

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

600 Fourth Ave. 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98104



Journal of the Proceedings of the Seattle City Council

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

2:00 PM

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

City Council

Sara Nelson, Council President

Joy Hollingsworth, Member

Robert Kettle, Member

Cathy Moore, Member

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Member

Maritza Rivera, Member

Rob Saka, Member

Mark Solomon, Member

Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8809; Sara.Nelson@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 June 24, 2025, pursuant to the provisions of the City Charter. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m., with Council President Nelson presiding.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Saka, Solomon

Excused: 1 - Strauss

Late Arrival: 3 - Hollingsworth, Rinck, Rivera

By unanimous consent, Councilmember Rivera was excused from the June 24, 2025, City Council meeting.

Councilmember Rivera joined the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

By unanimous consent, Councilmember Rivera's excused absence from the June 24, 2025, City Council meeting was rescinded.

C. PRESENTATIONS

There were none.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals addressed the Council:

Paul Glumaz
Paula Rees
Ben Warden
Emily Higgins
Joan Fochs
Bon Wood
Alex Tsimerman
Michael Woody
Victoria Palmer
Geoff Kroll
Ellen Sollod
Jubilee Knight
Bennett Haselton
Gabriel Jones
Jon Scholes
Alberto Alvarez
Lydia Felty
Kate Rubin
Allan Francis
Mike Semko
David Haines
Elizabeth Archambault
Leonard Jerome

Councilmember Rinck joined the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Councilmember Hollingsworth joined the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

E. ADOPTION OF INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL CALENDAR:

[IRC 485](#)

June 24, 2025

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

In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon

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 Nelson, duly seconded and carried, to adopt the Consent Calendar.

Journal:**1. [Min 524](#) June 10, 2025**

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

In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

2. [Min 525](#) June 17, 2025

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

In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

Bills:

3. [CB 121007](#) **AN ORDINANCE appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of June 9, 2025, through June 13, 2025, 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: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

Appointments:

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

4. [Appt 03178](#) **Appointment of Laura E. Nicholson as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2027.**

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

**In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka
Opposed: None**

The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:

**In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck,
Rivera, Saka, Solomon**

Opposed: None

5. [Appt 03179](#) **Appointment of Angie S. Wood as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2027.**

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

**In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka
Opposed: None**

The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:

**In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck,
Rivera, Saka, Solomon**

Opposed: None

6. [Appt 03180](#) **Reappointment of Bilan Aden as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2027.**

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

**In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka
Opposed: None**

The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:

In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck,
Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

7. [Appt 03181](#) **Reappointment of Barbara Baquero as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2027.**

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

In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka

Opposed: None

The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:

In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck,
Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

8. [Appt 03182](#) **Appointment of Nurhaliza Mohamath as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2027.**

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

In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka

Opposed: None

The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:

In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck,
Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

9. [Appt 03183](#) **Reappointment of Tanika Thompson Bird as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2027.**
- The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**
- In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka**
- Opposed: None**
- The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:**
- In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon**
- Opposed: None**
10. [Appt 03184](#) **Appointment of Joey Lu as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2029.**
- The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**
- In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka**
- Opposed: None**
- The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:**
- In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon**
- Opposed: None**
11. [Appt 03185](#) **Appointment of Yamila Sterling-Baker as member, Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, for a term to August 31, 2029.**
- The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**
- In Favor: 5 - Strauss, Rivera, Kettle, Nelson, Saka**
- Opposed: None**
- The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:**
- In Favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Rivera, Saka, Solomon**

Opposed: None

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

1. [CB 120992](#) **AN ORDINANCE granting Downtown Seattle Association permission to install, maintain, and operate interactive media kiosks in public places located in the Metropolitan Improvement District and in other participating Business Improvement Areas, for a 16.5-year term, renewable for one successive 13.5-year term; specifying the conditions under which this permit is granted; suspending and superseding Sections 15.12.010, 23.55.001-23.55.003, 23.55.005, 23.55.008, 23.55.014, 23.55.015, 23.55.022, 23.55.024, 23.55.028, 23.55.030, 23.55.034, and 23.55.036 of the Seattle Municipal Code to the extent inconsistent; providing for the acceptance of the permit and conditions; and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Downtown Seattle Association.**

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

In Favor: 4 - Nelson, Kettle, Hollingsworth, Rivera

Opposed: None

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

In Favor: 6 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: 2 - Moore, Rinck

HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:

2. [CB 121000](#) **AN ORDINANCE relating to prohibiting algorithmic rent fixing; and adding a new Chapter 7.34 to the Seattle Municipal Code.**

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

In Favor: 4 - Moore, Rinck, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

ACTION 1:

By unanimous consent, the Council Rules were suspended to allow Tamaso Johnson, Council Central Staff, to address the Council.

ACTION 2:

Councilmember Rivera announced she was disqualifying herself from voting on Council Bill 121000 due to a conflict of interest.

ACTION 3:

Motion was made by Councilmember Saka and duly seconded to amend Council Bill 121000, by adding a new Section 3 and renumbering the remaining sections accordingly, as shown in the underlined and strike through language below:

Section 3. The Council requests that the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI): (1) conduct outreach efforts to educate landlords about the requirements of this ordinance; and (2) transmit to Council, by January 31, 2026, a report describing the results of these outreach efforts and proposing potential ways that SDCI could assist with the implementation of this ordinance.

