

# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Council Briefing

**March 16, 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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Only written public comment will be accepted at this meeting. Please submit written comments 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.

Please Note: Times listed are estimated.

### **1. Approval of the Minutes**

#### **Council Briefing Minutes (2026)**

[March 9, 2026](#)

### **2. President's Report**

2:00 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.

### **3. Overview of Executive-Proposed Legislation to Advance the Opening of New Shelter Units in Seattle**

2:05 p.m. - 3:05 p.m.

**Presenters:** Kate Brunette Kreuzer, Nicole Vallesterro-Soper, Jon Grant, and Alison Holcomb, Mayor's Office; Aly Pennucci, Director, Central Budget Office

[Presentation](#)

**4. Signing of Letters and Proclamations**

3:05 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.

**5. Preview of City Council Actions, Council and Regional Committees**

3:10 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**City Council Agenda (2026)**

[Link to City Council Agendas](#)

[Preliminary March 17, 2026, Agenda](#)



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 2818, **Version:** 1

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Council Briefing Minutes (2026)



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

# Seattle Council Committee Report Council Briefing

**Monday, March 9, 2026, 2:00 PM**

**Meeting Start Time:** 2:02 p.m.

**Presiding Officer:** Council President Pro Tem Saka

**Present:** 6 - Dionne Foster, Debora Juarez, Robert Kettle, Eddie Lin, Rob Saka, Dan Strauss

**Excused:** 2 - Joy Hollingsworth, Maritza Rivera

**Late Arrival:** 1 - Alexis Mercedes Rinck

## 1. Approval of the Minutes

**Inf 2818** Council Briefing Minutes (2026)

The March 2, 2026, Council Briefing Minutes were approved.

## 2. President's Report

3. **Inf 2821** State Legislative Session Update (2026)

The Information Item (Inf) was heard in Committee.

## 4. Signing of Letters and Proclamations

## 5. Preview of City Council Actions, Council and Regional Committees

**Inf 2819** City Council Agenda (2026)

The Information Item (Inf) was heard in Committee.

## 6. Executive Session on Pending, Potential, or Actual Litigation\*

*\*Executive Sessions are closed to the public*

At 2:58 p.m., Council President Pro Tem Saka announced that the Council would convene in Executive Session to discuss pending, potential, or actual litigation with an estimated end time of 3:58 p.m. The Executive Session concluded at 3:42 p.m.

**Meeting Adjournment Time:** 3:42 p.m.

**Prepared by:** Phillip Wood-Smith, Deputy City Clerk



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 2859, **Version:** 1

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Overview of Executive-Proposed Legislation to Advance the Opening of New Shelter Units in Seattle

# Scaling What Works: Expanding Shelter Solutions

*Council Briefing Presentation*

March 16th, 2026

Mayor's Office: Policy & Innovation



City of Seattle **7**

# Seattle agrees



**Too many people in Seattle are still sleeping outside.**



**Our shared responsibility to act with urgency and scale the solutions that bring people indoors.**

# Scaling Shelter Solutions

Expanding proven models that move people indoors and toward stability

UNSHELTERED

SHELTERED

SUPPORTED

HOUSED

# Seattle's current landscape

01

4,585 unsheltered people in the Seattle metro area. (2024 Point-in-Time Count)

02

66% of the unsheltered population is chronically homeless.

03

58 shelter programs offering 2,877 beds are directly funded by the City.

04

26% total increase in homelessness from 2022 to 2024 countywide.

# 2026 Shelter Acceleration Action Plan

**Goal: 1,000 new units of shelter and emergency housing in 2026**

Seattle is entering a period of major activity—from a busy summer season to FIFA 2026.

We must accelerate shelter expansion for more people to have a safe place indoors.

## Key Components of the 2026 Shelter Expansion Goals

### **1. Rapid expansion of proven shelter models**

Scaling microshelter villages, master-leased buildings, and existing shelter programs.

### **2. Service-rich stabilization environments**

Providing 24/7 staffing, case management, and integrated behavioral health support.

