care. Please extend the eviction moratorium through 2021.
Vivian	Wong	Central District	In my neighborhood, the local park is now home to a large community of people experiencing homelessness. And this is before any sort of moratorium against eviction is lifted. I'm worried about my new houseless neighbors and I'm worried about what will happen if our already strained city services are forced to care for even more people without housing. Please extend the moratorium against evictions until the end of 2021 and please look into helping people who have already been evicted despite the moratorium!
Esther	John	Beacon Hill	I am on a fixed income. Thank heaven there was no increase in November. If my rent were to increase, I would be on the street as of the date of the increase!
Leah	Hagan	I live in North Queen Anne, and work in Greenlake, Phinney Ridge, Roosevelt/Maple Leaf as a dogwalker.	I live in low-income housing, surrounded by neighbors who are in varying states of employment and financial security. We literally have no where to go but the street if we are evicted. Luckily, because my building is managed and maintained by a non-profit affordable housing provider, I am in less danger of being evicted because the mission of the organization is to literally keep people off the streets. That is not so for my friends and neighbors who are at the mercy of private and corporate landlords, nor for the many business owners whom I frequent. We must extend the eviction moratorium for everyone in Seattle, or we will not get through this pandemic alive.

			<p>We should be governing to mitigate the trauma our citizens have been and will be dealing with well after we are paying rent again. Moving house is traumatic and overwhelming. While most of us are barely functioning, those who are functioning are at 50% of their normal capacity.</p> <p>When was the last time you didn't know when your next check was coming, or how big it would be? When was the last time you didn't know if you could pay the water bill?</p> <p>On a city council salary, I doubt it was ever during a pandemic.</p> <p>My best friend finished their degree to teach English in secondary education. There are no positions that are hiring right now. They are currently employed at minimum wage as a nanny. They are required to pay rent & utilities, student loans, groceries, and other basic bills within Seattle limits on a nanny's salary, rather than the one they would have gotten while employed in a functioning education system.</p>
Jasmine	Aye	Lower Queen Anne	Pause rent until our economy and more importantly our people recovers.
Mark	Paschal	Live in Brighton, own a bar in Rainier Beach	So many people are struggling to pay rent and feed themselves, both in Seattle and across the country. If moratoriums are not put in place, many of those people will lose their housing. Compounding current rent with back due rent means an impossible debt burden. It is imperative for Seattle to take the lead and mandate that there will be no evictions during this year. People are dying - let us not compound that by letting greed win out over decency. Thank you

Rosanna	Sze	98115 Maple Leaf	<p>Dear City Councilmembers,</p> <p>As a social worker and someone who is active in mutual aid, I am witnessing the needs of our community members skyrocket as COVID restrictions continue to impede businesses and income. Meanwhile the financial aid from the government is nowhere near enough in mitigating the financial losses of individuals, families and businesses. In a city that has such high cost of living, so many tenants are unable to afford their rent. We need to extend the current eviction moratorium now to protect tenants from losing their homes and their livelihoods during these unprecedented financial downturns. The city does not need its homelessness problem exasperated with more evictions. Please stand in support of extending the moratorium.</p> <p>Thank you, Rosanna</p>
Emily	Lesnick	South End	This is about racial justice and economic justice.
Grace	Flott	Capitol Hill, work in ID	<p>I'm sick of our city government pretending that the pandemic doesn't exist. How are folks supposed to pay rent, let alone the thousands that they will owe in back-rent, if they don't have jobs? I'm a visual artist and teacher barely making it on \$30,000/year, hustled from 3 different gigs. I know tons of other artists who have had to sacrifice their studios, move out of town, or take on multiple delivery jobs just to scrape by. It's disgusting the way Jenny Durkan and city council seem to think everyone works for Amazon in this town. We are not a city of rich people; we are city FOR rich people and it needs to END NOW. Extend the moratorium on rents and mortgages and while you're at it, CANCEL ALL DEBTS.</p>
Sharon	Hennessy	Downtown Seattle	<p>I am writing to ask you to extend Councilmember Kshama Sawant's legislation to extend the current eviction moratorium, which protects renters and struggling small businesses, through at least December 2021. As a person on Social Security Disability Income myself, it is alarming to see so many people who are currently homeless and without shelter living in the streets in Downtown Seattle. This will increase without this legislation - all people, including people with mental illness, substance abuse issue, disabilities, seniors, vets and people who have lost their income deserve a safe home to live in, particularly during COVID times.</p>

<p>Marshall</p>	<p>Bender</p>	<p>Ravenna/Wallingford</p>	<p>As we have all seen, COVID-19 has wrecked havoc on working-class people all over our city, state, and country. While workers and average Americans have taken the brunt of the crisis with little to no assistance from the government, the rich and the businesses continue to reap the profits of our suffering. With people unemployed, the economy stagnant, and the political situation volatile, the city government should do what it can to protect its citizens as much as possible and extend the eviction moratorium until the end of the year AND cancel all rent and mortgage payments. People cannot afford them right now - debt is only being created, fueling the next economic shutdown just like now. I have a friend who is close to becoming homeless, and because I am struggling too, there is little I can give him besides my support and outside resources. If my friend could at least not become homeless, I would be happy and someone's life could be saved. You all must be willing to take the step to save lives, and vote to extend the eviction moratorium until December 2021 OR LATER.</p>
<p>STEVI</p>	<p>HAMILL</p>	<p>Sunrise Heights/Westwood</p>	<p>As a person of faith, I believe that we are all interconnected and must take care of one another. Loving my neighbor as myself means making sure that my neighbor, both my next door neighbor and my neighbor across town and my neighbor across the world, has enough food to eat and a roof over their head. We are still mid-pandemic. The economic reverberations of this pandemic will be felt for years to come, and certainly through December 2021. Our cities homelessness crisis--and all of the negative effects that come with it that people on both sides of the aisle complain about--will only be exacerbated by ending the eviction moratorium. People won't have enough money to pay their rent or their back logged rent. We must care for those most effected by the pandemic by making sure they stay housed. I urge you to extend the current eviction moratorium through the end of 2021 so that Seattle residents are kept safe, healthy, and housed.</p>
<p>Karen</p>	<p>Schneider</p>	<p>Greenwood</p>	<p>I am writing to ask your support in extending the eviction moratorium to at least December 2021. As a retired Family Advocate who worked with families who were homeless, I am very afraid that if the eviction moratorium isn't extended that we will see a significant rise in homelessness. Where I live in Greenwood I only have to walk one block so see homeless folks living under ork 5 blocks before I see an encampment and when I walk in Woodland Park I see dozens of separate encampments. We don't even have the resources to help the folks that are homeless now..much less when the moratorium expires sending more folks onto the streets, including families.</p>

Colin	Donovan	West Seattle	The pandemic has been devastating to all. To expect people to continue on as though capital and a return to the previous deeply unjust racist, classist, ableist xenophobic "normalcy" is more important than OUR LIVES? It's immoral. The eviction moratorium is ESSENTIAL through the end of the year AT LEAST. To force our most vulnerable into the STREETS in a GLOBAL PANDEMIC to possibly DIE a preventable DEATH? for MONEY? How is this even a question. EXTEND THE EVICTION MORATORIUM NOW. and CANCEL RENT DEBT. Tax Bezos, Musk, Gates, and the corporate class. Value life over money. The time is now. We must think differently, and work toward collective care that CENTERS the most vulnerable, and keeps them in their homes. Thank you.
Hilary	Goodfriend	Phinney Ridge	Our city is overwhelmed by houseless people while new construction continues and units across Seattle remain empty. this crisis will only get worse if we do not act now.
Courtney	Clausen	Greenwood	<p>My fiancé lost his job due to layoffs caused by Covid-19. I am working two full time jobs to make up that income, and it's still not enough to cover bills, rent, etc.</p> <p>I work 160+ hours a week between both jobs. I still cannot afford to pay all of my bills, not for a lack of trying. Renters like me need protection to know that in these insane times, we don't have to worry about losing the roof over our heads.</p> <p>Look inside yourself. You know this is the right thing to do. People deserve to be considered over profits.</p>
Michael	Bailey	Beacon Hill	Protecting people's access to housing at this time is essential to keeping the population alive. That is the bare minimum of what you should be doing in your position as public servants. Seattle already has one of the worst housing crises in the nation and not standing up now will certainly make that problem worse. If you're concerned about the economy and developer/landlord profits, you should get a business job. If you're a City Council member, you should be fighting for the people who voted you into office, not fighting to make a few of them profit off kicking people into the street to be abused by cops and Durkan.
Brett	Pepowski	Pioneer Square, Madrona	Seattle is also facing budget and homelessness crises. By extending the eviction moratorium, our economy will bounce back faster (leading to more taxes going into our budget) and we'll reduce the number of people who are forced to live on the streets. It's absolutely the right thing to do.

Lauren	Ammerman	First Hill	Since business and schools haven't been able to fully reopen, people are still unable to work due to layoffs, business closures, or needing to stay home to care for children. They're in no better position to pay rent and avoid eviction than they were last year - the eviction moratorium must be extended. Cancel rent!
Lea	Fronterhouse	Ballard	I write to ask you to please consider extending the current eviction moratorium through 12/21. As a gig worker/small business owner who has not worked since March 10, 2020 it is imperative that you help protect the little guys or all you will have thousands MORE houseless folks on your conscious and streets. Our businesses will close and then who will clean your house, walk your dog and deliver your goods during a pandemic?
Josh	Sandoz	Hillman City	Do you think \$1800 in federal aid over the course of the last 10 months of this pandemic is enough to save struggling citizens from disaster?
Dallas	Mills	Madison Park	Evicting tenants who are struggling financially because of the pandemic is just plain wrong and is effectively kicking people while they are already down. You can't expect or require everyone to be working or generating enough income for rent when they are out of work due to the pandemic and have received minimal federal assistance. You MUST extend the eviction moratorium for people who are unable to pay rent at this time. Everyone deserves a place to live and shouldn't end up houseless because of the extenuating circumstances in the US right now.
Elsie	Shipman	Ballard	It is blatantly immoral and almost cartoonishly evil to evict after a year like 2020. Extend protections as far as possible, cancel rent and wipe it out in the bank and loan records, give up on evictions completely. How dare you even consider throwing people out of their homes or holding tens of thousands of dollars in back rent over their heads for something they had no control over? Don't even think about displacing community that you profess to care about.
Sarra	Loew	Capitol Hill	Keeping people in their homes is a crucial way to fight the coronavirus. Evicting people during a pandemic is both dangerous and cruel.

meg	cummins	Columbia City	<p>There are so many hard-working residents who rent in this city who are, through outside forces, unable to maintain their income and pay rent and bills - who are skipping meals - during the now yearlong pandemic crises. Small businesses are also facing an uphill battle to maintain during this time - restaurants and bars that are inherently about people gathering in space together - as well as retail and service based businesses. We don't have a safety net in this country and while that is abhorrent - until that net is created and supported, let's not ruin peoples lives with evictions.</p>
Cammie	Hall	Crown Hill	<p>We need to keep the city vibrant and healthy, supporting our struggling citizens and businesses. Let's not let people fall through the cracks during such a difficult time.</p>
Charisse	Boyd		<p>To the Seattle City Council members, my name is Charisse Boyd and i lived in Seattle for 20 years and now live on Vashon Island. I am asking you with all my heart and soul to do the right thing in such unprecedented times of Pandemic and Political unrest. You must protect and take care of the people of this City just as you would take care of a beloved member of your own family. That is what governing must evolve into if we are to survive and flourish as a people. You absolutely must extend the current eviction moratorium! You absolutely have to protect family's from being thrown out into the streets. And the same goes for small businesses. To do anything less is a crime on humanity!!! You were put in office by many of these people to protect and serve! And we expect you to stand up now and do just that! Save the hard working people of Seattle who have lost their Jobs and businesses because of this horrific pandemic. I am telling you as a tax payer to extend the moratorium on rent for a minimum of another full year. if you do not, i am asking you for your resignation. This may feel extreme to you but if the choices you make throw hard working innocent people/family's out into the streets with little to no resources, then you should be right there with them. Do the right thing and stand by the people of this beautiful city, Seattle.</p> <p>Charisse Boyd</p>
Khalilah	Moore	Bellevue	<p>Due to the pandemic loss of jobs and hours it's hard for some of us to even figure out how we are going to make rent now. We need time to be able to catch up and survive. How can we live a normal life worried about being homeless everyday? We need an extension.</p>

