



# CITY OF SEATTLE

## City Council

### Agenda

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

2:00 PM

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

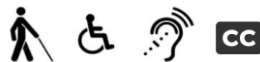
Joy Hollingsworth, Council President  
Dionne Foster, Member  
Debora Juarez, Member  
Robert Kettle, Member  
Eddie Lin, Member  
Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Member  
Maritza Rivera, Member  
Rob Saka, Member  
Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8803; [Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov](mailto:Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov)

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# CITY OF SEATTLE

## City Council Agenda

**May 19, 2026 - 2:00 PM**

### **Meeting Location:**

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

### **Committee Website:**

<http://www.seattle.gov/council>

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Members of the public may register for remote or in-person Public Comment to address the Council. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair. Details on how to register for Public Comment are listed below:

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at <https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>. Online registration to speak will begin one hour before the meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

In-Person Public Comment - Register to speak on the public comment sign-up sheet located inside Council Chambers at least 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time. Registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

Written comments must be submitted prior to 10 a.m. to ensure that they are distributed to Councilmembers prior to the start of the meeting. Comments may be submitted at [Council@seattle.gov](mailto:Council@seattle.gov) or at Seattle City Hall, Attn: Council Public Comment, 600 4th Ave., Floor 2, Seattle, WA 98104. Comments received after 10 a.m. will be distributed after the meeting to Councilmembers and included as part of the public record.

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

### **B. ROLL CALL**

### **C. PRESENTATIONS**

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Members of the public may sign up to address the Council for up to 2 minutes on matters on this agenda; Introduction and Referral Calendar; and Council's Work Program; and total time allotted to public comment at this meeting is up to one hour.*

**E. ADOPTION OF INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL CALENDAR:**

*Introduction and referral to Council committees of Council Bills (CB), Resolutions (Res), Appointments (Appt), and Clerk Files (CF) for committee recommendation.*

[IRC 524](#)

May 19, 2026

**Attachments:** [Introduction and Referral Calendar](#)

**F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA****G. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

*The Consent Calendar consists of routine items. A Councilmember may request that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar and placed on the regular agenda.*

**Journal:**

1. [Min 568](#) May 12, 2026

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

**Bills:**

2. [CB 121210](#) An ordinance appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of May 4, 2026, through May 8, 2026, and ordering the payment thereof; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

**Supporting Documents:** [Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

**Appointments:**

**GOVERNANCE AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE:**

3. [Appt 03495](#) Appointment of Stan Diddams as member, Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel, for a term to July 31, 2028.

**The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**

**In Favor: 5 - Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Rivera, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**Attachments:** [Appointment Packet](#)

4. [Appt 03496](#) Appointment of Gabriel Navarro as member, Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel, for a term to July 31, 2028.

**The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**

**In Favor: 5 - Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Rivera, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**Attachments:** [Appointment Packet](#)

**H. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Discussion and vote on Council Bills (CB), Resolutions (Res), Appointments (Appt), and Clerk Files (CF).*

**GOVERNANCE AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE:**

1. [Appt 03494](#) Reappointment of Andrew Lee as General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, for a term to December 31, 2029.

**The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**

**In Favor: 5 - Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Rivera, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**Attachments:** [Appointment Packet](#)

[Written Questions and Responses](#)

2. [CB 121202](#) An ordinance relating to Seattle Public Utilities; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, to execute an amendment to the interlocal agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, to execute additional amendments to the interlocal agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

**The Committee recommends that City Council pass the Council Bill (CB).**

**In Favor: 4 - Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Rivera**

**Opposed: None**

**Attachments:** [Att 1 - First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program](#)

**Supporting Documents:** [Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

**LIBRARIES, EDUCATION, AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE:**

3. [Appt 03492](#) Appointment of Quynh Pham as Director of the Department of Neighborhoods, for a term to December 31, 2029.

**The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**

**In Favor: 4 - Rivera, Foster, Lin, Rinck**

**Opposed: None**

**Attachments:** [Appointment Packet](#)

4. [CB 121197](#) AN ORDINANCE relating to historic preservation; imposing controls upon the Woodin House, a landmark designated by the Landmarks Preservation Board under Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code, and adding it to the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in Chapter 25.32 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

**The Committee recommends that City Council pass the Council Bill (CB).**

**In Favor: 4 - Rivera, Foster, Lin, Rinck**

**Opposed: None**

**Supporting**

**Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Summary Ex A - Vicinity Map of Woodin House](#)

**LAND USE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE:**

5. [CB 121195](#) An ordinance relating to land use and zoning; adopting interim provisions to expand the capacity of transitional encampments; and amending Sections 23.42.054 and 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

**The Committee recommends that City Council pass as amended the Council Bill (CB).**

**In Favor: 5 - Lin, Strauss, Foster, Hollingsworth, Rinck**

**Opposed: None**

**Supporting**

**Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Mayor's Office Presentation \(4/15/26\)](#)

[Central Staff Presentation \(4/15/26\)](#)

[Director's Report](#)

[Amendment A](#)

[Amendment B](#)

[Amendment C](#)

**HOUSING, ARTS, AND CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE:**

6. [Res 32200](#) A resolution creating an Arts and Cultural District in the Columbia Hillman City neighborhood of Seattle.

**The Committee recommends that City Council adopt the Resolution (Res).**

**In Favor: 5 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Rinck**

**Opposed: None**

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Summary Att A - Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District Application](#)

7. [Res 32201](#) A resolution creating an Arts and Cultural District in the Georgetown neighborhood of Seattle.

**The Committee recommends that City Council adopt the Resolution (Res).**

**In Favor: 5 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Rinck**

**Opposed: None**

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Summary Att A - Georgetown Arts District Application](#)

**I. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

**J. ADOPTION OF OTHER RESOLUTIONS**

**K. OTHER BUSINESS**

**L. ADJOURNMENT**



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

600 Fourth Ave. 2nd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** IRC 524, **Version:** 1

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May 19, 2026



## Introduction and Referral Calendar

List of proposed Council Bills (CB), Resolutions (Res), Appointments (Appt) and Clerk Files (CF) to be introduced and referred to a City Council committee

Record No.	Title	Committee Referral
<b><u>By: Strauss</u></b>		
1. <a href="#">CB 121210</a>	An ordinance appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of May 4, 2026, through May 8, 2026, and ordering the payment thereof; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.	City Council
<b><u>By: Foster</u></b>		
2. <a href="#">Appt 03505</a>	Appointment of Kim Kkwafkwao as member, Seattle Human Rights Commission, for a term to July 22, 2027.	Housing, Arts, and Civil Rights Committee
<b><u>By: Foster</u></b>		
3. <a href="#">Appt 03506</a>	Appointment of J. Queen Adams as member, Seattle Human Rights Commission, for a term to July 22, 2027.	Housing, Arts, and Civil Rights Committee
<b><u>By: Foster</u></b>		
4. <a href="#">Appt 03507</a>	Appointment of David J. Isaak as member, Seattle Human Rights Commission, for a term to July 22, 2027.	Housing, Arts, and Civil Rights Committee
<b><u>By: Foster</u></b>		
5. <a href="#">Appt 03508</a>	Appointment of Thomas Geffner as member, Seattle Social Housing Public Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to May 22, 2027.	Housing, Arts, and Civil Rights Committee
<b><u>By: Rinck</u></b>		
6. <a href="#">CB 121207</a>	An ordinance relating to City employment; establishing the Forensic Digital Evidence classification title series and corresponding rates of pay in the Seattle Police Department.	Human Services, Labor, and Economic Development Committee
<b><u>By: Lin,Hollingsworth</u></b>		
7. <a href="#">CB 121214</a>	An ordinance relating to land use and zoning; introducing a new definition for data centers; adopting a moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, or approval of applications for the establishment or expansion of, or	Land Use and Sustainability Committee

change of use to, data centers; amending Section 23.84A.008 of the Seattle Municipal Code; approving a work plan; declaring an emergency; and establishing an immediate effective date; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

**By: Lin**

8. [CB 121215](#) An ordinance relating to Council land use decisions; amending Sections 23.76.050, 23.76.062, and 25.05.680 of the Seattle Municipal Code to clarify processes for Council land use decisions. Land Use and Sustainability Committee

**By: Rivera**

9. [Appt 03498](#) Appointment of Olivia Barlow as member, Community Involvement Commission, for a term to May 31, 2027. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Rivera**

10. [Appt 03499](#) Appointment of Negash Hassen as member, Community Involvement Commission, for a term to May 31, 2028. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Rivera**

11. [Appt 03500](#) Appointment of Nate Lessler as member, Historic Seattle Preservation and Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to November 30, 2028. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Rivera**

12. [Appt 03501](#) Appointment of Bryce Seidl as member, Historic Seattle Preservation and Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to November 30, 2028. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Rivera**

13. [Appt 03502](#) Appointment of Christopher Scott as member, Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to June 30, 2026. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Rivera**

14. [Appt 03503](#) Reappointment of Devin McComb as member, Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to June 30, 2029. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Rivera**

15. [Appt 03504](#) Reappointment of Paul Neal as member, Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to June 30, 2029. Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee

**By: Juarez**

16. [CB 121211](#) An ordinance relating to current use taxation; approving an application for classification of property located at 4807 SW 54th Street under the King County Public Benefit Rating System. Parks and City Light Committee

**By: Juarez**

17. [CB 121212](#) An ordinance relating to Seattle Parks and Recreation; authorizing the Superintendent to enter into a ten-year contract with The Madison Park Cooperative Preschool to operate and provide management of the Madison Beach Park Bathhouse located at 1900 43rd Ave East. Parks and City Light Committee

**By: Juarez**

18. [CB 121213](#) An ordinance relating to Seattle Parks and Recreation; authorizing the Superintendent to enter into a ten-year contract with Victory Heights Cooperative Preschool to operate and provide management of the Victory Heights Shelterhouse located at 1747 NE 106th Street. Parks and City Light Committee

**By: Juarez**

19. [Res 32204](#) A resolution relating to data centers; recognizing the potential of long-term impacts of data centers on electrical grid capacity and reliability, water usage, utility rates, land use and development, jobs and the economy, and public health; and requesting engagement and cooperation from the Executive in the development of data center policies and potential legislation; and anticipates related legislative action. Parks and City Light Committee

**By: Saka**

20. [Res 32205](#) A resolution affirming the importance of Seattle Center as a central civic, cultural, and economic asset for The City of Seattle; acknowledging the urgent imperative to restore its aging infrastructure and grounds, renovate its buildings, and revitalize the Seattle Center Campus; requesting that the Mayor direct City departments in a capital planning effort for Seattle Center; anticipating a decision on a bond measure to fund its capital investment by the end of 2027; committing to exploring all viable funding options to support its modernization; declaring Council priorities and calling upon the Executive to direct departmental resources and budget allocations in support of its capital improvements. Transportation, Waterfront, and Seattle Center Committee



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Min 568, **Version:** 1

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May 12, 2026

# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

600 Fourth Ave. 2nd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104



## Journal of the Proceedings of the Seattle City Council

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

2:00 PM

**Council Chamber, City Hall**

**600 4th Avenue**

**Seattle, WA 98104**

**City Council**

*Joy Hollingsworth, Council President*

*Dionne Foster, Member*

*Debora Juarez, Member*

*Robert Kettle, Member*

*Eddie Lin, Member*

*Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Member*

*Maritza Rivera, Member*

*Rob Saka, Member*

*Dan Strauss, Member*

Chair Info: 206-684-8803; [Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov](mailto:Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov)

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council of The City of Seattle met in the Council Chamber in City Hall in Seattle, Washington, on May 12, 2026, pursuant to the provisions of the City Charter. The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m., with Council President Hollingsworth presiding.

**B. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 9 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Strauss

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

Councilmember Saka presented a proclamation for signature proclaiming May 2026 to be "Bike Everywhere Month."

The following Councilmembers affixed their signatures to the proclamation:  
9 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Strauss

By unanimous consent, the Council Rules were suspended to allow Councilmember Saka to present the proclamation, and to allow Tyler Vasquez, Cascade Bicycle Club, and Clara Cantor, Seattle Streets Alliance, to address the Council.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following individuals addressed the Council:

- Ruth Dight
- Jan Johnson
- Nick Sten
- Paul Tomlinson
- Curt Nuccitelli
- Ivan G.
- Dom
- Harrison Hoyt
- Anitra Freeman
- Orin Boone
- Yvette Dinish
- Aaron Tulloch
- Howard Gale
- Becka M.
- Nathan
- Scot Courtright
- Rose Legionaires
- David Haines

Without objection, the City Council meeting recessed from 2:59 p.m. until 3:04 p.m.

At 3:07 p.m., the May 12, 2026, City Council meeting came back to order.

**Present:** 7 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka

**Late Arrival:** 2 - Juarez, Strauss

**E. ADOPTION OF INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL CALENDAR:**

[IRC 523](#)      **May 12, 2026**

**By unanimous consent, the Introduction & Referral Calendar (IRC) was adopted.**

**In Favor:** 7 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka

**Opposed:** None

**F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

By unanimous consent, the Agenda was adopted.

## G. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion was made by Council President Hollingsworth, duly seconded and carried, to adopt the Consent Calendar.

### Journal:

1. [Min 567](#)      **May 5, 2026**

**The Minutes were adopted on the Consent Calendar by the following vote, and the President signed the Minutes (Min):**

**In Favor:** 7 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka

**Opposed:** None

### Bills:

2. [CB 121206](#)      **An ordinance appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of April 27, 2026, through May 1, 2026, and ordering the payment thereof; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.**

**The Council Bill (CB) was passed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote, and the President signed the Council Bill (CB):**

**In Favor:** 7 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka

**Opposed:** None

*Councilmember Juarez joined the meeting at 3:09 p.m.*

*Councilmember Strauss joined the meeting at 3:12 p.m.*

## H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### LAND USE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE:

1. [CB 121171](#) **AN ORDINANCE relating to land use and zoning; repealing Ordinance 127191, which allowed residential use within the Stadium Transition Area Overlay District under Chapter 23.74 of the Seattle Municipal Code.**

**The Committee recommends that City Council pass the Council Bill (CB).**

**In Favor: 5 - Lin, Strauss, Foster, Hollingsworth, Rinck**

**Opposed: None**

**The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Council Bill (CB):**

**In Favor: 9 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**FINANCE, NATIVE COMMUNITIES, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS COMMITTEE:**

2. [CB 121201](#) **An ordinance relating to the 2026 Federation Internationale de Football Association World Cup; authorizing the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to execute an agreement between SeattleFWC26 and The City of Seattle; authorizing the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to accept and authorize the expenditure of specified grants and to execute, deliver, and perform corresponding agreements; amending Ordinance 127362, which adopted the 2026 Budget, including the 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Program (CIP); changing appropriations to various departments and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.**

**The Committee recommends that City Council pass as amended the Council Bill (CB).**

**In Favor: 4 - Strauss, Hollingsworth, Kettle, Saka**

**Opposed: None**

**The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Council Bill (CB):**

**In Favor: 9 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**TRANSPORTATION, WATERFRONT, AND SEATTLE CENTER COMMITTEE:**

- 3.     [CB 121176](#)   **AN ORDINANCE relating to shared streets; adding a new Chapter 11.45 to the Seattle Municipal Code; adding new Sections 11.14.562 and 11.52.125 to the Seattle Municipal Code; amending Sections 11.40.090, 11.40.100, 11.40.120, 11.40.160, 11.40.220, 11.40.240, 11.44.040, 11.44.060, and 11.53.205 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and amending the title of Title 11, Subtitle I, Part 4 of the Seattle Municipal Code.**

**The Committee recommends that City Council pass as amended the Council Bill (CB).**

**In Favor: 5 - Saka, Rinck, Foster, Kettle, Lin**

**Opposed: None**

Motion was made by Councilmember Rivera to suspend the Council Rules relating to amendments presented to the City Council at least 24 hours before the meeting.

The motion failed by the following vote:

In favor: 5 - Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Rivera, Saka

Opposed: 4 - Foster, Lin, Rinck, Strauss

**The Council Bill (CB) was passed by the following vote, and the President signed the Council Bill (CB):**

**In Favor: 9 - Foster, Hollingsworth, Juarez, Kettle, Lin, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**I. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were none.

**J. ADOPTION OF OTHER RESOLUTIONS**

There were none.

**K. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

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**Phillip Wood-Smith, Deputy City Clerk**

**Signed by me in Open Session, upon approval of the Council, on May 19, 2026.**

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**Joy Hollingsworth, Council President of the City Council**



Legislation Text

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**File #:** CB 121210, **Version:** 1

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## The City of Seattle

### Ordinance

#### Council Bill

**An ordinance** appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of May 4, 2026, through May 8, 2026, and ordering the payment thereof; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

**Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:**

Section 1. Payment of the sum of \$17,143,012.94 on PeopleSoft 9.2 mechanical warrants numbered 4101025783 - 4101027610 plus manual or cancellation issues for claims, e-payables of \$80,242.99 on PeopleSoft 9.2 9100016165 - 9100016175, and electronic financial transactions (EFT) in the amount of \$37,822,805.06 are presented to the City Council under RCW 42.24.180 and approved consistent with remaining appropriations in the current Budget as amended.

Section 2. Payment of the sum of \$76,147,919.51 on City General Salary Fund mechanical warrants numbered 10479723 - 10479978 plus manual warrants, agencies warrants, and direct deposits numbered 0000001 - 1019550 representing Gross Payrolls for payroll ending date May 05, 2026, as detailed in the Payroll Summary Report for claims against the City that were reported to the City Council May 14, 2026, is approved consistent with remaining appropriations in the current budget as amended.

Section 3. RCW 35.32A.090(1) states, "There shall be no orders, authorizations, allowances, contracts or payments made or attempted to be made in excess of the expenditure allowances authorized in the final budget as adopted or modified as provided in this chapter, and any such attempted excess expenditure shall be void and shall never be the foundation of a claim against the city."

Section 4. Any act consistent with the authority of this ordinance taken prior to its effective date is ratified and confirmed.

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on May 19, 2026.

President of the City Council  
on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

## Summary and Fiscal Note

### 1. Legislation Summary

**Department:** Office of City Finance

**Title:** An ordinance appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of May 4, 2026, through May 8, 2026, and ordering the payment thereof; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts. Claims include all financial payment obligations for bills and payroll paid out of PeopleSoft for the covered.

**Background:** RCW 42.24.180 requires that payment of certain claims be authorized by the City Council. This bill, prepared each week by the City Treasury, authorizes the payments of funds that were previously appropriated by the City Council, so the passage of this bill does not have a direct result on the City's budget.

**Summary Attachments:** None.

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### 2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**

Yes

No

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### 3. Summary of Financial Implications

#### Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

Yes

No

#### 3d. Other Financial Impacts

**a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.**

No. This bill authorizes the payments of funds that were previously appropriated by the City Council, so the passage of this bill does not have a direct result on the City's budget.

**b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?**

N/A

**c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?**

The legislation authorizes the payment of valid claims. If the City does not pay its legal obligations it could face greater legal and financial liability.

**d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?**

This type of legislation authorizes payment of bill and payroll expenses for all City departments.

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#### 4. Other Impacts

**a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?**

Yes

No

**b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?**

Yes

No

**c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**

N/A

**d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:**

**1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.**

N/A

**2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.**

N/A

**3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?**

N/A

**e. Climate change impacts:**

**1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.**

N/A

**2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.**

N/A

**f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?**

N/A

OCF Payment of Bills SUM

Susan Yi

D1

**g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?**

N/A



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Appt 03495, **Version:** 1

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Appointment of Stan Diddams as member, Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel, for a term to July 31, 2028.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> Stan Diddams		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel		<b>Position Title:</b> <i>Member</i>
<b>X Appointment OR Reappointment</b>	<b>City Council Confirmation required?</b> X Yes No	
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> City Council X Mayor Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	<b>Term of Position: *</b> 8/1/2025 to 7/31/2028  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Green Lake	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98103	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Background:</b> <b>Stan Diddams (District 6 / Green Lake)</b> Stan is a retired banker with decades of financial experience at Bank of America/Seafirst, where he managed corporate accounts, including utilities. A longtime Seattle resident, he brings deep financial insight to rate and affordability discussions. Stan currently serves as treasurer for refugee and immigrant support organizations and sits on the Seattle Colleges Foundation board. His background offers valuable perspective on balancing fiscal responsibility with equitable service delivery in public utilities.		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b> <i>Katie B. Wilson</i>	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b>  Katie B. Wilson Mayor of Seattle	
<b>Date Signed (appointed):</b> 03/27/2026		

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

# Personal Information for Application

Please complete the information below for your volunteer application

1. First and Last Name \*

Stan Diddams

2. Pronouns \*

He

3. Email Address \*

[Redacted]

Please enter an email

4. Phone number \*

[Redacted]

5. Address \*

6. Neighborhood \*

7. Employer & Occupation \*

8. Would you be participating as a representative of your employer, organization, or community group? \*

Yes

No

Maybe

9. Are you currently employed or contracted with the City of Seattle? \*

Yes

No

## Community Experiences & Memberships

Help SPU learn about your experiences, connections, and memberships in community.

10. Describe one topic you would like SPU's Customer Review Panel to address.

Efficiently delivering utility services with a goal of keeping rates low.

11.

Seattle Public Utilities actively seeks candidates who represent diverse community perspectives. Please describe your experience with SPU's services and programs and the unique perspectives you might be able to contribute in this role.

I have a financial background, I am a homeowner and SPU customer in Seattle. I have experience serving on public sector and nonprofit boards.

12. Describe the connections you have in your community. Include any community advocacy, civic engagement, or organizational affiliations

Advisory board for World Relief, refugee resettlement organization. Past board member for Seattle Colleges Foundation and N. Seattle College Fdn. Past member Shoreline Parks Board. Many business relationships and connections.

13. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

## Demographics

Please complete the demographic questions below.

14. Age Range

18-34

35-49

50-64

65+

15. Race/Ethnicity (please select all that apply)

- Caucasian / White
- African American / Black
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Korean
- Vietnamese
- Hispanic / Latino
- Native Hawaiian
- Filipino
- Samoan
- Asian Indian
- Chamorro
- Other Asian (e.g., Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.)

Other Pacific Islander (e.g., Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.)

Other

16. Gender (enter below)

M

17. How did you hear about this opportunity?

Council member Dan Strauss newsletter

18.

I certify that the above application information is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the information provided is subject to public records request unless it is specifically exempt from the Washington State Public Records Act. \*

Yes

No

# Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel

13 Members: Pursuant to Resolution 31825, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 3-year terms:

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

## Roster: April 2026

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
	F	2	1.	Member	Nafiso Samatar	8/1/2024	7/31/2027	1	Mayor
	F	1	2.	Member	Robin Schwartz	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	2	Council
	F	2	3.	Member	Miki Sodos	8/1/2021	7/31/2027	2	Mayor
	M	n/a	4.	Member	Manav Goel	8/1/2024	7/31/2027	1	Council
	F	6	5.	Member	Allison Mettler	8/1/2024	7/31/2027	1	Mayor
	F	6	6.	Member	Gretchen Glaub	8/1/2021	7/31/2027	2	Council
	M	5	7.	Member	Jeremy Febus	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	1	Mayor
	F	4	8.	Member	Rita Howard	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	1	Council
	F	1	9.	Member	Amanda Richer	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	2	Mayor
	F	2	10.	Member	Ebony Rose Frazier	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	2	Council
	M	6	11.	Member	Stan Diddams	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	1	Mayor
			12.	Member (Young Adult)	*Vacant*	8/1/2025	7/31/2028		Council
	M	3	13.	Member (Young Adult)	Gabriel Navarro	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	1	Mayor

## SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

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

### 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

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**File #:** Appt 03496, **Version:** 1

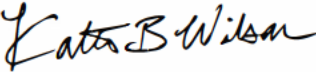
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Appointment of Gabriel Navarro as member, Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel, for a term to July 31, 2028.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> Gabriel Navarro		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel		<b>Position Title:</b> <i>Member</i>
<b>X Appointment OR Reappointment</b>	<b>City Council Confirmation required?</b> X Yes No	
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> City Council X Mayor Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	<b>Term of Position: *</b> 8/1/2025 to 7/31/2028  <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Capitol Hill	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98102	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Background:</b> Gabriel Navarro (District 3 / Capitol Hill) is a first-generation Latino graduate student pursuing a Master's in Infrastructure Planning and Management. He brings infrastructure-focused expertise and lived experience navigating affordability challenges. Gabriel offers insight on system resilience, flooding, and long-term planning, along with a strong commitment to proactive customer engagement and building trust with historically underrepresented communities.		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b>  <b>Date Signed (appointed):</b> 03/24/2026	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b>  Katie B. Wilson Mayor of Seattle	

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

# Personal Information for Application

Please complete the information below for your volunteer application

1. First and Last Name \*

Gabriel Navarro

2. Pronouns \*

He/Him/His

3. Email Address \*

[REDACTED]

Please enter an email

4. Phone number \*

[REDACTED]

5. Address \*

[REDACTED]

6. Neighborhood \*

Capitol Hill

7. Education

Current Masters of Infrastructure, Planning, Management Graduate Student

8. Employer & Occupation

Gioevess - Community Based Organization

9. Would you be participating as a representative of your employer, organization, or community group? \*

Yes

No

Maybe

10. Are you currently employed or contracted with the City of Seattle? \*

Yes

No

## Community Experiences & Memberships

Help SPU learn about your experiences, connections, and memberships in community.

11. Describe one topic you would like SPU's Customer Review Panel to address.

Decentralized Energy Resource Programs for People to Participate In.

12. Seattle Public Utilities actively seeks candidates who represent diverse community perspectives. Please describe your experience with SPU's services and programs and the unique perspectives you might be able to contribute in this role.

As a first-generation person of color I have lived in Seattle for the past 5 years as a college student and now full time worker and graduate student. I have moved to many different places in the city and experienced energy bills in both apartment managed utilities and self managed utility bills. I want to help people get more engaged with their energy and utilities and be more sustainable and good stewards of our resources.

13. Describe the connections you have in your community. Include any community advocacy, civic engagement, or organizational affiliations

I have interned for the city before and currently working on a thesis for my masters in self sufficiency of resources and utilities through the built environment.

14. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

I want to help contribute towards a future where people are more involved and aware of their energy and utilities and be empowered to be sustainable.

## Demographics

Please complete the demographic questions below.

15. Age (enter below) \*

24

16. Race/Ethnicity (please select all that apply)

- Caucasian / White
- African American / Black
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Korean
- Vietnamese
- Hispanic / Latino
- Native Hawaiian
- Filipino
- Samoan
- Asian Indian
- Chamorro
- Other Asian (e.g., Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.)

Other Pacific Islander (e.g., Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.)

Other

17. Gender (enter below)

Male

18. How did you hear about this opportunity?

LinkedIn

19. I certify that the above application information is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the information provided is subject to public records request unless it is specifically exempt from the Washington State Public Records Act. \*

Yes

No

# Seattle Public Utilities Customer Review Panel

13 Members: Pursuant to Resolution 31825, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 3-year terms:

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

## Roster: April 2026

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
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	M	n/a	4.	Member	Manav Goel	8/1/2024	7/31/2027	1	Council
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	F	1	9.	Member	Amanda Richer	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	2	Mayor
	F	2	10.	Member	Ebony Rose Frazier	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	2	Council
	M	6	11.	Member	Stan Diddams	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	1	Mayor
			12.	Member (Young Adult)	*Vacant*	8/1/2025	7/31/2028		Council
	M	3	13.	Member (Young Adult)	Gabriel Navarro	8/1/2025	7/31/2028	1	Mayor

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

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

### 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

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**File #:** Appt 03494, **Version:** 1

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Reappointment of Andrew Lee as General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, for a term to December 31, 2029.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.

# City of Seattle



## General Manager & Chief Executive Officer

Reconfirmation Packet  
March 25, 2026

**Andrew Lee**



March 25, 2026

The Honorable Joy Hollingsworth  
President, Seattle City Council  
Seattle City Hall, 2nd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Hollingsworth:

It is my pleasure to transmit to the City Council the following confirmation packet for my renomination of Andrew Lee as General Manager/CEO of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU). This packet contains his notice of appointment form, resume, and oath of office form.

Andrew Lee has served as General Manager/CEO of SPU since late 2021, and after review of his well-regarded performance I recommend him for you and your colleagues' consideration for reappointment today. He has the right combination of compassionate managerial skills, inspirational leadership ability, strong personal integrity, and technical knowhow to run our publicly-owned utility with distinction.

