



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Public Assets and Homelessness Committee

### Agenda

Wednesday, July 6, 2022

2:00 PM

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

Andrew J. Lewis, Chair  
Teresa Mosqueda, Vice-Chair  
Lisa Herbold, Member  
Debora Juarez, Member  
Tammy J. Morales, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8807; [Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov](mailto:Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov)

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**SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Public Assets and Homelessness Committee**  
**Agenda**  
**July 6, 2022 - 2:00 PM**

**Meeting Location:**

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

**Committee Website:**

<https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-assets-and-homelessness>

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

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

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the meeting at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>. Online registration to speak will begin two hours before the meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair.

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

Submit written comments to Councilmember Lewis at [Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov](mailto:Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov)

*Please Note: Times listed are estimated*

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

D. Items of Business

1. [Appt 02265](#) **Appointment of Yazmin Fatima Mehdi as member, Seattle Public Library Board of Trustees, for a term to April 1, 2027.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

**Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote**

**Presenters:** Tom Fay, Chief Librarian, Seattle Public Libraries; Carmen Bendixen, Board President, Seattle Public Libraries Board of Trustees

2. **City Hall Park Intergovernmental Land Transfer**

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

**Briefing and Discussion**

**Presenters:** Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Karan Gill, Tom Koney, Tony Wright, King County

3. **Seattle Parks Aquatics Update**

Supporting Documents: [Presentation](#)

**Briefing and Discussion**

**Presenters:** Acting Superintendent Christopher Williams, Mike Plympton, Justin Cutler, and Michele Finnegan, Seattle Parks and Recreation

**E. Adjournment**



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Appt 02265, **Version:** 1


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Appointment of Yazmin Fatima Mehdi as member, Seattle Public Library Board of Trustees, for a term to April 1, 2027.

The Appointment Packet is provided as an attachment.



# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> Yazmin Fatima Mehdi		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> The Seattle Public Library Board of Trustees		<b>Position Title:</b> Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input 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> 4/2/2022 <b>to</b> 4/1/2027  <input type="checkbox"/> Serving remaining term of a vacant position	
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Queen Anne	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98109	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> Business phone # - NOT personal phone #
<b>Background:</b> Yazmin Mehdi has a rich and varied career history spanning the public sector and not-for-profit organizations including positions in the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation, the Seattle City Budget Office, the Seattle Mayor’s Office under Mayor Paul Schell, The Seattle Public Library, The Seattle Public Library Foundation, Crosscut.com, and most recently as Interim District Director for Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal.  Ms. Mehdi has direct experience supporting The Seattle Public Library having been employed as a Special Assistant to the City Librarian for Strategic Planning and Projects, having been employed by The Seattle Public Library Foundation as Director of Community Programming and Events, and having served as a member of the Library Board’s Search Advisory Committee during their 2021-2022 national search for a new Chief Librarian.  Ms. Mehdi has a strong background in volunteerism and board service including membership on the boards of Town Hall, University Preparatory Academy, Seattle Board of Park Commissioners, and Hilltop Children’s Center. She holds an undergraduate degree in Social Studies from Harvard and a Master in Public Policy from the University of Michigan.		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b>  <b>Date Signed (appointed):</b> 6/23/22	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> Bruce A. Harrell Mayor of Seattle	

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

# YAZMIN FATIMA MEHDI

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Office of Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal (WA-07).** Seattle, Washington, January 2017-February 2021  
*Interim District Director (July-December 2020)/Deputy District Director (August 2019-June 2020, January 2021).* Led staff of six and interns to fulfill the needs of constituents, represent Congresswoman Jayapal, and provide DC colleagues with issues and ideas for federal support to the district. Cultivated strengths of staff and mentored them in areas of growth. Managed the district office appropriations process, developed the Congresswoman's annual infrastructure report, and led proactive outreach efforts like "Java with Jayapal" while managing a portfolio of outreach areas.

*Outreach Coordinator.* Built new connections and networks for Congresswoman with businesses and chambers of commerce, arts organizations and arts networks, housing agencies and non-profits, and transit and transportation agencies. Identified federal funding and support for constituents in Edmonds, Shoreline and Lake Forest Park. Through thoughtful cultivation of connections, strong communication with constituents, and an understanding of the political environment, informed legislative priorities and strategies, contents of bills and letters, and advocacy for the district.

**Crosscut.com.** Seattle, Washington, February 2007-April 2009  
*Director, Business Development & Marketing.* Served on founding team for online news site. Experimented with for-profit model for two years, and helped determine the need to switch to a not-for-profit. Ran business-side operations including evaluating possible partnerships, developing marketing strategies, selling advertising, and managing human resource and finance functions. Cultivated angel investors.