Christine	Larson	First Hill	I am writing to implore Seattle City Council to protect the financial and physical wellbeing of its community by extending the current eviction moratorium that protects tenants and small businesses through the end of 2021. Tens of thousands of Seattle's working people - and millions across the country - are each thousands of dollars in debt because of the COVID pandemic. Seattle is already an expensive city to live in and has a growing population of houseless people. The stresses of a pandemic- financially and emotionally- will be long-lasting and will not magically disappear even as we enter different phases. Extending the eviction moratorium through the end of 2021 will make Seattle an equitable place for renters, working-class homeowners, struggling small businesses, and small landlords who have lost income due to COVID and the economic recession.
Kelsey	Jones	Highland Park	The pandemic has taken its toll on everyone, but low-income families and small businesses have definitely been hit the hardest. We need to do our part to protect these essential citizens and businesses to the best of our abilities so that they are strong and ready to go once we get control of the virus, and that includes extending the current eviction moratorium.
Trip	Terrano	Central District	There is NO way out of this...END RENT...END MORTGAGES...until the end of the pandemic!!! There is NO other way!!
Ella	Shahn	Ballard	Dear Seattle City Councilmembers: I'm so grateful for the work you have done so far to put an eviction moratorium in place, and it needs to continue through at least December 2021. The pandemic and the economic impacts of the pandemic are even worse than they were when you first put the eviction moratorium in place. So many of our residents and neighbors are already struggling with housing insecurity, and thousands of people are still struggling to pay rent and put food on the table each month. The amount of people that would be harmed by upcoming evictions is staggering. Please do all that you can to ensure that as many Seattle residents as possible can stay safe and housed through this pandemic. Sincerely, Ella Shahn

			<p>The current eviction moratorium needs to be protected because we have an obligation to protect one another. Many of us are struggling on varying degrees during this pandemic, and those struggles translate to struggles with secure housing. If we do not have secure housing, our city will have many more people who are without shelter, and our city already has many people in this situation. Without extending this moratorium, we will need to put massive amounts of funds towards supporting these unsheltered people, far more than the amount already being contributed.</p> <p>Housing that is affordable to many is already hard to find in Seattle. If many of us lose our housing, you will have a hard time filling them when all the tech workers who have displaced Seattle residents no longer need to be in Seattle to work for companies in Seattle. Working from home is becoming the new norm for these people, and should we fail to keep our houses, these people will not be here to throw their money at empty houses, apartments, and condominiums.</p>
Thomas	Hudson	Private	Extend the eviction moratorium.
Tina	Vivio	West Seattle	<p>So many have lost their health, their loved ones, their jobs, and their incomes due to the COVID crisis and economic downturn. Many have gone into debt just trying to survive. Come March 31, these problems will not suddenly go away. People will be continuing to deal with the catastrophic consequences of this historic past year for a long time to come. We must continue to protect renters, homeowners, small landlords, small businesses, and working class people from losing their homes as well. Now is not the time to take away important safeguards of our community's safety and wellbeing. Please extend the eviction moratorium through the end of the year to keep people housed during these unprecedented times.</p>
Ryan	Hodge		

Tina	McKim		The pandemic is about to get even worse- vaccine delays, new more contagious variants in the virus, rightwing mask refusal and violence, the lack of adequate government financial support, lack of a rent/mortgage moratorium, and the buildup of 10 months of inability to pay mean a massive eviction crisis is looming. People need time to build up wages, receive government support and relief to be able to regularly pay rent/mortgages again. There are just not enough safe jobs, healthcare or childcare resources. Rent in Seattle is so high that most renters were barely scraping by to start with. It's a big part of why my family was forced out of the city almost 6 years ago and prices have only continued to rise.
Zoe	Barker-Aderem	Columbia City	We need to extend the current eviction moratorium because it is the only compassionate thing to do.
Duncan	McAllister	Ravenna	Nobody should be homeless, especially not during a pandemic, and allowing landlords to evict tenants is the highest form of evil.
Andrea	Malagon		This country has no knowledge or common sense on how to handle pandemics. Seattle City Council needs to protect us during this pandemic. If we continue to be left hanging by this thread, we're going to get sick and die. Want us to re-elect you? Extend the moratorium. What kind of track record do you want to hold? I can't believe we have to come together on emails when it should be obvious, no questions asked, to EXTEND THE MORATORIUM.
Sean	McCoy	Capitol Hill	Because it's the right goddamn thing to do in order for our city to still have a soul once we make it through this pandemic.
Siamak	Vossoughi	Ballard	If we are really all in this together, then we have to prioritize those who are struggling the most. Let's address the problem where it is most dire. Thank you.
Salle	Certo	Fauntleroy Cove	Because it is the right thing to do! COVID has destroyed so many businesses but more importantly, there are families struggling to get by. Do the right thing.

asukaa	jaxx	capitol hill	i am a poor,low income renter/tenant living a seattle housing authority building.all sha cares about is money,greed,power,control,dictatorship and profits,this is why we need perminet socially owned,safe affordable housing now, we also need a bernie sanders type of socialist society,world now and a bernie sanders type of political revolution now. we need a socialist party of the 99% now not years from now.we need too turn up,crank up the heat,presure in the streets even more now.we need community policing now, we need medicare for all now in washington state and in seattle now,we need too defund the police by 50% too 75% now,we need too save our mother earth now and stop climit change now,we need too perminetly shut down all the banks now and build perminet community cridet unions now.black lives matter,black trans lives matter,black intersex lives matter,justice for brianna tayler,george floyed,jt willims now.
Trevor	Evans	Capitol Hill/ downtown	People are hurting and where I live people have been moving out in huge numbers
Annie	Melcher	West seattle	The last time we were in a pandemic was 100 years ago. We don't know what will be the best decisions and what not but it seems like a good time to lead with compassion and do what needs to be done for the longevity of our community. That means a full moratorium on evictions. It is simply the right thing to do.
Hannah	Swanson	Live in Ravenna, work in Wallingford	The eviction moratorium is the least the city can do to give renters and business owners piece of mind while debt continues to accumulate. We must do everything within our power to keep people housed and small businesses open as the impacts of covid are felt well into 2021.
Sophie	Reingold	Roosevelt	Renters, small businesses, and countless workers have been hit hard by coronavirus and the consequential economic recession. This has left many people unemployed and struggling to cover the cost of rent, food, and medical supplies/care. This pandemic also disproportionately impacts communities of color and low income folks. We have received one stimulus check months ago - this does not cover the expenses of rent and basic survival during a global pandemic that has been raging for the past 10 months. These are unprecedented times and we must protect tenants and small businesses to keep our communities safe, keep our economy afloat, and avoid mass homelessness.
Anna	Dolde	Greenlake	People need support now more than ever, and stability of housing and businesses is a support we can continue to provide through an eviction moratorium extension.

brett	doelling	Chinatown	People were struggling with rent burden while investment properties laid vacant or ran as AirBnB before COVID-19; the situation is even worse now that many are under or unemployed.
Clayton	Richardson	Columbia City	Given the current situation with the extended amount of time it will take for the vaccine to roll out and then gauging efficacy, an extension on the moratorium for the remainder of 2021 seems like a sensible baseline protection for people living in Seattle.
Erica	Cartwright		
George	Summers	Beacon Hill	This is definitely rough for landlords. Once in a blue moon ordinary people MUST be protected first.
Kristen	Stirling-Talbert	West Seattle, Roxhill	Though I am fortunate enough to not be in fear of losing my housing, it breaks my heart to know others in my community could be facing homelessness in a matter of weeks. Please extend the eviction moratorium and consider cancelling rent, especially for those who need it. Kicking people onto the streets does not solve anything.
Emily	Evans		People deserve shelter! COVID-19 has put people out of work and without income. For some who lack resources, no paychecks due to resources outside of their control mean they are unable to pay.
Lily	Stelzer	Ballard	
Josh	Sandoz	Hillman City	Do you think \$1800 in federal aid over the course of the last 10 months of this pandemic is enough to save struggling citizens from disaster?
Daisy	Deely	Ravenna	As an essential worker with 3 room mates on unemployment, this year has been a constant struggle. With housing, medication, and food costs--costs to merely SURVIVE--we need continued protection. If my room mates and I lost our housing, we would surely be house-less at worst, hard struggling to find another place to live at best. Please protect your most vulnerable citizens.
Anna	Culotti	Wallingford, West Seattle	I work with Native American families in Seattle and King County, and they need an eviction moratorium so they do not lose their housing during this pandemic where many people have been pushed into poverty.

Kate	Pluth	Leschi/Central Area	We need to extend the eviction moratorium to protect the tenants and small businesses in our communities. I personally am lucky enough to own my home and that's why I think it's important for me to add my voice in support of those who aren't in that position. I don't want to live in a city where the homeless problem gets worse or where someone's livelihood is taken away from them because a landlord got greedy or couldn't take the long view on what that impact would have on our city. This is the time for our government to speak up and protect the individuals in its community, not kow-tow to corporate interests. It's the time for democracy, not capitalism.
Julia	Brasch	Capitol Hill	I think it's obvious that we still desperately need this eviction moratorium in place. Economic devastation has resulted in serious job and income losses. Seattle had an homelessness emergency even before COVID; it's undoubtable that there are even more people on the streets now than before the pandemic hit. Without a moratorium, even more of our fellow residents will be forced onto the streets. Furthermore, we know that the burden of the pandemic and economic crisis are disproportionately borne by communities of color. As a City of Seattle employee myself, I am well aware of the City's Race and Social Justice Initiative. I think it should be every City employee's goal to make Seattle a place that is equitable for all - not extending this moratorium is the exact opposite of that. Please - extend the current eviction moratorium.
Mark	Giese		Get the money by windfall taxing Amazon.
Paul	Parker	Bitter Lake	HUMANITY!!!
Kait	Heacock	Capitol Hill	I write as someone who is fortunate to have a job I can do remotely and an apartment I can still afford to rent. That is not true of so many other people right now. Why should I have this and not them? Why should people lose their homes simply because a devastating external factor ravaged their lives? That's adding insult to injury. Please show empathy to those who have already been so tragically affected by the pandemic and extend the eviction moratorium.
Keridwyn	Deller	Capitol Hill	The city is not prepared for a huge influx of people experiencing homelessness and we can prevent this potential tragedy. The work we do now to prevent evictions will benefit the city for years to come.
Robert	Brown	I live in Fircrest.	We are in midst of a raging pandemic. People do not need to have an extra worry about being kicked out of their homes. In fact, we need to work to find housing for more people; not add to the homeless population. Please extend any eviction moratorium that exists.