Andrew has over fifteen years of experience at Seattle Public Utilities, working his way up the ranks as a Program Manager, Deputy Director, and now as Interim General Manager/CEO. In his last 4 years as General Manager/CEO, Andrew led the development of SPU's 2024 Strategic Business Plan, oversaw the negotiation of the Lower Duwamish Superfund Cleanup Consent Decree and modifications to the Sewage Overflow Consent Decree, and worked to finalize 20-year extensions to SPU's wholesale water contracts.

To help overcome barriers to new housing in Seattle, Andrew oversaw the development and launch of water/sewer/storm mainline cost sharing agreements. And in support of our customers who need the most help, Andrew is leading SPU's efforts to expand eligibility for both the Utility Discount Program and the Emergency Assistance Program.

Andrew has maintained a dedicated focus in implementing the SPU's Strategic Business Plan and consistently stays attuned to costs, maintaining the utility's stellar bond rating, and providing a positive customer experience. He is quick to absorb and understand highly complex issues, prioritizes diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, strives for a healthy organizational culture, seeks continuous improvement, and consults with his team to develop practical strategies to address new challenges.

Andrew is engaged at a national level advocating for rate affordability, environmental justice, and innovation through his engagement on the Board of Directors for both the National Association of Clean Water Agencies and the Water Research Foundation. He has spent his entire 27-year career working on water, wastewater, and stormwater issues, including as Deputy Director of the City of Bellevue's Utilities Department.

I trust that after reviewing Andrew's application materials, meeting with him, and following the thoughtful review of your Governance and Utilities Committee process, you will find that Mr. Lee is the right person to continue to serve as GM/CEO of Seattle Public Utilities.

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, Chief of Staff Kate Brunette Kreuzer would welcome hearing from you. I appreciate your consideration.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie B. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie B. Wilson  
Mayor of Seattle



# City of Seattle Department Head Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> <i>Andrew Lee</i>	
<b>City Department Name:</b> <i>Seattle Public Utilities</i>	<b>Position Title:</b> <i>General Manager/CEO</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment	<b>City Council Confirmation required?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	<b>Term of Position: *</b> Council Confirmation <b>to</b> <i>12/31/2029</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
<p><b>Background:</b> Andrew Lee has served as General Manager/CEO of SPU since late 2021, and after review of his well-regarded performance I recommend him for you and your colleagues' consideration for reappointment today. He has the right combination of compassionate managerial skills, inspirational leadership ability, strong personal integrity, and technical knowhow to run our publicly-owned utility with distinction.</p> <p>Andrew has over fifteen years of experience at Seattle Public Utilities, working his way up the ranks as a Program Manager, Deputy Director, and now as Interim General Manager/CEO. In his last 4 years as General Manager/CEO, Andrew led the development of SPU's 2024 Strategic Business Plan, oversaw the negotiation of the Lower Duwamish Superfund Cleanup Consent Decree and modifications to the Sewage Overflow Consent Decree, and worked to finalize 20-year extensions to SPU's wholesale water contracts.</p>	
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  <b>Date Signed:</b> March 25, 2026	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

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

# Andrew Lee, PE, PMP, PgMP

## SUMMARY

Andrew Lee has worked for Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) for over 15 years and is currently the SPU General Manager / Chief Executive Officer (GM/CEO). Andrew has spent his entire 27-year career working on water, wastewater, and stormwater issues, with 21 of those years in local government for Seattle, San Francisco, and Bellevue. Andrew is regionally and nationally recognized for his expertise in water/wastewater regulations, smart water technology, and asset management. He is committed to delivering high quality utility services, maintaining affordable rates, and partnering with and serving the community with a focus on environmental justice. He is also passionate about developing high performance organizations through an emphasis on shared leadership, employee engagement, continuous improvement and diversity/equity/inclusion.

## EXPERIENCE

### 2021 - Present

**General Manager / Chief Executive Officer, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle, WA**

Oversees more than 1,500 employees who provide drinking water, drainage and wastewater, solid waste, and clean city services for the City of Seattle and the broader King County region. Highlights include:

- Negotiated contract extensions for regional wholesale water supply with retail water agencies across King County.
- Providing executive oversight on the City's Superfund sediment clean-up efforts in the Lower Duwamish and East Waterways, in coordination with the Port of Seattle, King County, Boeing, and the U.S. EPA.
- Providing executive oversight on SPU's \$2.1B 6-year Capital Improvement Program, including the \$710M Ship Canal Water Quality Project.
- Leading multiple equity-related initiatives department-wide including employee hiring improvements and environmental and health improvement efforts in South Park and Georgetown.
- Serving on the Boards for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) and the Water Research Foundation (WRF).

### 2019 - 2021

**Deputy Director, Drainage & Wastewater, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle, WA**

Oversee more than 300 employees who provide planning, program management, operations and maintenance, asset management, emergency management, regulatory compliance, logistics, pollution prevention, and

## EDUCATION

- B.S. Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University, 1998
- M.S. Environmental Engineering & Sciences, Stanford University, 1999

## PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

- Civil Engineer, State of Washington
- Civil Engineer, State of California
- Project Management Professional (PMP)®
- Program Management Professional (PgMP)®

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING/EDUCATION

- Lean Process Improvement, State of Washington, 2015
- Leading, Educating, and Developing Program, University of Virginia, Darden School of Business, 2014
- Leadership Acceleration Program (LEAP), Performance Dimensions Group, Seattle, WA, 2013-2014
- Project Management Certificate Program, University of Washington, 2009

## MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

- Project Management Institute
- National Association of Clean Water Agencies
- Water Research Federation
- Water Agency Leaders Alliance

sediment clean-up for the drainage and wastewater utilities. Highlights include:

- Worked on a modification to Seattle’s sewage overflow consent decree with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Ecology, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to provide communities with more innovative solutions, rate-payers with more affordable bills, and the environment with equal or greater environmental benefit.
- Served as SPU’s incident commander during the COVID-19 pandemic, overseeing all aspects of safety, human resources management, logistics, communications, and operations.
- Provided executive oversight on the \$570 million Ship Canal Water Quality Project, in compliance with the wastewater Consent Decree.
- Provided executive oversight on the expansion of Green Stormwater Infrastructure city-wide.
- Served as executive sponsor over the Workspace Reimagined and Return to Office initiatives.
- Launched a pilot program to pump-out RV wastewater, significantly reducing costly and damaging sewage spills to waterways.
- Led multiple equity-related initiatives department wide including environmental and health improvement efforts in South Park and Georgetown, employee hiring improvements, and equity “tailgates” to improve conditions for front-line workers.

**2014 - 2018**

***Deputy Director, Bellevue Utilities, Bellevue, WA***

Oversaw 130 employees who provide planning, engineering, operations and maintenance, development services, asset management, emergency management, and smart technology implementation for the drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities. Highlights included:

- Provided executive oversight of the Utility’s budget and rate-making process, including cost of service analyses and evaluation of programs for low-income rate assistance.
- Co-authored Bellevue’s Smart City Plan, a strategic plan to embed smart technology into delivery of water, transportation, public safety, building, and energy services.
- Led Bellevue’s Smart Water Meter Program.
- Led implementation of department-wide diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) plans, including changes to hiring/recruitment, policies, budget, communications, community empowerment, and employee training.

**2006 - 2014**

***Drainage & Wastewater Capital Portfolio Manager and Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Program Manager, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle, WA***

Served as the capital portfolio manager for Seattle’s Drainage & Wastewater (DWW) Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Highlights included:

- Negotiated the 2013 Sewage Overflow Consent Decree with EPA, Ecology, and DOJ.
- Led the transition to a projectized capital program management office for the CSO Program, including a CIP portfolio ramp-up from \$5 million per year to over \$100 million per year.
- Worked in partnership with community to implement green infrastructure projects and site wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to prevent sewage overflows into Lake Washington.
- Oversaw the development of a sewage overflow Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) that was approved by EPA and Ecology.

**1999 to 2006**

*Project Manager, Brown and Caldwell, Seattle, WA*

*Utility Specialist, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), San Francisco, CA*

*Staff Engineer, Olivia Chen Consultants (now AECOM Water), San Francisco, CA*

**REFERENCES**

Mami Hara, [REDACTED]  
Nav Ota, [REDACTED]

Marco Lowe, [REDACTED]



CITY OF SEATTLE ▪ STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OATH OF OFFICE

---

State of Washington

County of King

I, Andrew Lee, swear or affirm that I possess all of the qualifications prescribed in the Seattle City Charter and the Seattle Municipal Code for the position of General Manager & Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington, and the Charter and Ordinances of The City of Seattle; and that I will faithfully conduct myself as General Manager & Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities.

---

Andrew Lee

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

[Seal]

---

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

## Responses to Questions for Andrew Lee's Reconfirmation as GM/CEO Of Seattle Public Utilities

### **Background and Vision**

**1. *You have been General Manager and CEO of Seattle Public Utilities since June 2022- what are your primary goals for SPU? How have they changed since your initial appointment?***

Most of my primary goals for SPU remain the same as they were back in 2022. We are steadfast in our goals of reliably and affordably delivering the highest drinking water quality to the City of Seattle and region, reducing pollution from wastewater and stormwater discharges to the environment, and advancing our zero-waste mission for our solid waste utility. Over the past four years, I have gained a deeper appreciation of the challenges we face to affordably and reliably deliver our services for the next 50-60 years.

SPU has had significant success in the past four years maintaining predictable rate increases for our drinking water and solid waste utilities. Our greatest challenge over the next decade will be in managing rate increases for our wastewater utility, where projected increases in King County's treatment rates are expected to be 12.75% per year for the next four years. It is imperative that SPU and the region are fully engaged in King County's management of the regional wastewater system to ensure that there is responsible management of their capital improvement program and expenditures are kept to what is necessary. SPU should consider all options related to future regional wastewater treatment services, including significant governance changes that would transfer more responsibility for regional wastewater treatment to the City of Seattle.

In addition to affordability, I have a greater awareness of how SPU's policies around growth and development can either positively or negatively impact housing supply in the city. I am committed to policies that will remove barriers to increasing housing supply in the city, such as the mainline extension cost sharing program that the City Council passed in 2025 and was implemented in 2026.

Lastly, I have a far deeper appreciation of the powerful role that SPU plays in advancing the city's goals in creating positive transformation in neighborhoods throughout the city. SPU has a pivotal role in neighborhoods like South Park, Aurora, Delridge, and Lake City – where investments in stormwater infrastructure, creek floodplain reconnection, sea level rise mitigation, natural drainage systems, water and sewer main rehabilitation, and solid waste management can work hand in hand with transportation, parks, and public safety investments to bring positive change to neighborhoods.

I am incredibly excited to continue leading the utility in advancing positive change in the city while maintaining our strong position as a world class utility.

**2. What do you think are the biggest opportunities and challenges for SPU? What are the top one or two things you would like to accomplish in your second term as General Manager and CEO?**

Opportunities

- i) Stormwater Treatment in the Duwamish: One of the biggest opportunities for SPU will be partnering with King County on opportunistic stormwater treatment at the Duwamish combined sewer overflow (CSO) wet weather treatment plant. The County is in the design phase for a once-in-a-generation, \$3.3 billion wet weather treatment plant in South Downtown that will operate approximately 30 times per year. With some additional investment in stormwater infrastructure, SPU could convey its largest stormwater discharge from the Diagonal Outfall into the Duwamish to the County's wet weather treatment plant with the potential to treat approximately 1.5 billion gallons of stormwater each year. This would significantly reduce stormwater pollution to the Duwamish, reduce the risk of sediment recontamination after the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund cleanup, and simultaneously address decades of environmental justice issues in the Duwamish. During my second term as General Manager and CEO, I hope to enter into an agreement with King County to partner on this historic project. I also hope to obtain agreement from Ecology and EPA on the project and negotiate a modification for both the City and County's consent decrees that improves rate affordability for the next 15 years for the region.
- ii) Water Conservation: In the last four years, we have experienced historically low snowpack in the region and drier and hotter spring and summer seasons. The effects of climate change are here and now, and it is imperative that the region begin preparing for a future where water supply is not as plentiful. Although the City is in a healthy water supply position in the state, there is an opportunity to strengthen our position even more by implementing aggressive water conservation programs to prepare the City and the region for the next 30-50 years of climate change. I hope to work with our regional water purveyors in the next 2-3 years to fund water conservation programs that will aggressively reduce water demand forecasts for the next 60 years.
- iii) Sea Level Rise Adaptation in the Duwamish: The lasting effects of the December 27, 2022, Duwamish river overtopping event in South Park still weigh heavily on the community and SPU. Over the next four years, I believe there is an

opportunity to leverage funding from the King County Flood Control District and other potential sources (e.g., Federal earmark funding) to construct structures on publicly owned land along the Duwamish waterfront to protect South Park from future sea level rise and King tide events. I hope to get funding from the King County Flood Control District to implement a set of projects in South Park by 2030 that will provide sea level rise protection for the community for the next 100 years.

### Challenge

The single biggest challenge for SPU will be managing rates in the face of King County's planned 12.75% per year regional wastewater treatment rate increases for the next 5 years. The County's biggest driver for its double-digit rate increases is tied to its federal consent decree requirements. Over the next four years, I intend to work with the County and our state and federal regulators to gain agreement on a pathway to reduce the County's future rate pressure, while providing greater benefit to the environment.

**3. *During your first term as General Manager/CEO, you have had the opportunity to work with other departments to find ways to deliver services more effectively and efficiently. Can you describe any successes you are particularly proud of and how you will build on that collaboration in the coming years?***

I am incredibly proud of the ways that SPU has partnered with other City departments over the past four years to efficiently and effectively deliver services to our customers. Listed below are some highlights of our partnerships:

- i. Evaluation of Customer Affordability Programs with Seattle City Light (SCL) and Human Services Division (HSD): In 2024, SPU, SCL and HSD completed a comprehensive evaluation of our utility assistance programs with the goal of identifying actions to increase enrollment in the programs. Many of the recommendations from that evaluation are currently being implemented.
- ii. Community engagement partnership with Department of Neighborhoods (DON): Over the past four years, SPU partnered with DON on neighborhood outreach and engagement on SPU's 2024 Strategic Business Plan, the Bitter Lake Reservoir project, and environmental education programs to historically marginalized communities in the Cedar River Watershed. We have leveraged DON's community liaison program to reach out to marginalized communities throughout the city in support of our outreach efforts.
- iii. Tribal Engagement with Office of Intergovernmental Relations (OIR): SPU has worked together with OIR's Tribal Relations Director to engage with the Muckleshoot

Indian Tribe on activities to restore sockeye salmon runs on the Cedar River. SPU also attended the Tribal Nations Summit together with OIR and other City departments.

- iv. Workforce Development Planning with Office of Economic Development (OED): SPU worked alongside OED and other City departments in 2024-25 to develop a Workforce Development Plan for the region.
- v. Seattle Municipal Tower (SMT) Restack with Finance and Administrative Services (FAS): SPU is working with FAS to renovate 6 SMT floors with modern floorspace designs, with the goal of reducing our SMT footprint from 10 floors to 6 floors.
- vi. Snow Plowing and Joint Infrastructure Project Partnering with SDOT: SPU has a number of partnerships with SDOT, including joint projects to replace aged underground infrastructure or add green stormwater infrastructure while repaving streets. SPU completed South Park Phase 1 roadway and drainage improvements in 2022, and is working on the planning for South Park Phase 2 roadway and drainage improvements to be completed by 2030. SPU also has a seasonal partnership to support SDOT's snowplowing efforts during major snowstorm events.

In the coming years, I am excited to continue strengthening and leveraging our relationships with other departments to provide added value at lower costs to our customers. We plan to partner with DON on the community engagement for the future site planning at the former Talaris site in NE Seattle. We will continue partnering with SCL to expand access to our utility affordability programs and reduce the cost and time to administer the program. We also plan to work in partnership with SDOT to address permitting and construction issues on utility projects in the right-of-way, and create time savings for customers working on mainline extensions.

**4. How is SPU preparing for the hundreds of thousands of fans coming to Seattle for the FIFA World Cup? Do you have a long-term strategy for building on the gains made during the games in terms of waste reduction and keeping needles and other waste from city streets?**

During the World Cup, SPU is aiming to prevent waste, reduce litter, and strengthen Seattle's reputation as a global sustainability leader. These efforts build on existing work and will continue long after the World Cup ends.

We are working actively with venues, businesses, and event organizers to limit single-use items, prevent food waste, and make recycling and composting easy and accessible for residents and visitors. Examples of our efforts include: driving the adoption of reusable cups and dishware at fan celebrations and watch parties, running

a zero-waste events training for businesses, partnering with downtown hotels on food waste prevention, collaborating with the Port of Seattle on a multi-agency waste reduction communications campaign, and upgrading seven water refill stations to promote Seattle’s pure drinking water and reduce single use plastic bottles in the downtown core.

SPU’s Clean City Division is preparing for an influx of more than 750,000 visitors by scaling up proven strategies that prevent waste, reduce litter, and protect public health. These efforts expand on our year-round Clean City Division services and successful approaches used during major events like the MLB All-Star game, Club World Cup 2025, and past large-scale city activations such as the recent Super Bowl parade. During the World Cup, we will increase trash collection, sanitation services and targeted cleaning operations in high-traffic areas to ensure the city remains clean, healthy and accessible. In 2025, SPU and partners removed over 5.3 million pounds of waste and more than 661,000 sharps from the public right-of-way, demonstrating both scale and capability across our programs. Our work is not just about the World Cup. These investments and operational improvements will continue to benefit Seattle long after the event. Our goal is simple: ensure Seattle looks and feels clean every day for residents and during major events.

Major events like the World Cup are an opportunity for SPU to test new approaches (like reuse and food donation at events) at scale. We are being intentional about these insights, and what we learn here will directly inform future large events and day-to-day operations across the city. These efforts are also strengthening long-term partnerships with businesses and community partners across the city.

### **Rate Impact to Customers**

- 5. SPU typically proposes rate increases each year to keep up with inflation and to pursue needed capital projects. The City is also impacted by decisions made by other jurisdictions – in particular wastewater treatment charges from King County. How will you ensure that SPU services are delivered at the lowest possible cost to its customers? How do you envision managing rate impacts from external entities?***

SPU recognizes the importance of rate affordability, and we prioritize delivering our high quality utility services at the lowest possible cost. Towards that end, SPU’s Executive Team is actively engaged throughout the year in reviewing rate proposals for our three lines of business, scrutinizing biennial budgets for savings, and developing and updating our Strategic Business Plan every three years to guide our 6- year rate path. Within each of these processes, we strive to live within our means, focusing on essential service delivery, regulatory requirements, and sound asset management. We

always strive to live within the rate path that is adopted by the City Council in the Strategic Business Plan (SBP), and for the last 13 years, SPU has kept its rates at or below the Strategic Business Plan 6-year rate path.

Rate impacts from external entities are the number one challenge we face in meeting our 6-year rate commitment. Specifically, rate increases from King County are projected at 12.75% per year for the next four years. Two years ago, the County projected those rates at between 5-9%. The lack of reliability in the County's rate forecasting creates huge challenges for SPU and other regional utilities to plan our rates and manage increases for our customers.

We must consider all options for addressing the County's proposed rate increases. Currently, the City has very little governance authority over the County's rate increases. All of the governance lies with the County Executive and the County Council, even though the City pays for approximately 40% of the budget for the County's Wastewater Treatment Division. The City should continue supporting adoption of a multi-year regional wastewater treatment rate, as opposed to the County's current practice of approving a new rate each year. In addition, the City should advocate for greater governance authority over the Wastewater Treatment Division's budget, rates, and capital improvement program, potentially through a change in the County charter. Lastly, the City should look at other options for regional wastewater treatment, including a long-term agreement to transfer the West Point Treatment Plant System from the County to the City.

**6. *For Seattle to continue to thrive it must be a place that families, including our most vulnerable residents, can afford. Can you tell us how utility services fit into the overall affordability of the city and what actions SPU is taking to keep its revenue requirement and rates as low as possible?***

Utility rates are a non-negotiable, essential cost for households, together with housing, food, electricity, and other basic living costs. While utility costs alone do not drive affordability in the city, they are a critical component of the entire affordability picture for every household trying to make ends meet in an increasingly expensive city. SPU strives to keep its revenue requirements and rates as low as possible through the following actions:

- i) Sound Infrastructure Asset Management: SPU has robust programs to maintain, repair, and replace aged assets, so that we are not saddled with catastrophic failures and costly emergencies in the future because of deferred maintenance or insufficient asset replacement.

- ii) Long-Term Financial Planning: Rate affordability requires deliberate financial planning based on long-term investment needs, with the goal of sustainably increasing rates at a uniform level, rather than adopting volatile rate increases every year.
- iii) State and Federal Advocacy: Maintaining affordability requires that SPU advocate for strong federal and state investment in water/wastewater/stormwater infrastructure and adoption of state and federal policies and laws that consider affordability as new regulatory requirements are passed.
- iv) Continuous Improvement Culture: SPU has embraced a continuous improvement culture that embraces a mentality of reducing waste in our department.
- v) Technology Adoption: Throughout our department, we consistently evaluate technology as a means to deliver greater value to our customers at lower costs.
- vi) Affordability Programs: Affordability also involves having robust affordability programs. SPU has two programs that are models for the country: our Utility Discount Program (UDP) and our Emergency Assistance Program (EAP). These programs are critical in keeping our rates affordable for our most vulnerable households, and SPU is committed to funding these programs and removing barriers to accessing them.
- vii) Flexible Payment Arrangements: Lastly, affordability involves providing flexibility for our customers, who will experience emergencies and other unplanned circumstances that require programs to address their specific needs. This includes flexible payment plans, donation programs, and systems that reinforce responsible payment of utility bills. SPU began partnering with Promise Pay in 2025, an online solution which customizes payment plans for customers based on their unique circumstances. It also provides timely notifications to help customers to consistently pay their bills and exit the cycle of repeated delinquencies.

**7. Last year, City Council approved a Statement of Legislative Intent requesting SPU work with City Light and HSD to expand eligibility for the two utilities' ratepayer assistance programs. What, in your view, are the biggest obstacles to increasing enrollment in the UDP and EAP and what actions should the council consider to eliminate those barriers?**

In 2024, SPU engaged a consultant to evaluate our Utility Assistance Programs. The study found multiple obstacles to increasing enrollment in the Utility Discount Program

(UDP) and the Emergency Assistance Program (EAP), including burdensome income verification and recertification procedures, issues with digital literacy for some households, lack of program awareness, barriers of government trust especially for communities of color, and language access issues for immigrant populations.

As a result of the study, SPU and SCL have centered their efforts on improving enrollment in UDP and EAP on the following core actions:

- i. Reduce barriers to enrollment: Simplify program application and reduce required documentation.
- ii. Increase customer retention: Implement an effortless approach for customer retention to ensure income eligible customers maintain continuous access to benefits.
- iii. Expand enrollment pathways: Pre-qualify customers who have been income verified by other government programs, auto-enrolling when possible, and expand community partnerships to support to customer enrollment.
- iv. Expand income eligibility: Recommend legislative changes to offer a spectrum of utility assistance to households with incomes up to 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) while balancing access to assistance with the overall impact of expansion on the affordability of utility rates.

SPU and SCL are committed to addressing these barriers and are focusing on the following activities in 2026 to achieve the goal of increasing UDP enrollment and EAP utilization:

- Shifting from handing out flyers to events where staff work directly with customers to get them enrolled.
- Creating new partnerships with affordable housing providers and Seattle-King County Public Health to leverage their income verification processes to streamline enrollment through data sharing and/or onsite enrollment events
- Working with the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods and HSD's cohort of Community Connectors to provide education and improved processes to support community organizations who help customers enroll
- Training a cohort of Community Liaisons to support utility assistance staff with in-language engagement at enrollment events
- Testing program changes and updated communication materials directly with community to inform better outcomes

- Developing and testing a redesigned paper application to ensure technology is not a barrier to enrollment
- Redesigning our processes and program requirement to reduce burdens on customers when they apply or renew their eligibility.
- Assessing options for technology improvements to streamline enrollment.

We look forward to engaging with the City Council to discuss changes to eligibility thresholds for both the UDP and EAP in June 2026.

**8. *As we work on the Comprehensive Plan and plan for increased density, what utility infrastructure needs do you believe are needed to accommodate this growth. How much more capacity do we need now, and in the coming years?***

Densification through redevelopment will create utility infrastructure needs throughout the city. The greatest utility infrastructure needs to accommodate densification will be new drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater pipes in approximately 25% of the roads in Seattle that currently do not have them. In some cases, development will trigger replacement of an existing main or upsizing of a pump station where the existing infrastructure does not have sufficient capacity to serve more households. Existing system capacity is highly dependent on the location, size and condition of pipes on each block of the city. Currently, only 10% of new developments in the city require a mainline extension or replacement of an existing pipe.

With respect to overall system capacity, SPU is in the very favorable position of having sufficient water supply to accommodate new growth for the next 40-50 years. This is largely due to conservation efforts over the past 30 years. On the wastewater side, King County also has sufficient capacity at the West Point Treatment Plant to serve the majority of the city's growth.

**9. *Additionally, what are the options for providing these infrastructure needs? Do you have ideas for creative solutions to meet these needs?***

In 2025, the City Council passed legislation that increased system development charges (SDCs) for drinking water and created new SDCs for wastewater and stormwater. Simultaneously, the City Council passed legislation allowing SPU to use the revenue generated from SDCs to fund mainline cost sharing agreements with developers.

SPU began collecting revenue from the new SDCs at the beginning of 2026 and also began entering into agreements with developers for mainline extension cost sharing. In

the first four months of the 2026, SPU has invoiced approximately \$4M in revenue from the program and entered into 19 mainline cost-sharing agreements. The program will be funding approximately one mile of new water, sewer, and storm mains in the city to promote growth and redevelopment. In a very short time, the program has been incredibly successful and is achieving its goal of promoting growth and development in the city.

Based on feedback from developers, SPU has heard that the Street Improvement Permit (SIP) process is still a significant barrier to taking advantage of the program. Developers try to avoid properties that will require a SIP, because the process can take years. In the next several years, I hope to work together with SDOT to remove this barrier, so that developers can take full advantage of the program.

## **Executive and Staff Management**

**10. SPU has around 1,600 employees implementing a Council-approved budget of almost \$1.8 billion. What are the three most important things that you will focus on during your next term to ensure that SPU continues to provide efficient and equitable delivery of drinking water and processing of solid waste to its customers?**

The three most important things I will focus on during my next term to ensure that SPU provides efficient and equitable delivery of drinking water, drainage and wastewater, and solid waste services to our customers are as follows:

- (i) Implement a Comprehensive Infrastructure Asset Management Program: Efficient and equitable delivery of drinking water, drainage and wastewater, and solid waste services begins with responsible management of our infrastructure. This includes maintaining, repairing, and replacing aged assets, so that we are not saddled with catastrophic failures and costly emergencies in the future because of deferred maintenance or insufficient asset replacement. Over the next four years, I will continue to focus on implementing our core Asset Management Programs across our three lines of business to ensure that we are being responsible stewards of our infrastructure.
- (ii) Promote a Continuous Improvement Culture: SPU has embraced a continuous improvement culture that instills a mentality of reducing waste in our department. “Lean” practices are being adopted throughout the department, promoting continuous improvements in areas such as customer service, infrastructure design and project management, front-line crew response times

to high priority emergencies, solid waste collection, and customer engagement. Over the next four years, I will focus on utility-wide adoption of continuous improvement practices.

- (iii) Embrace Technology Adoption: Throughout our department, we consistently evaluate technology as a means to deliver greater value to our customers at lower costs. In recent years, we have improved our customer portal, providing more information to our ratepayers as well as greater ease of accessing our services. We have also implemented solutions like Genesys in our contact center, which provides customer service representatives with enhanced tools to swiftly serve our customers while on calls. We are also currently evaluating Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), which will provide customers with near real-time water consumption data, including automated detection of leaks, while reducing our reliance on meter readers. Over the next four years, I will focus on creating a thriving innovation culture when it comes to technology adoption.