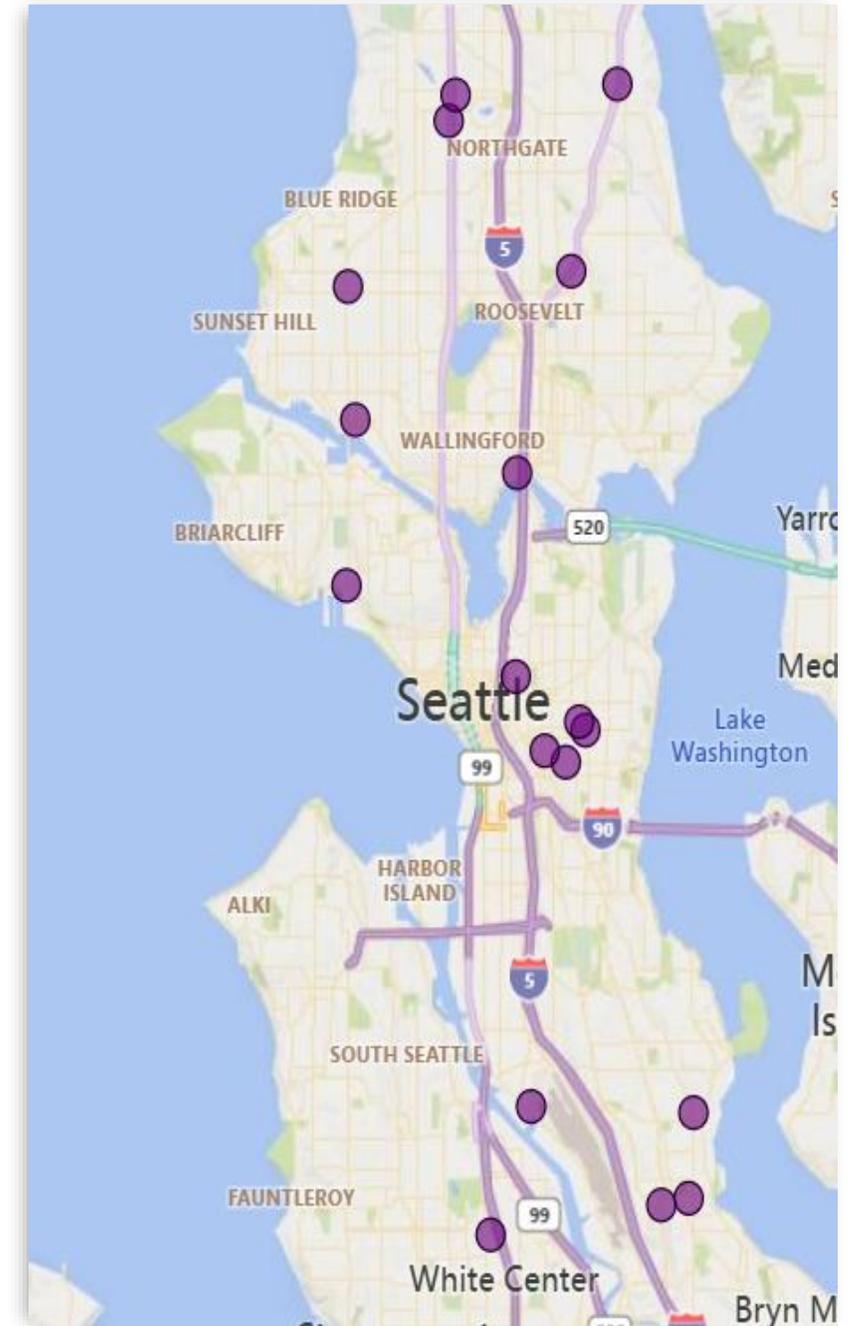
### **3. Stronger shelter-to-housing pathways**

Connecting residents to housing navigation, treatment services, and permanent housing.