			If the moratorium is lifted before the end of the year, we will see mass evictions for people who have not had any chance to regain their footing after a year of extreme depression. Allowing Biden to take office and hopefully provide more relief to people struggling to pay rent, as well as allowing for more months for folks to regain lost income, is the only intelligent way forward. Lifting the moratorium earlier than necessary will only cause more problems for the city as there are already not enough shelter beds and other homelessness services as is. As a social worker in one of our community hospital's emergency departments, I work with people harmed by the pandemic every day, and I urge you not to add to the number of unstably housed people in our region by extending the moratorium on rent. Thank you.
Madeline	Greeley	Greenwood	
Curtis	Cawley	Queen Anne	So many are struggling right now, please continue to help as the pandemic and economy are still terrible!
Jeff	Fernandes	Lake City	Rent is unearned income whereby a land owner harvests the labor of another human being to enrich themselves. It is morally obscene in the best economic times and it is cruel and unusual punishment during a pandemic. Abolish rent.
Tyler	Adams	Beacon Hill	Seattle needs Seattleites. If we evict the people who have made their lives here before the pandemic, we will lose the soul of our city.
Becaley	Elsie	Capitol Hill	How can we pay rent when some of us are not working. How is that possible?
Trevor	Evans	Capitol Hill/ downtown	People are hurting and where I live people have been moving out in huge numbers
Nicole	DeFuria	Rainier beach	Many people are not able to pay rent or mortgage as the pandemic continues
Joyce	Frohn		We have not defeated this virus and homelessness too dangerous to public health
Dell	Goldsmith		We need a community that helps each other.
Mark	Giese		Extend the eviction moratorium. Get the money by windfall taxing Amazon. Thank you.
Lisa	Halpern	Columbia City	Because government must protect our most vulnerable communities in these uniquely challenging times.

			<p>Tens of thousands of Seattle's working people - and millions across the country - are each thousands of dollars in debt because of the COVID pandemic and the capitalist recession. Communities of color - and especially Black communities - are especially struggling.</p> <p>For working people, and struggling small businesses, the crisis won't magically evaporate March 31, when the Mayor's current moratorium expires. Wall Street banks, corporate landlords, and big businesses should pay for the crisis, not renters, working-class homeowners, struggling small businesses, and small landlords who have lost income due to COVID and the economic recession.</p>
Jared	Howe	Columbia City	We must extend the eviction moratorium through the end of the year.
Jordan	Enos	Cap/First Hill - 98101	<p>Hello-- I am writing on behalf of those who are facing eviction in our community. While I am fortunate to not be facing eviction, I am also a white woman with the multitude of advantages and privileges that come along with being so; in my situation the includes a white collar job that has enabled me to work from home with no disruption to my income. There are thousands of human beings, families, people you represent, who are not as fortunate. People who are facing the unfathomable reality of telling the people they love, people who depend on them, that they may not have a place to live due to no fault of their own. The fault is that of a virus that has upended all of our lives. However, the impact and the real consequences of this virus can be mitigated. By you, by your decision to keep us protected. If community members end up on the street, or in their cars, or in an unsafe situation, that fault will land squarely on you. Please consider this as you decide to extend the eviction moratorium until December 2021, or not.</p>
lindsay	hutchison	Maple Leaf	<p>This pandemic has been disastrous to the livelihood of so many of our neighbors. Combine this with the widespread domestic traumas we've all experienced due to racial discrimination, police brutality, white supremacy, a fascist, bigoted, & idiotic president, and unnecessarily forcing families out of their homes is just inhumane. Take a lesson from the many courageous activists and organizers that have consistently fought injustice everywhere it pervades, we need mutual aid. We need empathy. We need solidarity. There is such enormous wealth available in Seattle, there is absolutely NO reason that any Seattleite experience houselessness. I urge you to reach for your humanity as you act to extend the eviction moratorium, at least until the pandemic is under control. Thank you for your time and service.</p>

Patrycja	Humienik	Madrona	The Seattle City Council already knows that extending the eviction moratorium is crucial. It is an ethical obligation that we extend the eviction moratorium through at least December 2021 during a pandemic that is continuing to take a toll on our community members' longterm health, lives & livelihoods, our businesses, schools, etc. The Seattle City Council serves the people of Seattle. This is not a debate. These are people's lives. Extending the eviction moratorium is the bare minimum.
Noemia	Mlekarov	Columbia City	Housing is a human right..as a public school teacher I witness firsthand the toxic stress students and families experience when they are terrified of losing their housing. No one should live with that stress, especially not in the midst of a catastrophic pandemic.
Chris	Barker	Central District	Don't force people to live on the streets
Dave	Schuldt	Fremont	Without shelter people die, it's that simple. Ideally the federal government would tell the banks to suffer but that's not happening. You need to do what you can to keep people alive. Part of being an owner of anything is accepting the risk. The land lords will just have to suffer. Or better yet tax the rich more to help the small time owners survive.
Kevin	Gallagher		
Alberto	Awal		It's important to extend the Eviction moratorium because there are people that still aren't working because of the pandemic.
Erica	Loforte		With a pandemic the likes of which we have never seen before in our lifetime, so many have lost loved ones, jobs and sources of income. This is not because of any individual failure, but because of systematic and government failure to address the pandemic properly and provide people the relief and help they need. There is no foreseeable end to this pandemic and even when it ends that does not mean people will magically be able to come up with months of rent immediately. It is not people's fault they are unable to pay rent, and if the moratorium is not extended, come April, thousands will be left houseless, in a city that already has a houselessness crisis. Because of this, the eviction moratorium must be extended through at least December 2021.
Nicholas	Lenchner		
Julia	Massey	Ballard	This is absolutely necessary for the lifeblood and culture of this city. I say this as an SPS educator, and independent musician. PLEASE! I know it's expensive, and can seem like a tough sell, but history will thank you.

Dana	Iorio	Greenwood	We need to extend the eviction moratorium on individuals/families, renters and especially small businesses, especially in these times of a public health disaster and economic depression. In fact, I would go one step further and call for a rent/mortgage moratorium FOR ALL residents and businesses until things turn around. Do the right thing! Thankyou.
Lin	Simpson	Ballard	We must do everything possible to keep people from becoming homeless during these difficult times. It is especially important during the pandemic!
Sophia	Keller	Burien (which is not Seattle, I know)	In our present financial crisis, we also face stubborn contagion and failure to control infection. Sheltering in place, preferably home or well-insulated office space - has been our most reliable defense against the virus. Every human being needs a safe, dependable place in which to shelter. Ruthless landlords seem completely disinterested in the risks to their tenants and are willing to pitch people out for any reason they can invent, but at least if there is an official moratorium in place, they have to make more of an effort. Until tenants are reliably able to pay their rent regularly, they must have protection from eviction. Please extend the moratorium until the end of 2021. If we have a financial resurgence it can always be ended sooner.
Camilla	Walter	Live in Ballard, work in Pioneer Square	We need to extend the eviction moratorium and protect people who live and work in our city through the end of this year. It is vital to the health and stability of our communities that people have housing security during this uncertain and challenging time. We already have a chronic and growing homelessness problem in Seattle, and a lack of affordable housing. Why would we make it harder for people to stay in their housing? We have an opportunity to protect tenants and extend stability now. I worry about my friends and family who are unable to make rent, and how we will be able to support each other if anyone loses their housing. So many of my community members who work in customer service, hospitality, or other jobs have had to step back to keep themselves or others in their community safe - we need to do everything that we can to support their choices for the sake of public health. Keeping people in their homes should be a main priority for Seattle. Please don't put more people out on the street. We can only get through this crisis if we look out for one another, and extending the eviction moratorium through Dec. 2021 is a good first step.

Holly	Girouard	lake City	Too many people have lost their jobs and are trying to figure out how to move forward. Also we renters have depleted our savings and have none to use to put up new deposits and first/last months rent. We need to be assured we won't be kicked out of our rentals this year while we navigate the new world.
Karen	Winter	Puget Ridge	We don't need tens of thousands of people losing their homes, followed by thousands of people losing their minds. Everyone is hanging on by a thread as it is. Property owners struggling for lack of rental income can do what renters have done for decades: start a GoFundMe or sell things. These folks are quite capable of advocating for themselves, and should be able to find the resources they need. Most are not truly in need, and can just write off the losses on their tax return.
Sadie	Scott-Hobson	Licton Springs	We need to extend the eviction moratorium for another year because lots of people, families, and small businesses have unjustly felt the economic impact of the pandemic and are likely to be unhoused if the moratorium is not extending, leaving them without safety and shelter, which is a human right.
Meral	Husnein	Colombia City	
Joshua	Allen	North Seattle.	For no fault of their own, many workers have lost employment and have effectively been abandoned, politically, to figure it out, with mounting debt in rented owned that many may never to pay back. Please protect the workers and small business owners of Seattle and extend the current eviction moratorium through at least the end of 2021.
Tia	Pearson	N/a	You'll have your hands full of homeless & boarded up buildings. That's not Seattle.
Hannah	Elnan-Derse	Rainier Beach	There is no way the pandemic is going to be over by March - and we need to ensure that vulnerable people are not out on the street because of it! Let's choose to take care of each other here, and extend the eviction moratorium protecting tenants and struggling small businesses at least through December 2021.
Deborah	Woodard	Capitol Hill	I want people to have roofs over their heads, and for our small independent businesses--the lifeblood of our city--to make it through the pandemic. Evictions will make life unbearable for some and will erode quality of life for all. Please extend the moratorium.

Kris	Hutchins	Ballard	Every essential worker, tradesperson and service industry employee I know (and I count myself and my wife in that number) has struggled to make rent this year. So many of us are behind and the threat of eviction looms large across every neighborhood in the city. The City Council can make a difference and prove the progressive, moral values of our city mean something. Please make a difference for the folks who need it most: the hard working regular people whose work and culture edify this beautiful and prosperous city we call home.
LAURINE A.	FABRICK	Capitol Hill	Tenants need to be protected from losing their homes and businesses. People don't have jobs and they can't afford to feed themselves. Please help provide them with some stability while the work to fight Covid continues under the new administration. Thank you.
Arren	Lenau	Victory Heights	Please extend the eviction moratorium in Seattle, because this Covid-19 crisis is far from over. We are just starting to see vaccines trickle in, but it will take until at least the end of the year for everyone to reach herd immunity and probably until 2022 for things to go back to normal, for people to regain employment and for people to be able to pay their rent as normal. We need a moratorium now and for the rest of this year. Please don't let the most vulnerable people be put out on the streets. Our housing crisis is real in Seattle, and the rate of homelessness here in Seattle is already much too high.
Rae	Lohse	East Lake	In these desperate times the absolute least you could do to keep the people you serve going is extend the eviction moratorium to protect tenants and small businesses through at least December 2021. Please do the right thing.
Amanda	Evans	White Center	Housing is a human right. People shouldn't lose their homes during a pandemic (or any other time, really). It's that simple.
Sean	McCoy	Capitol Hill	The people that are at risk of losing their homes & businesses are the folks who give this city character. Making sure that they all stay safe & secure during this pandemic is the only option that should be on the table. Do the right thing.
Monica	Schley	Wallingford	Have a heart. Extending an eviction moratorium is the right thing to do during these chaotic times. Give people hope and it will reflect well on our city.