**The Seattle Public Library Foundation.** Seattle, Washington, January 2005-February 2007  
*Director, Community Programs & Events.* Integrated disparate program staff and elevated public programs to better serve Library users. Drove effort to expand cultural and life skills programming directed at City's growing immigrant and refugee population based on research and analysis of public libraries at the forefront of this work. Oversaw creation of revenue-generating space rentals program at new Central Library. Raised funds for programs. Led redefinition of the role of the Friends of the Seattle Public Library from grassroots supporters of the Library Bond Levy to long-term financial supporters and advocates.

**The Seattle Public Library.** Seattle, Washington, March 2000-December 2004  
*Special Assistant to the City Librarian for Strategic Planning & Projects.* Successfully led the move of old Central Library to temporary quarters and back to Koolhaas-designed structure. Led budget development. Created and implemented policies for the library's expanding art collection. Negotiated divergent desires and expectations for design and final location of FriendShop among the Friends group, Koolhaas architects and library staff.

**Mayor's Office.** Seattle, Washington, June 1998-February 2000  
*Special Assistant to the Mayor for Arts & Culture.* Successfully re-set Mayor Paul Schell's relationship with arts community. Negotiated with Aquarium and Zoo Societies to manage these public resources. Advised Mayor on issues pertaining to arts policy, immigrants and refugees, and related city departments and programs: Seattle Center, Library, Seattle Arts Commission, Aquarium, Zoo, and Sand Point. Handled related public and media communications. Represented Mayor at public events.

**City Budget Office.** Seattle, Washington, Summer 1993, June 1994-May 1998  
*Senior Fiscal and Policy Analyst.* Implemented Mayor's policy goals through development of the City's budget. Made recommendations for new or innovative programs that addressed Mayoral priorities. Organized and led interdepartmental teams to elevate policy ideas, address gaps in service, or implement new efforts. Identified reductions in costs when expected revenues were less than hoped.

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

**The Seattle Public Library Search Advisory Committee.** January 2021-present. Present strong candidates to Board of Trustees for the Chief Librarian following a nationwide, year-long selection process.

# YAZMIN FATIMA MEHDI

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**Public Health Reserve Corps.** February 2021-present. Assist Public Health staff at vaccine clinics.

**Town Hall Seattle Board of Directors.** March 2007-present

*Board President (2012-15), Board Chair (2015-16), Treasurer (2016-17).* Led board during period when programming and budget doubled, and organization began first-ever \$25M capital project and fundraising effort. Planned and led retreats for staff and board. Led 2012 retreat that yielded unanimous vote for capital project.

**University Preparatory Academy.** September 2014-June 2020

*Board Member (2017-2020); Capital Campaign Co-Chair (2018-2020) Next General Learning Committee (2014-2018).* Evaluated strategic changes in the curriculum in five areas: new models of time, social and emotional learning, interdisciplinary learning, social justice and educational equity, and self-directed learning.

**Lakeside School Parent and Guardian Association.** May 2015-June 2017

*Class Representative.* Recruited volunteers and managed sales department as part of two annual Lakeside Rummage Sales that yielded \$100K and \$66K, respectively, for the school.

**Seattle Board of Park Commissioners.** May 2012-May 2015

*Vice Chair (May 2014-May 2015).* Instrumental in evaluating options for new funding source for parks system, resulting in voter approval of the Seattle Parks District, which gave the city access to additional taxing authority and yields multiple millions of additional dollars for the system annually.

**Queen Anne Elementary PTSA.** August 2010-June 2012

*Treasurer.* Helped charter the PTSA of brand-new public school, including filing incorporation documents, government licenses, and 501c3 status. Produced financial reports, managed funds, paid bills and taxes, and advised principal and board on financial matters.

**Hilltop Children's Center Board of Directors.** October 2006-December 2008

*Treasurer.* Served as treasurer during campaign to support the center's first move in 30 years. Successfully led effort to find new executive director.

**Washington Community Alliance for Self-Help (now Ventures).** June 2004-October 2005

*Chair, Program Committee.* Oversaw evaluation of microfinance non-profit's loan programs and pushed for stricter rules on loan issuance and repayment to reduce the default rate on loans to childcare centers, thus making more funding available for the lower risk loans to other kinds of businesses.

**Library Council of Washington.** January 2002-December 2004

Participated in advisory council which allocates federal funding to state libraries and sets priorities for state's role. Worked to ensure that libraries receiving funding were located in underserved areas, needed additional resources, or were implementing innovations in the provision of services.

