

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

600 Fourth Ave. 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98104



Journal of the Proceedings of the Seattle City Council

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

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

Tammy J. Morales, Member

Maritza Rivera, Member

Rob Saka, Member

Dan Strauss, Member

Tanya Woo, 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 Seattle, Washington, on June 4, 2024, 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: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Late Arrival: 1 - Moore

Councilmember Moore entered the Council Chamber at 2:02 p.m.

C. PRESENTATIONS

There were none.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals addressed the Council:

Ken Workman
Tanya Treat
Yvonne Griffin
Isailey Medilo
Jazmine Smith
Leslie Morishita
Karen Toering
Arianna Riley
Hao Shen
Myesha Mitchell
Strawberry S
Alexis Mercedes Rinck
Kitty Wu
Saunatina Sanchez
Susano Surface
Olisa Enrico
Alice Lockhart
Shemona Moreno
Joey Lopez
Alex Kim
Jason Ogulnik
Alice Park
Slayman
Peter Manning
Leah Martin
Jesse Simpson
Ubax Gardheere
Tony To
Selene Russo
Alberto Alvarez
Stephanie Morales
Courtney Casey
Bunthay Cheom

E. ADOPTION OF INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL CALENDAR:

[IRC 439](#)

June 4, 2024

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

By unanimous consent, the City Council 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 475](#) May 28, 2024

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

Bills:

2. [CB 120793](#) AN ORDINANCE appropriating money to pay certain claims for the week of May 20, 2024 through May 24, 2024 and ordering the payment thereof; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

The item was passed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote, and the President signed the Council Bill:

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

Appointments:

GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

3. [Appt 02892](#) **Reappointment of Lowell Deo as member, Seattle Film Commission, for a term to April 23, 2027.**
- The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**
- In Favor: 5 - Nelson, Kettle, Hollingsworth, Rivera, Saka**
- Opposed: None**
- The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:**
- In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo**
- Opposed: None**
4. [Appt 02893](#) **Reappointment of Tom Florino as member, Seattle Film Commission, for a term to April 23, 2027.**
- The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**
- In Favor: 5 - Nelson, Kettle, Hollingsworth, Rivera, Saka**
- Opposed: None**
- The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:**
- In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo**
- Opposed: None**
5. [Appt 02894](#) **Reappointment of Kat Ogden as member, Seattle Film Commission, for a term to April 23, 2027.**
- The Committee recommends that City Council confirm the Appointment (Appt).**
- In Favor: 5 - Nelson, Kettle, Hollingsworth, Rivera, Saka**
- Opposed: None**
- The Appointment (Appt) was confirmed on the Consent Calendar by the following vote:**
- In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo**
- Opposed: None**
-

6. [Appt 02895](#) Reappointment of Anthony Tackett as member, Seattle Film Commission, for a term to April 23, 2027.

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

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

Opposed: None

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

7. [Appt 02851](#) Reappointment of Patricia L. Hunter as member, Community Police Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

In Favor: 5 - Kettle, Saka, Hollingsworth, Moore, Nelson

Opposed: None

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

8. [Appt 02852](#) Reappointment of Lynne Wilson as member, Community Police Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

In Favor: 5 - Kettle, Saka, Hollingsworth, Moore, Nelson

Opposed: None

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson,
Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUSTAINABILITY, CITY LIGHT, ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE:

1. [Appt 02864](#) **Appointment of Dawn Lindell as General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle City Light, for a term to May 31, 2028.**

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

In Favor: 4 - Woo, Moore, Morales, Saka

Opposed: None

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka,
Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

The Council President invited Dawn Lindell to address the Council.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

2. [CB 120777](#) **AN ORDINANCE relating to unsafe building abatement; amending Section 111 and Section 202 of the 2018 Seattle Fire Code as adopted by Section 22.600.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code and as regulated and allowed by the State Building Code Act, Chapter 19.27 of the Revised Code of Washington; declaring an emergency; and establishing an immediate effective date; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.**

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

In Favor: 5 - Kettle, Saka, Hollingsworth, Moore, Nelson

Opposed: None

ACTION 1:

Motion was made by Councilmember Saka, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill 120777, by amending Section 1, adding a new Section K, as shown in the underlined language below:

K. Each of Seattle's eight designated historic districts are regulated by a citizens board and/or the Landmarks Preservation Board in accordance with processes and criteria detailed in Title 25 of the Seattle Municipal Code, which also sets forth the limited conditions under which a landmarked building may be demolished, and nothing in this ordinance supersedes those existing provisions and requirements.