**11. You've had the opportunity to work with the City Council over the last few years – what have you learned? Has your general philosophy for working and communicating effectively with the City Council changed? How do you plan to ensure that Councilmembers and their staff receive timely and actionable information from your department to make policy and financial decisions? How will you be responsive to Council requests, specifically regarding priorities that may differ from those of the Executive Branch?**

I have a deep appreciation for each city councilmember and their priorities, as well as the unique set of constituent needs that they bring to their positions. Over the past four years, I've learned the importance of engaging Councilmembers early on to seek their input on legislation. I've also learned the importance of being responsive to constituent needs, inquiries, and issues that are raised to Council offices. I understand that engaging with constituents early and proactively and allowing stakeholders to influence proposed legislation before it comes to the Council can help move legislation forward. I've learned that the timing of legislation is important, and we should consider what other pieces of legislation are moving forward at the same time by other departments. I strive to listen intently to what Councilmembers are saying, both in our direct conversations and in other venues, with the understanding that there is oftentimes cross-over between SPU's issues and the broader issues facing the City. Lastly, I appreciate the importance of keeping Councilmembers well informed on important

issues affecting SPU and minimizing or avoiding surprises, especially those that involve the news media.

My general philosophy for working and communicating with the City Council has not changed. It is my role, working together with our Council liaison, to ensure that Councilmembers are well informed, engaged, and provided with every opportunity to influence important issues and legislation affecting SPU. I am ultimately responsible for addressing the utility-related needs of each Councilmembers' constituents, to the extent feasible. Lastly, it is my role to look for opportunities to advance Councilmembers' interests.

With respect to ensuring timely and actionable information to make policy and financial decisions, SPU works to create a calendar of legislation that provides adequate time to delve into important policy and financial decisions with the Council. We strategically plan our legislative calendar to space apart potentially contentious legislation, with the goal of providing adequate time for dialogue both during and outside of Council committee meetings. We also strive to consider the timing of non-SPU legislation (e.g., Seattle City Light rates, other levies, etc.) in scheduling our proposed legislative calendar.

With respect to being responsive to Councilmember requests where they may differ from the priorities of the Executive – I believe it is my role to seek common ground between the interests of the Council and the Mayor, with the goal of advancing work that provides a win-win opportunity for both branches of government. While this may not always be possible, I have found that oftentimes there is enough overlap in the interests of both the Executive and Council to provide an opportunity to work collaboratively to advance legislation that addresses the priorities of both offices.

## **Race and Social Justice**

### ***12. Please discuss how you will further incorporate the City's Race and Social Justice Initiative into SPU's governing procedures and organizational culture, and into your leadership of SPU. How will you improve racial equity through your management of the Department?***

In 2025, SPU began the process of co-creating an Equity Strategic Framework (ESF) for the department with input from equity leaders across the organization. The ESF centers on a Race and Social Justice vision, a set of guiding principles, and five focus areas for our RSJ efforts for the next 4 years:

- i) Embed internally: Ingrain racial equity and social justice practices and a culture of belonging into the work of individuals, teams, processes, programs, outcomes, and community engagement, so all employees can contribute to and benefit from the Utility’s RSJ efforts.
- ii) Align and advise: Align equity efforts across SPU and with other City departments, and advise and provide leadership for RSJ with public utilities nationwide.
- iii) Center community: Ensure that all Seattle communities and regional customers access the waste and water utility services they need and have meaningful voice and power in shaping SPU’s services and decisions.
- iv) Deliver EJ solutions: Deliver investments, projects, programs and policies that acknowledge the interconnectedness of people and planet through addressing past harms, prioritizing current environmental and human health, and planning for a resilient future.
- v) Reshape economy: Create equitable economic systems by investing in community-led solutions, entrepreneurship, and pathways that build a more inclusive and less wasteful economy, increase local wealth, and improve affordability.

SPU will be using this framework to strategically guide our RSJ work across the department and in community over the next 4 years. Following the framework, we will be moving forward with a broad set of RSJ actions, such as advancing internal training on appreciative inquiry and belonging, strengthening relationships with local tribal governments, advancing community-centered climate adaptations and solutions, and directing targeted investments to minority and women-owned business and towards historically underserved and underrepresented communities.

**13. City leaders are responsible for ensuring that all residents, including those with limited English proficiency, immigrants and refugees, or those who might not be fully documented, have access to City services. How will you manage SPU to ensure all these demographics are well served?**

Whenever SPU is developing a policy or strategic plan, planning for a capital improvement project, or updating technology, we proactively apply a Racial Equity Toolkit (RET) lens to ensure that all of our customers, especially those who are most marginalized, are adequately represented and considered in our decisions.

Through our RET process, we develop innovative solutions to meet the varying needs of our customers. We learn and iterate and show up in ways that are meaningful to our community. We utilize language access translations and plain language in our

communications. We consider the safety concerns and fears within our community – particularly among some immigrants and refugees – as we plan our outreach and prepare our frontline staff.

In the past four years, through our partnership with the Department of Neighborhoods (DON), SPU has collaborated with Community Liaisons (CLs) on nearly 15 programs and projects, which have helped shape our decisions with a community-centered lens, meet customers where they are, and grow cohorts of resident-volunteers and advocates. The CLs reflect various ethnic, racial, and linguistic communities, as well as disabled, low-income, and unhoused residents. The DON partnership has also successfully embedded engagement advisors within projects across the utility, helping us conduct in-language research and technical surveys, lead and participate in large resident-led collaborations (e.g., Longfellow Starts Here), develop and grow community engagement programs (e.g., Watershed Equity Tours), and meet our regulatory and compliance obligations (e.g., Seattle Overflow Action Plan) – all with the diversity of community needs and perspectives at the center.

SPU recently reviewed our data collection to ensure that we have the necessary data to serve customers. We collect name, billing information and resident address to serve our customers. Information beyond core billing information is voluntary and SPU is a local agency, meaning all immigration enforcement actions are not held by our agency; that is a federal action. Our charge is clean water, drainage, and solid waste collection. SPU customer data is safe and limited to what we need to deliver our services.

We work closely with known organizations and leaders in the Duwamish Valley and South Park, in Lake City, in South Seattle, in the Chinatown International District, along Delridge, in Bitter Lake, and more to become trusted partners. These help grow our programs, implement capital improvement projects, and build a green workforce, all within diverse communities that have historically been underserved and underrepresented by government.

With up to one quarter of the general population having some form of disability, SPU is committed to providing equitable access to all those who use our services. SPU has invested significant resources toward making our website and other digital media accessible to assistive technologies, and in Plain Language to be more easily understood and translated. SPU will continue to work towards utilizing best practices in digital accessibility and maintaining ADA Title II compliance by developing a SPU Digital Accessibility Program with regular oversight, staff training, and governance policy.

**14. I know you are committed to addressing institutionalized racism and race-based inequities in SPU's programs and services. Can you look over the horizon a bit and tell us what you think the future challenges and opportunities will be as the leader of an organization that exists to meet the basic needs of its customers? How will you ensure SPU's workforce is prepared for these challenges?**

The single greatest challenge SPU faces in the future is the long-term sustainability of the cost of our services. Even with the best rate-planning, the cost of SPU's services will continue to increase faster than inflation. This is primarily driven by two factors: (1) aging assets will require future replacement at high costs; and (2) regulations will demand a higher level of service when it comes to environmental and health outcomes. Advances in technology could conceivably mitigate future cost increases, but we have yet to see significant decreases in costs from technological advancements in the last 50 years.

We estimate that up to 30% of households in Seattle currently qualify for our utility assistance programs. This number is expected to grow as we expand eligibility for accessing these programs, and as the wealth gap between the rich and the working class continues to increase in our city. Adding faster-than-inflation rate increases will only accelerate the increase in households that cannot afford utility services. Twenty or thirty years down the road, we may face a situation where up to 50% of Seattle households qualify for rate assistance programs. That raises the question of whether we have a sustainable model for paying for utility services.

Solutions to this issue of long-term rate affordability will be a national topic of discussion over the next two decades. As utility rates continue to increase, it is possible that alternative financing models for managing wastewater, stormwater and solid waste will materialize. Already in the solid waste arena, extended producer responsibility (EPR) bills are being passed in a number of states including Washington state, requiring producers of paper and packing materials to pay for the costs of recycling those materials. By 2030, SPU will start to receive funding from paper and packing producers to manage our recycling costs which will translate to savings on our customers' solid waste bills. Although a similar model does not yet exist in the drainage and wastewater utility, there may be an opportunity to pass on costs for stormwater treatment to oil or tire companies, who are the sources of many pollutants in our waste streams. Alternative decentralized technologies for treating and reclaiming wastewater at a household level may also become more cost effective, leading to less reliance on costly centralized infrastructure.

SPU is actively engaged in research on future industry-transformative trends that will help address the affordability issues of our day. I sit on the board of the Water Research Foundation (WRF), which is the leading professional organization for water and wastewater research in the United States. Our participation on research projects and our advocacy efforts at the state and federal level on affordability issues will ensure that SPU is well prepared to tackle the affordability challenges of the next several decades.

## **Environment and Sustainability**

### ***15. What is SPU's role and responsibility with respect to environmental issues, particularly environmental education, and sustainability?***

Restoring and protecting the environment and promoting environmental education and sustainability is core to SPU's mission, vision, and values. As the drinking water provider, we strive to conserve our precious water resources, steward and protect our drinking water watersheds, promote adequate stream flows for fish in both the Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River, increase sockeye salmon runs in the Cedar River, and educate the public on their role in protecting our water supply for future generations. As the drainage and wastewater utility, we are committed to reducing pollution to the environment by reducing combined sewer overflows, promoting source control of pollutants to prevent them from entering our wastewater or stormwater, cleaning up contaminated sediment in waterways such as the Duwamish, removing harmful stormwater pollutants from stormwater discharges, and slowing the flow of stormwater through creeks by implementing codes and projects. Finally, as the solid waste utility, our mission is to eventually become a city that produces zero waste, through comprehensive cradle-to-grave management of materials, including reduction of waste at the source, recycling and reuse of materials, diverting food waste from the landfill, and promoting producer responsibility and circular economies which eliminate waste from the life-cycle of materials.

All of our environmental sustainability efforts rely heavily on environmental education. We cannot achieve our water conservation, pollution-reduction, or zero waste goals without engaging the public in our efforts. Towards that end, we implement a number of different pathways to engage the public in our environmental goals. Those pathways include school-based programs in partnership with Seattle Public Schools, that involve early education of students on the importance of composting and recycling or the life-cycle of salmon in our creeks. We also bring both students and families to our Cedar River Watershed Education Center for educational programs on their drinking water

source, the impact of climate change on our water supply, and how they can conserve water. We are constantly engaged in education of commercial businesses on waste diversion, recycling of construction and demolition debris, and programs to reduce stormwater pollution to the environment. Recently, we provided a workshop to businesses in the University District our solid waste services and how to properly disposal of cooking oil. Lastly, we are engaged in the Saving Water Partnership, a regional consortium that promotes drinking water conservation in the greater King County region through education and rebates.

Together, these programs are enabling SPU to make tremendous strides in conserving water, reducing pollution, and reducing waste. We use less water today than we did in the 1990s, even with considerable growth in our population. Our per capita waste generation rates are the lowest in the country. And, we've seen the return of salmon to our creeks. Our partnership with community is our pathway to realizing our environmental sustainability goals.

**16. What experience do you have developing resilient, forward-thinking policies around climate change (including climate resiliency/adaptation) and what role does SPU play in implementing those policies?**

Seattle Public Utilities has been working to characterize and address climate change and environmental stewardship issues since its establishment in 1997. SPU has incorporated climate science into water supply and stormwater planning since 2002 and advancing policies to reduce our operational greenhouse gas emissions since 2013.

SPU's climate action is embedded in our daily operations and planning. Our climate work is comprised of a portfolio of activity that, in addition to addressing climate impacts, includes greenhouse gas emissions reduction, carbon sequestration, water and waste circularity, green stormwater infrastructure, continuity of service during weather emergencies, ecosystem and species stewardship, green and blue workforce development, affordability, an intergenerational perspective, and environmental justice.

SPU is investing in flexible, innovative, cost-effective, and equitable climate solutions. This includes efforts like:

- i. Citywide emissions reductions through waste prevention and diversion
- ii. Nature-based solutions that foster healthy and resilient ecosystems in urban creeks and shorelines
- iii. Adaptive management for water supply planning
- iv. Climate-resilient capital projects to ensure that projects build today will continue to serve communities for decades into the future

v. Wildfire risk reduction strategies for our drinking water supply watersheds

SPU is prioritizing neighborhoods that are most at risk from climate impacts. In our climate work, SPU has a chance to invest in, partner with, and support communities so that they will not disproportionately bear the brunt of climate impacts. SPU is leading with racial justice, honoring communities' priorities to build resilience, and equitably serving Seattle neighborhoods.

SPU is seeking balance in our relationship with the planet and with people. It is a re-remembering that everything is connected, and we must work together within our means. Partnerships – with sister departments, with Seattle communities and non-profits, with peer utilities, and with climate scientists – are some of our most powerful levers for change.

**17. How is SPU preparing for extreme weather events and risks exacerbated by climate change and ensuring we have enough water for our growing city and region?**

In the last five years Seattle and our region have experienced a wide array of climate impacts which reinforce the fact that the effects of climate change are here and now. These include the shrinking snowpack in the Cascades; the catastrophic river flooding in 2025 in King, Snohomish, and Skagit Counties; the 2022 Loch Katrine and Bolt Creek Fires, which were mere miles away from SPU's South Fork Tolt Watershed; the devastating December 2022 King Tide flooding in South Park; and 2021 Pacific Northwest Heat Dome, as well as the global context of environmental and public health inequities. . SPU is engaged in the following actions to manage the risks that changing climate pose to our drinking water and drainage and wastewater utilities:

- i. Long-Term Planning for Changing Weather: We have incorporated the effects of climate change on precipitation patterns and snowpack projections into our long-range planning for both for our drinking water utility and for our drainage and wastewater utility.
- ii. Operational Changes to Water Supply Management: SPU has implemented adaptive reservoir refill and drawdown strategies in light of lower seasonal snowpack and in preparation for drier springs and summers. That has enabled SPU to avoid water curtailments even in the face of historically low snowpack the last four years.
- iii. Designing and Constructing Infrastructure to Handle Larger Storms: We have revised our design criteria for stormwater and wastewater facilities (e.g., pipes, storage facilities, pump stations) to account for more frequent, intense storm events.

- iv. Implementing Adaptive Solutions: We are constructing more green stormwater infrastructure to manage stormwater, because of its climate mitigation properties and the ability to scale up such facilities more easily than traditional “grey” infrastructure.
- v. Promoting Conservation: We continue to proactively implement a strong regional water conservation program, which reduces water system demands per capita, especially with regional growth projections.
- vi. Plan for Future Water Supply Options: While our long-range forecasts suggest that we have sufficient water for the next 40-50 years, SPU is still engaged in strategic planning for future water supply options.
- vii. Preparing for Wildfire Risk: We are working to manage wildfire risk in our watersheds by creating defensible spaces, implementing forest thinning practices, and maintaining a trained and well-prepared wildland fire fighting crew.
- viii. Planning for Sea Level Rise: Together with community and industry, we are developing and implementing a sea level rise adaptation strategy for the lower Duwamish, primarily for the South Park and Georgetown neighborhoods. This includes our annual work of creating a flood barrier during king tide events each winter. It also includes plans for creating permanent flood barriers on public lands in South Park, including roadways, street-ends, and city-owned parcels (e.g. parks, Port of Seattle property, SPU pump station and water quality facility properties).



Legislation Text

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**File #:** CB 121202, **Version:** 1

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## The City of Seattle

### Ordinance

#### Council Bill

**An ordinance** relating to Seattle Public Utilities; authorizing the General Manager and Chief

Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, to execute an amendment to the interlocal agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, to execute additional amendments to the interlocal agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

#### Recitals:

The Duwamish River flooded the South Park neighborhood in December 2022 due to a combination of factors including higher-than-average tides, rain runoff, and melting snow, damaging local homes and businesses.

The South Park neighborhood, which is home to low-income, immigrant, refugee, and unsheltered people and is 74 percent people of color, has experienced previous flooding, as well as environmental and health damage due to historical inequities and industrial contamination.

The South Park neighborhood provides the bulk of the 6,400 jobs that are part of Seattle's Duwamish

manufacturing/industrial center.

The King County Flood Control Zone District is a quasi-municipal corporation of the State of Washington, authorized to provide funding and support for flood risk reduction projects within King County.

Pursuant to Seattle Ordinance 127057, the City Council authorized the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), or designee, to enter into an interlocal agreement funding flood preparedness and emergency response in South Park and, accordingly, the King County Flood Control Zone District and The City of Seattle entered into an interlocal agreement entitled Interlocal Agreement for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program between the King County Flood Control Zone District and The City of Seattle (Interlocal Agreement).

The King County Flood Control Zone District and SPU desire to amend the Interlocal Agreement to incorporate additional funding allocation from the King County Flood Control Zone District to SPU for SPU's costs and expenses for the flood preparedness and emergency response in South Park. Therefore,

**Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:**

Section 1. The General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, is authorized to execute, for and on behalf of The City of Seattle, the amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District entitled First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program, attached to this ordinance as Attachment 1.

Section 2. Additionally, the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, is further authorized to execute, for and on behalf of The City of Seattle, amendments to the Interlocal Agreement that increase the amount of funding that the King County Flood Control Zone District may provide to Seattle Public Utilities for the costs and expenses for the flood preparedness and emergency response in South Park, provided that such grant of authority is subject to the existence of appropriation authority, in the applicable Seattle Public Utilities budget control level

or levels of the Adopted City Budget (including supplements to such budget) for the year or years in which Seattle Public Utilities enters into such amendment with the King County Flood Control Zone District.

Section 3. Any act pursuant to the authority of this ordinance taken prior to its effective date is ratified and confirmed.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on .

President of the City Council  
on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE  
SOUTH PARK INTERIM FLOODING PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAM**

THIS AMENDMENT NO. 1 to the Agreement Regarding the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program (“Amendment No. 1”) is entered into on the last date signed below, by and between the CITY OF SEATTLE, a Washington municipal corporation (“City”), and KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT, a quasi-municipal corporation of the State of Washington (“District”) (collectively, the "Parties").

**RECITALS**

A. Pursuant to FCD Resolution FCD2024-03 and City of Seattle Ordinance No. 127057, the Parties entered into an Interlocal Agreement for the SOUTH PARK INTERIM FLOODING PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAM (“Agreement”) effective September 23, 2024.

B. The Agreement concerned the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program (the “Project”) and authorized the City to:

- a. Acquire six pumps;
- b. Acquire an operations staging trailer;
- c. Oversee and implement the interim flood preparedness and response program, including the purchase of flood barrier materials, equipment and supplies; project management and oversight; storing, staging, and mobilizing, demobilizing, and maintaining the temporary equipment and supplies for the temporary and semi-permanent flood barriers; deploying, operating, and maintaining the pumps; deploying community sandbags; and obtaining required permits and approvals; and
- d. Support community preparedness, including the development of South Park-specific communication materials to increase an understanding of the flood risks in the South Park neighborhood, development of culturally appropriate public education and outreach of the flood risk in the South Park neighborhood, and engaging residents to provide input into near- and long-term flood risk reduction strategies.

C. The Project is located in the South Park neighborhood of Seattle, adjacent to the Duwamish River.

D. As set out in the Agreement, the District agreed to reimburse the City for its actual costs incurred in completing the tasks described in the Agreement up to a maximum allowable reimbursement amount of \$2,041,000. Since the Agreement’s execution, the City identified increased costs necessary to perform the scope of work for the Project set out in the Agreement. The City has determined that the maximum allowable reimbursement amount authorized by the Agreement will be insufficient to reimburse the City for its estimated actual costs incurred to effectuate the Project.

E. The District adopted its 2025 Budget via FCD Resolution FCD2024-12 on November 19, 2024, authorizing a continued partnership with the City for the Project, and increasing funding for the Project by \$1,320,615 for a new total Project budget of \$3,361,615 (including all monies paid prior to the adoption of FCD Resolution FCD2024-12).

F. The District adopted its 2026 Budget via FCD Resolution FCD2025-12 on November 12, 2025, authorizing a continued partnership with the City for the Project, and increasing funding for the Project by \$1,300,000 for a new total Project budget of \$4,661,615 (including all monies paid prior to the adoption of FCD Resolution FCD2024-12).

G. The parties desire to amend the Agreement to incorporate the additional funding allocation and associated terms. The additional funding allocation is intended to compensate the City for those reasonable City costs and expenses for the Project described in the Agreement, as amended. This new total maximum reimbursement amount applies to all costs and expenses paid to the City prior to this Amendment, as well as work subsequent thereto.

### **AMENDMENT**

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual interest, desire, and promises of the parties and other good and valuable consideration, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Recitals Incorporated. All recitals above are hereby incorporated in and ratified as part of this Amendment No. 1.
2. Amendment. The Agreement is hereby amended as follows:
  - a. In Section 2 of the Agreement, the maximum reimbursement for City costs and expenses is increased from two million and forty-one thousand dollars and no cents (\$2,041,000) to four million six hundred sixty-one thousand six hundred fifteen dollars and no cents (\$4,661,615); and
  - b. In Section 2.1 of the Agreement, the amount of \$1,786,000 is replaced with \$4,406,615; and
  - c. In Section 2.1.3 of the Agreement, the amount of \$1,130,000 is replaced with \$3,750,615.
  - d. In Section 3.3 of the Agreement, a new third sentence is added, as follows, in between "\$2,041,000.00." and "To": "Additional Funds of \$1,320,615.00 were appropriated in the District's 2025 Budget, bringing the total up to \$3,361.615.00, and additional funds of \$1,300,000.00 were appropriated in the District's 2026 Budget, bringing the total up to \$4,661,615."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have executed this Amendment No. 1, which shall become effective on the last date signed below.

KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT      CITY OF SEATTLE, SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reagan Dunn, Chair  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Lee, CEO/General Manager  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charlotte Archer, District Legal Counsel  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Summary and Fiscal Note

### 1. Legislation Summary

**Department:** Seattle Public Utilities

**Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to Seattle Public Utilities; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, to execute an amendment to the interlocal agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities, or designee, to execute additional amendments to the interlocal agreement between Seattle Public Utilities and the King County Flood Control Zone District for the South Park Interim Flooding Preparedness and Response Program; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

**Background:** Due to repetitive flooding incidents in the South Park neighborhood, including the December 2022 Duwamish River King Tide flooding event, Seattle Public Utilities developed a South Park Emergency Response Plan to prepare for the increased flooding risk in the neighborhood. The South Park Response Plan includes annual construction of a temporary flood barrier during the wet weather season, an emergency preparedness and response staffing plan, and outreach and engagement in South Park to build community understanding of flooding risk. The Interlocal Agreement with King County Flood Control Zone District, approved by Seattle Ordinance 127057 made available \$2,041,000 from the King County Flood Control Zone District for these expenses. The amendment that is the subject of this ordinance would add an additional \$2,620,615.

**Summary Attachments:** None

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## 2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

Yes

No

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## 3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

Yes

No

a. Expenditure Change to General Fund

b. Expenditure Change to Other Funds

c. Revenue Change to General Fund

d. Revenue Change to Other Funds

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
2,620,615				

e. Number of Positions

f. Total Full-Time Employee (FTE) Change

### 3a. Appropriations

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes appropriations.

### 3b. Revenues/Reimbursements

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

#### Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept.	Revenue Source	2026 Revenue	2027 Estimated Revenue
Drainage & Wastewater Fund - 44010	SPU	King County FCD	2,620,615	

TOTAL 2026 Revenue	TOTAL 2027 Estimated Revenue
2,620,615	

#### Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

### 3c. Positions

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes positions.

#### Total Regular Positions Created, Modified, or Abrogated through This Legislation, Including FTE Impact:

If there is one or more sunseting position or other notes, please explain:

### 3d. Other Financial Impacts

**a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.**

No

**b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?**

NA

**c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?**

Not implementing this legislation would result in the loss of \$2,620,615 in revenue to the Drainage & Wastewater Fund.

**d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?**

NA

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**4. Other Impacts**

**a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?**

Yes

No

**b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?**

Yes

No

**c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**

No

**d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:**

**1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.**

The legislation will reduce flood risk and improve safety within the South Park neighborhood, a historically disadvantaged community where 74 percent of residents are people of color.

**2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.**

This Agreement provides funding to benefit a historically vulnerable community; a Racial Equity Toolkit has not been completed.

**3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?**

SPU has partnered with community-based organizations in South Park, including Duwamish River Community Coalition, Villa Comunitaria, and Khmer Community of Seattle King County, who are providing translation and interpretation services in Spanish and Khmer as needed. SPU staff have also partnered with Community Liaisons from the Department of Neighborhoods to provide additional language support as needed.

e. Climate change impacts:

**1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.**

No

**2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.**

The proposed actions will improve community resilience to climate change by supporting safety and preparedness to the increased risk of flooding and extreme weather events.

**f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?**

NA

**g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?**

No



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Appt 03492, **Version:** 1

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Appointment of Quynh Pham as Director of the Department of Neighborhoods, for a term to December 31, 2029.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.

# Department Director Confirmation Materials

**City of Seattle**



Quynh Pham

Director,

Department of Neighborhoods

April 2, 2026



April 2, 2026

The Honorable Joy Hollingsworth  
President, Seattle City Council  
Seattle City Hall, 2nd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Hollingsworth:

It is my pleasure to transmit to the City Council the following confirmation packet for my appointment of Quynh Pham as Director of the Department of Neighborhoods (DON).

This packet includes the following materials: Ms. Pham's appointment, oath of office form, resume, press release, and background check.

Seattle is great because of the thriving, diverse neighborhoods that make up our city—places where culture, connection, and community come together. The Department of Neighborhoods is dedicated to helping neighbors connect, build strong communities, improve quality of life, and engage with city government. The decision to appoint Quynh Pham, who also served as a Co-chair for my Mayoral Transition, to serve in the role as Director of the Department of Neighborhoods was shaped through thoughtful discussions with members of my transition team to ensure it reflects our shared vision for inclusion, belonging, and community-driven solutions.

Quynh Pham currently serves as Executive Director of Friends of Little Saigon (FLS), a community development organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing Little Saigon's cultural, economic, and historical vitality. Her 14 years of nonprofit development experience have shaped local policy, advanced opportunities for Southeast Asian artists and cultural practitioners, and increased investments in BIPOC initiatives around equitable development and small business resiliency. She is also the mother of two toddlers, who fuel her drive to ensure they grow up in a culturally rich, accessible, and diverse community.

This appointment reflects my inauguration commitment to build a Seattle where every person feels they belong and where neighborhoods are empowered to lead. As I said in my inaugural address, "This is your city—every block, every neighborhood, every voice matters." Our work will focus on creating spaces where neighbors can connect, where cultural identity is celebrated, and where community voices shape decisions. We will continue to remove barriers that prevent participation and ensure that city government is a partner in building trust and opportunity across all neighborhoods.

I engaged with a number of community leaders and stakeholders in making my nomination of Ms. Pham. Here are just a couple examples of the positive feedback we received:

**Sue Taoka**

Community Advocate  
Former VP of Craft3 and Executive Director of SCIDpda

"I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Quynh Pham over the past fifteen plus years. She is wise beyond her years. She is thoughtful, listens carefully, often hearing and

understanding more than the mere words. She is a skilled manager, principled leader, and trusted negotiator. The City of Seattle would greatly benefit from Quynh's talents."

**Ariyah Jané Albert**

Vice-Chair, Crescent Collaborative Board  
Program Manager, Sharyn Grayson House, Lavender Rights Project

"Quynh Pham is an incredible force of grace and reason. Every space she curates centers community and lived experience first. She is an impactful, thoughtful leader and a visionary for not just public safety, but for equitable communal practices that empower the autonomy and history of the eclectic communities in the greater Seattle area. She calms the air and leaves behind tools for success and progress; she is exactly what our neighborhoods need right now."

Ms. Pham herself shares, "I am honored to step into the Department of Neighborhoods, a department that sits at the intersection of community and government. Through my work at Friends of Little Saigon, I have learned that the most effective solutions come from those closest to the challenges. In this new role, I look forward to working alongside and supporting Seattle's diverse neighborhoods."

I trust that after reviewing Ms. Pham's application materials, meeting with her, and following the thoughtful review of Councilmember Rivera's Libraries, Education and Neighborhoods Committee, you will find that Ms. Pham is the ideal leader for DON.

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, Chief of Staff Kate Brunette Kreuzer would welcome hearing from you. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Katie B. Wilson  
Mayor of Seattle



January 6, 2026

Quynh Pham  
Seattle, WA  
Transmitted via e-mail

Dear Quynh,

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you to the position of Director of the Department of Neighborhoods at an annual salary of \$237,948.