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

**City of Seattle Facilitator Training.** Certificate.

Nine-month training program for City staff on group dynamics and eliciting deep-thinking from groups, which included a year-long volunteer role as a facilitator for City-sponsored internal meetings and retreats as well as public meetings.

**University of Michigan.** Master of Public Policy, April 1994.

Interdisciplinary program emphasizing economic, quantitative, and political analysis of public policy issues. Rackham Merit Fellow. Admissions Committee, Student Association Committee Chair.

**Harvard University.** A.B. cum laude Social Studies, Latin American Studies Certificate, June 1990.

Interdisciplinary program in political science, economics, and history. Senior honors thesis on Mexican politics earned magna cum laude. Elizabeth Cary Agassiz Certificate of Merit, Harvard College Scholarship, and Alexander and Victoria



## YAZMIN FATIMA MEHDI

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Wiley Scholarship for academic excellence. Carroll F. Getchell Manager of the Year Award. Harvard Football Manager (1986-1989 seasons), culminating in Head Undergraduate Manager role that oversaw staff of six and served as liaison to Athletic department and coaching staff. Lowell House intramural crew.

**Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City.** Certificate in Mexican Culture, August 1988.

### **SKILLS & INTERESTS**

Fluent in Spanish, some knowledge of Hindi, Urdu and German. Enjoy books, movies, running, and playing the drums.

# Seattle Public Library Board of Trustees

5 Members: Pursuant to RCW 27.12, City Charter Article XII, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 5-year terms:

- # City Council-appointed
- 5 Mayor-appointed
- # Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify):

## Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
3	F	6	1.	Trustee	Carmen Bendixen	4/2/2020	4/1/2025	1	Mayor
6	M	7	2.	Trustee	Jay Reich	4/2/2019	4/1/2024	2	Mayor
2	M	2	3.	Trustee	W. Tali Hairston	4/2/2018	4/1/2023	1	Mayor
9	F	7	4.	Trustee	Yazmin Fatima Mehdi	4/2/2022	4/1/2027	1	Mayor
1	M	2	5.	Trustee	Ron Chew	4/2/2016	4/1/2021	2	Mayor

## 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
<b>Mayor</b>	3	2			1	1	1			1			1
<b>Council</b>													
<b>Other</b>													
<b>Total</b>													

## 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 #:** Inf 2080, **Version:** 1

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City Hall Park Intergovernmental Land Transfer

# City Hall Park Intergovernmental Land Transfer

Seattle City Council Public Assets and Homelessness committee meeting

July 6, 2022

2:00 PM

## **King County Council Motion 15955**

In concert with direction from the council, Executive Constantine worked with then Mayor Durkan to propose a transfer of City Hall Park to the county in exchange for county owned property within the Seattle city limits.

The King County Council adopted this proposed transfer through Ordinance 19379 on December 14, 2021.

**Photo of Property to be received by King County**



**Address of Property to be Received by King County:**

400 Third Avenue, Seattle

# Photo of Parcels to be Received by City of Seattle:

**Roads Property:** 1239 S Rose Street, KCPN 218500-0895



**Wastewater Property:** Cesar Chavez Park: 700 S Cloverdale St, KCPN 788360-3130



**Metro Property:** 1403 NW 54th Street, KCPN 276830-0455



**Tax Title and Facilities Properties:**

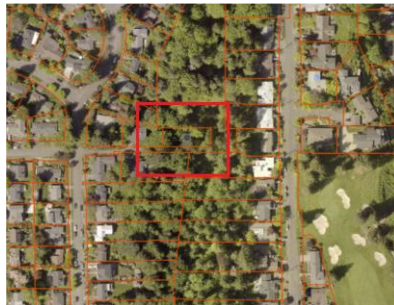
Cesar Chavez Fragment 8401 7th Ave S, KCPN 788360-2915



Sunset Hill Viewpoint Park, KCPN 047200-1460



Inverness Ravine, KCPN342604-9188





W Duwamish GB – SW Othello, KCPN 211520-0100



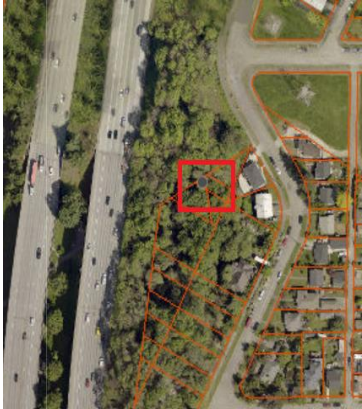
E Duwamish GB – S Massachusetts, KCPN 539260-0080