ACTION 2:

Motion was made by Councilmember Morales, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill 120777, by amending Section 1, adding a new Section D, and renumbering the subsequent sub-sections accordingly, as shown in the underlined language below:

D. These buildings represent a safety risk to the communities they are located in and the general public because they create opportunities for unauthorized trespass or occupancy, which may enable illegal or unsafe behavior and create additional fire risks. Unauthorized access to these buildings and the potential for drug use or other illegal behavior inside them may lead to further structural damage, decrease community safety, and endanger first responders.

ACTION 3:

Motion was made by Councilmember Kettle, duly seconded and carried, to

amend Council Bill 120777, as shown in Attachment 1 to the Minutes.

ACTION 4:

Motion was made by Councilmember Kettle, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill 120777, by adding a new recital, as shown in the underlined language below:

WHEREAS, the intent of this ordinance is to permit the Seattle Fire Department to abate unsafe conditions on premises and/or property which includes construction sites, and to summarily abate conditions on such sites where there is an imminent danger to life and property; and

ACTION 5:

Motion was made by Councilmember Kettle, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill 120777, as shown in Attachment 2 to the Minutes.

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: None

SELECT BUDGET COMMITTEE:

3. [CB 120774](#) **AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance 126955, which adopted the 2024 Budget, including the 2024-2029 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; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.**

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

In Favor: 7 - Strauss, Hollingsworth, Kettle, Morales, Nelson, Saka, Woo

Opposed: None

Abstain: 2 - Rivera, Moore

ACTION 1:

Motion was made by Councilmember Rivera and duly seconded, to amend Council Bill 120774, by adding a new Section 2, and renumbering the remaining sections accordingly, as shown in the underlined language below:

Section 2. The City Council requests that the Office of Planning and Community Development provide a report on the Equitable Development Initiative (EDI) by September 24, 2024, to the Council President, that includes, at a minimum:

A. A status update on each project funded by the EDI program, including the current project stage and the completion timeline. If there is no completion timeline, the report should describe activities completed to date and next steps in the project development process;

B. Results of program evaluation in progress when this ordinance becomes effective. These evaluation results should demonstrate the effectiveness of the program, identify ways to improve or modify the program and program planning, identify streamlining and efficiency opportunities to successfully complete existing projects, and determine the optimal allocation of resources for future grant awards;

C. Potential future funding requests within the existing portfolio of EDI projects; and

D. Identification of obstacles to completion of these projects unrelated to the funding.

The Motion passed by the following vote:

In favor: 8 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

Opposed: 1 - Morales

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

In Favor: 9 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Moore, Morales, Nelson, Rivera, Saka, Strauss, Woo

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 3:59 p.m.

Jodee Schwinn, Deputy City Clerk

Signed by me in Open Session, upon approval of the Council, on June 11, 2024.

Sara Nelson, Council President of the City Council

Attachment: Att 1 to Action 3 of Council Bill 120777

Attachment: Att 2 to Action 5 of Council Bill 120777

Attachment 1 to Action 3 of Council Bill 120777

Amendment C to CB 120777 – SFD Dangerous Buildings ORD

Sponsor: Councilmember Kettle

Summary abatement protocols

Effect: This amendment directs SFD, SDCl, and the City Attorney’s office to work together to develop guidance to implement SFD summary abatement powers.

Double underline indicates language added by this amendment.

Amend Section 2 of CB 120777 as follows:

Section 2. Section 111 of the Seattle Fire Code, enacted by Ordinance 126283, is amended as follows:

**SECTION 111
UNSAFE BUILDINGS, PREMISES, VEHICLES, AND VESSELS**

[S][A] 111.1 General. If a premises, a *building or portion thereof*, or a structure or portion thereof, or any building system, vehicle or vessel, in whole or in part, endangers any property or the health or safety of the occupants of the property or of neighboring premises, buildings, motor vehicles, *vessels*, or the health and safety of the public or fire department personnel, the *fire code official* shall issue such notice or orders to remove or remedy the conditions as shall be deemed necessary in accordance with this section. The *fire code official may* refer the building to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections for any repairs, *alterations*, remodeling, removing or demolition required.

[S][A] 111.1.1 Unsafe conditions. Structures, premises, or existing equipment that are or hereafter become unsafe or deficient because of inadequate *means of egress*, that constitute a fire hazard, that involve illegal or improper occupancy or inadequate maintenance, or that are

otherwise dangerous to human life or public welfare, shall be deemed an unsafe condition.

Unsafe structures shall be taken down and removed or made safe, as the *fire chief* or *fire code official* deems necessary and as provided for in this section. A vacant structure that is not secured against unauthorized entry as required by Section 311 shall be deemed unsafe.