Your appointment as Director is subject to City Council confirmation; therefore, you will need to attend the Council's confirmation hearings. Once confirmed by the City Council, you serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and your initial term will be through December 31, 2029.

Your contingent offer letter provided employment information related to the terms of your employment, benefits, vacation, holiday and sick leave.

I look forward to working with you in your role as Director and wish you success. We have much work ahead of us, and I am confident that the Department will thrive under your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kaite B. Wilson".

Kaite B. Wilson  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Seattle Department of Human Resources file



# City of Seattle Department Head Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> <i>Quynh Pham</i>	
<b>City Department Name:</b> <i>Department of Neighborhoods</i>	<b>Position Title:</b> <i>Director</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Appointment</b> OR <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Reappointment</b>	<b>City Council Confirmation required?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	<b>Term of Position: *</b> Council Confirmation <b>to</b> 12/31/2029 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
<b>Background:</b> Quynh Pham currently serves as Executive Director of Friends of Little Saigon (FLS), a community development organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing Little Saigon’s cultural, economic, and historical vitality. Her 14 years of nonprofit development experience have shaped local policy, advanced opportunities for Southeast Asian artists and cultural practitioners, and increased investments in BIPOC initiatives around equitable development and small business resiliency. She is also the mother of two toddlers, who fuel her drive to ensure they grow up in a culturally rich, accessible, and diverse community.	
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  <b>Date Signed:</b> April 2, 2026	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

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



CITY OF SEATTLE ▪ STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OATH OF OFFICE

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State of Washington

County of King

I, Quynh Pham, swear or affirm that I possess all of the qualifications prescribed in the Seattle City Charter and the Seattle Municipal Code for the position of Director of the Department of Neighborhoods; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington, and the Charter and Ordinances of The City of Seattle; and that I will faithfully conduct myself as Director of the Department of Neighborhoods.

---

Quynh Pham

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

[Seal]

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Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

# QUYNH PHAM

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **August 2017 - Present | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Friends of Little Saigon**

- Set strategic vision for community and economic development initiatives, aligning organizational objectives with community needs, market trends, and state/federal policy priorities.
- Mobilize stakeholders and community members to shape policy agendas, provide testimony, and advocate for structural reforms.
- Advance community-driven policy and advocacy efforts by centering lived experience, data, and cultural competency in legislative and administrative engagement.
- Build and maintain high-impact partnerships with government agencies, community organizations, educational institutions, and private-sector leaders to advance shared strategic goals.
- Guide the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs that support community revitalization, small business support, economic opportunity, and neighborhood planning.
- Lead resource development strategies including grants, contracts, corporate partnerships, and individual giving.
- Direct community real estate development projects from concept to completion—including site acquisition, financing, stakeholder engagement, and alignment with economic and cultural priorities—to catalyze neighborhood revitalization and long-term economic resilience.
- Embed equity metrics into program evaluation to ensure inclusive benefits for historically marginalized communities served in Little Saigon.
- Represent the organization publicly at conferences, legislative hearings, community forums, and media engagements to promote community-centric initiatives.

### **May 2016 - July 2017 | FUND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, Kandelia (aka Vietnamese Friendship Association)**

- Lead strategic planning and execution of fundraising initiatives, including major gifts, corporate sponsorships, and annual campaigns, to meet and exceed revenue goals, including annual Benefit Dinner.
- Build and maintain relationships with donors, corporate partners, and community stakeholders to drive long-term engagement and philanthropic support. Identify, cultivate, solicit, and steward donors through personalized outreach, events, and recognition strategies. Oversee development communications, including impact reports, donor newsletters, and fundraising appeals, ensuring alignment with organizational mission and brand.
- Manage grant pipeline—research funding opportunities, write compelling proposals, and track reporting requirements to maintain strong funder relationships.
- Analyze fundraising data and trends to inform strategy, forecast revenue, and improve donor retention rates.
- Collaborate with leadership and program teams to align funding priorities with organizational needs and impact goals.

**July 2011 – April 2016 | COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COORDINATOR, Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation &  
Development Authority (SCIDpda)**

***Community Outreach, Engagement, and Organizing***

- Conduct outreach and engage community stakeholders (i.e. residents, small business owners, community members) on community and city projects, policies, and events. E.g. First Hill Streetcar, Yesler Terrace Redevelopment, Seattle Public Utilities Composting Requirement, \$15 Minimum Wage.
- Outreach strategies include door-to-door engagement, advertisements in ethnic media, press releases, and social media. Engagement strategies include surveys, charettes, community meetings, public gatherings and events.

***Project Management***

- Business Watch program: a crime prevention tool kit that provides non-emergency community and government resources, contact information, as well as tips and tricks for identifying and reporting crime. I developed the materials and reached out to the small business owners to participate in the program. This is a supplemental program to the monthly safety meetings I facilitated.
- Façade Improvement program: a capital project that supports small businesses with storefront improvements and technical assistance. I reached out to the small businesses, vendors, managed contracts, budget, and timelines.
- Little Saigon Landmark Cultural Center Feasibility Study: a proposed mixed-use development project with a Vietnamese Cultural Center, retail space, and housing. Conducted research on local community/cultural center models and worked with a team of graduate students to develop curriculum for research project on national community/cultural center models.

***Marketing and Fund Development***

- Develop marketing strategies for neighborhood events, business promotions, trainings, workshops, and community gatherings. Strategies include fundraising plans, marketing plans, cultivating sponsor relationships, and working with vendors and different organizations.
- Community events include the annual Vietnamese cultural festival Celebrate Little Saigon, International Children's Park Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, and National Night Out Public Safety gathering.

**EDUCATION**

**Class of 2016 | SEATTLE UNIVERSITY, Seattle**

Master's in Public Administration

Coursework in policy and program research, organizational development, management and human resources, leadership, and public budgeting.

**Class of 2010 | UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, Seattle**

Bachelor's degree in American Ethnic Studies with a minor in International Studies

Coursework in Asian American history, intersection of race, ethnicity, and gender in the United States, civil rights, economics, and international policies.

**LEADERSHIP &  
VOLUNTEER**

**YOUNG AMERICAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

2025 YALP Cohort

- Developed and run by Harvard Business School, YALP aims to cultivate leaders who understand the value of cross-sector collaboration and are committed to implementing it more effectively within their own communities, by convening emerging leaders from across the country who are working to help their communities prosper.

## **HARVARD BLOOMBERG CITY LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE**

2024-2025, Community Leader Rep

- A program of the Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University — is a collaboration between Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Business School, and Bloomberg Philanthropies to equip mayors and senior city officials to tackle complex challenges in their cities and improve the quality of life of their citizens. Seattle is strengthening its ability to employ the talents, resources, and energy of diverse stakeholders working across sectors, jurisdictions, and agencies to solve complex problems and improve people's quality of life.

## **HISTORIC SOUTH DOWNTOWN**

2022-present, Board Member

- Historic South Downtown (HSD) works to preserve, restore, and promote the past, present, and future of Seattle's Pioneer Square and Chinatown International District neighborhoods. HSD pursues its mission through advocacy in partnership with other neighborhood stakeholders and through a unique grantmaking program focusing on neighborhood self-determination and local control.

## **CRESCENT COLLABORATIVE**

2022-present, Board Member

- A coalition of community-based organizations working to support equity and sustainability within the urban neighborhoods of Chinatown-International District, the Central Area, Yesler Terrace, First Hill, and Capitol Hill that lie adjacent to downtown Seattle. Our goal is to counter gentrification in these significant historic neighborhoods that are cultural anchors for marginalized and low-income communities as we foster social equity, economic opportunity and great educational and health outcomes for residents and BIPOC small businesses.

## **KING COUNTY EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE**

2022-present, Policy Committee Member

- A coalition of leaders from across King County, representing underserved communities facing high-displacement. KC EDI was formed to advocate for a sustainable funding source for equitable development that is community-led. We were successful in passing SB 5138, an Airbnb tax to seed the initial funding.

## **RACE & SOCIAL EQUITY TASKFORCE**

2016-present, Member

- A coalition of leaders from the Central District, Southeast Seattle, and the Chinatown-International District, who represent neighborhoods historically redlined and at high-displacement risk. RSET was instrumental in the creation of the City's Equitable Development Initiative (EDI) and drives community-led Equitable Development Projects in our respective neighborhoods.



## City of Seattle Office of the Mayor

### Press Release

### For Immediate Release

### Contact Information

Sage Wilson



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### Mayor Wilson announces departmental leadership decisions

**SEATTLE** - Mayor Wilson today announced her decisions on the leadership of several city departments.

"I could not be more excited about the talent and expertise of the people who have stepped up to lead city departments, and I know that together, this team will be able to accomplish extraordinary things," said Mayor Wilson. "I look forward to working with Quynh Pham at the Department of Neighborhoods, Amy Nguyen at the Office of Arts and Culture, Beto Yarce at the Office of Economic Development, Lylianna Allala at the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, Rico Quirindongo at the Office of Planning and Community Development, Mina Hashemi at Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Dr. Amarah Khan at the Office of the Employee Ombud. I am grateful to the outgoing department leaders for all of their contributions to the City over the years, and to the interim leaders for stepping up to aid my transition."

### Department of Neighborhoods

The Department of Neighborhoods is dedicated to help neighbors connect, build strong communities, improve their quality of life, and engage with city government. Jenifer Chao will be leaving the Department of Neighborhoods, and Sam Read will fill her role until Quynh Pham becomes Acting Director.

Quynh is currently the Executive Director of Friends of Little Saigon (FLS), a community development organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing Little Saigon's cultural, economic, and historical vitality. Her 14 years of nonprofit development experience have shaped local policy, advanced opportunities for Southeast Asian artists and cultural practitioners, and increased investments in BIPOC initiatives around equitable development and small business resiliency. She is also the mother of two toddlers, who continue to fuel her drive to ensure they grow up in a culturally rich, accessible, and diverse community.

**Quynh Pham:**

*"I am honored to step into the Department of Neighborhoods, a department that sits at the intersection of community and government. Through my work at Friends of Little Saigon, I have learned that the most effective solutions come from those closest to the challenges. In this new role, I look forward to working alongside and supporting Seattle's diverse neighborhoods."*

**Office of Arts and Culture**

The Office of Arts and Culture manages the city's public arts program, provides grants to support the arts, operates arts education programs and cultural facilities, and strives to make Seattle a place where everyone has the opportunity to engage in diverse arts and cultural experiences. Gülgün Kayim will be leaving the Office of Arts and Culture, and Kelly Davidson will fill her role until Amy Nguyen becomes Acting Director.

Amy Nguyen brings over a decade of public sector leadership to the position, including service as Deputy Director at the Office of Planning & Community Development and as Interim Deputy Director and Public Art Director at the Office of Arts & Culture. Raised in White Center and shaped by experiences in New York and New Orleans, Nguyen is committed to activating and sustaining

Seattle through arts and culture, so creativity is something everyone can access, in every neighborhood.

**Amy Nguyen:**

*“Creativity is how a city honors its past, heals its present, and imagines its future. I’m honored to serve as the Acting Director for the Office of Arts & Culture, and excited to support the artists and communities shaping Seattle every day. My north star is a future where more people have resources, space, and freedom to create and where meaningful cultural experiences are within reach and close to home.”*

**Gülgün Kayim:**

*“I’m honored to have served Seattle during a time of big changes for the Office of Arts & Culture and the city as we navigate post-pandemic recovery. Since I joined in 2023, I’m proud to have led stabilization of the department after major staffing and scope reductions, complete a comprehensive Strategic Plan, and rebuild capacity. Together, we strengthened community oversight by expanding the Seattle Arts Commission, brought back the King Street Station Advisors, improved operations, launched new programs to support organizational transformation in the cultural sector, and restructured the department to better align with the City’s community and civic priorities.*

*I’m especially proud of the relationships built with communities, cultural organizations, and civic partners across Seattle, as well as the department’s role in activating Downtown and installing major public art along the Seattle Waterfront. This work has set the stage for Seattle’s first-ever citywide Cultural Plan and prepared us to lead major cultural programming during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.”*

**Office of Economic Development**

The Office of Economic Development offers a range of support and resources aimed at supporting local businesses, support thriving neighborhoods, and help build a diverse, robust economy benefits everyone in Seattle. Alicia Teel will return to her position as Deputy Director when Beto Yarce becomes the Acting Director.

Beto is a business executive, entrepreneur, and nonprofit leader dedicated to advancing economic equity and entrepreneurship. Fluent in English and Spanish, he brings over 15 years of experience driving growth and impact across business, nonprofit, and public sectors. Appointed by President Joe Biden as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Region 10, Beto was responsible for supporting more than 1.3 million small businesses through expanded access to capital, counseling, and federal contracting opportunities. He is the CEO and Founder of Beto Yarce Consulting, where he helps organizations strengthen leadership, strategy, and performance, and previously served as Executive Director of Ventures in Seattle, where he led the organization's turnaround and expansion. His career reflects a lifelong commitment to empowering communities, strengthening small businesses, and building inclusive economic opportunity.

**Beto Yarce:**

*"I am grateful and honored to serve as Director of Seattle's Office of Economic Development and to collaborate with Mayor Katie Wilson and her team. I'm thankful for the mayor's trust and shared commitment to building a more inclusive economy for our city. Together, we will strengthen healthy businesses, support thriving neighborhoods, and partner with community organizations to ensure economic opportunity reaches every corner of Seattle. As a small business owner and immigrant, I understand firsthand the challenges many entrepreneurs face. I am eager to work with our team and community partners to build an economy from the bottom up—expanding access to capital, education, and innovative programs so small businesses can grow, create jobs, and help build lasting prosperity for current and future generations."*

**Office of Sustainability and the Environment**

The Office of Sustainability and the Environment works to ensure a clean and healthy environment for everyone who lives and works in Seattle. Michelle Caulfield will return to her position as Deputy Director when Lylianna Allala becomes the Acting Director.

Lylianna currently serves as the Interim Deputy Director, and previously served as the City of Seattle's first Climate Justice Director. As the Climate Justice Director, Lylianna oversaw citywide implementation of Seattle's Equity & Environment Initiative and Seattle's Green New Deal. Prior to joining the City, Lylianna led climate & environmental policy & outreach for Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal.

**Lylianna Allala:**

*"I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the Office of Sustainability & Environment under Mayor Wilson's leadership. I share Mayor Wilson's commitment to building strong and inclusive partnerships and uplifting community centered solutions to ensure that Seattle's climate action yields tangible benefits for all our communities. I am immensely proud to lead this department of passionate people who have dedicated themselves to implementing innovative policies and programs that meet community needs and improve quality of life through clean air and water, healthy forests and trees, access to fresh foods, and inclusive pathways to careers that help Seattle reduce emissions and become more climate resilient. Caring for the environment must begin with caring for one another."*

**Office of Planning and Community Development**

The Office of Planning and Community Development partners with neighborhoods and businesses, and works across City departments to assess community needs, prioritize resources, and develop of a city that is inclusive, affordable, vibrant, interconnected and innovative. Mayor Wilson is retaining **Rico Quirindongo** as director of the Office of Planning and Community.

Rico has dedicated over 30 years to revitalizing and reimagining neighborhoods. Through his passion for architecture, civic engagement, and sustainable design, Rico has been at the forefront of projects that breathe new life into Seattle's urban fabric, ensuring that growth aligns with community values and environmental stewardship. As a founding member of the Northwest Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects, Rico has helped foster diversity and inclusion within the field. His leadership

extends across several prominent roles, from chairing the Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority Council to serving as President of AIA Seattle. In 2020, he delivered his first TED Talk and was recognized nationally as a “Citizen Architect” by the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Last year, he was named one of Seattle’s Most Influential by Seattle Magazine. Rico believes in the power of design in shaping resilient, inclusive communities.

**Rico Quirindongo:**

*“It’s an honor to remain at the helm of OPCD under Mayor Wilson’s leadership, and I’m grateful for the trust and partnership that make our work possible. With the passage of the Comprehensive Plan in December, we have an incredible opportunity to shape Seattle’s future. I’m excited to continue working with homeowners, renters, developers, nonprofits, and the design community to envision a city where everyone can live, work, and play. Our commitment is clear: embrace diversity, repair the harms of our redlining past, and create pathways to generational wealth-building in Black and Brown communities. We will foster a city where artists, entrepreneurs, small-business owners, and working families can afford to thrive, be seen, and be celebrated.”*

**Additional leadership decisions**

Mina Hashemi will remain as head of the **Office of Intergovernmental Relations**, and Dr. Amarah Khan will remain as head of the **Office of the Employee Ombud**.

Other departments will see interim leadership changes until a permanent director is selected. At the **Office of Housing**, Maiko Winkler-Chin will be leaving as director, and Andréa Akita will serve as Interim Director. At the **Parks Department**, AP Diaz will be leaving as director, and Michele Finnegan will serve as Interim Director.

**Dr. Amarah Khan:**

*“It is an absolute privilege to continue to serve the City of Seattle Employees as the Director of the Ombuds Office. Our office is a safe place for employees to report issues and concerns. For nearly seven years, we have diligently upheld the highest standards of confidentiality while ensuring conflict resolution*

*services are provided in a timely manner. I am grateful for Mayor Wilson's support and faith in this very important work."*

**Andréa Akita:**

*"I'm honored to serve in this interim role, leading the Seattle Office of Housing. Our team is dedicated to stewarding the City's affordable housing investments, policies, and programs to prevent displacement, create new opportunities, and preserve existing affordable homes. This work is rooted in collaboration, working jointly with others to achieve shared goals, because we know that only by partnering with communities, stakeholders, and advocates can we realize Mayor Wilson's vision of a Seattle that is affordable for everyone."*

**Maiko Winkler-Chin:**

*"It has been an honor to serve these last four years as Director of the Seattle Office of Housing. This team is one of the smartest in the City, navigating the complex challenges in creating and preserving affordable housing.*

*It's never just about housing. It's about creating lasting community assets, repairing past harms, and ensuring all neighborhoods offer diverse housing options. Our investments bring homes and vital neighborhood elements like small businesses, childcare, libraries, and cultural anchors.*

*Together, we achieved incredible milestones: passing the nation's largest Housing Levy at nearly \$1 billion, welcoming over 800 low-income families into affordable rental homes, helping 300 families buy their first homes, and advancing projects like Fort Lawton, Mount Baker Station, and Lake City Community Center. We adapted to meet the moment because Seattle has changed, and so must we.*

*I leave the Office in the hands of my good friend and mission partner, Interim Director Andréa Akita, who will continue the hard work of making sure everyone in Seattle has a healthy and affordable home. I look forward to seeing the policies, programs, and investments OH creates continue to shape Seattle."*

**Michele Finnegan:**

*"I'm honored to serve as Acting Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation, an organization powered by a passionate workforce committed to*

*strengthening communities and improving lives across Seattle through our parks, programs, and services. We share a vision for vibrant communities, a healthy environment, and affordable, accessible opportunities for all. I look forward to partnering with Mayor Wilson, City departments, and community members to support solutions to shared challenges facing our city.*

**AP Diaz:**

*"I'm grateful for the opportunity to have led the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department. With a workforce of nearly 2000 employees, they are the ones who make Seattle's Parks the 8th best park system in America. Even in the rainy, cold, and darkest of days they show up and out for community - providing exceptional park experiences, with a love and commitment to enriching the lives of children, teens, adults and our aging population. That's why our motto is Seattle Shines! During the past three years, we launched Swim Seattle to eradicate disproportionate drownings among kids of colors; worked to combat nature deficit syndrome by launching the Red Barn Ranch Initiative; created Seattle Mentors — a wage-based youth employment and mentorship program and are poised to now tackle the epidemic of loneliness plaguing our largest cities. We also secured the United Nations "role model" city status for our work on urban forest regeneration — the only U.S. City to receive this worldwide recognition and a commitment to advance our City's climate initiatives.*

*These accomplishments reflect only part of what we together helped deliver and performed for our City's parklands and waterscapes. Whether responding to natural disasters, supporting staff after traumatic events, or reimagining the role of parks in civic life — I endeavored to show up with strength, empathy, a friendly outlook, authenticity and a can-do spirit. I was proud to be the only Latino cabinet member and I am thankful to have been trusted by so many of our SPR workforce, respected in the community, and counted on by various City leaders and stakeholders such as the Seattle Parks Foundation, The Associated Recreation Council, The Zoo, The Aquarium and scores of neighbors, community groups and park advocates."*

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# City of Seattle

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## Seattle Human Resources

Kimberly Loving, Director

**January 28, 2026**

**TO:** Lindsey King – Talent Acquisition and Compensation Advisor - SHR

**FROM:** Annie Nguyen – Citywide Employment Compliance Advisor - SHR

**SUBJECT:** Background check for **Pham, Quynh Phuong**

The Seattle Human Resources has received a copy of **Quynh Phuong Pham's** background check provided by Global Screening Solutions. There were no findings that would impact their employment eligibility.

**Cc:** Personnel File

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Seattle Department of Human Resources

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 5500, PO Box 34028, Seattle, WA 98124-4028  
(206) 684-7999 • TTY:7-1-1 Fax: (206) 684-4157 • Employment Website: [www.seattle.gov/jobs](http://www.seattle.gov/jobs)

An equal employment opportunity employer. Accommodations for people with disabilities provided upon request.





Legislation Text

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**File #: CB 121197, Version: 1**

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**CITY OF SEATTLE**

**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**

**COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE relating to historic preservation; imposing controls upon the Woodin House, a landmark designated by the Landmarks Preservation Board under Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code, and adding it to the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in Chapter 25.32 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC), establishes a procedure for the designation and preservation of sites, improvements, and objects having historical, cultural, architectural, engineering, or geographic significance; and

WHEREAS, the Landmarks Preservation Board (“Board”), after a public meeting on October 2, 2024, voted to approve the nomination of the improvement located at 5801 Corson Avenue S and the site on which the improvement is located (which are collectively referred to as the “Woodin House”) for designation as a landmark under SMC Chapter 25.12; and

WHEREAS, after a public meeting on November 6, 2024, the Board voted to approve the designation of the Woodin House under SMC Chapter 25.12; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2025, the Board and the Woodin House’s owner agreed to controls and incentives to be applied to specific features or characteristics of the designated landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Board recommends that the City Council enact a designating ordinance approving the controls and incentives; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. Designation. Under Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.12.660, the designation by the

Landmarks Preservation Board (“Board”) of the improvement located at 5801 Corson Avenue S and the site on which the improvement is located (which are collectively referred to as “Woodin House”) is acknowledged.

A. Legal Description. The Woodin House is located on the property legally described as:

Lots 6, 7, and 8, Block 6, King County Addition to the City of Seattle, Less St. Hwy, according to the plat, as recorded in Volume 8 of Plats, page 59, records of King County, Washington.

B. Specific Features or Characteristics Designated. Under SMC 25.12.660.A.2, the Board designated the following specific features or characteristics of the Woodin House:

1. The site.
2. The exterior of the house.
3. The interior of the first floor, excluding the pantry, bathroom, and enclosed rear porch.
4. The interior stair from the first to second floor including the guardrail, balusters, and the

second floor hallway.

5. Note that the features of the designated interior spaces includes all of the materials, finishes, fixtures, built-in casework, doors, fireplaces, and woodwork, unless specifically excluded from review in subsection 2.A.2 of this ordinance.

C. Basis of Designation. The designation was made because the Woodin House is more than 25 years old; has significant character, interest, or value as a part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the City, state, or nation; has integrity or the ability to convey its significance; and satisfies the following SMC 25.12.350 provisions:

1. It is associated in a significant way with the life of a person important in the history of the City, state, or nation (SMC 25.12.350.B).

2. It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, City, state or nation (SMC 25.12.350.C).

3. It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a

method of construction (SMC 25.12.350.D).

4. Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the City and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or the City (SMC 25.12.350.F).

Section 2. Controls. The following controls are imposed on the features or characteristics of the Woodin House that were designated by the Board for preservation:

A. Certificate of Approval Process.

1. Except as provided in subsection 2.A.2 or subsection 2.B of this ordinance, the owner must obtain a Certificate of Approval issued by the Board according to SMC Chapter 25.12, or the time for denying a Certificate of Approval must have expired, before the owner may make alterations or significant changes to the features or characteristics of the Woodin House that were designated by the Board for preservation.

2. No Certificate of Approval is required for the following:

a. Any in-kind maintenance or repairs of the features or characteristics of the Woodin House that were designated by the Board for preservation.

b. Removal of trees less than 4 inches in diameter measured 4-1/2 feet above ground.

c. Removal of mature trees when they are not classified as Tier 1/Heritage Tree on the City of Seattle Plant Amnesty List, or Tier 2/Exceptional Tree per The City of Seattle regulations.

d. Planting of new trees in locations that will never obscure the view of designated features of the landmark, or physically undermine a built feature of the landmark.

e. Planting or removal of shrubs, perennials, or annuals, in locations that will never obscure the view of designated features of the landmark, or physically undermine a built feature of the landmark.

f. Installation, removal, or alteration (including repair) of underground irrigation and underground utilities, provided that the site is restored in kind.

g. Installation, removal, or alteration of the following site furnishings: benches, chairs, tables, swings, movable planters, and trash/recycling receptacles.

h. Installation or removal of interior, temporary window shading devices that are operable and do not obscure the glazing when in the open position.

**B. City Historic Preservation Officer (CHPO) Approval Process.**

1. The CHPO may review and approve alterations or significant changes to the features or characteristics listed in subsection 2.B.3 of this ordinance according to the following procedure:

a. The owner shall submit to the CHPO a written request for the alterations or significant changes, including applicable drawings or specifications.

b. If the CHPO, upon examination of submitted plans and specifications, determines that the alterations or significant changes are consistent with the purposes of SMC Chapter 25.12, the CHPO shall approve the alterations or significant changes without further action by the Board.

2. If the CHPO does not approve the alterations or significant changes, the owner may submit revised materials to the CHPO, or apply to the Board for a Certificate of Approval under SMC Chapter 25.12. The CHPO shall transmit a written decision on the owner's request to the owner within 14 days of receipt of the request. Failure of the CHPO to timely transmit a written decision constitutes approval of the request.

3. CHPO approval of alterations or significant changes to the features or characteristics of the Woodin House that were designated by the Board for preservation is available for the following:

a. The installation, removal, or alteration of ducts, conduits, HVAC vents, grills, pipes, panels, weatherheads, wiring, meters, utility connections, downspouts and gutters, and/or other similar mechanical, electrical, and telecommunication elements necessary for the normal operation of the house or site.

b. Removal of trees more than 4 inches in diameter measured 4-1/2 feet above ground, when identified as a hazard by an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist, and not already excluded from review in subsection 2.A.2.c of this ordinance.

c. Minor alterations to site grading, soil retention, drainage, or paving, unless the Landmarks coordinator determines it will have no impact on the character of the site.

d. Installation, removal, or alteration of non-original exterior light fixtures, exterior security lighting, and security system equipment. If proposed equipment is similar in size and location to existing, staff may be able to determine it to be in-kind maintenance, provided the fixture or equipment does not obscure designated features and is attached to a material that is easily repairable.

e. Installation, removal, or alteration of exterior signage.

f. Installation of improvements for safety or accessibility compliance.

g. Installation, removal, or alteration of fire and life safety equipment.

h. Replacement of non-original windows and doors when located in original openings.

i. Alterations to the designated interior features.

j. The Landmarks Coordinator may determine that no Certificate of Approval is required if the proposed work is consistent with in-kind repair and/or general maintenance.

k. Emergency repairs or measures (including immediate action to secure the area, install temporary equipment, and employ stabilization methods as necessary to protect the public's safety, health, and welfare) to address hazardous conditions with adverse impacts to the buildings or site as related to a seismic or other unforeseen event. Following such an emergency, the owner shall adhere to the following:

1) The owner shall immediately notify the City Historic Preservation Officer within 24 hours, and document the conditions and actions the owner took.

2) If temporary structural supports are necessary, the owner shall make all reasonable efforts to prevent further damage to historic resources.

3) The owner shall not remove historic building materials from the site as part of the emergency response.

4) In consultation with the City Historic Preservation Officer and staff, the owner

shall adopt and implement a long-term plan to address any damage through appropriate solutions.

Section 3. Incentives. The following incentives are granted on the features or characteristics of the Woodin House that were designated by the Board for preservation:

A. Uses not otherwise permitted in a zone may be authorized in a designated landmark by means of an administrative conditional use permit issued under SMC Title 23.

B. Exceptions to certain of the requirements of the Seattle Building Code and the Seattle Energy Code, adopted by SMC Chapter 22.101, may be authorized according to the applicable provisions.