Cheasty Green Space – S Columbian Way, KCPN 417460-0014



E Duwamish GB – 10th Ave S, KCPN 395940-1891



Burke Gilman Greenway – S, KCPN 735220-0730

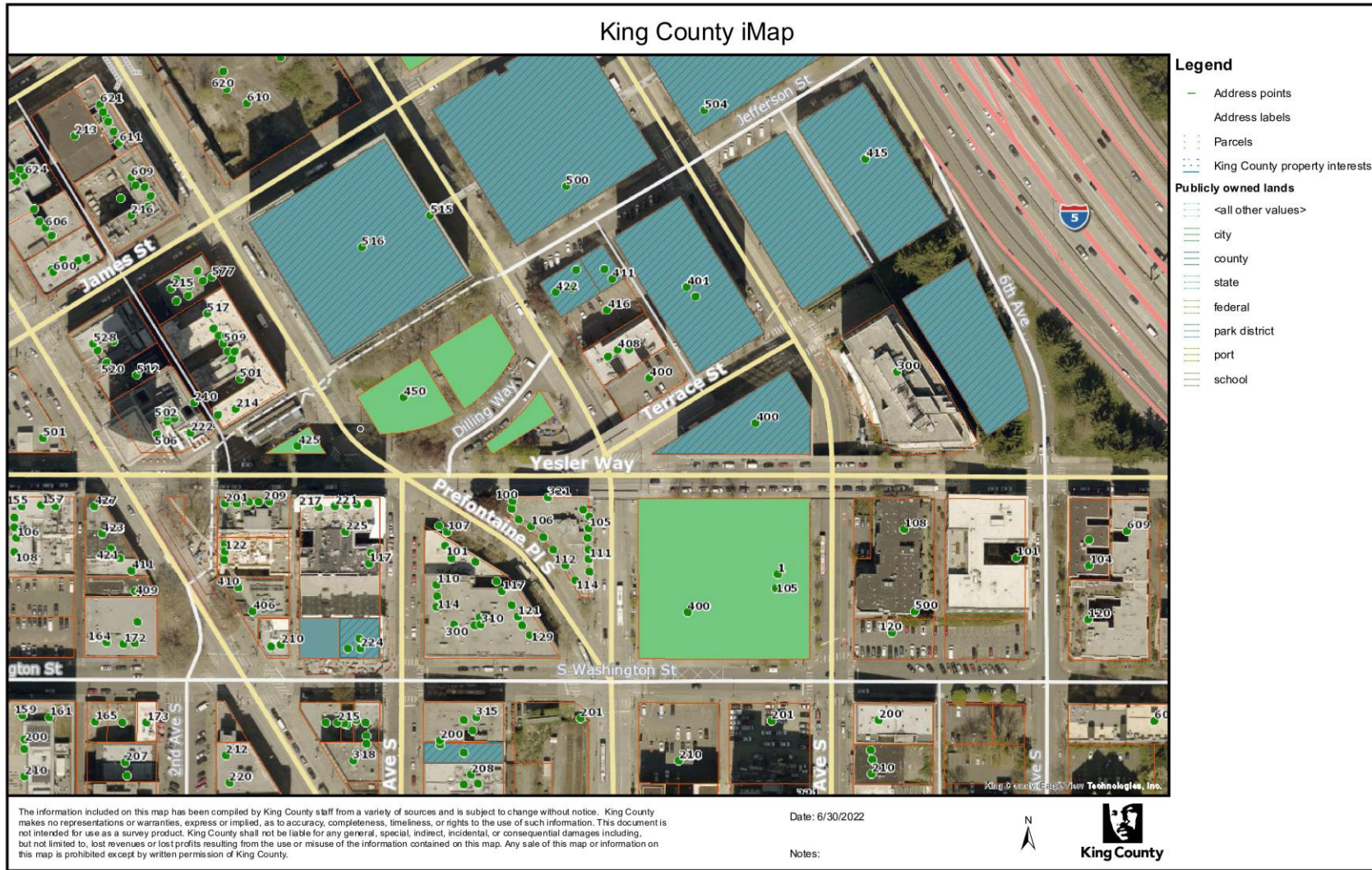


Burke-Gilman Greenway – N, KCPN 882090-2280



Duwamish Head GB – SW Walker St, 915160-0735





Upon transfer, King County's first priority is the safe reopening of City Hall Park. The county is committed to a public process prior to activation of the park, and it will remain green space.

The acquisition of City Hall Park by the County would inform and relate to the current civic campus planning initiative by offering a consistent ownership framework with a range of strategies aimed at increasing the viability of the City Hall Park as part of a holistic, safe, and welcoming urban environment.