[S][A] 111.1.2 Structural hazards. Where an apparent structural hazard is caused by the faulty installation, operation or malfunction of any of the items or devices governed by this code, the *fire code official* is authorized to immediately notify the building code official in accordance with Section 111.1.

[S] 111.1.3 Public nuisance. A building or portion thereof, or premises, that is deemed unsafe under this section is found and declared to be a *public nuisance*. The *fire code official* is authorized to abate the *public nuisance*. The cost of such abatement shall be recovered from the owner or person responsible or both in any manner provided by law.

[S][A] 111.2 Evacuation. The *fire code official* or the fire department official in charge of an incident shall be authorized to order the immediate evacuation of any occupied premises, building or portion thereof, vehicle, or *vessel* deemed unsafe where such premises, building or portion thereof, vehicle, or *vessel* has hazardous conditions that present imminent danger to premises, building or portion thereof, vehicle, or *vessel* occupants. Persons so notified shall immediately leave the structure or premises, vehicle, or *vessel* and shall not enter or re-enter until authorized to do so by the *fire code official* or the fire department official in charge of the incident.

[A] 111.3 Summary abatement. Where conditions exist that are deemed ~~((hazardous))~~ an imminent danger to life and property, and issuing an order or notice that provides a compliance deadline is not practical, the *fire code official* or fire department official in charge of the incident

is authorized to declare the conditions a public nuisance and abate summarily such hazardous conditions that are in violation of this code. Such summary abatement may include, but is not limited to, demolition. The cost of such abatement shall be recovered from the *owner* or *person* responsible or both in any manner provided by law, including through a special assessment under RCW 35.21.955 against the property filed as a lien with the King County Recorder.

[A] 111.4 Abatement. The *owner*, the owner's authorized agent, operator or occupant of a building or premises deemed unsafe by the *fire code official* shall abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions either by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or other *approved* corrective action. Where the *owner*, or the *owner's* authorized agent, operator or occupant, fails to abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions, the *fire code official* is authorized to abate such unsafe conditions that are in violation of this code. The cost of such abatement shall be recovered from the *owner* or *person* responsible or both in any manner provided by law, including through a special assessment under RCW 35.21.955 against the property filed as a lien with the King County Recorder.

[S] 111.5 Notification. The *fire code official* shall serve the responsible party with a copy of violations, correction letters, and orders issued. The property owner shall be notified in the manner required by RCW 35.21.955 prior to the filing of a lien that the costs of abatement may be assessed against the property as authorized by RCW 35.21.955.

[S] 111.6 Abatement costs. Whenever the *fire code official*, or fire department official in charge of an incident, is authorized to abate summarily such hazardous conditions that are in violation of this code, the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee is authorized to seek reimbursement for the actual costs of incurred services, including City labor costs, together with a charge equal to 15% of the City's actual incurred costs to cover administrative expenses. These charges shall be a cost

of abatement and shall be collected from the owner in any manner provided by law, including through a special assessment under RCW 35.21.955 against the property filed as a lien with the King County Recorder. The property owner shall be notified in the manner required by RCW 35.21.955 prior to the filing of a lien that the costs of abatement and associated fees may be assessed against the property as authorized by RCW 35.21.955.

[S] 111.7 Abatement protocols. The Fire Department shall, in consultation with the Law Department and the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, develop operational protocols regarding the use of summary abatement authority. These protocols shall address practices necessary to ensure the proper application of summary abatement authority, including but not limited to: adequate documentation of conditions requiring summary abatement, and specific guidance on the use of demolition during a summary abatement.

Attachment 2 to Action 5 of Council Bill 120777

Amendment E to CB 120777 – SFD Dangerous Buildings ORD

Sponsor: Councilmember Kettle

Abatement reporting

Effect: This amendment requires annual reporting from SFD on use of abatement powers. It also makes a technical edit that aligns with bill language naming the parties within SFD who are authorized to perform summary abatement.

Double underline indicates language added by this amendment.

Amend Section 2 of CB 120777 as follows:

Section 2. Section 111 of the Seattle Fire Code, enacted by Ordinance 126283, is amended as follows:

**SECTION 111
UNSAFE BUILDINGS, PREMISES, VEHICLES, AND VESSELS**

[S][A] **111.1 General.** If a premises, a *building or portion thereof*, or a structure or portion thereof, or any building system, vehicle or vessel, in whole or in part, endangers any property or the health or safety of the occupants of the property or of neighboring premises, buildings, motor vehicles, *vessels*, or the health and safety of the public or fire department personnel, the *fire code official* shall issue such notice or orders to remove or remedy the conditions as shall be deemed necessary in accordance with this section. The *fire code official may* refer the building to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections for any repairs, *alterations*, remodeling, removing or demolition required.