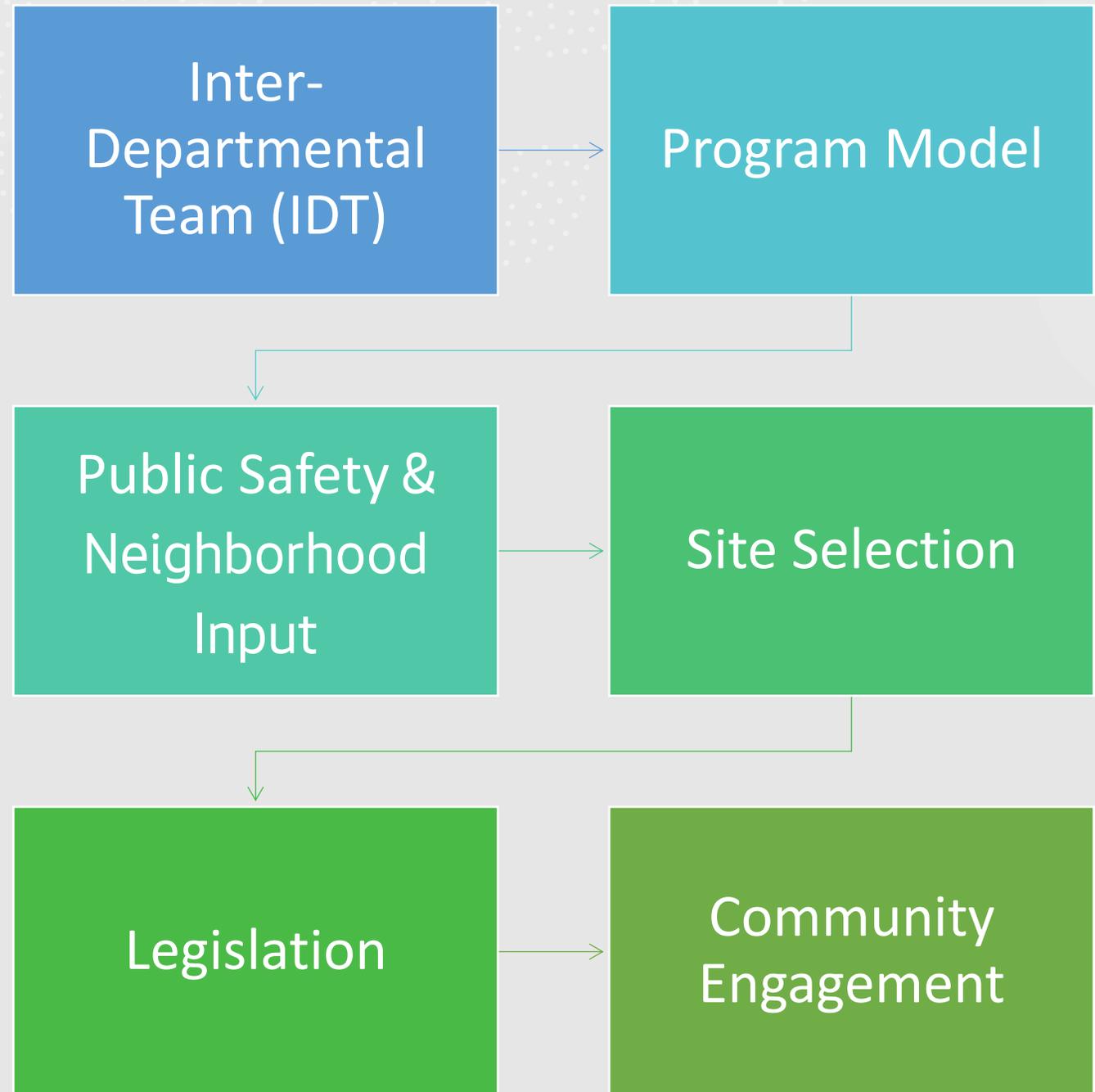
# Microshelter Locations Citywide

## Proven and Trusted Providers

- Catholic Community Services WW
- Low Income Housing Institute
- Chief Seattle Club
- Purpose. Dignity. Action.



# Overview





## Phase 1: 500 New Shelter Units

Expand capacity quickly by scaling proven shelter model

## **Microshelter villages (tiny house villages)**

- Private units in a community setting with shared facilities and 24/7 staffing, case management, and behavioral health support.