We will work with community partners to develop and evaluate options for park activation, and the potential revival of the Courthouse south entrance.



Circa 1949



Circa 2018





Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 2081, **Version:** 1

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Seattle Parks Aquatics Update

# Seattle Parks and Recreation Aquatics Ramp-Up

City Council Public Assets and Homelessness Committee

July 6, 2022

Seattle Parks and Recreation



City of Seattle **23**

# Overview of SPR Aquatics Line of Business



## 2022 Budget Summary:

- \$9.3M: 35% General Fund; 65% Park Fund (fees)
- 48.5 Regular FTE + ~200 year-round temporary employees

## Funded Services (and Summer 2022 Status):

- 8 indoor pools (5 open)
- 2 outdoor pools (open)
- 9 lifeguarded beaches (6 open)
- 22 wading pools (20 open)
- Boat launches - 7 motorized + 20 hand-carry (open)
- 2 small craft boating facilities (open)
- 10 spray parks (9 open)



# Ramping Up Aquatic Services: 2020 to 2022

- **March 2020:** Pools closed to public; hiring freeze in place
- **Summer 2020:** 5 beaches open - August only and within newly designed COVID protocols
- **Fall 2020:** Lifeguard recertification program held for current staff (COVID protocols)
- **Summer 2021:** 6 beaches open; also 11 wading pools, 2 outdoor pools and 2 indoor pools (modified schedules)
- **Fall 2021:** 4 additional indoor pools open (modified schedule); begin offering lifeguard certification classes to public (COVID protocols)
- **Winter 2022:** 7<sup>th</sup> indoor pool opens (modified schedule)
- **Summer 2022:** 6 beaches, 7 pools (2 outdoor pools + 5 indoor), 20 wading pools open



# Summer Aquatics: Staffing

- **Summer Aquatics:** The Aquatics team grows by 200+ seasonal staff each summer (beaches, indoor and outdoor pools, wading pools)
- **Beach Program Deep Dive**
  - **Staffing** (assumes 9 beaches):
    - 1 Beach Program Supervisor
    - 18 Beach Leadership Roles (7-day operations)
    - ~80 temporary Beach Lifeguards
  - **Safety and training:** Beach staff have a higher requirement than pool staff for fitness and swimming strength
  - **Reduced Site Selection Criteria:** Past attendance, geographic distribution, equity, site characteristics



# National Lifeguard Shortage

SPR is part of a national lifeguard shortage

Contributing factors include:

- Consistent with overall labor shortage
  - More employment opportunities at similar pay rates – many with fewer minimum requirements and less responsibility
- Temporary employees sought other roles during pandemic-related closures
- Normal “pipeline” to lifeguard training and employment stalled during COVID
- Despite continuous hiring efforts since fall 2021, current status of SPR Lifeguard roles:
  - Approximately 12 regular vacancies
  - 200+ temporary vacancies

FITNESS + WELL-BEING · Published June 28, 2022 7:00pm EDT  
**Pools close as lifeguard shortage hits American cities this summer**  
*National lifeguard shortage of 2022 leads to pool closures, limited hours*

## National lifeguard shortage felt at local pools

The pandemic paused lifeguard training courses and forced many instructors to find other work

 **Half of Phoenix pools to stay closed this summer due to lifeguard shortage**

# Lifeguard Requirements/Recruitment

Lifeguards are SPR employees and meet minimum qualifications:

- Minimum age: 16 years of age
- Pre-employment physical and background check
- American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Course and Certification
- Northwest Lifeguard Skills Test
- Additional training requirements for Beach Lifeguards, leadership positions (post-employment)

Recruitment Efforts:

- Advertising on social media, City website, Washington Recreation and Parks Association, drowning prevention advocacy groups like the Washington State Drowning Prevention Network
- Outreach to high school swim teams
- Advertise and conduct lifeguard training classes (14 since 1/1/22)



# Next Steps

Continue recruitment strategies to seek qualified candidates

Partner with SHDR:

- Longer Term: Review wage study results
- Near Term: Allow hiring at a higher starting rate
- Will continue to explore new ideas, e.g., "Lifeguard Auxiliary"

Continue to ramp up "pipeline" to employment

- Summer Lifeguard Training Team - Mount Baker Beach
- Lifeguard Training at Teen Late Night - Rainier Beach
- Expanding Teen Programs
- Expanding Swim Lesson Program - including Swim Aide Role

Request support in getting the word out...

[www.seattle.gov/parks/about-us/jobs/aquatics-employment-and-training](http://www.seattle.gov/parks/about-us/jobs/aquatics-employment-and-training)





# Questions?

Photo from Opening Weekend 2022 – Colman Pool