[S][A] **111.1.1 Unsafe conditions.** Structures, premises, or existing equipment that are or hereafter become unsafe or deficient because of inadequate *means of egress*, that constitute a fire hazard, that involve illegal or improper occupancy or inadequate maintenance, or that are

otherwise dangerous to human life or public welfare, shall be deemed an unsafe condition.

Unsafe structures shall be taken down and removed or made safe, as the *fire chief* or *fire code official* deems necessary and as provided for in this section. A vacant structure that is not secured against unauthorized entry as required by Section 311 shall be deemed unsafe.

[S][A] 111.1.2 Structural hazards. Where an apparent structural hazard is caused by the faulty installation, operation or malfunction of any of the items or devices governed by this code, the *fire code official* is authorized to immediately notify the building code official in accordance with Section 111.1.

[S] 111.1.3 Public nuisance. A building or portion thereof, or premises, that is deemed unsafe under this section is found and declared to be a *public nuisance*. The *fire code official* is authorized to abate the *public nuisance*. The cost of such abatement shall be recovered from the owner or person responsible or both in any manner provided by law.

[S][A] 111.2 Evacuation. The *fire code official* or the fire department official in charge of an incident shall be authorized to order the immediate evacuation of any occupied premises, building or portion thereof, vehicle, or *vessel* deemed unsafe where such premises, building or portion thereof, vehicle, or *vessel* has hazardous conditions that present imminent danger to premises, building or portion thereof, vehicle, or *vessel* occupants. Persons so notified shall immediately leave the structure or premises, vehicle, or *vessel* and shall not enter or re-enter until authorized to do so by the *fire code official* or the fire department official in charge of the incident.

[A] 111.3 Summary abatement. Where conditions exist that are deemed ~~((hazardous))~~ an imminent danger to life and property, and issuing an order or notice that provides a compliance deadline is not practical, the *fire code official* or fire department official in charge of the incident

is authorized to declare the conditions a public nuisance and abate summarily such hazardous conditions that are in violation of this code. Such summary abatement may include, but is not limited to, demolition. The cost of such abatement shall be recovered from the owner or person responsible or both in any manner provided by law, including through a special assessment under RCW 35.21.955 against the property filed as a lien with the King County Recorder.

[A] 111.4 Abatement. The *owner*, the owner's authorized agent, operator or occupant of a building or premises deemed unsafe by the *fire code official* shall abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions either by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or other *approved* corrective action. Where the owner, or the owner's authorized agent, operator or occupant, fails to abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions, the fire code official is authorized to abate such unsafe conditions that are in violation of this code. The cost of such abatement shall be recovered from the owner or person responsible or both in any manner provided by law, including through a special assessment under RCW 35.21.955 against the property filed as a lien with the King County Recorder.

[S] 111.5 Notification. The *fire code official* shall serve the responsible party with a copy of violations, correction letters, and orders issued. The property owner shall be notified in the manner required by RCW 35.21.955 prior to the filing of a lien that the costs of abatement may be assessed against the property as authorized by RCW 35.21.955.

[S] 111.6 Abatement costs. Whenever ~~the fire code official, or fire department official in charge of an incident, is authorized to abate summarily such hazardous conditions that are in violation of this code~~ summary abatement is performed as authorized in Section 111.3 or Section 111.4, the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee is authorized to seek reimbursement for the actual costs of incurred services, including City labor costs, together with a charge equal to 15% of the City's

actual incurred costs to cover administrative expenses. These charges shall be a cost of abatement and shall be collected from the owner in any manner provided by law, including through a special assessment under RCW 35.21.955 against the property filed as a lien with the King County Recorder. The property owner shall be notified in the manner required by RCW 35.21.955 prior to the filing of a lien that the costs of abatement and associated fees may be assessed against the property as authorized by RCW 35.21.955.

[S] 111.7 Abatement reporting. The Department shall, by December 31 of each year beginning in 2024, provide to the City Council a report documenting the use of abatement and summary abatement authority, with the following information for the year: the number of abatement actions; the number of summary abatement actions, including the number of demolitions; all costs associated with each abatement or summary abatement action, and the status of attempted cost recovery for these actions; data on the geographic distribution of abatement and summary abatement actions; and the type of properties involved (e.g., residential or commercial).