## **Expansion of existing shelter programs**

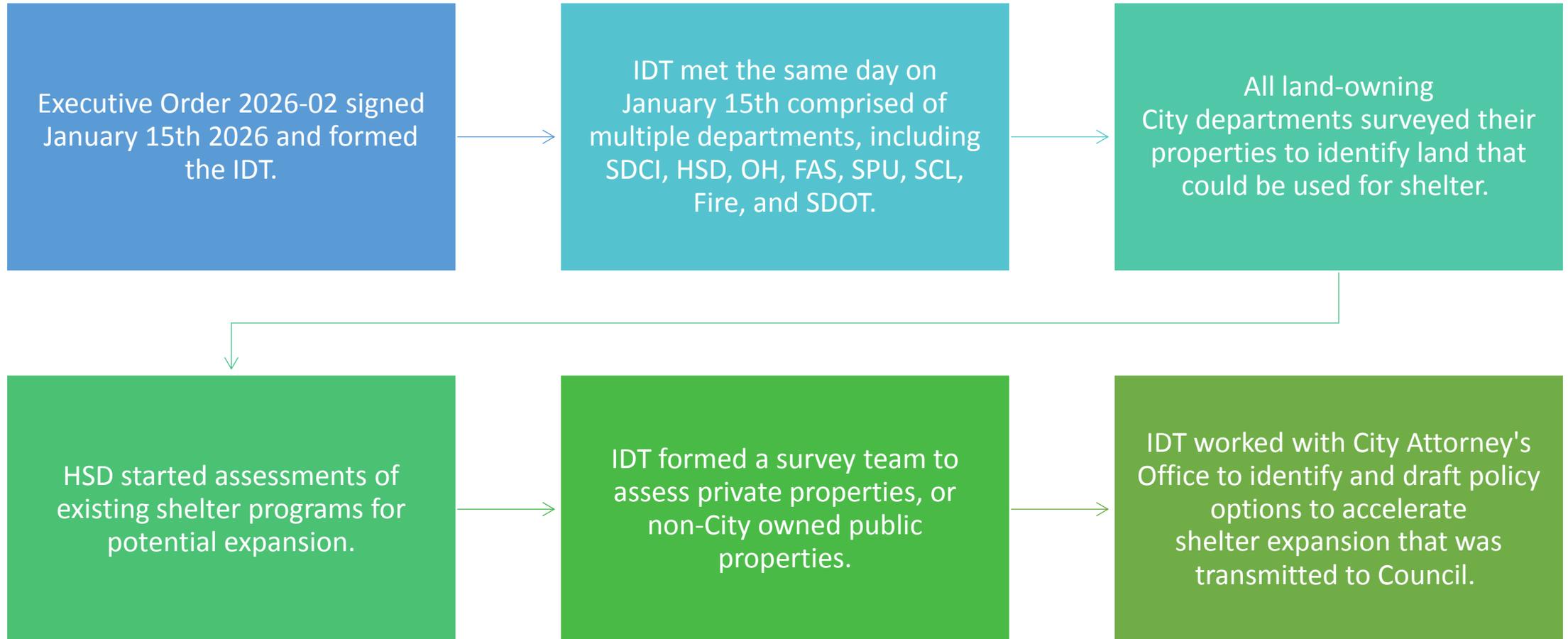
- Increasing capacity at existing shelter sites and programs that are already operating successfully.

## **Master-leased buildings**

- Apartments leased from private owners to use as emergency housing with supportive services.



# Inter-Departmental Team Overview



# Service Rich Program Model

- On-site **case management and housing and benefits navigation**
- On-site **behavioral health care specialists**, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment, focused on serving individuals with high-acuity needs
- Cutting edge **Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) methods** available to break cycles of addiction and chronic homelessness
- **Daily meals and community kitchen**
- **Move-in assistance and client support funds** to help residents transition into housing
- **Tracked performance measures** like housing placements, utilization rate, MAT enrollment .

**Together, these services create a safe environment where residents can address immediate needs and move forward toward permanent housing.**

# Public Safety is Community Partnership

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

## Operational Safety

24/7 staffing and defined site boundaries

## Community Expectations

Resident Code of Conduct  
No weapons or illegal activities  
Respect for all neighbors and shared spaces

## Community Advisory Committee

Monthly meetings with neighbor stakeholders  
Ongoing feedback and partnership with operators  
Required under SMC 23.42.056

# Neighborhood Coordination and Safe Sites

## Good Neighbor

Each operator will have a Good Neighbor Agreement with clear policies for addressing neighborhood concerns

Ongoing coordination with neighbors and regular review of site operations

## Site Safety Design

Seattle Police Department will work with operators to review site design (CPTED) for lighting, visibility, and access points

## Fire Safety Review

Seattle Fire Department reviews site plans before construction

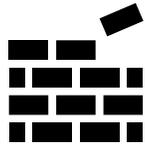
Final walkthrough before opening to ensure fire safety standards are met

# Supporting a Successful Launch

The Mayor's Office is committed to a strong program launch focused on community health & safety for all involved.