Savannah	Daniels	Capital Hill	Tenants and struggling businesses are run by people. People who belong the greater Seattle Area community, they bring their own culture and unique experiences to Seattle. Seattle prides itself on being diverse, fruitful and human rights focused. Housing is a human right. Although many are already experiencing homelessness, we do not need to add to that number. I have been fortunate enough to work from home, but others cannot say the same. The Seattle City Council has the ability to review disparities of white collar job fields and blue collar job fields, and which groups of people work within those sectors. The City Council probably has the ability to see how many community members could possibly lose their safe-haven, for not only themselves but their children, elders and loved ones. Housing is a part of a safety security net that creates a place for youth to grow up feeling safe, seen and heard. It is a much larger issue and corner-stone than we may realize, and it should be protected.
Soliz	Mayer	Gatewood	The government has done an abysmal job of supporting Americans throughout this pandemic. People have not had the support needed to stay on their feet.
Matthew	Colasurdo	Downtown	Renter are still struggling in Seattle; a city with horrid lack of affordable housing and a persistent homelessness crisis. Those in affordable housing units, units which I manage, are losing jobs, losing hours at the Starbucks they work in, getting covid-19 disease, and are just now getting the unemployment benefits they filed for in spring of 2020. Was it their fault? We are hearing media reports from Krystal Ball from the Rising that the Trump admin simply punted on the entire pandemic. Is that the renters of Seattle's fault. No. It must be the responsibility of local governments to take the blame for government failures and hold the donor classes liable for the governments they control and finance and profited from.
Miranda	Vargas	Wallingford and Ballard	Things have gone from bad to worse economically for the average person. Shameful stimulus checks and covid spikes don't have the way for success, here. We need support and to prevent homelessness. It's crucial and dire.
Angela	Jacobs	Greenlake	Because housing is a basic human right.
Tadd	Morgan	Queen Anne	With rampant unemployment and infection, we cannot start kicking people out onto the streets! We must extend the eviction moratorium.

Arne	Hammer	Ballard	Live on a boat and already been threatened eviction .
Ginger	White		Hello, I am writing to you today to ask that you please extend the current eviction moratorium through at least December 2021. Doing this would provide security for so many tenants and small businesses. It is unknown for how long this pandemic will continue, and with it, economic and health struggles for many. Putting extra pressure and adding risk for these people and businesses by letting the moratorium expire prematurely would be inhumane. Thank you for your time and consideration.
Lauren	Wood	Greenwood	Please extend the eviction moratorium. My family and friends are still struggling since they lost their jobs due to covid. Don't add more stress to an already horrible situation. Thank you for helping!
Delia	Urrea	Seatac	We are living in a Pandemic! Hello!
Jax	Braun	Squire Hill	We need a full year of eviction moratorium. People have been out of work for a full year, disproportionately Black and brown people. Businesses have had to be closed for the same amount of time. A year would allow a giant stress to be lifted on those who are experiencing the worst of the pandemic. Chronic stress severely affects the body's immune system and ability to fight viruses, enabling those who are most at risk to have a better chance of not contracting or fighting COVID. It would allow for people to prepare, gather resources, rest. A moratorium is a huge step in community care and health, please, take that step.
Jillian	Gibson	Fremont and Capitol Hill	People are hurting. We desperately need the government to step in and help the community. We cannot put more people on the streets or even on the verge. Please help.

Haley	Wiinikka	I used to live in Issaquah, Washington. Born and raised in Seattle but now live in Vancouver, Wa.	I think they should extend the eviction ban or make it so it's like obsolete from a to z point of the pandemic. It's not our fault this happened, and we did fine paying our bills and getting through life before this all happened. I am mom of three kids. Personally I live in an apt right now that has a huge hole in it and floods water and because the landlords didn't get there rent money they refused to fix it so I now have bugs coming in and black mold starting, when none of this is any off our fault. Plus we got help with some of our rent , some help is out there if you look, some! But now I have no idea what's to come because I feel our landlords are just waiting til the exact day and going to evict us regardless of we lay them rent or not. How many people are going to receive a bunch of help and landlords still kick them out anyway it's not fair or justified.not right or fair to me or my children.
Tashsha	Reynolds	North chicago	I have loss my job though cov19
Gregory	Jaspan	Ballard	<p>Seattle already has a homelessness crisis. When people are evicted because they can't pay the rent, they often have nowhere to go and end up on the street, which just further exacerbates the crisis. The financial hardships (layoffs, reduced work hours, pay cuts, furloughs, etc) caused by the pandemic, combined with the severe shortage of affordable housing we have in Seattle, has created a dire situation in which thousands of renters are facing a very stark reality: if the eviction moratorium is not extended through at least the end of the year, many of them will be homelessness imminently.</p> <p>In addition, small businesses must also be given a moratorium on evictions. If small businesses are evicted because they can no longer afford to pay the lease--a situation that is increasingly happening due to the economic downturn caused by the pandemic--they go out of business. If small business go out of business, people lose jobs. If people lose jobs, the financial hardships they are facing due to the pandemic become a crisis.</p> <p>Quite simply, Seattle cannot afford evictions. The moratorium must be extended through at least the end of the year.</p>
Michael	Maloney	Capitol Hill	Keeping people housed during a deadly now yearlong pandemic is a complete no-brainer. Please do the right thing. Extend the eviction moratorium thru 2021.
sue	sullivan		Do the right thing-we need peoplein the city adding to the broken economy not ghost towns.

Ruth	Weedman		Because it's the right thing to do.
			<p>You fraud-enabling jokers all know that rents in Seattle are artificially inflated due to blatant price-fixing among the property class, reported in the local media in 2008, based solely on lies about "explosive population growth" not born out by the actual numbers reported by the U.S. Census and reflected in the King County Public Utilities reports. And yet you and the state attorney general and all branches and levels of government continue to ignore this problem and let them get away with ROBBING TENANTS BLIND.</p> <p>Now there's an added pressure on tenants in the form of long-term un- and underemployment (the latter has been my problem for more than a year). Since you refuse to even investigate the ongoing FRAUD ON THE PUBLIC, at least throw tenants the bare bone of eviction moratorium for one calendar year, beginning at the expiration of the current moratorium. You can't favor just one side of a business transaction forever and expect the local economy to avoid a serious crash. It's already started: a friend of mine in the real estate industry says that people are moving out of Seattle, in her words, "big time!" Your decades-long neglect is starting to have negative repercussions on the very people your laissez-faire attitude has subsidized all these years. Nice going, all of you.</p>
Steve	Ditore	Nothgate/U District	
Michael	Nguyen		Millions of people are struggling to survive in a pandemic and are unemployed. They're also not getting paid enough during a pandemic and no one should have to choose between paying rent and groceries, it's like they have to choose between life and death. Basic human rights for ALL
Robert	Blumenthal	Bryant	We cannot allow people to lose their homes at this time of pandemic crisis.

Christina	Black	Rainier Beach	I'm a teacher at Rainier Beach High School, the comprehensive high school that already has the highest rate of students experiencing homelessness, and the school with the most black students in the state. So many of my 14 YEAR OLD students have been expressing needing to work, some full time or needing to find work to help their multigenerational families stay in their homes during the pandemic. Their parents have either have lost hours or lost their jobs altogether. If you do not extend the eviction moratorium you will be putting children, their parents and their grandparents on the street. They will be unable to adequately continue their education, and you will be increasing their chances of not graduating. You don't have to do this.
Jill	Schaffner	Fremont	Please extend the eviction moratorium through December 2021! Evictions during the current pandemic are cruel and dangerous to public health. Thank you for your consideration!
Nastassia	Barber	Georgetown	I have seen the difficulties businesses around me that normally thrive are having! An eviction moratorium would limit the severity of long-term economic consequences of the pandemic! In addition, evicting individuals who may not be able to work for a variety of reasons outside of their control due to the pandemic is inhumane and will have lasting consequences for their futures.
Joe	Goldberg	Judkins Park	There are already so many people in our city experiencing homelessness, it's already a crisis and an unacceptable state of affairs. Just one more person evicted will not be acceptable.
Julia	Friend	Capitol Hill	Lay-offs haven't stopped for tenants. Small businesses are still crippled by fewer customers. The stressors caused by the pandemic continue, so we need to extend the current eviction moratorium for those vulnerable to the stressors.
Shaylon	Stolk	South Lake Union	There is an economic and housing crisis that's been heightened by the pandemic, and people desperately need housing.
Cadence	Miller	Beacon Hill	Please extend the eviction moratorium at least through the end of 2021. Our city and country are experiencing unprecedented hardship due to the pandemic and now is the time to extend security where we can to ensure we don't have a tidal wave of people forced to experience homelessness. I know landlords might feel pressure as well, but the hardship experienced by a mortgage owner is different than that of a person experiencing eviction - the end result is not the same (ie homelessness and hardship in finding future housing) and as a society we need to support those who are at their most vulnerable.

Paige	Helms	Roosevelt	Our houseless neighbors are particularly vulnerable to covid and all of the compounding factors of houselessness; increasing that population with evictions will hurt our city. It is much less expensive in the long term to extend the moratorium than for the city to clean up after an ever-increasing homeless population. It's also optically good for our City Council members with a mind toward re-election.
Allison	Ong	Fremont	With so many people already living on the streets in Seattle, we need to come up with alternatives to forcing more people out of homes and onto the streets. Evictions have been shown to affect people of color, and women of color especially, disproportionately. Find another way, there must be another way.
Lindsay	Scarey	Capitol Hill	We must extend the eviction moratorium until the end of 2021 if we want to have a city worth living in when the pandemic is over
Abigail	Sessions	Capitol hill	This pandemic has absolutely ravaged our most vulnerable communities, and lifting the eviction moratorium will only exacerbate the harm. We have a duty to protect those who have suffered most in this pandemic, those who lost jobs or were forced to continue working as essential workers at great risk to themselves. These are the same people who will be evicted by no fault of their own. To think that now we have a vaccine so the pandemic is over and we can resume putting people on the streets is short sighted, misguided, and cruel. We need to extend the protections until at least December in order to have any chance of a true, equitable recovery in Seattle.
Shannon	Keith	Beacon Hill	The virus is the worst it has even been. For the same reasons we protected tenants from eviction last year and keep our community safe and housed during this global pandemic and economic crisis, we need to do so this year too. Doing nothing is violence, plain and simple.
Anne	Sample	Renton	For working people, and struggling small businesses, the crisis won't magically evaporate March 31, when the Mayor's current moratorium expires. Wall Street banks, corporate landlords, and big businesses should pay for the crisis, not renters, working-class homeowners, struggling small businesses, and small landlords who have lost income due to COVID and the economic recession.

Lynn	Doan	White Center, South Seattle	There are so many looming threats to our safety as is: white supremacy, domestic terrorism, and it's now the 1st anniversary to the first COVID-19 case in Washington. We cannot survive through this pandemic if our neighbors and small businesses are being exploited for their "essential" labor, forced to work through unsafe conditions, and then not even have stable housing or space to quarantine/isolate in. We cannot let landlords take advantage of tenants during this time in which so many are unable to support themselves safely. We need to extend the eviction moratorium, so that we can protect each other's health and wellbeing.
Curtis	Cawley	Queen Anne	
Glen	Osborn	Lake City/Olympic Hills	Since the pandemic will continue to impact all of us for several months, we must extend the eviction moratorium through December 2021. It's a crucial that we prevent more homelessness, and prevent a downward spiral of our community.
Lilian	Maina	Des moines	Its hard as it is to find new jobs that are hiring and paying bills and rent and car/ insurance bills is devastating considering the unemployment low payments and delays make it harder to survive .Those that still have jobs are barely making it due to reduced hours meaning reduced paychecks .Families are holding onto a thread not knowing if they are able to afford it until lease is up and when it is the rent is increased ,it gets worse by the day .Eviction should not be in the question or put into consideration even otherwise it is going to leave millions of families on the streets homeless . We ask members to have a heart for their fellow american families and extend the it so families can have atleast a roof over their heads even though they all are putting themselves at risk everyday just trying to survive and put some food on their tables .
Taylor	Walters	Capitol Hill	
Quin	McKinley	SODO	COVID-19 pandemic has put a lot of people in desperate financial positions & exacerbated the rent problem already prevalent in Seattle pre-pandemic. Without a questions there should be an extension on the moratorium to protect our citizens & neighbors who are struggling.
Kimberly	Holloway	Ballard	There are SO many more homeless in my neighborhood than ever before. A tent across the street caught fire last week as their propane tank exploded, there is trash all over sidewalks and streets and my yard. The growing homeless crisis will be horrifying if people are able to be evicted from their homes. Please extend the moratorium on evictions thorough 2021.