C. Special tax valuation for historic preservation may be available under chapter 84.26 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) upon application and compliance with the requirements of that statute.

D. Reduction or waiver, under certain conditions, of minimum accessory off-street parking requirements for uses permitted in a designated landmark structure may be permitted under SMC Title 23.

Section 4. Enforcement of this ordinance and penalties for its violation are as provided in SMC 25.12.910.

Section 5. The Woodin House is added alphabetically to Section I, Residences, of the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in SMC Chapter 25.32.

Section 6. The City Clerk is directed to record a certified copy of this ordinance with the King County Recorder's Office, deliver two certified copies to the CHPO, and deliver one copy to the Director of the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections. The CHPO is directed to provide a certified copy of this ordinance to the Woodin House's owner.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

(Seal)

## SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact:</b>	<b>CBO Contact:</b>
Neighborhoods	Erin Doherty/206-684-0380	Nick Tucker/206-684-5847

### 1. BILL SUMMARY

**Legislation Title:**

AN ORDINANCE relating to historic preservation; imposing controls upon the Woodin House, a landmark designated by the Landmarks Preservation Board under Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code, and adding it to the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in Chapter 25.32 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

**Summary and Background of the Legislation:**

The attached legislation acknowledges the designation of the Woodin House as a historic landmark by the Landmarks Preservation Board, imposes controls, grants incentives, and adds Woodin Hosue to the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in SMC Chapter 25.32. The legislation does not have a financial impact.

The Woodin House was built in 1904-1905 when Georgetown was first incorporated. It was built as the home of Dr. Scott and Imogene Woodin. Dr. Woodin was the City of Georgetown’s first public Health Officer. Both Dr. Woodin and Mrs. Woodin (a nurse) were pivotal in operation of the King County Hospital nearby, and long-time community advocates. A Controls and Incentives Agreement has been signed by the owner and has been approved by the Landmarks Preservation Board. The controls in the agreement apply to the site, the house exterior, and portions of the house interior, but do not apply to any in-kind maintenance or repairs of the designated features.

### 2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?  Yes  No

### 3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?  Yes  No

### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Please describe how this legislation may affect any departments besides the originating department.

No adverse effects anticipated.

**b. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? If yes, please attach a map and explain any impacts on the property. Please attach any Environmental Impact Statements, Determinations of Non-Significance, or other reports generated for this property.**

Yes, see attached map in Exhibit A. This legislation imposes controls upon the property, as outlined in the proposed landmark designation ordinance.

**c. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.**

- i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.**

There are no known negative impacts on vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities.

- ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.**

This legislation is to codify the Controls & Incentives Agreement between the City Historic Preservation Officer and the owner of this Landmark property. There was no formal equity analysis undertaken for this property related to the language in the agreement, although we work with each property owner to strike a balance between preservation goals and continued operation of a property. Early in the landmarks process, separate from the negotiation of controls, DON Historic Preservation program staff review each landmark nomination application for completeness and provide detailed guidance to the author, to increase representation and accuracy of untold or misrepresented history.

- iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?**

A language access plan is not anticipated.

**d. Climate Change Implications**

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.**

This legislation supports the sustainable practice of preserving historic buildings and their embodied energy. Reuse and restoration of a building or structure reduces the consumption of new natural resources, and the carbon emissions associated with new construction. Preservation also avoids contributing to the ever-growing landfills.

- ii. **Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle’s resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

Many historic buildings possess materials and craftsmanship that cannot be duplicated today. When properly maintained and improved, they will benefit future generations, and surpass the longevity of most of today’s new construction. They can also support upgraded systems for better energy performance, and these investments typically support local or regional suppliers, and labor industries.

- e. **If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program’s desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

No new initiative or programmatic expansion.

## 5. CHECKLIST

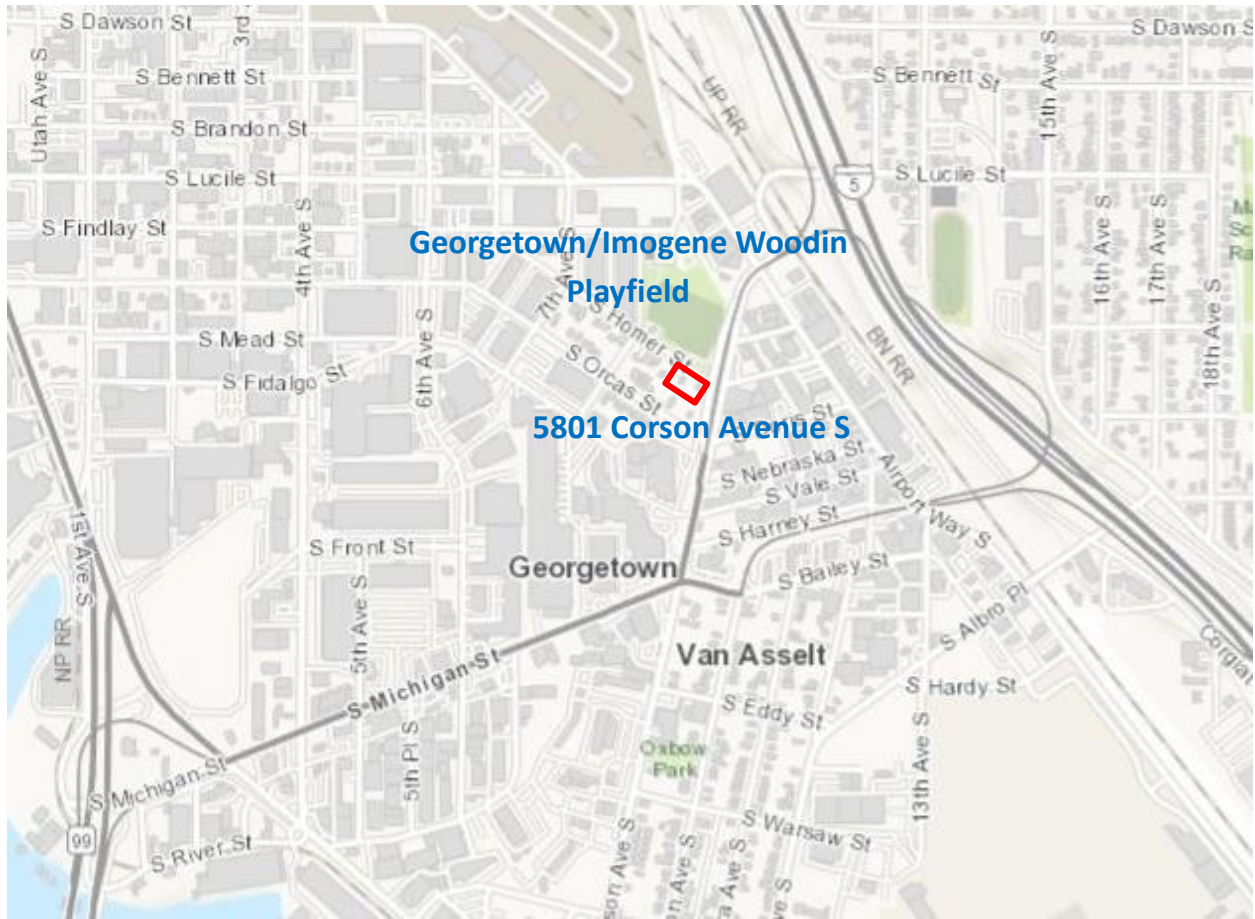
Please click the appropriate box if any of these questions apply to this legislation.

- Is a public hearing required?**
- Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required?**
- If this legislation changes spending and/or revenues for a fund, have you reviewed the relevant fund policies and determined that this legislation complies?**
- Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?**  
If yes, please review requirements in Resolution 31203 for applicability and complete and attach “Additional risk analysis and fiscal analysis for non-utility partner projects” form.

## 6. ATTACHMENTS

### Summary Attachments:

Summary Exhibit A – Vicinity Map of Woodin House



Note: This map is intended for illustrative or informational purposes only and is not intended to modify anything in the legislation.



Legislation Text

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**File #:** CB 121195, **Version:** 2

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Screen Reader Users: Make sure settings include reading strikethrough and underline font attributes.

## The City of Seattle

### Ordinance

#### Council Bill

**An ordinance** relating to land use and zoning; adopting interim provisions to expand the capacity of transitional encampments; and amending Sections 23.42.054 and 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

**Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:**

Section 1. The City Council finds and declares:

A. On November 2, 2015, the Mayor of the City of Seattle declared a civil emergency regarding the homelessness crisis within the City of Seattle. The emergency remains in effect.

B. Since declaring the emergency, according to the King County Medical Examiner's Office, there has been an approximately 150 percent increase in deaths annually of people presumed to be homeless - 312 decedents in 2024 compared to 124 in 2015.

C. According to the most recent Point-in-Time Count, from the King County Regional Homelessness Authority in 2024, there are 16,868 individuals experiencing homelessness countywide, a 26 percent increase from 2022 and a 260 percent increase from 2014. 58 percent of those individuals are unsheltered.

D. According to data from the Office of Civil Legal Aid, eviction filings involving low-income tenants in King County totaled 6,375 between July 2024 and March 2024, placing the state on track

for a record number of evictions in 2025.

E. The homelessness crisis is worsening. The negative public health and safety consequences of homelessness, both upon persons experiencing homelessness and more generally, have been amply documented. Experiencing homelessness is traumatic and can trigger, create, or exacerbate health conditions, substance use, and mental and behavioral health conditions. In 2024 there were 1,042 overdose deaths countywide, with fentanyl the leading cause of deaths among the homeless population in 2023. Sleeping outdoors increases the likelihood of developing exposure-related conditions.

F. Since 2015, the City has worked to advance a comprehensive set of solutions both to prevent persons from entering homelessness and to provide housing that enables persons experiencing homelessness to become housed.

G. That strategy has recognized the importance of permanent supportive housing as a long-term solution to allow many homeless persons to become, and stay, housed.

H. Even under the best possible scenario, developing permanent supportive housing requires substantial funds and takes substantial time. Thus, the City has also recognized the importance of temporary solutions that enable persons experiencing homelessness to become housed while sufficient permanent supportive housing is developed.

I. A temporary solution that has shown great potential, both because of its acceptance among homeless persons and its relatively low cost, is the development of “tiny house villages,” also known as microshelters, a concept covered by the Land Use Code’s definition of “transitional encampment.” Based on experience gained thus far in addressing the homelessness crisis, the City is embarking on a major effort to develop additional microshelter villages.

J. The urgency of this effort has recently increased dramatically due to recent actions by the federal government. The City’s approach to the development of permanent supportive housing is

based on the concept of “housing first,” under which persons are provided permanent housing even if they are still addressing mental health, addiction, or similar issues. Evidence demonstrates that this approach increases the likelihood of those issues being successfully addressed, while also returning substantial public benefits including the reduction of costs in public services.

K. Housing-first programs have decades of research proving their efficacy. A 2009 study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that the Downtown Emergency Service Center’s 1811 Eastlake housing-first program dramatically reduced costs on public services, where the average cost from a person experiencing homelessness was \$4,066 per month from corrections, shelter, substance use treatment, and healthcare costs, and after clients moved into 1811 Eastlake the average cost offset per person per month was \$2,449. The medical journal *Psychiatric Services* published a five-year study of the Pathways to Housing housing-first program based in New York City where data showed that in nearly 90 percent of cases where a person experiencing homelessness moved into one of their apartments the resident retained their housing five years later.

L. The federal government, in a major shift in policy, has recently decided to penalize local jurisdictions that use a “housing first” approach. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a FY25 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for \$3.9 billion dollars to fund programs to reduce homelessness nationwide, with \$65 million available to the Seattle-King County Continuum of Care (CoC), but prohibited more than 30 percent of funds to be spent on “housing first” programs. This would have pushed 170,000 formerly homeless residents back into homelessness across the United States, and places at risk up to 4,500 residents in Seattle and King County currently living in permanent supportive housing.

M. In previous years CoC funds provided as much as 80 percent of the funds available for permanent supportive housing programs, and an abrupt 30 percent funding cap on all housing programs will destabilize the entire housing sector dedicated for formerly homeless veterans,

formerly homeless families, people with disabilities, and chronically homeless people.

N. On November 25, 2025, Washington State, along with 19 other states and Washington, D.C., filed suit in federal court, followed by a companion lawsuit from King County and a coalition of seven local governments and four nonprofit organizations to challenge the legality of HUD's devastating cuts to this crucial housing program. However, the CoC contracts that fund 28 permanent supportive housing buildings in Seattle begin to expire in 2026 and the state and county litigation may not reach resolution in time to preclude a gap from when existing CoC contracts lapse.

O. Given the extremely negative tenor of the federal government's actions and the unpredictability of the current federal administration, it is unclear whether the City will be able to mitigate the effect of federal cutbacks over the medium- to long-term. The City must brace itself for an imminent and major disruption of the pathway that it has worked to build to provide persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness with access to the ultimate solution of permanent supportive housing.

P. One of the consequences of this impending disruption is an immediate need to create additional temporary shelter options, such as microshelter villages, that can provide persons experiencing homelessness with a place to live when permanent supportive housing is not available.

Q. While microshelter villages are quicker and less expensive to establish than permanent supportive housing, the time required to locate sites, obtain permits, and construct facilities is not insignificant. In light of the worsening of the homelessness crisis and particularly in light of recent federal actions and the resulting impending disruptions, it is necessary to quickly pursue development of microshelter villages to serve as many people as possible.

R. One of the impediments to rapidly increasing the number of persons who can be served by microshelter villages is the Land Use Code's 100-person limit on the number of occupants in a transitional encampment. Finding sites that can be developed at all for microshelter villages is

difficult, and finding sites that can be developed quickly is even harder. Many of the sites that can be developed with the greatest efficiency and speed are located on City-owned property. When City-owned property is available, maximizing the number of persons served on a given site is a critical strategy for making spaces in tiny house villages available quickly. Given the limited number of City-owned sites, the most viable sites already have microshelter villages on them, and expanding those sites is hindered by the existing 100-person limit even though there may be significantly more land available to use on the site. Even on privately-owned sites, increasing the number of occupants in each transitional encampment would increase the speed with which the overall number of spaces in tiny house villages can grow.

S. Amending the Land Use Code to increase the maximum permissible number of occupants in particular transitional encampments will allow the City to more quickly address the homelessness crisis by enabling the completion of more tiny homes in transitional encampments. Moreover, accelerating the timeline for adoption of those amendments will address the need for immediate action to prepare for and mitigate against the disruptions caused by federal government restrictions hindering the provision of permanent supportive housing.

T. Given the foregoing, the City Council determines that an exemption from conducting review under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) of the proposal in this ordinance is necessary under Seattle Municipal Code Section 25.05.880. For the reasons explained in this section, the proposal must be implemented immediately or within a period too short for full compliance with Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 25.05 to avoid an imminent threat to public health and safety.

U. Similarly, the City Council determines that the matters set forth in the foregoing findings create an emergency under Seattle Municipal Code Section 23.76.062 that justifies the adoption of the ordinance without a pre-adoption public hearing. Holding a public hearing (with 30 days' notice)

would significantly delay the proposed changes.

V. Adopting this legislation as an interim ordinance under RCW 36.70A.390 addresses the need for immediate action as set forth in this section. In addition, the City Council finds that it is appropriate for this interim ordinance to have a duration of one year to provide time for the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) to carry out a work plan under which SDCI will undertake additional investigation and analysis to inform permanent legislation.

W. To support the success of the City's expanded shelter system, the City will also promote community safety strategies with leadership from the Community Assisted Response & Engagement (CARE) Department, crime prevention programs offered by the Seattle Police Department, and other relevant public safety agencies to support public safety needs in neighborhoods.

Section 2. Section 23.42.054 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126042, is amended as follows:

**23.42.054 Transitional encampments located on property owned or controlled by a religious organization**

\* \* \*

B. The encampment operator or applicant shall comply with the following provisions:

1. ~~((Allow no more than 100 persons to occupy the encampment site as residents of the encampment.))~~ Limit the number of encampment occupants as follows:

a. No more than 100 persons shall occupy a transitional encampment having more than fifty percent of shelter as tents; and

b. No more than 150 persons shall occupy a transitional encampment in which the persons occupy vehicles or micro-modular structures as shelter. For the purposes of this Section 23.42.054, a micro-modular structure is a small, prefabricated structure intended to temporarily shelter one household.

2. Comply with the following fire safety and health standards:

- a. Properly space, hang, and maintain fire extinguishers within the encampment as required by the Fire Department;
- b. Provide and maintain a ~~((400))~~150-person first-aid kit;
- c. Establish and maintain free of all obstructions access aisles as required by the Fire Department;
- d. Install appropriate power protection devices at any location where power is provided;
- e. Designate a smoking area;
- f. Keep the site free of litter and garbage;
- g. Observe all health-related requirements made by the Public Health Department of Seattle & King County; and
- h. Post and distribute to encampment residents, copies of health or safety information provided by the City of Seattle, King County, or any other public agency.
- i. Prohibit any open flames except an outdoor heat source approved by the Fire Department.

3. Provide toilets, running water, and garbage collection according to the following standards:

- a. Provide and maintain chemical toilets as recommended by the portable toilet service provider or provide access to toilets in an indoor location;
- b. Provide running water in an indoor location or alternatively, continuously maintain outdoor running water and discharge the water to a location approved by the City; and
- c. Remove garbage frequently enough to prevent overflow.

4. Cooking facilities, if they are provided, may be located in either an indoor location or

outdoors according to the following standards:

a. Provide a sink with running water in an indoor location or alternatively, continuously maintain outdoor running water and discharge the water to a location approved by the City;

b. Provide a nonabsorbent and easily-cleanable food preparation counter;

c. Provide a means to keep perishable food cold; and

d. Provide all products necessary to maintain the cooking facilities in a clean condition.

5. Allow officials of the Public Health Department of Seattle & King County, the Seattle Fire Department, and the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections to inspect areas of the encampment that are located outdoors and plainly visible without prior notice to determine compliance with these standards.

6. Individuals under the age of 18 years that are not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian shall not be permitted in an encampment.

7. File a site plan with the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections showing the arrangement of the encampment, including numbers of tents or similar sleeping shelters, all facilities that are separate from the sleeping shelters, and all existing structures on the property, if any. The site plan is for informational purposes and is not subject to City review or permitting requirements.

\* \* \*

Section 3. Section 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126509, is amended as follows:

**23.42.056 Transitional encampment as an interim use**

A Type I Master Use Permit may be issued for a transitional encampment interim use according to

the requirements of this Section 23.42.056.

A. The Director, in consultation with the Human Services Director, shall adopt a rule according to Section 23.88.010 that includes but is not limited to establishing:

1. Community outreach requirements that include:

a. Community outreach standards that the encampment operator shall comply with before filing a transitional encampment interim use permit application, whether for a new transitional encampment or relocation of an existing transitional encampment. At a minimum, outreach standards shall contain a requirement that the encampment operator convene at least one public meeting in the neighborhood where the transitional encampment interim use is proposed to be established, at least 14 days prior to applying for a permit;

b. A requirement that the proposed encampment operator establish a Community Advisory Committee that would provide advisory input on proposed encampment operations including identifying methods for handling community complaints or concerns as it relates to the facility or facility clients and implementation of public safety plans required by subsections 23.42.056.D.3, as applicable. The committee shall include one individual identified by each stakeholder group in the geographic area where the proposed encampment would be located as best suited to represent their interests. The committee shall consist of no fewer than five and no more than ten members. Encampment operator representatives shall attend committee meetings to answer questions and shall provide regular reports to the committee concerning encampment operations. City staff may attend the meetings; and

2. Operations standards that the encampment operator is required to implement while an encampment is operating.

D. Additional requirements. The transitional encampment interim use shall meet the following requirements:

\*\*\*

7. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall provide a public safety plan that details the following:

a. Completion of a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment prior to the opening of the transitional encampment, and integration of any CPTED recommendations into the transitional encampment's design and operations;

b. A protocol for contributing to the data collection and reporting requirements requested in Section 4 of Ordinance 127424, including, but not limited to, the critical incident reports, 911 call data, and Unified Care Team deployments; at a minimum the protocol shall include a requirement that all public safety calls made by the provider that originate from activity in or around the transitional encampment be recorded and reported to the Mayor's Office, with a priority for immediately reporting public safety calls that result in an arrest; and

c. Contact information for a City liaison that neighborhood residents can contact if there are issues occurring outside the transitional encampment boundaries that are beyond the provider's control or authority to address.

8. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date this ordinance shall enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement. The Good Neighbor Agreement shall include:

a. The Good Neighbor Agreement physical boundaries and a corresponding map;

b. The roles and responsibilities of the operator as a good neighbor;

c. Communication protocols for community concerns, including a point of contact for initial concerns, which is posted at the transitional encampment and on the operator's website,

d. A commitment to attend regular community meetings, such as those held by community or business organizations;

e. Rules and behavioral standards for transitional encampment residents and their guests.

9. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall have two staff members on site 24 hours a day every day the encampment is operating.

10. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall strive to provide intensive case management for encampment occupants and consider a ratio of at least one case manager for every 15 high-acuity occupants.

\* \* \*

F. Limit on the number of encampments and occupants

1. Maximum number of encampments. No more than 40 transitional encampment interim use encampments shall be permitted and operating at any one time (~~(, and each encampment shall not have more than 100 occupants)~~). The limit (~~(of 40 transitional interim use encampments shall)~~) does not include transitional encampments located on property owned or controlled by a religious organization.

2. Maximum number of occupants. The maximum number of encampment occupants is limited as follows:

a. No more than 100 persons shall occupy a transitional encampment having more than fifty percent of shelter as tents; and

b. No more than 150 persons shall occupy a transitional encampment in which the persons occupy vehicles or micro-modular structures as shelter, except that one transitional encampment with up to 250 occupants may be permitted. For the purposes of this Section 23.42.056, a micro-modular structure is a small, prefabricated structure intended to temporarily shelter one household.

~~((2-))~~ 3. Existing encampments established by and operating under temporary use permits. Encampments presently operating under temporary use permits issued pursuant to subsections 23.42.040.B and 23.42.040.C may apply for an interim use permit pursuant to this Section 23.42.056, subject to the limits established by subsection 23.42.056.F.1 and subsection 23.42.056.F.2. The term for operating any encampments obtaining interim use permits in lieu of temporary use permits shall begin on the date the interim use permit is issued regardless of how long the encampment has been established by a prior temporary use permit.

Section 4. The interim development regulations set forth in this ordinance shall be in effect for a period of one year from the effective date of this ordinance and shall automatically expire after the one-year period unless the same is extended as provided by statute, or unless terminated sooner by the City Council.

Section 5. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390, the Council will hold a public hearing within 60 days of adoption of this ordinance to take public testimony and to consider adopting further findings.

Section 6. Under RCW 36.70A.390, the Council approves the following work plan for the development of permanent regulations to address the issues in this ordinance and directs the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections to transmit proposed legislation to the Council for adoption after resolution of any appeals under SEPA.

SDCI undertakes investigation and analysis to inform permanent legislation and conducts SEPA review ~~Spring of 2026 through Fall of 2026~~ Mayor transmits permanent legislation to Council ~~Anticipated January, 2027~~ Council considers and approves permanent legislation ~~Anticipated Winter/Spring, 2027~~ Permanent controls effective ~~Anticipated Spring, 2027~~ □

As part of the work plan, SDCI shall collect relevant data and perform analysis to make recommendations regarding (1) the appropriate maximum number of occupants per transitional encampment and whether the same maximum number should apply to all transitional encampments, and (2) if a different maximum number of occupants should apply in different cases, whether there should be a limit to the total number of transitional encampments that are allowed a particular maximum number of occupants, separate from the 40-encampment limit in Seattle Municipal Code subsection 23.42.056.F.1, and whether there should be a dispersion requirement or other limitations for transitional encampments that are allowed a particular maximum number of occupants. SDCI's analysis should take into account the following nonexclusive considerations: (1) the environmental and other impacts to surrounding areas that may result from transitional encampments depending on the maximum number of occupants allowed, (2) the effect that particular maximum occupant limits, dispersion requirements, or other limitations would have on the City's ability to make full and efficient use of City-owned property for transitional encampments and on the availability and efficient use of sites of all types for transitional encampments, and (3) the effect that particular maximum occupant limits, dispersion requirements, or other limitations would have on the effectiveness of transitional encampments in serving their populations, including in terms of access to transit or other services.

Section 7. Based on the authority of RCW 36.70A.390 and the findings of Section 1 of this ordinance, the public hearing requirement of Seattle Municipal Code Section 23.76.062 is waived for the adoption of this ordinance.

Section 8. The City may renew these interim regulations in accordance with RCW 36.70A.390.

Section 9. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. The

invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or portion of this ordinance, or the invalidity of its application to any person or circumstance, does not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance or the validity of its application to other persons or circumstances.

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on .

President of the City Council  
on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

## SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact:</b>	<b>CBO Contact:</b>
Mayor's Office	Jon Grant	Sarah Burtner

### **1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to land use and zoning; adopting interim provisions to expand the capacity of transitional encampments; and amending Sections 23.42.054 and 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

**Summary and Background of the Legislation:** On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Mayor Katie B. Wilson announced a goal to open 1000 new shelter and emergency housing beds in 2026.

This piece of legislation is one in a package of three bills that takes several steps to advance that goal.

This proposed legislation would increase the census limit for transitional encampments to 150 people per site citywide, and allow one site up to 250 people per council district. The current land use code limits the size of each transitional encampment to 100 people per site. This creates a significant barrier to efficiently use limited City-owned lands, in particular if there is already a smaller microshelter on the site that has the potential to be expanded.

When City-owned property is available, maximizing the number of persons served on a given site is a critical strategy for making spaces in tiny house villages available quickly. Given the limited number of City-owned sites, the most viable sites already have microshelter villages on them, and expanding those sites is hindered by the existing 100-person limit even though there may be significantly more land available to use on the site. Even on privately-owned sites, increasing the number of occupants in each transitional encampment would increase the speed with which the overall number of spaces in tiny house villages can grow.

On November 2, 2015, the City of Seattle declared a civil emergency regarding the homelessness public health crisis. The emergency remains in effect. Indeed, the homelessness population has continued to grow year after year since the declaration. In order to act with the necessary urgency to accelerate the production of temporary shelter, particularly given recent federal government funding action penalizing local jurisdictions that use a "housing first" approach to providing permanent supportive housing, the bill waives the Title 23 requirement for a pre-adoption public hearing and also determines that the proposal is exempt from review under the State Environmental Policy Act pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Section 25.05.880. The Council shall hold a post-adoption public hearing within sixty days of adoption. This proposal is being introduced as interim legislation with a duration of one year pending development of permanent legislation. In the interim period, the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections will conduct a study to inform the scope and parameters of the permanent legislation.

Without accelerated action as set forth above, hundreds of shelter units will be delayed in their production.

The other two pieces of companion legislation also advance this effort by:

- Expanding the Director of Finance and Administrative Services' (FAS) lease signing authority for land used for transitional encampments, and to allow rental costs at market rate. Under existing code the FAS Director is prohibited from signing a lease agreement if the land exceeds 18,000 square feet, and caps the cost per square foot. This proposal will increase the square foot limit to 65,000 square feet and allow a market rental rate for land. The average microshelter village exceeds the current square footage limit, and for a large site having rental costs capped below market significantly restricts the pool of available land for this use. As a result the work of securing sites rests with non-profit providers with an artificially narrow pool of site options, which can take months to secure a site and negotiate a lease. From the time funds are appropriated, procured, awarded, by the time land is secured through a lease this can result in seven to twelve months to stand up a program. However, if the FAS Director had discretion to sign a lease agreement at the front end of the process, and then turn the site over to a non-profit provider to build and operate the shelter program, it could reduce the timeframe to just 3-4 months to stand up a microshelter village.
- Amending the 2026 Budget to make available resources to pay for capital and operating costs associated with standing up transitional encampment programs. The proposed changes impact two fund sources, the Downtown Health and Human Service Account, and the Low-Income Housing Fund. The Low-Income Housing Fund funding is sourced from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds with the Office of Housing that were previously allocated for a revolving loan fund. Due to the federal regulations on this program, it went underutilized. This legislation uses that unappropriated fund balance for capital costs to stand up more shelter. The unappropriated fund balance in the Downtown Health and Human Service Account must be spent to benefit downtown Seattle and will support new programs to house unsheltered people living downtown.