To accomplish this, ahead of program launch we will convene a space for ongoing collaboration by City Departments, Council, shelter provider, and key neighborhood stakeholders to activate the space and address issues as they arise.

## Key Launch Strategies



### Strong Safety Planning

*Advance public safety through proactive environmental and design changes and rapidly respond to concerns*



### Deeper Coordination

*Support coordination between UCT, SPD, and Mayor's Office on public safety and area activation.*

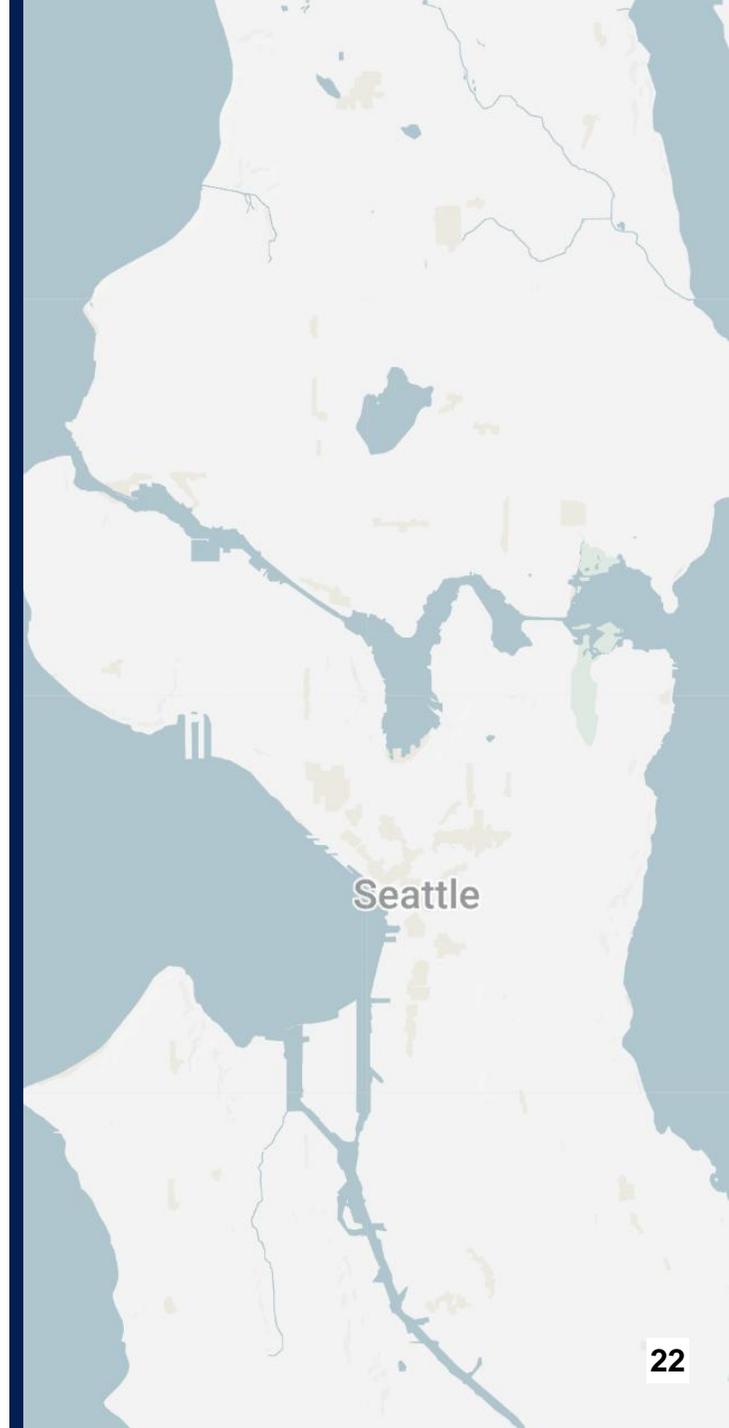


### Strong Communications

*Ensure neighboring businesses and local stakeholders are informed and engaged.*

# Community Engagement

- Community meetings to invite neighbors to provide feedback, air concerns, and make suggestions for improvement.
- Outreach to Business Improvement Areas (BIAs), Neighborhood Associations, and others.
- Notification to neighbors, nearby business, local service providers, and other interested parties.
- Invitations to join Community Advisory Committee.





“These neighbors come to us unsheltered. They need respite — a safe place to come off the streets and begin exploring the next housing options that will work for them.”

— Ann Haruki-Pinedo, Central District resident and neighbor of True Hope Village

# Site Research

70+ private and public sites identified for assessment.

Non-City public lands reviewed included partners from King County, WSDOT, Sound Transit, Seattle Public Schools, and Seattle Housing Authority.

City owned land by departments funded by rate payers like SPU and SCL are required to charge market rent for their land, however land owned by FAS does not.

# Site Assessment

Below selection criteria combines practical operational, infrastructural, environmental, and community considerations to support effective, safe, and equitable site selection.

## **Selection Criteria – Round One**

- Zoning considerations, water service, electric access, sewer service, site conditions, access to public transit, and proximity to critical environmental areas.

## **Selection Criteria – Round Two**

- Fire and life safety, public safety data like priority 911 calls in the area, good neighbor considerations like landscaping, lighting, fencing, stadiums, or business, proximity to existing shelter or PSH programs, and proximity to services and food access.