Connor	Descheemaker	Capitol Hill	This is the only way to guarantee that not only will families be kept from the streets, but also able to begin to recover with the vaccine's distribution, is to prevent evictions. This is your locus of power, and it must be used!
Matthew	Cloner	Green Lake	The current COVID-19 Pandemic has caused many of my neighbors to lose their jobs and also their apartments. The rate of homelessness in Seattle is rising. I am requesting that you extend the current eviction moratorium for at least another year. Thanks for your consideration.
Paul	Hlava Ceballos	Judkins Park	We must extend the eviction moratorium until people can work again to afford their bills. As homelessness rises, so does the potential spread of illness and disease in our city. I am a healthcare worker and this is a public health concern. We must protect our city and the most vulnerable people within it!
Emily	Cliff	Lake City	Racial inequalities tied to evictions is long standing, with black households four and a half times as likely to be evicted than white households in the Seattle area (https://www.kcba.org/Portals/0/pbs/pdf/Losing%20Home%202018.pdf) and the pandemic has only worsened the plight of socioeconomically disadvantaged groups. This make evictions only only an economic problem but an issue of racial equality as well. We need to take exceptional measures for exceptional times - our typical infrastructure for addressing these types of problems is insufficient and will harm both renters and landlords. We need to ensure that renters hit hardest by the pandemic have their debts/mortgages/utility costs/debt payments canceled or subsidized by the government. Furthermore, small businesses and small landlords need government assistance to prevent them from going under. Failure to properly address this issue will ruin lives and deepen racial inequities. It is on you to make sure that we handle this appropriately. If we do, we could set an example for the rest of the country.

			<p>I was fired in May 2020 and was out of work till August. We fell behind on rent as my hubby hours had been cut at the same time I was let go. He did his best to pay what bills he could pay. We fell behind on lot of bills and we were working hard to get caught up and then in November we both had covid and was out of work for 2 weeks with out pay as we didnt have any Pto to use. And since then its been one thing after the next with both our cars having to go to the shop. We just can never get ahead or get caught up now. We struggle to just put food on the table for our daughter and even though we both working it just seems like we cant catch a break or have enough to pay rent after pay our bills.</p>
Kendra	Vazquez	Live in federal way and work in tacoma	
Alyce	Fritch	Victory Heights	
		I do not live in Seattle, but I grew up in Seattle and was a student in the Seattle Public School district.	<p>Throughout the months of the pandemic, I've seen our sidewalks and parks become consumed by tents and tarps. People should be protected during a time where people are unemployed or working less due to health concerns in our community. The more money and support we give to the citizens of Seattle, the more everyone can give back into the community now and in the future once the pandemic has ceased.</p>
Lars	McDonagh		
Liz	Messinger		<p>This is an unprecedented time and landlords are evil</p>
			<p>I do NOT I think it is fair to the landlords to allow people to live in their house is free. . If you want to be truly useful and stop evictions you need to pay their rent directly to their landlord.</p> <p>Don't give out random cash payments and expect the recipients to pay their rent . If they have no consequence of getting evicted they're going to buy something else . Pay their rent for them directly to the landlord.</p> <p>Along those lines you should pay their utility bills also. But pay directly to the utilities.</p> <p>People are losing their homes because they're supporting two families now their own and their tenants. It is not acceptable to sacrifice one group of people to benefit another.</p>
Jan	Hickling	Ballard	

Anbar	Sheikh	Ballard	Dear Respected Councilmembers, 2020 has been a hard, hard year and we are still facing the challenges in 2021, and I suspect we will be for awhile until the vaccine is fully distributed. We know that so many people are struggling because of this. It's not their fault that they are struggling and it is not their fault that they are struggling to pay bills. We must use our resources to help these people. If we don't, we will have a even higher rate of homelessness. We have the power to stop that. Please consider extending the eviction moratorium. Anbar
Angela	Bellacosa	University District	I have many friends and family members who are in danger of becoming homeless because of the pandemic. I would be very stressed and upset if that happened and they had to endure the hardships of homelessness. Many have health problems, and their health problems would become worse. No one should have to endure the hardship of being homeless in the riches country in the history of the world. The effects of the pandemic on the economy will not lessen till at least the end of the year. Please extend the moratorium on evictions till then. I believe everyone should be offered housing of some kind, depending on their needs in the U.S.
Damion	Winship	Beacon Hill	Please consider extending the current eviction moratorium through at least December 2021 to help protect the many families and communities struggling during this difficult time. Thank you!
Elizabeth	Turner	Central	Evictions tend to harm minorities. Racial injustice is rampant in the US and until it is addressed evictions must cease. Affordable housing is scarce. we are in the middle of a pandemic. Where is the humanity in evictions?
Mayanka	McCullough	Green Lake	The pandemic has wreaked havoc on local business and so many lives. Let's not increase homelessness by refusing to help.
Scott	Granlund	Dunlap / Rainier Beach	You want more tents? Do you think that scenario is an answer?
Kenna	Kettrick	Wallingford	We are still right in the middle of the pandemic and it's going to get worse before we get any better. Housing is a human right and being a landlord is a risk, not a guarantee; people need a place to live, ALWAYS, but especially now when one of the ways we help keep people safe is by staying home. Give us a chance to survive. Give us a chance to rebuild all the way through the end of the year. Extend this until December, at least.
Rocket	Clark	Capitol Hill	Allowing evictions to take place in the current economy is short-sighted. In the long term, the damage that will be done to the community through increased houselessness and closed businesses will have repercussions for years. It will be so much harder for our community to recover if widespread evictions happen.

Jeff	Fernandes	Meadowbrook	Do you want more homeless people living rough? Then stop landlord cruelty by banning evictions!
Zeny Michael	Ocean	University District	Seattle remains in the midst of pandemic economic fallout... Unemployment is rampant, and many of us cannot afford to address our most basic concerns, including rental obligations. Please extend our eviction moratorium until January 1, 2022...
brian	simpson	downtown	The homeless epidemic is out of control, unless you want thousands of additional people roaming the streets, engaging in criminal behavior (because breathing while homeless is a crime), clogging up hospitals and jails and being exposed to the brutal habitat that is living outside, you need an eviction moratorium until mass public relief makes it into the hands of every American.
Guyanthyony	Parramore	Sandpoint	Seattle Citizens have supported this City saved this City from becoming a ghost town not so long ago. When many had lost hope, moved away, and there was a sign put up saying, "When Leaving Seattle Shit Out the Lights". Most of the Citizens who are need of the Cities support are in desperate need for this assistance. I advocate that the tax dollars they've invested much provide for them in their times of need. They not only need this but there must be something put in place to eliminate the debt that's accruing because of the hardships that manifest from Virus Attack on the American People. And the world.
June	San Nicolas		It's not about tenant/landlord. It's about homeowners taking in individual(s) and then the homeowners isn't able to evict the individual(s). It's almost like an act of congress to get this individual out, getting them evicted. Their time is up and refuse to leave. It's happening yo me now with my adult daughter.
Flora	Wright	Madison Valley, Central District	
Abbey	Willman	Ballard, University District	Extending the eviction moratorium should be a no-brainer!! Protect the people who have been impacted most by the pandemic. I do not want to believe that Seattle leadership fine with more and more people ending up on the street, with nowhere to go, while the Seattle Police Department continues to conduct inhumane sweeps.

			I live in a shared house, consisting of undergraduate and graduate students. Earning enough money as a full-time student is already hard enough to meet basic needs - however, the pandemic has severely restricted student opportunities, putting many people in my household in a precarious situation. We recently had a housemate suddenly break their lease, leaving us remaining housemates with over a thousand dollars of debt. We are going to need more than a few months to figure out how to pay that off, or contest that amount with our landlord. We are afraid come Springtime, when we will have to find a subletter for another room in our house, and given that Spring will be entirely online, it will be much harder than normal to find a housemate that is committed to keeping us all safe in the middle of a pandemic. We need time. We need rent forgiveness. Even landlords need mortgage forgiveness - but in a way that REQUIRES them to forgive the debt that their renters have accrued. We are doing the best we can, but there is only so much we can do with limited resources.
Madison	Bristol	University District	
			I am an instructor over at Bellevue College and one of the privileges of the job is the ability to meet and work with many different types of people. In the last year, I've seen directly how much housing insecurity (among other poverty-related complications) has reduced the ability of my students to be students. There can be a snowballing effect whenever any of our basic needs are in question - both in the life of a member of our community but also in the life of our community itself. The sufferings we can prevent, if left unchecked, are not consequences that are paid, where we mourn the human tragedy involved, and then that is the end of it. They are sufferings that leave a mark and have effects that ripple far beyond. For the sake of our long-term community and for the humanity of those who make it up, I encourage you to extend the moratorium.
Timothy	Linnemann		
Lindsay	Scarey	Capitol Hill	We must extend the eviction moratorium until the end of 2021 if we want to have a city worth living in when the pandemic is over
Chris	Thomsen	Fremont	Renters are hurting, we make sacrifices and we're still hurting. Extend the eviction moratorium NOW!



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 1749, **Version:** 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

..title

AN ORDINANCE relating to residential evictions; guaranteeing the right to legal counsel regardless of ability to pay for any residential renter in Seattle responding to an unlawful detainer suit; and adding a new Section 22.206.195 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

..body

WHEREAS, in September 2018, the Seattle Women’s Commission and the King County Bar

Association jointly published *Losing Home: The Human Cost of Eviction in Seattle*, finding that households who are evicted face material hardships that make it more difficult to secure safe and affordable housing and that the most disadvantaged groups face the highest likelihood of eviction; and

WHEREAS, the Losing Home report found that most evicted respondents became homeless, with 37.5 percent completely unsheltered, 25.0 percent living in a shelter or transitional housing, and 25.0 percent staying with family or friends. Only 12.5 percent of evicted respondents found another apartment or home to move into; and

WHEREAS, the report also found that tenants commonly reported both mental health issues, such as stress and depression, and physical health issues, such as heart conditions, associated with their eviction; and

WHEREAS, housing instability during childhood has been attributed to an increased likelihood of negative health and educational effects; and

WHEREAS, evictions can lead to long-term economic impact to individuals, families, and the City; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2018, the King County Medical Examiner’s Office (KCMEO) investigated the
2 deaths of 194 individuals presumed to be homeless. This represents 25 more deaths than
3 investigated in 2017; and

4 WHEREAS, people experiencing homelessness have a much higher risk than the general
5 population of developing exposure-related conditions. The KCMEO 2018 investigation
6 found that over half of presumed homeless deaths investigated occurred outside and that
7 approximately 62 percent of presumed homeless deaths investigate were attributed to
8 non-natural causes (drug overdose, accidents (including hypothermia), suicide, homicide,
9 and undetermined); and

10 WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature has declared a state policy to help residents who
11 are experiencing a temporary crisis in retaining stable housing to avoid eviction from
12 their homes, as expressed in Laws of 2019 c 356 section 1; and

13 WHEREAS, tenants with counsel have improved housing stability, both by staying in their
14 residences but also by gaining additional time to relocate and access to emergency rental
15 assistance; and

16 WHEREAS, starting in 2018, the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections has
17 contracted with the Housing Justice Project, a program of the King County Bar
18 Association, to provide free legal support to renters facing evictions; and

19 WHEREAS, the Housing Justice Project has reported that 56 percent of renters facing unlawful
20 detainers in 2019 prevented eviction with the support of City funded legal support, up
21 from less than 24 percent prior to that funding; and

22 WHEREAS, the Seattle City Council intends that the Seattle Department of Construction and
23 Inspections will continue, and as needed, expand its contract with the Housing Justice

1 Project to fulfil the commitments in this ordinance unless another attorney organization
2 becomes better suited to accomplish this work at some future date; and

3 WHEREAS, the Housing Justice Project has estimated there are 1,200 eviction court filings
4 against individuals and families in Seattle each year; and

5 WHEREAS, New York City, Newark, Boulder, Baltimore, Cleveland, Philadelphia, and San
6 Francisco have all enacted some form of “right to counsel” legislation for renters facing
7 eviction; NOW, THEREFORE,

8 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

9 Section 1. A new Section 22.206.195 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows:

10 **22.206.195 Right to legal counsel in eviction proceedings**

11 A. Any tenant residing in Seattle who is named in an unlawful detainer suit under chapter
12 59.18 RCW has the right to legal counsel free of charge as set forth in this Section 22.206.195,
13 regardless of the person’s ability to pay.