Council Central Staff Note on Pre-introduction Edits: Prior to introduction, the proposal was revised to:

- Limit the increase in transitional encampment occupants from 100 to 150 occupants to transitional encampment that utilize vehicles and micro-modular structures as shelter;
- Define micro-modular shelter as “a small, prefabricated structure intended to temporarily shelter one household;” and
- Allow only one interim use transitional encampment that shelters up to 250 occupants in vehicles or micro-modular shelters.

## 2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

Yes  No

### 3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?  Yes  No

#### 3.d. Other Impacts

**Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.**

Funding for any ongoing costs for future operation of the shelters resulting from this legislation will be identified as part of the Mayor's 2027-2028 Proposed Budget.

This legislation may lead to increased staff time spent updating materials to reflect this change in the land use code, but it is anticipated that the cost of this time can be absorbed by existing department staff/budget.

**If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.**

N/A

**Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.**

Studies continue to find that bringing people indoors and connecting them to services is the best practice to help support unsheltered people, and that such programs reduce overall costs on public services. A 2009 study in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that Downtown Emergency Service Center's 1811 Eastlake housing-first program dramatically reduced costs on public services, where the average cost from a person experiencing homelessness was \$4,066 per month from corrections, shelter, substance use treatment, and healthcare costs, and after clients moved into 1811 Eastlake the average cost offset per person per month was \$2,449.

**Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.**

The Human Services Department will conduct a procurement process and manage funding awards for standing up and operating new shelter programs, the Department of Finance and Administrative Services will negotiate and execute lease agreements with property owners to facilitate siting of shelter programs, and conduct a capital needs assessment for preparing sites for transitional encampment use. The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection will carry out the work plan called for in the proposed ordinance to inform permanent regulations regarding changes to census limits for transitional encampments.

#### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

**a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**

A post-adoption public hearing shall be held within sixty days of adoption of the ordinance.

**b. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**

Yes.

**c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**

No.

**d. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.**

- i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.**

Homelessness continues to impact the most vulnerable in our community. According to the 2024 *Point In Time (PIT)* report, 17% of the total homeless population are adult survivors of domestic violence, 34% are adults with a serious mental illness, 8% are veterans, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color continue to be overrepresented.

This legislation would have a positive impact on vulnerable and historically disadvantaged populations by significantly expanding and accelerating the production of shelter and emergency housing options to give more people exit points from homelessness. By making deeper investments in behavioral health services and standing up more service rich environments for vulnerable people to receive onsite services populations that typically lack access will benefit from these essential services.

- ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.**

Based on data from the King County Regional Homelessness Authority's *Point In Time (PIT)* report, Black and Indigenous people, and other People of Color are disproportionately represented in the homeless population in Seattle and King County. According to their 2024 PIT report 15% of people experiencing homelessness in King County identify as Black or African American while only making 7% of the total population countywide. 6% of people experiencing homelessness identify as American Indian, Alaskan Native, or Indigenous, but that group makes up less than 1% of King County's population.

- iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?**

N/A

**e. Climate Change Implications**

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.**

N/A

- ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

N/A

- f. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

N/A

- g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?**

No.

**5. ATTACHMENTS**

**Summary Attachments:** None.

# Council Bill 121195: Shelter Census Limits

Land Use and Sustainability Committee

*April 15th, 2026*

Mayor's Office: Policy & Innovation



City of Seattle **131**

# Issue Identification

Land use code currently limits 100 people per site.

There are limited publicly owned sites suitable for microshelters.

Most already have an existing microshelter sited.  
A few have significant unused land adjacent to the site.

As a result, public land sits unused while demand for shelter remains high.

# Policy Overview

## Legislation increasing census limits for transitional encampments

- Increases citywide census limit for transitional encampments limited to micro-modular shelters or RV safe lots from 100 to 150 people.
- Allows one site for up to 250 people, limited to micro-modular shelters or RV safe lots.
- Interim legislation that expires after 12 months.
- SDCI workplan established to complete SEPA analysis and develop and transmit permanent regulations in Winter 2027.

# Proven Large-Scale Models Nationwide

## **Cities across the country have demonstrated that large microshelter programs can operate effectively**

- Microshelter programs can scale to 100–220 units per site.
- At the largest site, more than 300 people are served in a single location.



## **Tampa Hope, Tampa FL**

215 units plus 116 platformed tents

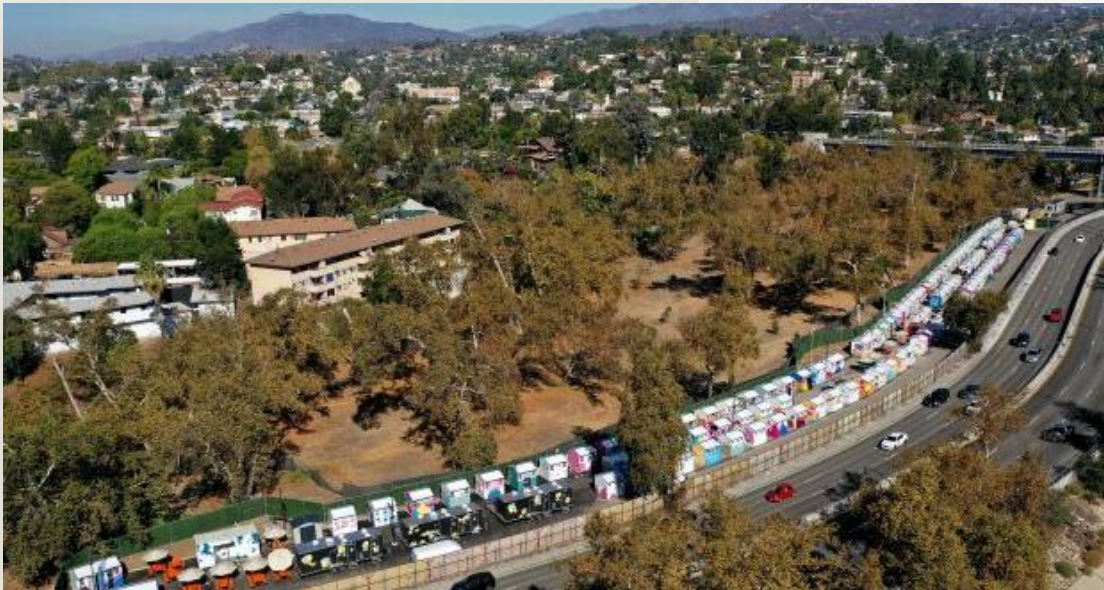
345 people served



## **Genesis Pallet Shelter, Chico CA**

177 units

200 people served



## **Arroyo Seco Village, Los Angeles, CA**

123 units

168 people served, capacity for 224



## **West LA Veterans Association**

155 units

200 estimated people served

# Large Site Profile: Tampa Hope

## 345 people served at single location

- Operated by Catholic Charities
- Tampa, Florida
- Executive Director Maggie Rogers
- 345 people served
- Plans to expand to 400 beds
- 215 shelter units, 116 platformed tents
- Services include, three daily meals, clothing, medical care, life skills and financial management classes, and substance use and mental health treatment.
- 8 case managers, 2 outreach staff, and 13 shelter monitors for 24/7 staffing.
- 550 people moved into housing since opening.



# Public Safety is Community Partnership

*Safe and welcoming neighborhoods are built through partnership, clear expectations, and shared responsibility.*



# Neighborhood Coordination and Site Safety



# Supporting a Successful Launch

## Close collaboration with SPD on neighborhood safety:

- The Seattle Police Department is in active development of specific strategies to target dangerous and illegal activities that may occur near or around existing PSH and shelter programs.
- The intent of these expanded efforts is to target criminal elements that attempt to take advantage of vulnerable populations found within encampments that may also be within the vicinity of existing shelter programs.



# Questions and Discussion



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
**CENTRAL STAFF**

# Transitional Encampment Shelter Increase

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KETIL FREEMAN, ANALYST

LAND USE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

APRIL 15, 2026

# Council Review Process – Actions Thus Far

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- **CB 121184** – Authorizes the Finance and Administrative Services Department to execute leases for large sites that could accommodate larger transitional encampments. [Finance, Native Communities, and Tribal Governance Committee \(Finance Committee\)](#) recommended that the bill pass.
- **CB 121185** – Increases appropriation authority to the Human Services Department to fund new shelter in transitional encampments. [Finance Committee](#) recommended that the bill pass, as amended.
- **CB 121195** – Increases the number of allowed transitional encampment occupants on a temporary basis and establishes a work program to develop ongoing changes to regulations for transitional encampments. [Discussed in the Land use and Sustainability Committee \(LUSC\) on April 1. Introduced and referred to LUSC on April 14.](#)

# Legislative Intent for Transitional Shelter Budget Increase – Amendments to CB 121185 (1 of 2)

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- Reporting on implementation by September 14, 2026, with a financial plan for providing 4,000 new shelter units.
- Requesting that the Executive develop a public safety plan for transitional shelter with monthly reporting on public safety indicators.
- Standing up a shelter acuity work group to advise on services for encampments used as shelter.
- Requesting that HSD utilize providers who have expertise providing culturally appropriate services.

# Legislative Intent for Transitional Shelter Budget Increase – Amendments to CB 121185 (2 of 2)

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- Providing at least one transitional shelter be provided for people in recovery from substance abuse disorders.
- Providing at least two transitional shelters serving families with children with reporting on progress by September 14, 2026.
- Reporting to Council on prioritization of transitional shelters for people in the neighborhood served by the shelter prior to opening of new shelter.
- Continued prioritization of permanent supportive housing while transitional shelter capacity is increased.

# Pre-introduction Edits to CB 121195

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- Limit the increase in transitional encampment occupants from 100 to 150 occupants to transitional encampment that utilize vehicles and micro-modular structures as shelter;
- Define micro-modular shelter as “a small, prefabricated structure intended to temporarily shelter one household;” and
- Allow only one interim use transitional encampment that shelters up to 250 occupants in vehicles or micro-modular shelters.

# Next Steps

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- **Wednesday, April 29** – Continued Discussion of CB 121195, including discussion potential amendment concepts.
- **Wednesday, May 6** – Discussion and possible vote on a recommendation CB 121195 and any proposed amendments.
- **Tuesday, May 12** – Earliest date for the Full Council vote.

## Director's Report and Recommendation Interim Transitional Encampment Expansion Ordinance

### Proposal Summary

This proposal is intended to advance Mayor Wilson's efforts to rapidly bring unhoused people inside and expedite the expansion of shelter and affordable housing. It is part of a package of legislation focused on the creation of new transitional encampments, which can include micro-modular 'micro' shelters, and allowing transitional encampments to serve more people. Expediting production of new and expanded microshelters provides lower cost, quickly deployable, temporary options to address unsheltered homelessness and responds to federal uncertainty around funding for development and operation of permanent supportive housing.

The subject of this report is [CB 121195](#), which amends Sections 23.42.054 and 23.42.056 of the land use code on an interim basis to expand transitional encampment capacity.

### Proposed amendments to Sections 23.42.0541 and 23.42.056 include:

1. Defining "micro-modular" structures, or small, prefabricated, temporary shelters, such as tiny homes
2. Raising maximum occupancy for vehicle- or micro-modular-based encampments:<sup>2</sup>
  - a. For both religious and non-religious sites, maximum occupancy increases from 100 people to 150 people
  - b. A single pilot site may increase occupancy up to 250; religious encampments are not eligible for this pilot program
3. Clarifying that encampments with temporary use permits that seek to continue operating under an interim use permit are subject to the above occupancy limits
4. Requiring encampments have a 150-person first-aid kit, rather than a 100-person kit

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this report, encampments established under SMC 23.42.054 (transitional encampments located on property owned or controlled by a religious organization) will be referred to as "religious" sites, while encampments authorized under SMC 23.42.056 (transitional encampment as an interim use) will be referred to as "non-religious." The primary difference is that non-religious sites must go through a Type I Master Use Permit process and are subject to additional land use regulations.

<sup>2</sup> The existing 100-person occupancy limit for transitional shelters where most shelter space provided is in the form of tents is unchanged. These sites are also known as tent cities.

As set forth in the ordinance, this interim legislation will be effective for one year, pending development of permanent legislation and providing time for SDCI to collect relevant data and perform analysis to make recommendations regarding:

1. The appropriate maximum number of occupants per transitional encampment;
2. Whether the same maximum number should apply to all transitional encampments;
3. If a different maximum number of occupants should apply in different cases;
4. Whether there should be a limit to the total number of transitional encampments that are allowed a particular maximum number of occupants, separate from the 40-encampment limit in SMC 23.42.056.F.1; and
5. Whether there should be a dispersion requirement or other limitations for encampments that are allowed a particular maximum number of occupants.

Without accelerated action, hundreds of new microshelter units will be delayed. The bill waives the Title 23 requirement for a pre-adoption public hearing. The legislation is exempt from review under the State Environmental Policy Act pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Section 25.05.880. A post-adoption public hearing will be held within 60 days of adoption.

## **Background**

The City of Seattle has had a [declaration of civil emergency regarding the homelessness crisis](#) in place since 2015. Homelessness has continued to worsen in the Seattle area. According to the King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA), as of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count, nearly 17,000 individuals experienced homelessness countywide, with 58% unsheltered. This is a 260% increase in homelessness from 2014. The King County Medical Examiner's Office reported 312 deaths of people presumed to be homeless in 2024, compared to 124 in 2015, an increase of over 150%.

The original legal framework for Seattle's tiny house villages was also created in 2015 by [Ord. 124747](#), which allowed no more than three non-religious transitional encampments in the city at once. This legislation included a sunset provision that prompted the City to enact transitional encampment reforms in February 2020, with [Ord. 126042](#). This ordinance created more opportunity for tiny house villages by expanding eligibility for encampments established under SMC 23.42.054 to sites "controlled" by religious organizations, in addition to sites owned by religious groups. It also raised the maximum number of non-religious encampments citywide from three to 40; allowed transitional

encampments in residential zones; and allowed encampment permits to be renewed in one-year increments. It retained the 100-occupant limit for individual encampments. In July 2025, a [presidential executive order](#) was announced, “ending support” for housing-first and harm-reduction programs and restricting how grants from federal agencies can be used by local governments. Many permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs in Seattle use evidence-based housing-first models. Federal Continuum of Care funds provided as much as 80% of funding for those PSH programs. Funds for 28 PSH buildings in Seattle will begin to expire in 2026 and lawsuits challenging federal cuts are unlikely to be fully resolved before existing contracts lapse; up to 4,500 PSH residents in Seattle and King County may be at risk of homelessness and displacement. Due to the lack of available federal, state, and county funding, the Seattle Office of Housing pipeline for developing new PSH has stopped. This will further limit options for Seattle’s homeless population to achieve long term stability and move out of shelter.

In April 2026, City Council adopted, and the Mayor signed, [Ord. 127423](#) and [Ord. 127424](#)—companion legislation to CB 121195, the subject of this report. Ord. 127423 is intended to facilitate the creation of new microshelters by enabling the City to easily lease properties as large as 65,000 square feet for use as transitional encampments. The intent of this companion bill is not for the City to directly provide shelter services at these leased sites, but for nonprofit providers to build and operate the microshelters. Ord. 127424 provides funding for additional shelter beds.

## **Analysis**

This bill allows for the expansion of an already authorized use and does not modify where shelters are allowed or otherwise reduce health and safety standards. It does not modify any other permitting regulations, such as setbacks and screening requirements.

Considering rising homelessness rates and disruptions to federal housing and shelter funding, additional options for local approaches to homelessness are urgently needed. Seattle’s land use code currently limits the size of each transitional encampment to 100 occupants per site, which creates a significant barrier to efficient use of available sites. There are a limited number of vacant properties in Seattle that meet feasibility criteria and have a property owner willing to allow interim use as a microshelter. The most viable sites are publicly owned and already host microshelters. Raising the occupant ceiling allows some existing microshelters to expand into underutilized land that is already known to be available and feasible for microshelter use. This will maximize the number of people served and accelerate the overall production of shelter beds.

### **Conclusions From Data**

Table 1 is an initial, high-level analysis that estimates the maximum potential for existing microshelters to expand under this proposal, factoring in land availability and occupancy by shelter type. These are not the only factors in determining actual maximum occupancy. **The purpose of this analysis is not to determine the feasibility of expanded occupancy at transitional encampment sites.**

Tent cities are not eligible for expanded capacity under the proposal, so they are not included in the table below. The table does not include transitional encampment sites currently in the permit pipeline, nor does it include proposed expansions of existing sites, as final site plan and occupancy may change. SDCI is currently tracking six proposals for new microshelter sites with 360 beds planned in total. Three sites are religious microshelters and three are non-religious microshelters. There is a median of 70 beds expected per site.

Occupancy data was provided for existing sites by the Seattle Human Services Department (HSD). HSD tracks the number of shelter “beds” and assumes one occupant per tiny home, tent, or other shelter space, as does the table below. Assuming some level of shared occupancy instead would not appreciably change this proposal, as the code amendments set a limit on the number of occupants per transitional encampment site, not on the number of beds.

Information on shelter type (religious, non-religious, or other) is tracked by SDCI. The King County Parcel Viewer is the source for land area data; “potential land area” includes the square footage for parcels that currently host a microshelter, plus the area of any adjacent vacant parcels that are either publicly owned or owned by the same property owner. All data was last updated on 4/27/2026.

SMC 23.42.056.B.5 requires non-religious transitional encampments to provide a minimum of 100 square feet of land area per occupant. In practice, the most compact non-religious micro-modular shelter currently in operation, Raven Village, provides approximately 400 square feet of land per occupant. Although this requirement does not apply to religious encampments—meaning microshelters authorized under SMC 23.42.054 could opt to provide less than 100 square feet per occupant—the densest existing religious micro-modular shelter, TC Spirit Village, also provides just over 400 square feet per occupant. As such, to analyze the expansion potential of existing micro-modular shelters under this proposal, the table below assumes micro-modular sites provide a minimum of 400 square feet of land area per occupant.

Table 1: Maximum potential number of beds at micro-modular shelters currently in operation

Site Name & Type	Potential Land Area (SF)	Current Bed Count	Potential Bed Count <sup>3</sup>	Potential New Beds
<b>Non-religious THVs</b>	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>+344</b>
Camp Second Chance	340,000	69	250	+181
Interbay Village	118,000	76	150	+74
Georgetown Village	44,000	45	110	+65
True Hope THV	22,000	33	55	+22
Whittier Heights Village	7,000	15	17	+2
Raven Village	9,000	22	22	-
<b>Religious THVs</b>	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>+187</b>
Junction Point	131,000	85	150	+65
Rosie's THV	32,000	37	80	+43
Southend Village	28,000	40	70	+30
Maple Leaf Village	24,000	40	60	+20
Olympic Hills Village	24,000	45	60	+15
Henderson Village	22,000	42	55	+13
TC Spirit Village	10,000	24	25	+1
<b>Legacy THVs</b>	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>+2</b>
Central District Village	6,000	14	15	+1
Northlake Village	8,000	19	20	+1
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>533</b>

Under this proposal, a single non-religious micro-modular shelter site citywide can increase capacity to up to 250 occupants. Table 1 depicts a scenario where Camp Second Chance is selected for that pilot. Interbay Village and Junction Point could fit 250 occupants if chosen as alternate pilot sites or if the pilot were expanded. As a religious encampment, Junction Point would need permits to convert to a non-religious encampment under SMC 23.42.056 to access this code-authorized additional capacity.

Two tiny home villages in the table above are considered legacy sites, initially established during the COVID-19 emergency. These sites could seek new permits to expand authorized capacity, but space is extremely limited on both properties, making expansion impractical.

In addition to site size impacts analyzed above, potential occupant capacity will also be limited by the presence of steep slopes and existing structures, available utility service,

<sup>3</sup> Only sites with over 100 potential occupants would need to utilize this proposal to increase capacity.

and other site conditions. Georgetown Village, for instance, theoretically has land area for 65 additional microshelter beds, but most of that extra land is in active use by Fire Station 27 and not available for microshelter expansion. Even sites that do increase occupant capacity above the current 100-occupant threshold may still not be able to expand to a full 150 or 250 occupants.

### **Financial Considerations**

Various budgetary factors influence the extent to which increased microshelter capacity can be fully utilized. If the City pursues higher-cost implementation options, fewer new beds could be created with current shelter expansion funding.<sup>4</sup>

Depending on final implementation direction, several adopted amendments to companion ordinance 127424 have the potential to raise initial setup and operating costs for shelter programs, which would limit the ability to fund the full increase in transitional encampment capacity. Examples include:

- Larger alternatives to microshelters that may better accommodate families but could also trigger additional permitting requirements and associated permit fees<sup>5</sup>
- Integrating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) into shelter design and operations
- Increased documentation requirements, such as public safety plans, which may also lengthen initial permit review timelines
- Capacity building for new service providers and shelter operators to serve populations disproportionately impacted by homelessness

Other potential cost drivers include:

- Increased staffing costs to serve high-acuity populations with complex needs
- Higher rental costs for privately owned land used for shelter sites, in the event there are not enough vacant, feasible public sites to meet shelter expansion goals

SDCI's permitting and associated inspection work for these projects is funded primarily through permit fees, when permits are required. Those fees are established under the

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<sup>4</sup> Financial analysis of estimated costs for these listed options and potential effectiveness of these options in reducing homelessness or protecting public health and safety is not within the scope of this report.

<sup>5</sup> Structures 120 square feet or smaller are generally treated as accessory buildings that require no or minimal permitting. A typical tiny home structure is 8'x12,' or 96 square feet.

City's Fee Subtitle and governed by statutes (RCW 82.02.020), which limit local governments' ability to impose development-related fees and charges except as authorized. Accordingly, SDCI's permit fees are structured as cost-recovery fees for eligible Departmental costs, including processing and reviewing applications, plan review, and inspection work. Without those fees, General Fund support or another lawful appropriation would be necessary to cover the Department's associated review and inspection costs.

Based on infrequency of these encampment projects, SDCI does not have sufficient data to produce a reliable per-bed estimate of fee revenue associated with future shelter expansion. As more permit-intensive shelter projects are developed under this legislation, associated permit fee revenue could increase accordingly. A preliminary review of recent permit activity suggests that construction permit fees for those projects have been roughly in the \$5,000 to \$15,000 range per site, with electrical permit fees roughly in the \$1,000 to \$3,000 range per site, for a very preliminary combined range of approximately **\$6,000 to \$18,000 per site**. Actual future revenue would depend on the number and type of sites developed, the scope of construction and utility work, and whether particular projects follow different permitting pathways or qualify for exemptions, including projects on sites owned or controlled by religious organizations.

For illustration only, if 40 similar permit-intensive sites were developed over time, that would suggest a broad fee range of roughly \$240,000 to \$720,000, though actual revenue for SDCI's review and inspection functions could vary substantially depending on the mix of shelter types and permitting requirements. This estimate does not include fees from other permitting departments.

### **Consistency With Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies**

The proposal aligns with and supports relevant goals and policies of the One Seattle Comprehensive Plan, including:

- H G8** Homelessness is rare and brief, people experiencing homelessness secure housing and supportive services, and shelter is available as an interim, emergency step toward permanent and stable housing.
- H 8.1** Implement strategies and programs that preserve, improve, and expand Seattle's supply of permanent supportive housing, emergency housing, and shelter to meet all current and projected future needs.

- H 8.4** Collaborate with King County and other jurisdictions in efforts to prevent and end homelessness and focus those efforts on providing permanent housing with supportive services, expanding safe temporary shelter, and securing the resources to do so.
  
- H 2.3** Promote the production of housing with lower market price points, including by removing regulatory barriers to the development of social and affordable housing, to meet Seattle's projected 20-year affordable housing needs.<sup>6</sup>
  
- LU 4.1** Allow for flexibility in development standards so existing structures can be maintained and improved and new development can respond to site-specific conditions.

## **Public Outreach**

Public and stakeholder outreach for this proposal has been led by the Mayor's Office, Innovation and Performance (IP), and HSD.

A Shelter Acceleration Launch Discussion was held in March 2026 with organizations including Purpose Dignity Action (PDA), LIHI, Evergreen Treatment Services, Therapeutic Health Services, Catholic Community Services, Chief Seattle Club, and DESC. Participants had expertise in building, operating, and servicing micro-modular shelters, such as tiny house villages. Topics covered siting criteria, site development, community engagement, shelter operations, referral processes, public safety considerations, and onsite behavioral health and medical services. HSD also met with representatives from Public Health Seattle King County and King County's Health Through Housing program in March and April 2026, respectively, to cover similar topics.

Mayor Wilson hosted a Community Briefing on Shelter Expansion in April 2026 to share information on and take questions about her shelter expansion plan, including this transitional encampment capacity bill and related budget and FAS signing authority legislation. Participants included business, neighborhood, and service provider stakeholders, such as Purpose Dignity Action (PDA), Downtown Seattle Association, and neighbors to the Olympic Hills Tiny Home Village. The community event was broadcast by

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<sup>6</sup> Washington state requires jurisdictions to “plan for and accommodate [housing affordable to all incomes](#),” including emergency housing, emergency shelters, and permanent supportive housing for individuals or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

the Seattle Channel and shared online, expanding engagement opportunities and accessibility via closed captioning and auto-translation features.

To provide additional time to explore these and related topics, a Provider Summit is scheduled for May with several more organizations and government entities involved in development, operations, and services for micro-modular shelter, RV safe lots, and shelter using master-leased buildings.

### **Recommendation**

The SDCI Director recommends the City Council adopt the proposed interim legislation to facilitate the rapid expansion of much-needed shelter and emergency housing. SDCI does not have recommendations for additional land use mitigations at this time, as the scope of this proposal is narrow and a number of factors, described above, will further limit the full use of expanded site capacity.

Permanent legislation is anticipated for Council review in Q1 2027.

Amendment A Version 1 to CB 121195 - MO Transitional Encampment Expansion ORD

**Sponsor:** Councilmember Rivera

Negotiation of Additional Operating Requirements

**Effect:** This amendment would provide authority for the City to negotiate additional operating requirements for shelter near existing transitional encampments and schools.

Amend Section 3 to CB121195, as follows:

Section 3. Section 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126509, is amended as follows:

**23.42.056 Transitional encampment as an interim use**

A Type I Master Use Permit may be issued for a transitional encampment interim use according to the requirements of this Section 23.42.056.

\* \* \*

D. Additional requirements. The transitional encampment interim use shall meet the following requirements:

\* \* \*

7. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall provide a public safety plan that details the following:

a. Completion of a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment prior to the opening of the transitional encampment, and

integration of any CPTED recommendations into the transitional encampment's design and operations;

b. A protocol for contributing to the data collection and reporting requirements requested in Section 4 of Ordinance 127424, including, but not limited to, the critical incident reports, 911 call data, and Unified Care Team deployments; at a minimum the protocol shall include a requirement that all public safety calls made by the provider that originate from activity in or around the transitional encampment be recorded and reported to the Mayor's Office, with a priority for immediately reporting public safety calls that result in an arrest; and

c. Contact information for a City liaison that neighborhood residents can contact if there are issues occurring outside the transitional encampment boundaries that are beyond the provider's control or authority to address.

8. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date this ordinance shall enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement. The Good Neighbor Agreement shall include:

a. The Good Neighbor Agreement physical boundaries and a corresponding map;

b. The roles and responsibilities of the operator as a good neighbor;

c. Communication protocols for community concerns, including a point of contact for initial concerns, which is posted at the transitional encampment and on the operator's website.

d. A commitment to attend regular community meetings, such as those held by community or business organizations;

e. Rules and behavioral standards for transitional encampment residents and their guests.

9. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall have two staff members on site 24 hours a day every day the encampment is operating.

10. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall strive to provide intensive case management for encampment occupants and consider a ratio of at least one case manager for every 15 high-acuity occupants.

11. For an application for a transitional encampment interim use proposed within 500 feet walking distance of the property line of another legally established transitional encampment interim use or the property line of an elementary or secondary school, the Director, in consultation with the Director of the Human Services Department, may negotiate additional operating requirements to mitigate potential public health and safety impacts. This subsection does not apply to transitional encampments designated for occupants under the age of 18, families, victims of domestic violence, and occupants in recovery from substance abuse disorder.

Amendment B Version 1 to CB 121195 - MO Transitional Encampment Expansion ORD

**Sponsor:** Councilmember Rivera

Security staffing

**Effect:** This amendment would require that operators provide trained security staff overnight for encampments designed to accommodate more than 100 occupants.

Amend Section 3 to CB121195, as follows:

Section 3. Section 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126509, is amended as follows:

**23.42.056 Transitional encampment as an interim use**

A Type I Master Use Permit may be issued for a transitional encampment interim use according to the requirements of this Section 23.42.056.