**Owner Support** - Confirmation if property owner supports the use.



# Legislation – IDT Recommendations

## **FAS Lease Signing Authority.**

By enabling the FAS Director to sign leases early, it enables the City to begin the work to prep sites and turn them over to providers on an accelerated timeline, reducing what would be a 9-12-month process down to a 3-5 month process. The legislation also removes the price cap per square foot to allow for market pricing, which will increase the pool of usable sites.

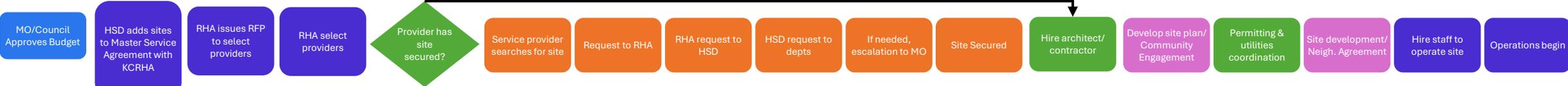
## **Increase Census Limits on Shelter.**

Interim legislation to increase the census limit from 100 **people** per site, to 150 per site, and to allow one site per district to shelter up to 250 **people**.

## **\$4.8M Proposed Appropriation for Expanding Shelter.**

\$3.3M is proposed to be appropriated from an underutilized revolving loan program that was sourced with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal funds. \$1.5M is proposed from an unused Downtown Health & Human Service fund, where sheltering people living downtown has a nexus with its intended use to benefit downtown.

# Current process takes ~ 9-12 Months



**Streamline provider selection**

City selects service provider

**Shift site preparation from provider to City**

City gets sites to 'raw land'

- Site Selection
- Site Development
- Provider Selection
- Community Engagement

# IDT-built process shrinks this to ~3-5 months

City Sites Secured

City gets sites to 'raw land'



Shelter legislative package is **key** to unlocking this new process

Develop site plan

Permitting & utilities coordination

Selects contractor to build site

Site development

Final inspections

HSD Selects Service Provider

Service Provider mobilizes

Operations begin

Community Engagement Site Selection

Community Engagement Design

Good Neighbor Agreement

- Site Selection
- Site Development
- Provider Selection
- Community Engagement



# Scaled Microshelter Programs Across the Country



Tampa Hope – **355 people** (Tampa, FL)

Jesus Center Shelter – **230 people** (Chico, CA)

West LA Veterans Assoc – **200 people**  
(Los Angeles, CA)

CityNet Shelter – **130 people** (Sacramento, CA)

Alexandria Park Village – **135 people** (Los Angeles, CA)

Arroyo Seco Village – **160 people** (Los Angeles, CA)

Sun Valley Village – **165 people** (Los Angeles, CA)

Colorado Village Collaborative – **125 people** (Denver, CO)

\*Estimate based on unit counts.