14 B. Legal representation through a non-City entity shall be made available to a person
15 described in subsection 22.206.195.A as soon as practicable after service of a summons for an
16 unlawful detainer suit and at least until the complaint is withdrawn, the case is dismissed, or a
17 judgment is entered.

18 C. To the extent allowed by law, the Director is authorized to negotiate and execute a
19 contract for unlawful detainer defense services provided under this Section 22.206.195 with an
20 appropriate attorney organization that:

- 21 1. Has experience supporting renters advocating for their legal rights;
22 2. Has at least one location near the courtroom where eviction proceedings are
23 heard, in the King County courthouse; and

1 3. Has the ability to provide legal service in languages commonly spoken in
2 Seattle or has access to all necessary language translation services.

3 D. The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections shall educate renters of their
4 right to counsel free of charge, including materials made available in languages commonly
5 spoken by Seattle residents. Owners must provide notice to the tenant of their right to counsel in
6 any notice required by subsection 22.206.160.C, subject to the Department’s rulemaking. The
7 Department shall adopt a rule or rules to enforce this subsection 22.206.195.D. Failure to include
8 the required language on any notice issued pursuant to subsection 22.206.160.C shall be a
9 defense to eviction.

10 E. Nothing in this Section 22.206.195 shall be construed to require persons served with
11 an unlawful detainer suit to accept counsel provided by the City. The City is not responsible for
12 paying any legal fees associated with representation other than that authorized by the contracts
13 described in subsection 22.206.195.C.

14 F. Counsel provided for in this Section 22.206.195 shall be made available to persons
15 served with an unlawful detainer notice or other notice to terminate tenancy who fail to respond
16 or appear in court in person or by proxy. The City of Seattle requests that eviction courts accept
17 defense offered by City-provided counsel when the subject of the unlawful detainer fails to
18 appear.

19 G. Nothing in this Section 22.206.195 is intended to require representation by an attorney
20 that would violate the Washington State Court Rules of Professional Conduct.

21 Section 2. The City shall contract for attorneys for the purposes of the legal
22 representation provided under Seattle Municipal Code Section 22.206.195 and shall allocate
23 sufficient funding to provide such representation for any eligible person. The Council recognizes

1 that the Director may need to phase in the provision of legal representation under Seattle
2 Municipal Code Section 22.206.195 based on the timing of availability of funding, the
3 availability of attorneys who can provide legal representation, and other relevant factors.

4 Section 3. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. The
5 invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or portion of this ordinance,
6 or the invalidity of its application to any person or circumstance, does not affect the validity of
7 the remainder of this ordinance or the validity of its application to other persons or
8 circumstances.

DRAFT

1 Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by
2 the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it
3 shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

4 Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2021,
5 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this ____ day of
6 _____, 2021.

7 _____
8 President _____ of the City Council

9 Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this _____ day of _____, 2021.

10 _____
11 Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

12 Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2021.

13 _____
14 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

15 (Seal)



Legislation Text

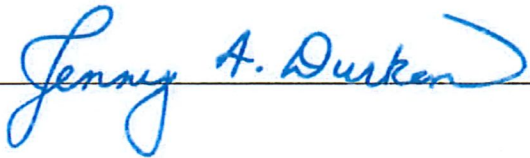
File #: Appt 01780, **Version:** 1

Reappointment of ChrisTiana ObeySumner as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2021.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>ChrisTiana ObeySumner</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Renters' Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Date Appointed: 3/1/2019	Term of Position: * 3/1/2019 to 2/28/2021
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Haller Lake</i>	Zip Code: 98133	Contact Phone No.: <i>Business phone # - NOT personal phone #</i>
Background: <i>ChrisTiana ObeySumner is an Alaskan-Born, Philly-Raised, East-Coast transplant who moved to the area in 2010 to attend Seattle University as a Transfer Scholar. They have a BS in Psychology, a Masters in Nonprofit Leadership, and is currently pursuing their M.Ed. in Clinical Mental Health & Addictions Counseling. Their area of expertise and research is the relationship between marginalized and oppressed intersectionalities and access to basic human needs and rights in American society. ChrisTiana is the chair of the Housing Committee within the Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities and is also the founding Executive Director of the Eleanor Elizabeth Institute for Black Empowerment.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): 		Appointing Signatory: <i>Jenny Durkan</i> Mayor, City of Seattle

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not appointment date.



Epiphanies of Equity: Education & Consulting

ChrisTiana ObeySumner, MNPL

Framework and Approach:

As a Social Equity Educator, Consultant, and Advocate, I combine “social psychology for social justice” and first-hand experience as a queer, disabled Black womxn to empower change initiatives that expand horizons of understanding across identity and intersections in the spirit of community and cultural humility.

Summary of Skills:

- Ignition of actionable partnerships and allyship building, with congenial coalition management
- Facilitation of difficult conversations with patience, empathy, and a sense of humor
- Agile anticipation to changing priorities of obstacles to implementation
- Critical analysis and conflict management in complex situations
- Dynamic business storytelling and masterful public speaking
- Tact and diplomacy identifying causes for social problems
- Change leadership and emotional intelligence
- Cognitive flexibility and abstract thinking

Education

- Masters of Public Administration, (*In Process*), Seattle University, 2018-2019
- M. Ed., Clinical Mental Health Counselling (*On Hold*), Seattle University, 2016-2017; 2019-2021
- Master of Non-Profit Leadership, Seattle University, 2014-2016
- B. Sc., Psychology, Dept. Honors. Magna Cum Laude, Seattle University, 2010-2013
- A.A., Journalism, Jefferson County Community and Technical College, Louisville, KY 2008-2010

Highlighted Clients and Contracts:

- Seattle Opera, Social Impact Consultant
- Solid Ground, Diversity 101 Trainer
- EnvironmentalWorks, DEI Consultant and Trainer
- Arc of King County, Autism Interdialogues Collaborator
- Seattle Office of Civil Rights, Racial Equity Toolkit Consultant Taskforce
- Washington State Misdemeanor Probation Officers Conference, Race and Criminal Justice Presentation
- Casa Latina, Volunteer Appreciation Training – Intersectionality 101 and Narrative Identity
- University Prep Seattle, Intersectionality 101 Training & Ethnic Hair Care Lab
- Harborview Medical Center: Madison Clinic, Homeless Navigation and CEA workshop
- Bailey Boushay House, Housing Navigation and Strategy presentation
- Womxn’s Act on Seattle, Narrative Identity Development for White Allyship training
- Unloop, Intersectionality 101 Training
- GeekGirlCon, Youth Empowerment Arts Workshop
- Seattle University: Office of Multicultural Affairs, Diversity and Equity Education Project
- Seattle University: African American Alumni Society, Black and Brown Career Panel
- Seattle University Graduate Student Council: Social Justice Week, Disabilities Power Speech
- Rooted in Rights WA, Mental Health and Gun Violence Advocacy Panel
- NAMI WA, Storyteller and Conference Presenter
- College Access Now, Chief Sealth High School Career Panelist



Epiphanies of Equity: Education & Consulting

ChrisTiana ObeySumner, MNPL

Community and Social Engagement

- Seattle City Council Candidate, *Seattle Seat 8, (2017)*: Voted 2nd out of 13 candidates in straw poll
- Co-Chair, Seattle Disabilities Commission, *1st term, 2018 – present*: 1st POC elected co-chair
- Housing Cmte. Chair, Seattle Disabilities Commission, *1st term, 2015- Present*
- City Comm'r, Seattle Disabilities Commission, *2nd term, 2013-Present*
- City Comm'r, Seattle Renters Comm. *1st term, 2017-Present*
- Co-Chair, Seattle Renters Comm. *2018-Present*
- Commissioner, King County Transit Advisory Council. *2018-Present*
- City Appointed Think Tank Member, Seattle Housing and Livability Agenda, *2016-2017*
- Racial, Social, & Economic Justice Rep., Seattle U. Grad. Student Council, *2016-Present*
- Co-President , Seattle University Arts and Sciences Graduate Council, *2015-2016*:
- Ridesharing Organizer and Disability Advocate, Lyft & Peers.org, *2013-2015*
- Co-Organizer, Amplify Voices Rally: Seattle University, *2012*
- Founder/President, Tau Sigma Gamma Mu Honor Society, Seattle University, *2010-2013*

Professional Experience

- Exec. Dir./Founder, Eleanor Elizabeth Institute for Black Empowerment, *2017-Present*: Built agile organization providing gap services for empowerment of Black Americans in the PNW. Pioneered State's first Ethnic Hair Care Bank. Promotion of unification for social and racial equity.
- Housing Navigator, Harborview Medical Center: Madison Clinic, *May 2016-Dec. 2017*: Designed, managed, and implemented successful Housing Navigator grant initiative. Generated resource network of over 50 community partners, and stabilized over 100 low-to-no income, high-barrier homeless individuals with chronic disabilities in an 18-month period through coaching and specialized formulaic strategy.
- Clinical Support Specialist, Downtown Emergency Services Center: Canaday House, *2014-2016*: Headed and won two successful employee/community in-kind donation drives culminating as number one team in the organization. Championed Ethnic Hair Care Salon for Permanent Supportive Housing Residents.
- Resident Counselor, Compass Housing Alliance: Nyer Urness House, *2013-2015*: Facilitated peer strategic planning and program development conversations among peers as part of inaugural staff.
- Community Health Coordinator, Full Life Care: Solstice Behavioral Health—WSC Americorps, *2013-2014*: Managed Wellness Studio. Directed resource development of in-kind and corporate donations, generating sustainable primary funding and materials for cooking class geared towards low-income, disabled adults; Coordination and training of day volunteers.

Seattle Renters' Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to *Ordinance 125280*, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 6 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 2 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify):

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	M	3	1.	Member	Calvin Jones	3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Council
			2.	Member		3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Council
6	F	4	3.	Member	Jessica Westgren	3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Council
6	F	2	4.	Member	Dinah Braccio	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
6	M	2	5.	Member	Mac S. R. McGregor	3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Council
9	F	3	6.	Member	Gina Owens	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
2	F	7	7.	Member	Beverly Aarons	3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Mayor
2	F	3	8.	Member	Laurie Goff	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Mayor
			9.	Member		3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Mayor
3	F	4	10.	Member	Daniela Lopez	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
2	M	3	11.	Member	David W. Mooney	3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Mayor
9	NB	5	12.	Member	Christiana ObeySumner	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
6	M	3	13.	Member	Devin Silvernail	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Commission
9	F	3	14.	Member	Mercedes Taitt-Lamar	3/1/18	2/28/20	1	Commission
2	O	3	15.	Get Engaged Member	Felicia Turner-Murphy	9/1/19	8/31/20	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)				
	Male	Female	Transgender /Non-Binary	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	1	3		2		4	1						1
Council	2	3								4			1
Other	1	1								1			1
Total	4	7		2		4	1			5			3

Key:

- *D List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)
- **G List *gender*, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.