\* \* \*

D. Additional requirements. The transitional encampment interim use shall meet the following requirements:

\* \* \*

7. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall provide a public safety plan that details the following:

a. Completion of a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment prior to the opening of the transitional encampment, and

integration of any CPTED recommendations into the transitional encampment's design and operations;

b. A protocol for contributing to the data collection and reporting requirements requested in Section 4 of Ordinance 127424, including, but not limited to, the critical incident reports, 911 call data, and Unified Care Team deployments; at a minimum the protocol shall include a requirement that all public safety calls made by the provider that originate from activity in or around the transitional encampment be recorded and reported to the Mayor's Office, with a priority for immediately reporting public safety calls that result in an arrest; and

c. Contact information for a City liaison that neighborhood residents can contact if there are issues occurring outside the transitional encampment boundaries that are beyond the provider's control or authority to address.

8. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date this ordinance shall enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement. The Good Neighbor Agreement shall include:

a. The Good Neighbor Agreement physical boundaries and a corresponding map;

b. The roles and responsibilities of the operator as a good neighbor;

c. Communication protocols for community concerns, including a point of contact for initial concerns, which is posted at the transitional encampment and on the operator's website.

d. A commitment to attend regular community meetings, such as those held by community or business organizations;

e. Rules and behavioral standards for transitional encampment residents and their guests.

9. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall have two staff members on site 24 hours a day every day the encampment is operating.

10. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall strive to provide intensive case management for encampment occupants and consider a ratio of at least one case manager for every 15 high-acuity occupants.

11. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment designed to accommodate more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall maintain clearly identifiable, trained security staff at the encampment overnight while the transitional encampment is operating.

Amendment C, Version 1 to CB 121195- MO Transitional Encampment Expansion ORD

**Sponsor:** Councilmember Strauss

50 Shelter Unit Encampment Neighborhoods

**Effect:** This amendment would require that operators of new or expanded encampments with more than 100 micro-modular structures or vehicle shelter units be divided into neighborhoods of no greater than 50 shelter units with allowed discretion by the Director, in consultation with the Human Services Department Director, to increase the number of shelters up to 75 in a neighborhood based on site characteristics.

Section 3. Section 23.42.056 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126509, is amended as follows:

**23.42.056 Transitional encampment as an interim use**

A Type I Master Use Permit may be issued for a transitional encampment interim use according to the requirements of this Section 23.42.056.

\* \* \*

D. Additional requirements. The transitional encampment interim use shall meet the following requirements:

\* \* \*

7. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall provide a public safety plan that details the following:

a. Completion of a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment prior to the opening of the transitional encampment, and

integration of any CPTED recommendations into the transitional encampment's design and operations;

b. A protocol for contributing to the data collection and reporting requirements requested in Section 4 of Ordinance 127424, including, but not limited to, the critical incident reports, 911 call data, and Unified Care Team deployments; at a minimum the protocol shall include a requirement that all public safety calls made by the provider that originate from activity in or around the transitional encampment be recorded and reported to the Mayor's Office, with a priority for immediately reporting public safety calls that result in an arrest; and

c. Contact information for a City liaison that neighborhood residents can contact if there are issues occurring outside the transitional encampment boundaries that are beyond the provider's control or authority to address.

8. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date this ordinance shall enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement. The Good Neighbor Agreement shall include:

a. The Good Neighbor Agreement physical boundaries and a corresponding map;

b. The roles and responsibilities of the operator as a good neighbor;

c. Communication protocols for community concerns, including a point of contact for initial concerns, which is posted at the transitional encampment and on the operator's website.

d. A commitment to attend regular community meetings, such as those held by community or business organizations;

e. Rules and behavioral standards for transitional encampment residents and their guests.

9. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall have two staff members on site 24 hours a day every day the encampment is operating.

10. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 occupants that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall strive to provide intensive case management for encampment occupants and consider a ratio of at least one case manager for every 15 high-acuity occupants.

11. The operator of a transitional encampment interim use who receives funding from the City of Seattle and operates an encampment with more than 100 micro-modular structures or vehicle shelter units that is established or expanded after the effective date of this ordinance shall separate the encampment into self-contained neighborhoods with no more than 50 micro-modular structures or vehicles per neighborhood. The Director, in consultation with the Director of the Human Services Department, may allow up to 75 micro-modular structures or vehicles in a neighborhood to accommodate site constraints across the transitional encampment.

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Legislation Text

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**File #:** Res 32200, **Version:** 1

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## The City of Seattle

### Resolution

**A resolution** creating an Arts and Cultural District in the Columbia Hillman City neighborhood of Seattle.

#### Recitals:

Resolution 31555 created a city-wide program of Arts and Cultural Districts, to be managed by the Office of Arts and Culture.

The Seattle Comprehensive Plan calls for the support of Arts and Cultural Districts as a means to “support arts and cultural uses and the economic benefits they provide,” and encourages the City to “allow regulations and incentives to be adopted specifically for designated cultural districts,” and to “allow adopted guidelines or regulations to modify, exempt, or supersede the standards of the underlying zone to encourage arts and cultural uses.”

According to the 2025 budget report issued by ArtsFund, the creative sector within the ZIP code encompassing Columbia City and Hillman Cirt generated more than \$7 million in earned revenue and received just over \$8.5 million in contributed revenue, underscoring the substantial economic and community impact of arts and cultural activity in the district.

Arts and entertainment related businesses and organizations add cultural and economic diversity to a city, enhancing the lives of the city’s residents and visitors, and positively impact the city’s economy by generating jobs and revenue.

The City wishes to recognize and protect its culturally rich and arts areas from the displacement that the twin successes of growth and new development often bring.

Columbia and Hillman Cities are home to a wide array of cultural and arts organizations, including SouthEast Effective Development (SEED) and SEEDArts, which organized and hosted the initial District designation conversations, as well as Columbia City Theater, Ark Lodge Cinema, Royal Room, Rainier Arts Center, Igimo Art Station, Southside Commons, Rainier Valley Historical Society, Jazz Night School, Vietnamese Friendship Association, Columbia City Gallery, Royal Esquire Club, Horn of Africa Services, SEEDArts Studios, Collaborator, Black and Tan Hall, and more.

The arts and individuals working for and with the cultural institutions in Columbia and Hillman Cities fear being priced out of the neighborhood. As the two neighborhoods continue to grow, and continue to fill in the gap between them, the neighborhoods believe, and the City concurs, that a program supporting equitable, cultural, affordable development can preserve a sense of place and lessen the displacement that new development often brings.

A group of stakeholders has self-organized and requested formal recognition as an Arts and Cultural District, organized around the following mission: “The mission of the Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District is the celebrate and enhance the authentic and culturally diverse soul of the Columbia City and Hillman City neighborhoods through identification with, and the advancement of, arts and culture.” In furtherance of this mission, the Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District stakeholders are committed to:

- Activation of the Southeast Seattle creative economy;
- Retention and preservation of existing cultural spaces;
- Inclusion of new arts and cultural space in future development;

- Ensuring the availability of affordable commercial space for arts/cultural businesses and affordable live/work space for artists;
- Arts program and projects with racial and social equity as a primary driver;
- Sustain and protect the cultural landscape that makes our neighborhoods unique; and
- Development of increased youth engagement in the arts.

Therefore,

**Be it resolved by the City Council of The City of Seattle, the Mayor concurring:**

Section 1. The City of Seattle establishes an Arts and Cultural District in the Columbia and Hillman Cities neighborhoods of Seattle, to be known as The Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District.

Section 2. The City of Seattle directs appropriate members of the City's departmental staff to actively support and work with staff in the Office of Arts and Culture to develop and maintain the District, and to support the health and vitality of the artists, creative businesses, and artists residing in the District.

Section 3. The City of Seattle encourages all residents of Columbia and Hillman Cities, and especially those who own property or businesses within the District, to support, promote, and help maintain artists, arts organizations, and arts events in the District.

Adopted by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its adoption on

President of the City Council  
Signed in concurrence on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor  
Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

*Seal*

## Summary and Fiscal Note

### 1. Legislation Summary

**Department:** Office of Arts and Culture

**Title:** A resolution creating and Arts and Cultural District in the Columbia Hillman City neighborhood of Seattle.

**Background:** The Arts and Cultural District designation program is intended to highlight the importance of the creative sector within neighborhoods and to empower communities to preserve and grow their cultural assets. The program was originally developed in 2014 at the recommendation of the Seattle Arts Commission in response to displacement pressures affecting arts organizations, cultural workers, and residents in Seattle's urban core.

Each designated district is led by an **independent nonprofit organization** responsible for:

- Neighborhood programming and events
- Advocacy efforts
- Placemaking initiatives
- Serving as a resource hub for the local creative community

This legislation designates Columbia Hillman City as the City's fourth Arts and Cultural District. Between 2014 and 2018, districts were formally established, creating a citywide network of place-based cultural districts that support arts-led community development.

Arts and Cultural District designation provides structured support, visibility, and coordination for neighborhoods with established creative ecosystems. Currently, the Office of Arts and Culture allocated \$110,000 annually to support the Arts and Cultural Districts, with each district receiving \$25,000 to advance local activation, capacity building, and collaboration. As the network grows, the Office of Arts and Culture will evaluate what additional funds are needed as part of the 2027-2028 budget process.

These districts meet in person every other month, rotating among neighborhoods, to collaborate on shared resources, coordinate cultural activation, and exchange knowledge and best practices.

This structure strengthens connections between districts while allowing each to retain its unique identity and priorities.

At its core, Arts and Cultural District designation is designed to empower residents, artists, and organizations within the district by providing tools, recognition, and a direct connection to the City. The designation supports community-driven cultural development and serves as an important conduit for informing citywide policy, planning, and investment decisions that impact arts, cultural, and neighborhood vitality.

The mission of the stakeholders who make up the Columbia Hillman City Arts and Cultural District is to celebrate and enhance the authentic and culturally diverse soul of the Columbia City and Hillman City neighborhoods through identification with and the advancement of arts and culture.

In furtherance of this mission, the Columbia Hillman Art and Cultural District stakeholders are committed to:

- Activation of the Southeast Seattle creative economy;
- Retention and preservation of existing cultural spaces;
- Inclusion of new arts and cultural spaces in future development;
- Ensuring the availability of affordable commercial space for arts/cultural businesses and affordable live/work space for artists;
- Arts programs and projects with racial and social equity as a primary driver;
- Sustain and protect the cultural landscape that makes our neighborhoods unique;
- Development of increased youth engagement in the arts

Stakeholders in Columbia and Hillman Cities, including artists, arts organization leaders, and community activists have been meeting for more that 18 months in an effort to organize an application for designation as an Arts and Cultural District.

### **Summary Attachments:**

Summary Attachment A – Columbia Cultural District Application

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## **2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**

Yes

No

---

### 3. Summary of Financial Implications

**Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?**

Yes

No

---

### 4. Other Impacts

**a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?**

Yes

No

**b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?**

Yes

No

**c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**

Yes

No

**d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:**

**1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.**

The program was originally developed at the recommendation of the Seattle Arts Commission in response to displacement pressures affecting arts organizations, cultural workers, and residents in Seattle's urban core.

**2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.**

N/A

**3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?**

OAC is working with its public information leads to evaluate the language access needs of this program.

e. Climate change impacts:

**1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.**

N/A

**2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.**

N/A

**f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?**

N/A

**g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?**

No

## Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District

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October 2, 2017

Seattle Office of Arts and Culture  
700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1766  
PO Box 94748  
Seattle, WA 98104

To the Review Panel,

We write to formally request that the Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District be designated as an Arts and Cultural District of Seattle. Southeast Seattle enjoys a cultural richness unlike any other part of the city. The numerous artists who live and work in our neighborhoods have activated them, making them more interesting places in which to reside, work, and visit. Designation as an Arts & Cultural District will provide positive exposure for our cultural spaces and organizations, and it will provide access to a “toolbox” of city programs for marketing, for cultural preservation, and for incentivizing the addition of new arts and cultural spaces in our communities. The tools will support artists, art and cultural heritage organizations and businesses, and our neighborhoods. The arts have been, and will continue to be, a driving force in the economic development and social fabric of our community. Additionally, our wealth of cultural activities have a multiplier effect on our local economies -- folks going to see a play, performance, or attend an art opening also spend money at restaurants, and on babysitters, dry cleaning, parking, etc. As Southeast Seattle is undergoing rapid development, we understand that we must act now to ensure that the arts, cultural activities, and our creative economy are both preserved and advanced.

### **Background**

Planning for the Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District began in February, 2016, when a group of individuals from the Columbia City Business Association, the Hillman City Business Association, SEEDArts, Community Arts Create, and arts activists met to discuss the need to promote and preserve the arts and cultural vibrancy of our neighborhoods. This core group met monthly, and held six meetings for community stakeholders; attendance averaged 20 people. Stakeholders encouraged neighborhood arts spaces and individual artists to sign up on the City's Cultural Space Inventory. On October 18, 2016, we held a public meeting at the Royal Room; 120 artists and supporters of our effort to become a designated Arts and Cultural District were in attendance.

We then set our sights on coordinating an event to satisfy the requirements of the City's Challenge Grant and to demonstrate our ability to work together. After designation, we envision

## Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District

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the creation of an *Arts Walking Tour* – an interactive arts & culture themed audio tour for residents and newcomers that will highlight our cultural assets and link the two neighborhoods. To that end, we coordinated an Arts Hackathon and Salon on April 29, 2017, at the Columbia City Theater. The goal of the Arts Hackathon and Salon was to create a prototype of the Arts Walking Tour in a single day with as much community input as possible. 24 participants broke into five teams and had three hours to accomplish their goals. The teams were: Website/App Development, Audio & Narration, Design, Marketing, and Logistics. By the end of the day, we had a sample website, 3 prototype apps for an arts walking tour, a professionally recorded introduction and sample audio clips for 3 cultural spaces: the Columbia City Theater, the Columbia City Gallery, and the Black and Tan Hall. At the Salon, which was held simultaneously and was open to the public, we captured 74 artists in a photo booth (manned by Youth in Focus), collected recordings of 18 residents sharing their stories about local arts and culture highlights, and filled in a large map of our community with sticky notes containing locations and stories from participants.

We have created a short video that shows highlights of the Arts Hackathon and Salon event and demonstrates the prototype Arts Walking Tour app. Click on this link to view the video: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bz89CC9aYzX7Uk5Cb2UzSDFtNTQ/view?usp=sharing>.

### Our Neighborhood

About 94,000 people live in Southeast Seattle, home to Columbia and Hillman Cities. For decades, this mosaic of communities has been among the most ethnically diverse region in the State. Seventy-one percent of our residents are nonwhite, and 40-53% are immigrants. Forty ethnic groups live in Southeast Seattle, and 59 different languages are spoken. Thirty percent of the population is under age 18. Southeast Seattle has the highest poverty rates and the greatest percentage of low-income residents within the City of Seattle. In certain parts of Southeast Seattle, the unemployment rate hovers at 16-20% -- about triple the current Seattle unemployment rate of 3.9%. One out of 5 residents live in poverty, and 1 in 3 children are poor. Sadly, because the demographics couldn't support arts spaces, Southeast Seattle has been largely ignored by the mainstream arts organizations. Yet lower property values and rents have attracted artists, artisans and creative entrepreneurs for decades. Our community enjoys one of the highest densities of artists in the city. The Creative Vitality Index for Southeast Seattle is 1.83, well above the national average of 1.0. (from "*Snapshot of the Arts in SE Seattle*," WESTAF © Creative Vitality™ Suite 2017). In 2014, there were 2,756 creative jobs in Southeast Seattle, including photographers, graphic designers, musicians, and writers (*ibid*). We hope that designation as an Arts & Cultural District will formally recognize and reward the creative contributions from this previously marginalized community.

## Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District

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Columbia City has experienced rapid development and growth in the past decade. Columbia City is well known as a music destination, and is home to several longstanding arts venues. The Rainier Arts Center, formerly the Rainier Valley Cultural Center, sits at the northern entrance to Columbia City at the intersection of Alaska St and Rainier Ave S. A stately civic building, the Center has brought diverse performing arts to the community for 20 years. A few blocks south, the Columbia City Theater is celebrating its 97th birthday – it is one of the oldest vaudeville style theaters in the nation and played a major role in the Seattle Jazz boom in the 40's. The Royal Esquire Club and the Royal Room also host live music. The Columbia City Gallery shows and sells the work of its 30 member artists, as well as 65 guest artists and 85 artisans each year.

To the south, Hillman City has emerged as a hotbed of innovation and creativity. Rents in this neighborhood are still relatively low, so the community has seen an influx of artists and creative entrepreneurs. New cultural spaces like the Hillman City Collaboratory and the SEEDArts Studios have opened and become a resource for the creative community. The Black and Tan Hall, a music venue, is opening soon with a bold business model – it is cooperatively owned and operated as a for-profit business. Currently Hillman City only has a handful of arts spaces, with a disproportionately large number of resident artists. We envision a proliferation of arts spaces, artist services, and creative enterprises to serve them as the neighborhood continues to develop.

In the past, Columbia City and Hillman City have worked independently to market their distinct characteristics. Columbia City is a designated Historic District with a well-established business core; Hillman City prides itself as a quirky, funky, and innovative entrepreneurial strip. We anticipate that the physical gap between the two neighborhoods, referred to as the Rainier Avenue s-curves, will be completely redeveloped in the near future. In anticipation (and celebration) of this linkage, the neighborhoods wish to work together as an Arts & Cultural District. This district is the first step in bridging the gap between the two communities. We want to be proactive, and work towards the formation of new arts and cultural spaces to serve our many artists and cultural activists. The existing tools for Arts Districts and from the City's **CAP Report** will be critical. We, in partnership with the City, are committed to seeing that new development will incorporate the arts into their design, and will also provide new spaces for performances, exhibits, and resources for artists.

### District Mission and Goals

The mission of the Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District is to celebrate and enhance the authentic and culturally diverse soul of the Columbia City and Hillman City neighborhoods through identification with, and the advancement of, arts and culture. We want to celebrate the

## Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District

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historic contributions the arts have played in these communities, preserve and promote our current art spaces, and most importantly, proactively guide our future by ensuring that new art spaces are included in future developments. We recognize that designation can bring opportunity to artists & cultural spaces, but also to the myriad of cultures that allow Southeast Seattle to be such a great producer of arts & cultural experiences; this diversity must be maintained.

In furtherance of this mission, the Columbia Hillman Arts and Cultural District stakeholders are committed to:

- Activation of the Southeast Seattle creative economy;
- Retention and preservation of existing cultural spaces;
- Inclusion of new arts and cultural spaces in future development;
- Ensuring the availability of affordable commercial space for arts/cultural businesses and affordable live/work space for artists;
- Arts programs and projects with racial and social equity as a primary driver;
- Sustain and protect the cultural landscape that makes our neighborhoods unique;
- Development of increased youth engagement in the arts.

### The Creative Placemaking Toolkit

We have identified the following components of the Creative Placemaking Toolkit as priorities:

**District Identification:** The district will be clearly identified through the use of public art, sidewalk kiosks, or pole banners. We would like to collaborate with local artists to design and fabricate small works of public art (signs, banners, kiosks) that will be placed throughout the neighborhoods to identify the district, with an emphasis on the north and south borders along Rainer Avenue (Alaska and Orcas respectively) and in the s-curves between the two neighborhoods.

**Wayfinding:** Our primary wayfinding project will be the development of the Arts Walking Tour, a digital app that identify arts spaces and entertainment options in our neighborhoods, and serve as a link between the two neighborhoods. Each cultural space in our district will have a sticker in the window that identifies it as a “member” of the Arts & Cultural District. Users of the app will be able to engage with content featuring locations in the District when they come upon markers, either by manually launching the app or by allowing their device's GPS feature to

## Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District

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trigger the content. The app will also have the flexibility for the producers to easily add or remove content as necessary.

**Pop-up Space Activation:** We will work with Storefronts Seattle to activate vacant storefronts with art installations. This will provide opportunities for the numerous working artists in our community, and enhance our streetscape.

**Implement ideas from the City's CAP Report to preserve and promote current assets:** We will work with the city to implement ideas from the **CAP Report**. To promote and preserve our current assets, we would like to utilize concepts from the "Cultural Space Certification" list. We hope to maintain the character of the two neighborhoods, and hope the section titled, "Incentivize Cultural Uses in Older Buildings" will be of assistance.

**Implement ideas for the City's CAP Report to incentivize future cultural space development:** The **CAP Report** contains excellent suggestions in areas related to the creation of new cultural space. As the Rainier Ave S-curves continue to develop, many of the CAP Report tools will be useful, including Bonuses for Cultural Space (#4), Create Height Additions for Cultural Space Projects (#5), and all of the tools to facilitate the permitting process for cultural spaces.

### Governance Structure

Stakeholders for the Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District have been meeting since February 2016. This process has been an incredible opportunity for us, as we have already increased the amount of collaboration between our arts spaces and artists, and established an equitable approach to planning.

The stakeholders include (1) owners, operators and representatives of arts/cultural spaces and organizations, (2) individual neighborhood artists of all types, and (3) other community members enthusiastic about and interested in supporting the arts and cultural district. Once we receive designation, our stakeholders will identify members to serve as an advisory council. Policies and procedures will be developed to guide the operations of the advisory council, which will oversee the direction and programs of the district. SEEDArts will provide administrative and fiscal agency support. SEEDArts is a 30 year-old program of SouthEast Effective Development; its stability, its commitment to the Arts & Cultural District, and its well established connections in the community will ensure proper administration and financial oversight.

## **Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District**

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The Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District will celebrate the historic contribution of the arts in our community, preserve and promote current arts and cultural spaces, and work towards ensuring the future development of new arts and cultural spaces. We thank you for your consideration.

Signed,

Tarik Abdullah, Chef, Black & Tan Hall

Haimi Ayele, Community Arts Activist

Jennifer Bennett, Artist, Teacher, Black & Tan Hall

Debra Boucheignies, dbCreative Services Group, LLC

Sally Brucker, Igimo Arts Station

Heather Curran, Theater artist, Community Activist

Guy Davis, Musician, Columbia City Business Association

Chris Digangi, Media Artist

Julie Dillon, Community Arts Activist

Lori Duckstein, Artist

Betsy Fetherston, Columbia City Gallery

Kathy Fowells, SEEDArts

Francisca Garcia, Rainier Arts Center

Erik Hanson, Jazz Night School

Kate Harkins, Artist

Beau Hebert, Lotties Lounge

John Helmiere, The Collaboratory

Rodney Herold, Black and Tan Hall

James Hong, Vietnamese Friendship Association

Ben Hunter, Community Arts Create, Collaboratory, Black & Tan Hall, Musician

Lara Lavi, Columbia City Theater

Frank Martinez, SouthEast Effective Development

Tia Mathies, Royal Room

David McRae, Ark Lodge Cinema

Rob Mohn, Columbia City Business Improvement Area

Connie Ostrowski, The Makery

Ethan Pollack, Illustrator

Joan Robbins, Artist

Joe Seamons, Musician, Black and Tan Hall

Talia Silveri Wright, Community Arts Activist

Mia Stephenson, SEEDArts Studios

Matthew Stubbs, Hillman City Business Association

Barbara Earl Thomas, Artist

Mary Melinda Wellsandt, Artist

## Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District

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The following is an additional list of people that have expressed support for the Columbia Hillman Arts & Cultural District and have participated in one or more of our meetings or events:

Sonia Lynn Abenojar	Gibran Hashimi	Emily Naftalin
Scott Amick	Whitney Hazzard	Brian Nichols
Sam Anderson	Beau Hebert	Amy Novo
Tonia Arehart	Heather Hitt	Miya Nqobile
Megan Arnaud	Jimmy James	Jeannie O'Brien
Laurie Becker	Rob Jaull	Karen O'Brien
Pat Bennett	Karin Kallander	Deeann Partlow
Douglas Berger	Wynona Karbo	DL Powers
Manole Bogdana	Shari Kaufman	Deedric Prince
Beliz Brother	Laureen Kelly	Melissa Purcell
Liz Brown	Pat Kelly	Kathy Quenzer
Sally Brucker Brucker	Julie Kerby	Janelle Quibuyen
Pat Burnett	Chrys Kim Kim	Aurelia Rael
Joan Cihar	Eliaichi Kimaro	Riz Rollins
Sara Colling	Bennett Kling	Crista Schneider
Caitlin Cotter	Tom Koontz	Beth Scott
Randy Cross	John Kramer	Jessica Scruggs
Charlie Cunniff	Genessa Krasnow	Ken Selander
Heather Curran	Jennifer Lapensee	Sincere Shiota
Andrea Davis	Annie Lewis	Mike Solvestig
Lauren Davis	Molly Magai	Art Stone
Liz Davis	Daniel James Maguire	Victor Straube
Carolynn Daye	Julie Maher	Sergio Talamoni
Carina Del Rosario	Danny Manier	Amanda Teicher
Stephanie Dickie	Bogdana Manole	Senait Tilahcen
Rick Duque	Lance Matteson	Justoh Wells
Kerri Eden	Ann McBurney	Warren Wilson
Dave Egan	Kim McCormick	Revel Wolf
Osa Elaiho	David McGraw	Virginia Wright
Karla Esquivel	Andrea Misiano	Charlie Yaris
Sandra Fleming	Sultan Mohamed	Linda Zahava
Katie Funderburk	Dave Montoure	Ali & Emily Zuberi
Rob Green	Annie Moorehouse	
Becca Hall	Monica Munro	



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Res 32201, **Version:** 1

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Screen Reader Users: Make sure settings include reading strikethrough and underline font attributes.

## The City of Seattle

### Resolution

**A resolution** creating an Arts and Cultural District in the Georgetown neighborhood of Seattle.

#### Recitals:

Resolution 31555 created a citywide program of Arts and Cultural Districts, to be managed by the Office of Arts and Culture.

The Seattle Comprehensive Plan at the time calls for the support of Arts and Cultural Districts as a means to “support arts and cultural uses and the economic benefits they provide,” and encourages the City to “allow regulations and incentives to be adopted specifically for designated cultural districts,” and to “allow adopted guidelines or regulations to modify, exempt, or supersede the standards of the underlying zone to encourage arts and cultural uses.”

According to the 2025 budget report issued by ArtsFund, the creative sector within the ZIP codes encompassing Georgetown generated more than \$6 million in earned revenue and received just over \$13 million in contributed revenue, underscoring the substantial economic and community impact of arts and cultural activity in the district.

Arts and entertainment-related businesses and organizations add cultural economic diversity to a city, enhance the lives of the city’s residents and visitors, and positively impact the city’s economy by generating jobs and revenue.

Georgetown is a vibrant and diverse creative district, home to six neighborhood associations, seven artist collectives, 11 design studios and centers, seven creative fabrication companies, seven galleries, two museums, eight creative schools, five performance and event venues, and 13 annual neighborhood festivals, collectively contributing to the cultural, economic, and community vitality of the neighborhood.

The Georgetown Association of Arts & Culture (GTAAC) has been highly successful in bringing the community together by uniting a wide range of multidisciplinary artists, organizations, and creative practices, fostering collaboration, shared identity, and inclusive cultural engagement across the neighborhood.

The GTAAC has demonstrated sustained success in raising funds and securing investments that support neighborhood activation, strengthen cultural identity, and amplify Georgetown's role as a thriving arts and culture district.

The GTAAC employs a variety of strategies to support the neighborhood, including coalition building; annual educational and creative skill-sharing workshops; networking opportunities for residents, artists, and creative businesses; and ongoing advocacy on behalf of the Georgetown community.

Georgetown has served as an unofficial last-chance safety net for artists and arts organizations, providing space and opportunity that has helped prevent displacement beyond the city limits and allowing creative communities to remain rooted within the city.

The arts and cultural community of Georgetown has played a vital role in the neighborhood's evolution from a primarily commercial manufacturing area into a dynamic district that blends industrial work with creative practice, cultivating DIY character that reflects and embraces Seattle's cultural identity. Therefore,

**Be it resolved by the City Council of The City of Seattle, the Mayor concurring:**

Section 1. The City of Seattle establishes an Arts and Culture District in the Georgetown neighborhood of Seattle, to be known as the Georgetown Arts and Cultural District.

Section 2. The City of Seattle directs appropriate members of the City's departmental staff to actively support and work with staff in the Office of Arts and Culture to develop and maintain the District, and to support the health and vitality of the artists, creative businesses, and artists residing in the District.