The motion carried by the following vote:

In favor: 7 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

Disqualified: 1 - Rivera

ACTION 4:

Motion was made by Councilmember Moore and duly seconded to amend Section 1 of Council Bill 121000 as shown in Attachment 1 to the Minutes.

The motion carried by the following vote:

In favor: 7 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

Disqualified: 1 - Rivera

ACTION 5:

Motion was made by Councilmember Rinck and duly seconded to

amend Section 1 of Council Bill 121000 as shown in the underlined language below:

7.34.040 Enforcement and penalties

The City Attorney may file a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction for violations of this Chapter 7.34 for civil penalties of up to \$7,500 per violation. Each instance of coordinating services for each dwelling unit may be considered a separate violation. The court may award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to the City Attorney if the City Attorney is the prevailing party.

7.34.050 Private right of action

Any person injured by a violation of this Chapter 7.34 may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction against a landlord or other person violating this Chapter 7.34 to recover damages up to \$7,500 per violation in addition to any actual damages incurred. The court may award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to any person injured by a violation of this Chapter 7.34 if that person is the prevailing party.

The motion carried by the following vote:

In favor: 6 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Solomon

Opposed: 1 - Saka

Disqualified: 1 - Rivera

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

In Favor: 7 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Saka, Solomon

Opposed: None

Disqualified: 1 - Rivera

Councilmember Rivera left the meeting at 2:13 p.m.

I. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

There were none.

J. ADOPTION OF OTHER RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Kettle presented a proclamation for signature honoring Father Michael G. Ryan's retirement on June 29, 2025. The following Councilmembers affixed their signature to the Proclamation:

7 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rinck, Saka, Solomon

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

Phillip Wood-Smith, Deputy City Clerk

Signed by me in Open Session, upon approval of the Council, on July 1, 2025.

Sara Nelson, Council President of the City Council

Attachment: Att 1 - Action 4 of CB 121000

Att 1 – Action 4 of CB 121000

Amendment C to CB 121000 – LEG Algorithmic Rent-Fixing ORD

Sponsor: Councilmember Moore

Defining “service provider”; clarifying violations and excluded dwellings

Effect: This amendment accomplishes several functions:

- (1) The amendment adds a new definition for “service provider” to the bill and uses the term “service provider” when identifying who performs coordinating activities or otherwise commits a violation. Amending the bill to reframe the activity as that done by a “service provider” instead of a person aligns this bill with the language of the model Washington State bill, Substitute Senate Bill 5469 (2025 Regular Session).
- (2) The amendment adds a new section to address the application of the bill to short-term rentals and hotels, as these terms are defined in the code. The section explicitly excluding businesses like short-term rentals or hotels from the scope of dwelling units whose landlords might engage in prohibited coordinating activities.
- (3) The amendment clarifies the scope of violations by expressly excluding from enforcement a landlord that uses basic recordkeeping software or systems absent any coordination activity.

1. Amend Section 1 of CB 121000 as follows:

Section 1. A new Chapter 7.34 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows:

Chapter 7.34 ALGORITHMIC RENT FIXING

...

7.34.020 Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter 7.34:

“Coordinate” and “coordinating” mean a ~~((person’s))~~ service provider’s: (1) collecting historical, anticipated, or contemporary prices, price changes, supply levels, occupancy rates, or lease or rental contract termination and renewal dates of residential dwelling units from two or more landlords, from private databases, or from public databases; and (2) analyzing or processing the information described in (1) through the use of a system ~~((s))~~ or software ~~((s))~~

~~algorithm,))~~ that utilizes an algorithmic or other automated process to provide recommendations regarding rental prices, lease renewal terms, or occupancy levels to more than one landlord. “Coordinate” and “coordinating” do not include publishing rental price estimates that:

1. Are solely based on publicly available information;
2. Are equally available to all members of the public; and
3. Do not require a contract~~((,))~~ or agreement~~((, or license))~~ to obtain.

“Dwelling unit” has the meaning defined in Section 22.204.050.

“Landlord” means the owner, lessor, or sublessor of the dwelling unit or the property of which it is a part, and in addition means any person designated as representative of the owner, lessor, or sublessor including, but not limited to, an agent, a resident manager, or a designated property manager.

“Person” means any individual, firm, corporation, association, governmental entity, or partnership and its agents or assigns.

“Service provider” means any person that performs a coordinating function.

7.34.025 Exclusions

This Chapter 7.34 does not apply to coordinating functions provided in connection with either short-term rentals as defined in Section 6.600.030 or hotels as defined in Section 22.204.090.

7.34.030 Violations

A. It is a violation of this Chapter 7.34 for any landlord, in or affecting commerce, to ~~((subscribe to,))~~ contract with ~~((,))~~ or otherwise exchange anything of value in return for the coordinating services of a service provider.

B. It is a violation of this Chapter 7.34 for any ~~((person))~~ service provider, in or affecting commerce, to provide coordinating services to two or more landlords.

C. It is not a violation of this Chapter 7.34 for a landlord to use a system or software recordkeeping tool absent otherwise prohibited conduct under this Chapter 7.34.

7.34.040 Enforcement and penalties

The City Attorney may file a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction for violations of this Chapter 7.34 for civil penalties of up to \$7,500 per violation. The court may award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to the City Attorney if the City Attorney is the prevailing party.

7.34.050 Private right of action

Any person injured by a violation of this Chapter 7.34 may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction against a landlord or other ~~((person))~~ service provider violating this Chapter 7.34 to recover damages up to \$7,500 per violation. The court may award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to any person injured by a violation of this Chapter 7.34 if that person is the prevailing party.