Legislation Text

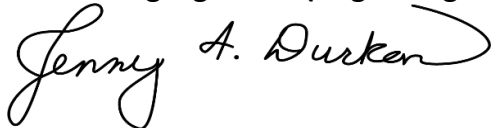
File #: Appt 01781, **Version:** 1

Reappointment of Laurie Goff as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2021.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Laurie Goff</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Renter's Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Date Appointed: <i>mm/dd/yy.</i>	Term of Position: * <i>3/1/2019</i> to <i>2/28/2021</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Capitol Hill</i>	Zip Code: <i>98101</i>	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: <i>Laurie is a pre-school teacher and renter on Capitol Hill. She has worked with families experiencing homelessness due to the rising rents and costs of living in the City. She understands the challenges of living and working in the City. Laurie wants to be a voice for those that are not represented and feels that the Renters' Commission is the perfect opportunity to give back to her community.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): 	Appointing Signatory: <i>Jenny A. Durkan</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>	

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

- Experience with quantitative and qualitative data collection; surveys, focus groups, interviews, and analysis.
 - Researched and utilized findings of prior quantitative and qualitative research studies to improve and update existing programs, and create new trainings.
 - Revised and customized training models based on outcomes and community feedback.
 - Developed performance metrics and resources used in identifying key problem areas and issues in community health clinics, then designed and implemented processes to address identified problems.
 - Designed research plans for data gathering and analysis regarding the relevance and knowledge retention of program. Increased the knowledge retention from pre to post test 25%.
- Created a master calendar for substitute teacher requests and placement. This allowed relevant school personnel to view in real time, sub requests both pending and filled. Enabling the smooth coordination of sub assignments.
- Curriculum and program materials development.
 - Directed and managed the development and production of teacher guilds, brochures, flyers and direct mail materials.
Provided varied educational opportunities using multiple learning styles for children's active participation in learning; Together with co-teachers, developed the classroom themes and topics of inquiry.
 - Created policies and procedures for office activities such as record maintenance, employee files biohazard removal, OSHA and health department regulations, purchasing, and employee payroll.
- Responsible for identifying, planning and executing needs for training, performance, educational programs, while locating and recommending available resources to attain organizations objectives and enhance employee development.
- Managed summer contract with the City of Seattle's Youth Employment Program for, Seattle Youth Garden Works. Resulting in the extension of the contract from a summer program to a year round program.
- Managed a comprehensive theater-based youth development program for school age children and administered and set strategic direction of highly visible, multi faceted projects, and supervised the work of outside consultants.
- Oversight of all aspects of staff performance; performance evaluation, progressive discipline, mediation of staff disputes and grievance procedures in accordance with state and federal laws.
- Hired, directed, and supervised a staff of five health educator/performers, established review, and evaluation procedures for staff work product.
- Supervised a multi disciplinary team of ten, consisting of sales associates, registered nurses, and doctors.
- Monitored, and justified budgetary expenditures, assured the coordination of program policies, production schedules, and weekly meetings.
- Responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with all government and personnel policies, procedures and regulations with the responsibility of ensuring all contracts, reports and forms were completed properly and on time.

OUTREACH & TRAINING

- Skilled in building community support, key coalitions, and strategic interagency partnerships.
 - Cultivated and managed key relationships within Los Angeles County including; key school administrators, community groups, county and city departments.
 - Worked with cross-cultural communities conducting recruitment and networking events.
 - Trained and motivated volunteers taught basic canvassing and organizing skills for community groups and political campaigns.
 - Recruited and established an auxiliary board of community leaders, parents, school officers and students for creation of youth driven prevention programs.
 - Developed a strong working relationship with the Los Angeles City HIV/AIDS Coordinator's Office facilitating collaboration on a grant application.
 - Managed campaign logistics and volunteers for the re-election campaign of Senator Patty Murray in the Columbia City, Mount Baker and Seward Park areas of Seattle, WA.
- Strong public presenter--Have made public presentations to community groups, medical personnel, educators and international health organizations.
- Planned, evaluated, and presented professional education workshops for clinic staff and non-agency professionals.
- Extensive experience in all aspects of creating and implementing training programs on; conflict resolution, sexually transmitted diseases, sexuality/reproductive health, and other health issues for professionals, staff, and patients.
 - Managed a multi – course HIV/AIDS education program for high and middle schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District.
 - Conceived, researched, authored, and supervised the HIV/AIDS training program for testing and notification counselors in 12 community health clinics.
 - Implemented and ran training sessions on OSHA and HIPPA compliance issues and health department regulations for Medical Spa employees.
 - Trained personnel in all areas of front desk management and patient relations, ensuring open lines of communication between patients, staff, physicians, and nurse practitioner with demonstrated efficiency and confidentiality.
- Seasoned trainer of organizational policies and standards to employees and related parties.
 - Provided training on human resources policies, programs, practices, and procedures for current employees.
 - Developed and coordinated training seminars, workshops, and staff retreats. Created content and agenda, orchestrated logistics, and facilitated training.
 - Provided training in the areas of culturally relevant services, professional ethics, and law, and areas of professional development as requested by staff members.
- Provided ongoing orientation for new substitutes, providing information and guidance on how best to work in the school environment.

EMPLOYMENT

Classroom Teacher – Interlaken Preschool, Seattle, WA	2017 - Present
Classroom Teacher – Wellspring Family Services, Seattle, WA	2015 - 2017
Summer Camp Coordinator/Lead, Jewish Day School, Bellevue, WA	2015
Preschool Teacher, Stroum Jewish Community Center, Seattle, WA	2013 - 2015
Summer School Teacher – Hamlin Robinson School, Seattle, WA	2013
Extended Day Teacher / Substitute Coordinator – Giddens School, Seattle, WA	2011 - 2012
Office /Marketing Manager – DiversityCentral.com, Seattle, WA	2008
Associate Director – Seattle Youth Garden Works, Seattle, WA	2006
Program Coordinator – Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre, Los Angeles, CA	2005 - 2006
Coordinator of Training / Clinic Trainer - Planned Parenthood, Los Angeles, CA	2002 - 2004

EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION

STARS/MERIT Certification

CPR/First Aid/BBP

Food Handlers Permit

Training Specialist Certificate – The University of Washington – 2009

B.A. Liberal Arts – The Evergreen State College, Olympia Washington – 1992

Seattle Renters' Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to *Ordinance 125280*, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 6 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 2 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify):

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	M	3	1.	Member	Calvin Jones	3/1/20	2/28/22	1	Council
			2.	Member		3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Council
6	F	4	3.	Member	Jessica Westgren	3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Council
6	F	2	4.	Member	Dinah Braccio	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
6	M	2	5.	Member	Mac S. R. McGregor	3/1/20	2/28/22	1	Council
9	F	3	6.	Member	Gina Owens	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
			7.	Member		3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Mayor
2	F	3	8.	Member	Laurie Goff	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
			9.	Member		3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Mayor
3	F	6	10.	Member	Daniela Lopez	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
			11.	Member		3/1/18	2/28/20	2	Mayor
9	NB	5	12.	Member	ChrisTiana ObeySumner	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
			13.	Member		3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Commission
9	F	3	14.	Member	Mercedes Taitt-Lamar	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Commission
			15.	Get Engaged Member		9/1/19	8/31/20	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART												
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)				
	Male	Female	Transgender /Non-Binary	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	0	2		1		1	1						1
Council	2	3								4			1
Other	0	1											1
Total	2	6		1		1	1			4			3

Key:

- *D List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)
- **G List *gender*, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.



Legislation Text



File #: Appt 01782, **Version:** 1

Reappointment of Mercedes T. Taitt-Lamar as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2022.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Mercedes T. Taitt-Lamar</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Renters' Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Commission</i>	Date Appointed: <i>mm/dd/yy.</i>	Term of Position: * <i>3/1/2020</i> to <i>2/28/2022</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Central District</i>	Zip Code: <i>98144</i>	Contact Phone No.: <i>Business phone # - NOT personal phone #</i>
Background: <i>Marci Taitt is Seattle born and south-end raised, currently residing in Seattle's Central District. She has deep familial roots in the Central District neighborhood and is passionate about Seattle, especially the CD, being affordable and accessible for Disabled, QTPOC communities. She currently does anti-violence policy work in LGBTQ communities, coordinating trainings across the country that support domestic violence advocates to better serve LGBTQ survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Marci completed her Master of Social Work at the University of Washington, with a concentration in mental health practice and a research focus on trans-inclusive primary education. While much of her work and volunteer experience has been in local grassroots LGBTQ organizations and movements, Marci is also interested in the alternative death care industry and hopes to soon develop a workshop around activism, death in community and grief.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): 	Appointing Signatory: <i>Dinah Braccio</i> <i>Commission Co-Chair</i>	
Authorizing Signature (original signature): 	Appointing Signatory: <i>Jessica Westgren</i> <i>Commission Co-Chair</i>	

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

Marcedes T. Taitt-Lamar, MSW

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Masters of Social Work (MSW) with a mental health concentration & Community Psychology major (BA) with experience in practice & research-oriented coursework. Social research conducted abroad demonstrates ability to adapt & work in international environments & culturally diverse communities. Practical understanding of & experience in the facilitation of support groups. Extensive training and technical assistance coordination experience with emphasis in providing advocacy to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

EDUCATION

Masters of Social Work, Mental Health Practice **June 2015**
University of Washington, Seattle

Bachelor of Arts in Community Psychology **March 2013**
University of Washington, Bothell

Honors: Annual Dean's List recipient 2009-2013, Cum Laude

EXPERIENCE

Institute Coordinator, The National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence

The NW Network of Bisexual, Transgender, Lesbian & Gay Survivors of Abuse **October 2016-present**

- Planning & coordinating steering committee meetings, programmatic invoicing and reimbursements
- National LGBTQ Institute project partner communications
- Coordination of the National LGBTQ Institute's national training and technical assistance efforts, including a national two-day advocacy training summit for DV/SA advocates across the US
- Coordination of the NW Network's training and technical assistance initiative
- Manage programmatic reporting to federal, state and city grants
- Co-facilitate the NW Network's weekly all gender domestic violence support group for LGBTQ survivors of DV/SA
- Supervise and support University of Washington MSW students in their practicum placement at the NW Network. Connect students' on-site tasks to coursework and program competencies. Provide students with the NW Network's framing for supporting LGBTQ survivors of DV/SA, incorporate trauma stewardship practices into a model of advocacy and exposure to vicarious trauma

Program Specialist, Capacity Building Learning Center

The NW Network of Bisexual, Transgender, Lesbian & Gay Survivors of Abuse **June 2015-October 2016**

- Planning & coordinating convening of the National LGBTQ DV Capacity Building Learning Center (LGBTQ DV CBLC) steering committee meetings
- National LGBTQ DV CBLC steering committee & partner communications
- National LGBTQ DV CBLC steering committee invoicing & reimbursements
- Technical assistance for webinars including up to 200+ participants via the iLinc webinar platform

Youth Team Intern

The NW Network of Bisexual, Transgender, Lesbian & Gay Survivors of Abuse **September 2014-June 2015**

- Facilitate and develop agendas for gay-straight alliance group at local high school
- Support community engagement events and programmatic outreach

Domestic Violence Protection Order Advocate

King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Protection Order Advocacy Program January 2014-June 2014

- Worked with a team of advocates to provide legal advocacy to survivors of domestic violence filing for civil protection orders. Assisted petitioners with criminal justice system referral resources, safety planning, community-based/culturally-specific resources and in-court advocacy

Volunteer

Gay City Wellness Center

April 2013-January 2014

- Greeted clients, scheduled appointments, & processed health information paperwork for people seeking to get tested at the HIV & STI prevention center

Studies Abroad

Urban & Rural Livelihoods and the Story of Economic Development

August-September 2011

University of Washington, Zambia, Africa

Dark Empire: Race, Health and Society in Britain

August-September 2014

University of Washington, London, England

Community Organizing and Memberships

miXed @ UW, Administrator

2016-present

UWB National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Member

2010-2013

UWB African American Student Union, Member

2009

Exceptional Skills

Technical Proficiencies Adobe Connect teleconferencing platform, technical support on 50+ training & technical assistance webinars including up to 200+ participants, Adobe Photoshop CS, Microsoft Office Suite

Seattle Renters' Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to *Ordinance 125280*, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 6 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 2 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify):

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
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6	F	2	4.	Member	Dinah Braccio	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
6	M	2	5.	Member	Mac S. R. McGregor	3/1/20	2/28/22	1	Council
9	F	3	6.	Member	Gina Owens	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
			7.	Member		3/1/20	2/28/22		Mayor
2	F	3	8.	Member	Laurie Goff	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
			9.	Member		3/1/20	2/28/20		Mayor
3	F	6	10.	Member	Daniela Lopez	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
			11.	Member		3/1/20	2/28/22		Mayor
9	NB	5	12.	Member	ChrisTiana ObeySumner	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
9	F	3	13.	Member	Mercedes T. Taitt-Lamar	3/1/20	2/28/22	2	Commission
			14.	Member		3/1/19	2/28/21		Commission
6	F	2	15.	Get Engaged Member	Chloe Caswell	9/1/20	8/31/21	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)

	Male	Female	Transgender /Non-Binary	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	0	3		1		1	1						1
Council	2	3								5			1
Other	0	1											1
Total	2	7		1		1	1			5			3

Key:

*D List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)

**G List *gender*, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown

RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.