Section 3. The City of Seattle encourages all residents of Georgetown, and especially those who own property or businesses within the District, to support, promote, and help maintain artists, arts organizations, and arts events in Georgetown.

Adopted by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its adoption on

President of the City Council  
Signed in concurrence on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor  
Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

*Seal*

## Summary and Fiscal Note

### 1. Legislation Summary

**Department:** Office of Arts and Culture

**Title:** A resolution creating and Arts and Cultural District in the Georgetown neighborhood of Seattle.

**Background:** The Arts and Cultural District designation program is intended to highlight the importance of the creative sector within neighborhoods and to empower communities to preserve and grow their cultural assets. The program was originally developed in 2014 at the recommendation of the Seattle Arts Commission in response to displacement pressures affecting arts organizations, cultural workers, and residents in Seattle's urban core.

Each designated district is led by an **independent nonprofit organization** responsible for:

- Neighborhood programming and events
- Advocacy efforts
- Placemaking initiatives
- Serving as a resource hub for the local creative community

This legislation designates Georgetown as the City's fifth Arts and Cultural District.

Between 2014 and 2018, four districts were formally established, Uptown, Columbia City and Hillman City, the Central Area, and Capitol Hill, creating a citywide network of place-based cultural districts that support arts-led community development.

Arts and Cultural District designation provides structured support, visibility, and coordination for neighborhoods with established creative ecosystems. Currently, the Office of Arts and Culture allocated \$110,000 annually to support the Arts and Cultural Districts, with each district receiving \$25,000 to advance local activation, capacity building, and collaboration. As Georgetown joins the network, the Office of Arts and Culture will evaluate what additional funds are needed as part of the 2027-2028 budget process.

These districts meet in person every other month, rotating among neighborhoods, to collaborate on shared resources, coordinate cultural activation, and exchange knowledge and best practices.

This structure strengthens connections between districts while allowing each to retain its unique identity and priorities.

At its core, Arts and Cultural District designation is designed to empower residents, artists, and organizations within the district by providing tools, recognition, and a direct connection to the City. The designation supports community-driven cultural development and serves as an important conduit for informing citywide policy, planning, and investment decisions that impact arts, cultural, and neighborhood vitality.

The Georgetown application represents a comprehensive report demonstrating the community's capacity to organize, articulate its cultural identity, and explain why the neighborhood represents a strong and sustainable center for arts and culture.

Representatives from the Office of Economic Development (OED), Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD), and Department of Neighborhoods (DON) were asked to review the application. Reviewers were requested to identify any concerns relevant to their department and to share feedback that could strengthen the designation process. The review also served as an opportunity for interdepartmental learning about the Cultural District program and the work of district leadership. All departments reported full support for Georgetown's designation to be the fifth Arts and Cultural District.

**Summary Attachments:**

Summary Attachment A – Georgetown Cultural District Application

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**2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**

- Yes
  - No
- 

**3. Summary of Financial Implications**

**Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?**

- Yes
  - No
-

#### 4. Other Impacts

**a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?**

Yes

No

**b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?**

Yes

No

**c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**

Yes

No

**d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:**

**1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.**

The program was originally developed at the recommendation of the Seattle Arts Commission in response to displacement pressures affecting arts organizations, cultural workers, and residents in Seattle's urban core.

**2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.**

N/A

**3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?**

OAC is working with its public information leads to evaluate the language access needs of this program.

e. Climate change impacts:

**1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.**

N/A

**2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.**

N/A

**f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?**

N/A

**g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?**

No



**Arts and Cultural District Application**  
December 2024

## **Introduction to Georgetown**

Abuzz with industrial and fine art collectives, independent artists, creative schools, design firms, and showroom galleries, Georgetown is one of the most arts-driven neighborhoods in Seattle. We are a unique district with a culture that melds industrial work with creativity into a gritty, DIY vibe that's immediately obvious when you enter the neighborhood. From the iconic brick façade of our retail core on Airport Way to the giant steel hat and boots sculpture in our residential Oxbow Park to the ever-present sound of planes landing at Boeing Field, industry, history, and the creative entrepreneurial spirit are infused into the look and feel of Georgetown.

## **Georgetown Demographics and History**

With a small population of around 1500 people, 37% of which are persons of color, Georgetown is one of King County's recognized Communities of Opportunity. According to the King County Public Health website, Georgetown ranks in the 2nd highest COO composite quintile and is in the highest category for poor housing conditions and low life expectancy. The Racial and Social Equity Index ranks the neighborhood as a Second Highest Equity Priority.

Georgetown is located directly East and North of the Duwamish River in South Seattle. For millennia, indigenous people lived along this area of the Duwamish, using the waters and wildlife to support more than 90 longhouses and at least 17 villages. In the 1800s, white settlers displaced the indigenous population and built an initial settlement focused on the railroad, manufacturing, and brewing industries. The growing city was annexed into Seattle in 1910, the Duwamish Estuary was dredged, and the area became Seattle's manufacturing and commercial core. This attracted large companies like Boeing and also a significant number of specialty supply and tool companies. This in turn makes the neighborhood not only a prime place for creative makers to work but a destination for craftsmen from all over the region.

The business of art, from fabrication to installation to gallery and design firm sales, contributes significantly to Georgetown's economy. The large industrial warehouses and relatively inexpensive rents are ideal for artists and artistic businesses like collective studios, galleries, and design firms.

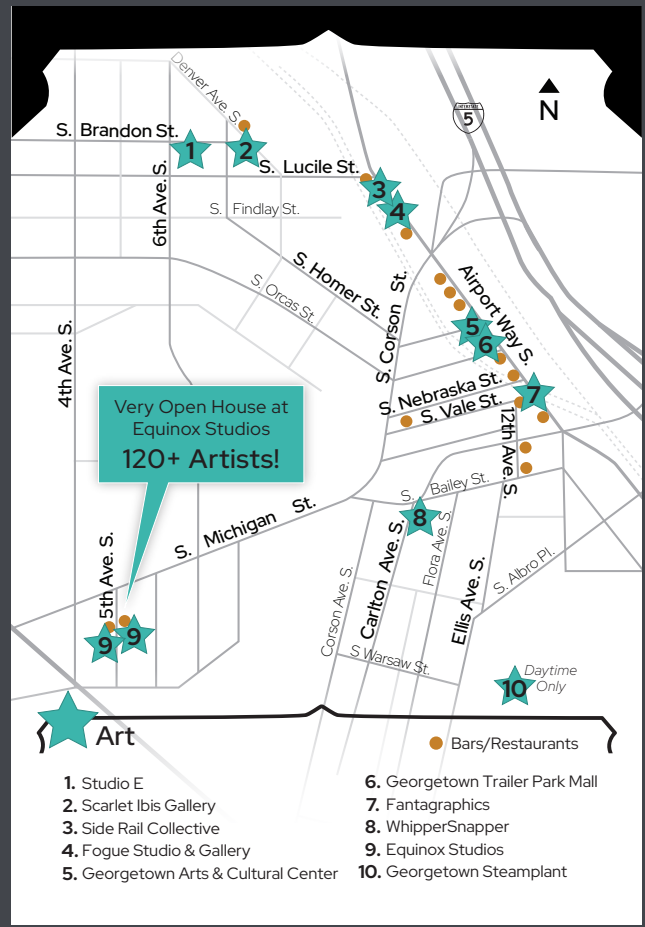
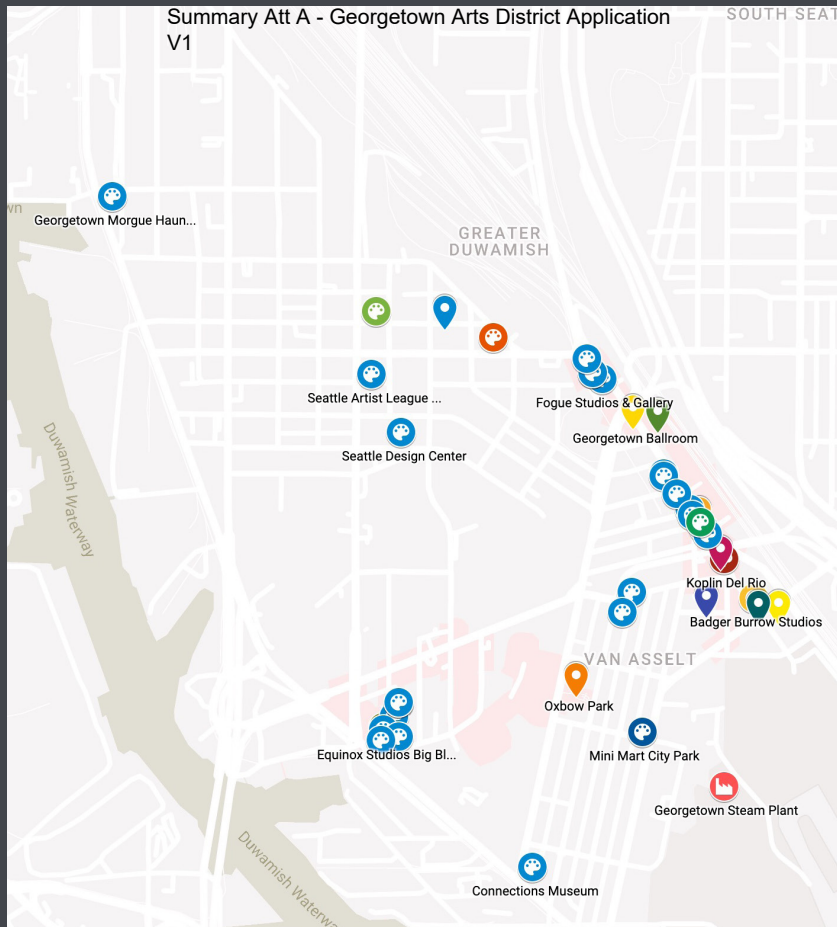
The neighborhood is a destination for arts and cultural enthusiasts year round; our second Saturday Art Attacks are some of the most attended artwalks in the city, as they offer attendees the option of visiting both traditional galleries and working artists' studios. Georgetown is home to a number of large cultural festivals that draw visitors in from around the city to patronize our retail establishments and buy from local vendors. These include the Georgetown Carnival, HonkFest West, the San Genaro festival, and Rainier Days. Neighborhood-centric events also draw visitors and celebrate Georgetown's unique DIY culture. These include the Georgetown Haunted History Tour, the Super 8 Film Festival, the Spooky Walk, and the new Georgetown Halloween Parade.

# **Georgetown**

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## **Association of Arts & Culture**

Summary Att A - Georgetown Arts District Application V1



**Race, ELL & Origins**

(shares of population who are)

- Persons of color
- English language learners
- Foreign born

**Socioeconomic Disadvantage**

(shares of population with)

- Income below 200 percent of poverty level
- Educational attainment less than a bachelor's degree

**Health Disadvantage**

- Adults with no leisure-time physical activity
- Adults with diagnosed diabetes
- Adults with obesity
- Adults who reported mental health not good
- Adults with asthma
- Adults with one or more disability
- Low life expectancy

**Legend**

- Highest Equity Priority
- Second Highest Equity Priority
- Middle
- Second Lowest
- Lowest

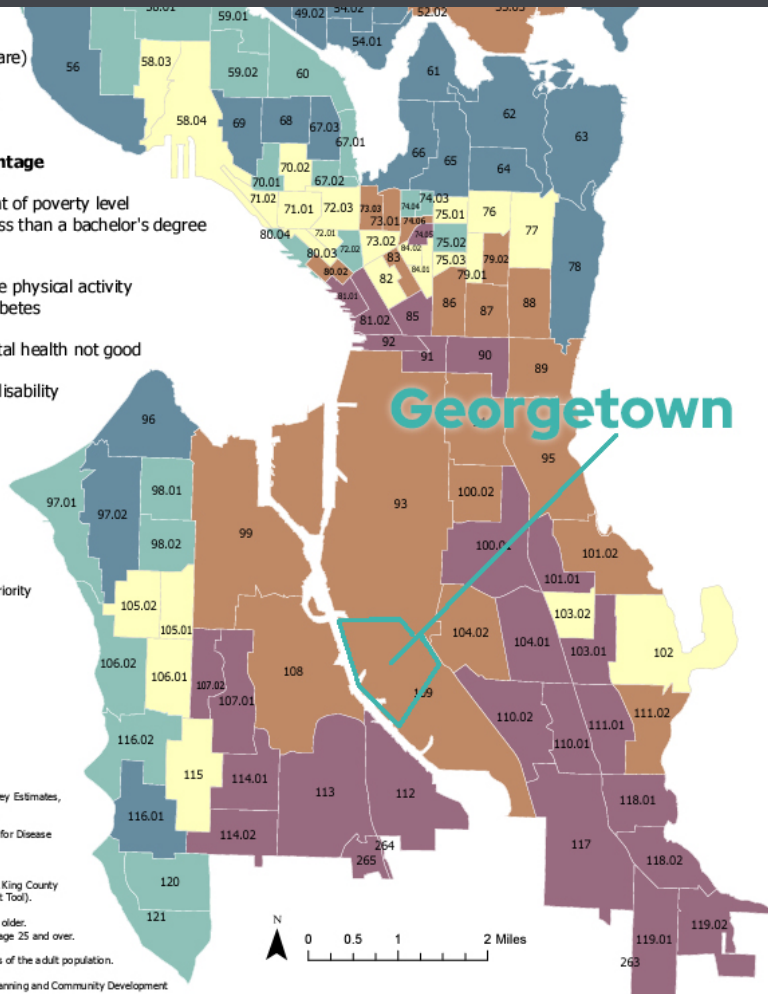
(labels are tract numbers)

Sources:  
 2017-2021 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau;  
 2020 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau;  
 modeled estimates published by the Centers for Disease Control in the PLACES project;  
 Washington State Department of Health's Washington Tracking Network (WTN);  
 and estimates from Public Health - Seattle & King County (based on the Community Health Assessment Tool).

Notes: Language is for population age 5 and older.  
 Educational attainment is for the population age 25 and over.  
 Life expectancy is life expectancy at birth.  
 Other health measures based on percentages of the adult population.

Map produced by: City of Seattle Office of Planning and Community Development

For more information on the index, including guidance for use, contact Diana Canzoneri, Demographer & Strategic Advisor, [diana.canzoneri@seattle.gov](mailto:diana.canzoneri@seattle.gov)



**Maps**

top left: screenshot of interactive web map of cultural assets from the GTAAC website ([link](http://georgetown-arts-culture.org/map))

top right: Art Attack map from GTAAC sponsored postcard December 2023

bottom left: Racial and Social Equity Index map 2023





## Arts District Organization

Efforts to organize an arts association that could represent Georgetown on a city-wide platform and work to create a stronger network within our neighborhood began in 2018, led by a steering committee of cultural stakeholders. Members of that committee include Sam Farrazaino (Equinox Studios, Georgetown Steamplant), Dawna Holloway (studio e), Laura Wright (2024 City Artist, Georgetown Super 8 Film Festival), and John Sutton (SuttonBearsCullor, Mini Mark City Park). The committee undertook the Challenge Grant in 2019 as the Georgetown Arts & Design District Coalition with an original expiration date of Dec 31, 2020.

Due to the unforeseen challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, this initial grant fulfillment was put on hold until the end of 2023. During that time, Farrazaino remained active with the Arts & Cultural District Program. The GADD Coalition also contracted with the Office of Arts & Culture for the Cultural District Economic Recovery Fund. Both of these contracts were fulfilled, reported on, and subsequently approved by the O A&C. (see pages 5-6)

As part of the initiative for the Economic Recovery Fund grant, the Georgetown Association of Arts & Culture (GTAAC) was formed to both fill the need for a neighborhood-wide coalition for Georgetown's creative entities and to represent the district as part of O A&C's Arts and Cultural District program. GTAAC is governed by a working Board of Directors who meet monthly, lead various committees, and actively participate in a wide range of community events and organizations. The BoD members represent various facets of Georgetown's creative culture; they are artists, gallerists, curators, event producers, residents, and creative business owners.

During its formation, a number of public meetings were held during which we gathered ideas, opinions, and other information from interested parties. Stakeholders from all creative facets of the district convened to discuss the major issues facing Georgetown and how we could leverage the arts to work for us and mend the fabric of our neighborhood. GTAAC was directly founded on the results and strategies that arose during these meetings.

# Georgetown

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## Association of Arts & Culture

*top left: Holly Mistur teaches metal patinas during Education Week 2023, an initiative funded through the Economic Recovery Fund grant and the first event organized by GTAAC based on feedback from the public convening*

*top right: Artist Dave Clay and his son learn stone carving during Education Week 2023 in the Georgetown Steamplant Classroom*

# THE IMPACT OF ARTS & CULTURE FUNDING IN GEORGETOWN

**Challenge Grant** \$2500



## Artists

Mary Gioia, blacksmith  
Drew Welliver, metal artist  
Melissa Knowles, acrobatics and watercolors  
Dave Clay, oil painter  
Essa Baird, ceramics  
JP Anderson, painter  
Brittany Otto, digital artist  
Dan Mahon, acrylic cat painter  
M. Anne Sweet, digital artist and ceramicist  
Jordan Lee, painter  
Lily Hotchkiss, multi-media artist  
Francesca Rosati, painter

## Locations

Full Throttle Bottles  
Boxes of Glass  
studio e  
Deep Sea Sugar and Salt  
All City Coffee  
Harlow Collective  
Fantagraphics  
Jules Maes  
Seattle Drum School  
Seattle ReCreative  
Dolcetta Artisan Sweets  
Georgetown Pizza Arcade

The scavenger hunt encouraged exploration of the neighborhood and collaborative, fun experiences for the residents while promoting the work of local artists and patronage of our cultural businesses.

The scavenger hunt concluded with a public Party and Prize Pick-Up. The gathering brought even more neighborhood participation as it was held at the Mini Mart City Park and multiple local businesses donated food and beverages including Georgetown Pizza and Arcade, Seattle Cider, Georgetown Brewing, House of Smith, and Tinte Cellars.

We had multiple activities set up for attendees in addition to swag. We shared information about our programs from 2023, had a performance of a crankies shadow puppet show, and showed art from a number of our grantees. Through this process, the artists, residents, and cultural businesses of Georgetown showed up to support and embrace the new Association of Arts & Culture and our efforts in the neighborhood.

# THE IMPACT OF ARTS & CULTURE FUNDING IN GEORGETOWN

**Economic Recovery Fund** \$100,000



- **255 hours of free Arts Education classes**
- **1506 hours of Arts Activations**
- **79 creative workers paid (+23 others)**
- **1219 attendees to classes and events**
- **20 wayfinding signs commissioned**
- **One Arts Association founded**

The Georgetown Arts & Culture Association distributed funds for four categorical purposes approved by Seattle's Office of Arts & Culture: the establishment of the GTACA as a sustainable, community-driven non-profit organization; the design and development of neighborhood wayfinding; funding of Education Week art classes; and a selection of Creative Community Recovery project grants.

## Education Week Classes

Sumi on Clayboard, Carol Ross  
Repousse', Louie Raffloer  
Jewelry Wiring, Mary Gioia  
Crochet a Round Rug, Elizabeth Reisner  
Brass Etching, Holly Mistur  
Stone Carving, Cyra Jane  
Metal Patinas, Holly Mistur  
Foraging & Local Plant Dyes, Laura Wright  
Ceramic Luminaries, Carolyn Autenrieth  
Intuitive Collage, Colleen Monette

## Project Grants

MOVIE STAR, film project  
Whippersnapper's Last show, gallery support  
Show 6, dance  
Duwamish Bend Housing Project, fabric arts  
Haunted History Tour, event support  
Mystic Screening, film project  
GT Graphic History Novel, comic arts  
Crankies, performance

**Georgetown**  

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**Association of  
Arts & Culture**

## District Governance, Mission, and Strategies

GTAAC is pursuing 501(c)3 status, has adopted bylaws and policies, and is working under the following mission statement: The Georgetown Association of Arts & Culture drives engagement by facilitating community opportunities, advocating for our creative economy and cultural infrastructure, and strengthening important networks for the residents, arts professionals, and cultural organizations of the Georgetown neighborhood.

We employ a variety of strategies in order to support our mission and neighborhood:

- **Coalition Building** – Members of the GTAAC board are actively involved with creating a collaborative organization with the other primary stakeholder associations in the neighborhood. This initiative is called the Georgetown Coalition and includes representatives from the Georgetown Business Association, the Georgetown Community Council, The Georgetown Steamplant, Friends of Georgetown History, Watershed Community Development Authority, and other community groups. The Coalition’s focus is to facilitate communication and resource sharing among these organizations.
- **Accessible Arts Education** – GTAAC is dedicated to sponsoring an annual Education Week that offers Creative Skill Share workshops for free to residents of the neighborhood. This is in direct response to the public convening meetings held in 2023; our first Education Week was funded through the Creative Recovery Grant. We paid 9 artists to teach workshops on a variety of artistic disciplines from stone carving to metal etching to crochet, to which 80 attendees were able to learn for free. In 2024, Education Week centered around Halloween creative skillsets like Special FX make-up, Giant Creature Building, and Float Building. Artist instructors donated their time and 23 residents attended the workshops. In the next few years we will be continuing Education Week and are also partnering with the Equinox Studios collective tenant group, The Stitch, to facilitate a series of free lectures and panel discussions on topics in Public Art.
- **Hands-on Opportunities for Expression and Play** - In 2023, GTAAC organized the first annual Georgetown Halloween Parade, and event specifically designed to meet multiple directives from our mission statement. The parade engaged residents in the South neighborhood, created relationships between us and local businesses, and brought in ensembles and participants from all over the city. We worked with multiple city departments (including the Dept. of Neighborhoods Small Sparks program), engaged a stellar team of volunteers, and held a very successful event that we plan to continue. We expect to see a significant growth in neighborhood participation in coming years, as residents and businesses work together to activate spaces on Halloween Night. GTAAC also hosts an Art Chopped booth during the Georgetown Carnival, which is a full day of art-making competitions that challenge artists to create a multi-media work from grab bags of media and invites the public to watch and cheer the artists on.



*left: Actors from the Georgetown Morgue Haunted House march through the rain as part of the first annual Georgetown Halloween Parade. 19 different groups walked in the parade, which was attended by hundreds of people. Despite, or perhaps because of, the weather, neighborhood response to the parade has been overwhelmingly positive.*



## District Governance, Mission, and Strategies (cont.)

- **Networking Opportunities** – GTAAC is especially dedicated to facilitating networking opportunities for residents, artists, and creative businesses in the neighborhood. Inspired by the work of the Columbia-Hillman District and the Burien Creative District, we have begun a series of quarterly Creative Network Happy Hours. We would be interested to explore whether working with the Office of Economic Development MXR events would be a good fit for Georgetown. Additionally, we are actively building an online Artist Roster to connect artists with patrons and discussing specific kinds of salons and networking events where creatives can form connections with potential project partners and patrons.

- **Wayfinding** – Directly inspired by the Creative Placemaking Toolkit, GTAAC has implemented a wayfinding campaign that included hiring a graphic designer to create a branding initiative for the neighborhood that included the creation of 20 large steel signs (see pg. 6) we are gifting to businesses at key locations around the neighborhood. We have also offered this branding, which includes logos and a full style guide, to the Georgetown Coalition and as open source to the community at large. We additionally maintain a map on our website of cultural spaces and are creating an event calendar with the Coalition that tracks all the neighborhood’s annual events in a single, easy to find location.

- **Advocacy** – One of the concerns we heard the most while conducting public meetings is that Georgetown is on the verge of gentrifying – maintaining our culture, preserving existing infrastructure, and keeping the neighborhood affordable for the residents and businesses who are established here is of the upmost importance. GTAAC is currently fiscally sponsored by Watershed Community Development Authority, a non-profit that manages Equinox Studios and is currently developing a 700+ unit affordable housing project, much of the space designated for artists. This project will essentially double Georgetown’s population in the next decade and is slated to house over a million dollars in public art commissioned from local artists. GTAAC’s President is a tenant at Equinox Studios and is active with The Stitch, their tenant organization which is highly involved in Watershed’s planning and operations. GTAAC is maintaining a presence at meetings and is actively discussing housing models, public art, and the impact this project will have on the neighborhood.



## **Georgetown**

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## **Association of Arts & Culture**

*above: Artists from across Georgetown mingle with tenants from Equinox Fine & Industrial Arts Collective, Watershed Community Development administrators, and owners of local businesses at the first Creative Network Happy Hour outdoor BBQ and firepit held in 2024. GTAAC partnered with Equinox to launch the series of events.*



### **The Future of the Georgetown Arts & Cultural District**

Georgetown's culture and grounding in the arts is not only solidified but growing at a rapid pace. Multiple large scale projects in the arts are underway in the neighborhood that are going to have widespread effects on our community - this includes the 2000+ affordable artists housing project, the initiative to transform the Georgetown Steam Plant into an educational museum and event venue, the current pursuit to develop a community center, and efforts to bring vital food resources into the district.

GTAAC is confident that our continued efforts will benefit our unique creative culture and that we can represent the needs of Georgetown as an Arts & Cultural District of the City of Seattle. The future efforts of GTAAC include continued implementation of the strategies above with a focus on strengthening our neighborhood's cultural fabric. As part of our 501(c)3 pursuit, we are creating a five year plan and budget that will set our programming plan until 2029. We have and will continue to build strong relationships with the cultural stakeholders in Georgetown and work to strengthen the networks of individual artists and bolster our creative economy.

**Georgetown Association of Arts & Culture**  
[www.georgetown-arts-culture.org](http://www.georgetown-arts-culture.org)

#### **Board of Directors**

Cyra Jane Hobson, President  
*Equinox Studios, Stoneyard Sculpture Studio,  
Northwest Stone Sculptors Association*

Virginia Wright, Treasurer  
*Scarlet Ibis Gallery, Burien Creative District,  
Pacific Northwest Railroad Archive*

Kerry Gates, Secretary  
*Fogue Studios and Gallery,  
Georgetown Business Association*

Sam Furnas, Director  
*Georgetown Gazette*



## Cultural Assets in Georgetown

*\*denotes active participation with GTAAC*

### Neighborhood Associations:

*Currently active organizations serving the residents and businesses of Georgetown.*

Georgetown Business Association\*  
Georgetown Community Council\*  
Friends of Georgetown History\*  
Duwamish River Community Coalition  
Duwamish Valley Youth Corps  
Georgetown Healthy Food Initiative

### Artist Collectives:

*Artist studio complexes with multiple tenants*

Totally Blown Glassworks  
Electric Coffin + House of Sorcery  
Equinox Studios\*  
Fogge Studios\*  
Side Rail Collective\*  
Georgetown Trailer Park Mall\*  
Georgetown Arts & Cultural Center

### Design Studios and Centers:

*Retail design studios and showrooms*

Seattle Design Center  
Hinge Studio  
Hoedemaker Pfeiffer  
Analog Floral  
Hampton Hill  
Prairie Underground  
Mutuus Studio  
Illuminata Art Glass Design  
Jonathan Pauls  
Village Interiors  
Susan Wheeler Home

### Creative Fabrication Companies:

*Business employing craftsmen and artists*

Misty Mountain Manufacturing  
Georgetown Morgue  
Unique Art Glass  
Hardmill Industries  
Signs of Seattle  
Haskett Works  
Prairie Underground

### Galleries:

*Fine art galleries*

Badger Burrow Studios  
Fogge Studios & Gallery\*  
Koplin Del Rio  
Scarlet Ibis Gallery\*  
studio e\*  
Seattle Art Source  
Mini Mart City Park\*

### Museums:

*Free Museums open to the public*

Connections Telephone Museum  
Georgetown Steam Plant\*

### Creative Schools:

*Centers of art education*

Gage South Campus and Sculpture Atelier  
Seattle Artist League  
Seattle Drum School of Music\*  
Dash of Soy Culinary School  
Ebanista School of Fine Woodworking  
School of Acrobatics and New Circus Arts  
Unexpected Productions School of Improv

### Venues:

*Cultural spaces*

Jules Maes Saloon\*  
The Stables  
Georgetown Ball Room  
Mini Mart City Park\*  
Yaw Theatre

### Cultural Events:

*Annual neighborhood festivals and events*

San Genarro Festival  
Honk Fest West  
Georgetown Carnival\*  
Georgetown Pride  
Haunted History Tour  
Georgetown Super 8 Film Festival  
Garden Tour  
Spooky Stroll  
Halloween Parade\*  
Dead Baby Downhill  
Very Out in the Open House (biannual)\*  
Georgetown Steam Plant Science Fair