Legislation Text

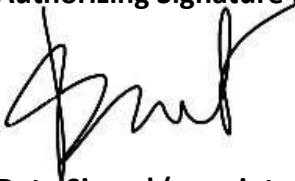
File #: Appt 01783, **Version:** 1

Appointment of Sharon E. Crowley as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2022.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Sharon E. Crowley		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle Renters' Commission		Position Title: Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment	City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Appointing Authority: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Term of Position: * 3/1/2020 to 2/28/2022 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
Residential Neighborhood: Council District 6	Zip Code: 98107	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: As an organizer and long-time member of UAW Local 4121, Sharon Crowley has organized and coordinated organizing on three successful external organizing drives. She believes that it is deeply rewarding to win - and to help other workers win - stronger rights and protections enshrined in a collective bargaining agreement (CBA). Since returning to work for 4121 in 2016, Sharon has been a member of her union local's Housing Justice Workgroup (HJWG), which was involved in the Tax Amazon movement to fight for green, affordable, union-built social housing for all working people in Seattle. As a member of our HJWG, Sharon also helped to organize a Tenant Rights Bootcamp with Be:Seattle, and plans to hold additional Bootcamps in the future. Sharon states that she would like to be part of the Renters Commission to build on the work that she has been involved with in her workgroup and the Tax Amazon movement, to help fight for renters rights and housing justice for all who live and work in the City of Seattle.		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): 1/25/21	Appointing Signatory: Kshama Sawant Seattle City Councilmember, District 3	

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

Sharon E Crowley

Selected Experience and Qualifications:

- Experienced union organizer and office manager with experience coordinating organizing work across departments and bargaining units. Detail-oriented bookkeeper and purchasing manager.
- Accomplished educator and communicator with excellent verbal and written presentation capability. Talent for pitching content across disciplinary boundaries, finding creative ways to explain difficult material, understanding and responding flexibly to audience needs.
- Fluent in analytical methods, evidence practices, and style guide implementation across disciplines.
- Computer Skills: Highly proficient in MS Office and Access; online learning platforms (Canvas, Blackboard, Catalyst, Tegrity, Panopto, Google Apps, etc.). Additional background with web design (Dreamweaver, HTML) and layout software (InDesign and Publisher). Adept at learning new platforms and translating materials across platforms.

Work History:

Organizer and Office Manager, UAW Local 4121

October 2016 – Present

- Coordinate internal and external organizing with graduate and postdoctoral researchers. Lead issues-focused member work groups in developing projects related to housing justice, healthcare, and the local union budget. Manage office purchasing, contracting and bookkeeping.

Contract Organizer, SEIU Local 925

July 2015 – June 2016

- Developed and implemented campaign strategy on a small university campus. Built and coordinated an 8-member organizing committee. Honed project planning and interviewing skills.

Predoctoral Lecturer, University of Washington (Bothell campus)

March 2007 – June 2015

- Designed, planned, and implemented traditional and hybrid courses. Developed syllabuses, curated content, and wrote all instructional tools. Delivered instruction in class and small group conferences. Developed rubrics to assess student learning and performance.
- Completed Hybrid Course Design Institute (HCDI) program.
- Redesigned curriculum and learning outcomes for the undergraduate composition program, on committee with other composition faculty.

Teaching Assistant, University of Washington (Seattle campus)

October 2001 – June 2007

- Designed, planned, and implemented all aspects of composition and literature courses. Provided computer-integrated classroom instruction.

Organizer and Recording Secretary, UAW Local 4121 (Seattle, WA)

October 2001 – February 2007

- Contributed to central campaign strategy development. Trained and coordinated organizers.
- Wrote membership communications. Built and managed databases (MS-Access). Designed bargaining survey instruments. Analyzed qualitative data and developed bargaining proposals and strategies.

Project Manager, T-Mobile (for Pace Staffing) (Bellevue, WA) June 2002-September 2002

- Managed East Coast regional signage changeover as part of a global corporate rebranding project.
- Mediated between clients and vendors to resolve signage quality disputes. Designed and managed database for tracking issues and resolutions (MS Excel and Access).

Contract Writer, University of Vermont College of Medicine (Burlington, VT) June 2000-September 2000

- Developed content, wrote and edited copy for the Vermont Area Health Education Center (AHEC) career guide for HS students. Collaborated on product design and layout using MS Publisher. Planned events and designed publicity for the UVM College of Medicine.

Lecturer and Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Vermont September 1998-January 2001

- Designed, planned, and implemented all aspects of composition and literature courses. Provided computer-integrated classroom instruction.

Laboratory Technician, Haematologic Technologies, Inc. (Essex Jct. VT) September 1994-January 1996

- Performed laboratory procedures and quality control to produce research-grade purified protein products.
- Managed shipping department. Re-designed inventory management systems and shipping processes.
- Trained new employees in laboratory, inventory, and shipping best practices.

Education:

University of Washington (Seattle) Doctoral Candidate, English

- President, English Graduate Student Organization

University of Vermont (Burlington) Master of Arts, English

- Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha of Vermont
- President, English Graduate Student Association
- Benjamin Wainwright Award for Creative Writing

Michigan State University (East Lansing) Bachelor of Science, Biology - Lyman Briggs College

- Recipient, NSF REU grant
- Golden Key National Honor Society

Seattle Renters' Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to *Ordinance 125280*, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 6 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 2 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify):

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	M	3	1.	Member	Calvin Jones	3/1/20	2/28/22	1	Council
6	F	4	2.	Member	Maya Garfinkel	3/1/21	2/28/23	1	Council
6	F	6	3.	Member	Sharon E. Crowley	3/1/20	2/28/22	1	Council
6	F	2	4.	Member	Dinah Braccio	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
6	M	2	5.	Member	Mac S. R. McGregor	3/1/20	2/28/22	1	Council
9	F	3	6.	Member	Gina Owens	3/1/19	2/28/21	1	Council
			7.	Member		3/1/20	2/28/22		Mayor
2	F	3	8.	Member	Laurie Goff	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
			9.	Member		3/1/20	2/28/20		Mayor
			10.	Member		3/1/19	2/28/21		Mayor
			11.	Member		3/1/20	2/28/22		Mayor
9	NB	5	12.	Member	ChrisTiana ObeySumner	3/1/19	2/28/21	2	Mayor
9	F	3	13.	Member	Mercedes T. Taitt-Lamar	3/1/20	2/28/22	2	Commission
			14.	Member		3/1/19	2/28/21		Commission
6	F	2	15.	Get Engaged Member	Chloe Caswell	9/1/20	8/31/21	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART												
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)				
	Male	Female	Transgender /Non-Binary	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	0	2		1		1				1			1
Council	2	4								5			1
Other	0	1											1
Total	2	7		1		1				6			3

Key:

- *D List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)
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Legislation Text

File #: Appt 01784, **Version:** 1

Appointment of Maya Garfinkel as member, Seattle Renters' Commission, for a term to February 28, 2023.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Maya Garfinkel		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle Renters' Commission		Position Title: Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment	City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Appointing Authority: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Term of Position: * 3/1/2021 to 2/28/2023 <input type="checkbox"/> Serving remaining term of a vacant position	
Residential Neighborhood: Council District 4	Zip Code: 98115	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: As an organizer with Be:Seattle, Maya Garfinkel has advocated for tenants and organized for greater renter protections. Maya has worked with tenants across Seattle to connect them with resources, assert their rights with landlords, and brainstorm how to better connect with their neighbors. As a part of the Cancel Rent and Mortgages Washington campaign, Maya has collaborated with the Tenants Union of Washington and other community groups to push for renters' issues to be a legislative priority. Maya states that she would like to be part of the Renters Commission to ensure that Seattle fights for renters to live and stay in the city by increasing enforcement potential and strengthening tenant protections.		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): 1/25/21	Appointing Signatory: Kshama Sawant Seattle City Councilmember, District 3	

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

MAYA GARFINKEL

EDUCATION

Barnard College, Columbia University

May 2019

B.A. in History (Concentration in Gender, Sexuality, and the Family and the Study of Race and Ethnicity)

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude, thesis awarded distinction

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZING EXPERIENCE

Be:Seattle

April 2020- Present

Tenant Organizer

- Create and facilitate online tenant know your rights workshops regarding emergency and pre-existing tenant laws, as well as introductory organizing strategy
- Testify and organize others to voice their support for Seattle pro-tenant legislation
- Engage with state-wide organizations for the Washington Cancel Rent campaign with allied tenant groups and assist in strategy for direct action, legislative approach, and social media plan

UNITE HERE Local 8

October- November 2019

Political Canvasser

- Engaged with 100+ Seattle voters daily in District 7 regarding housing affordability, the head tax, and homelessness
- Trained new canvassers on how to relate personal stories with the city council election and voter engagement

Lopez Community Land Trust

August- October 2019

Sustainable Agriculture Intern

- Contributed to the Lopez Island Farm Education program by assisting in managing 30+ volunteers, executing twice daily meal plans which utilize locally-produced ingredients for staff and students, and maintaining a sustainable garden which produces 9,000 pounds of food each year
- Created lesson plans for students aged 5-18 to learn about land stewardship, nutrition, and sustainable agriculture at the garden as well as neighboring farms

Make the Road New York

June-December 2018

Campaign and Research Intern

- Reviewed academic and community-based approaches to measuring nonprofit effectiveness in order to strengthen the organization's systems of internal evaluation
- Researched the 2020 Census and New York Regional Economic Development Councils for immigrants and low-income people of color used in reports for media outlets
- Collected over 900 signatures for progressive local candidates across New York City
- Canvassed and directly communicated with 100+ volunteers for campaign and community events

American Civil Liberties Union

January-August 2017

Intern at Trone Center for Criminal Justice Reform

- Created a literature review on the history and impacts of electronic monitoring in probation and parole for internal research and policy
- Completed background research on the common themes of criminality, working class division, and conservative backlash throughout history for presentations across the country by Director of Trone Center Jeff Robinson

Student Worker Solidarity

September 2015- Fall 2018

Student Organizer

- Communicated with and advocated for workers across Columbia on working conditions and waged campaigns including for \$15/hour minimum wage for student workers

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