# Profile: Tampa Hope Village (FL)

- Serves 355 people
- In operation since 2021
- Operated by Catholic Charities Diocese of St. Petersburg
  - Executive Director Maggie Rogers
- 24/7 staffing
- Mental Health Counseling
- Daily meals, laundry, life skills, and medical care
- Onsite Case Management



**Profile:**  
**Junction Point Shelter**  
Catholic Community Services of W. Washington

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85 microshelter units in North Seattle

2025 HMIS Performance Date:

- **69% Exits to Permanent Housing**
- **91% Utilization Rate**
- **97% Retain housing placements**



**Profile:**  
**Southend Village**  
Low Income Housing Institute

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40 microshelter units in Southeast Seattle

2025 HMIS Performance Date:

- **57% Exits to Permanent Housing**
- **100% Utilization Rate**
- **95% Retain housing placements**



# Program Costs

- City Budget Office identified \$17.5M to support shelter expansion
  - \$3.3M requires Council action from CDBG funds.
  - \$1.5M requires Council action from Downtown Health & Human Services fund.
- Average cost per shelter unit is approximately 28k/unit.
- Mayor's Office is also engaging philanthropy and major donors.



## Council Questions and Discussion



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 2819, **Version:** 1

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City Council Agenda (2026)



# CITY OF SEATTLE

## City Council

### Agenda

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

2:00 PM

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

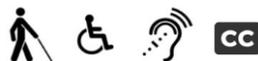
Joy Hollingsworth, Council President  
Dionne Foster, Member  
Debora Juarez, Member  
Robert Kettle, Member  
Eddie Lin, Member  
Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Member  
Maritza Rivera, Member  
Rob Saka, Member  
Dan Strauss, Member

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

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# CITY OF SEATTLE

## City Council Agenda

**March 17, 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.*

**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:**

**Bills:**

**Appointments:**

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

[Appt 03448](#)

Appointment of Carlin Llorente as member, Burke-Gilman Place Public Development Authority Governing Council, for a term to December 31, 2026.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03449](#)

Reappointment of Avery Barnes as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03450](#)

Reappointment of Yoon Kang-O'Higgins as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03451](#)

Reappointment of Yolanda L. Spencer as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03453](#)

Reappointment of Linda Chavez-Lowry as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03454](#)

Reappointment of Diana Garcia as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03455](#)

Reappointment of Ricky Graboski as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

[Appt 03456](#)

Reappointment of Megan Kiskaddon as member, Seattle Arts Commission, for a term to December 31, 2027.

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

**In Favor: 4 - Foster, Lin, Hollingsworth, Juarez**

**Opposed: None**

**HUMAN SERVICES, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:**

[Appt 03452](#)

Appointment of Michael Gaston as member, Seattle Film Commission, for a term to April 23, 2028.

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

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

**Opposed: None**

## H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

1. [CB 121164](#) AN ORDINANCE relating to civil immigration enforcement; prohibiting civil immigration enforcement staging on all real property that is City owned and controlled; and adding a new Chapter 14.125 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

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

**In Favor: 5 - Kettle, Saka, Juarez, Lin, Rivera**

**Opposed: None**

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY CHANGES:**

2. [Res 32194](#) A RESOLUTION reaffirming data and privacy protections for any person seeking or accessing City programs or services; requesting a review of the City's data collection and sharing practices to limit data exposure to the federal government and to other local, regional, and state jurisdictions; and requesting that departments incorporate privacy standards into future contracting requirements.

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

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

**Opposed: None**

**GOVERNANCE AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE:**

3. [CB 121166](#) AN ORDINANCE relating to Seattle Public Utilities; declaring real property identified as King County Parcel Number 1623049405 located at South 138th St in SeaTac, WA to be surplus to the City's needs; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities or designee to execute all documents and take other necessary actions for the sale of the property to King County Water District 125; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

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

**In Favor: 3 - Hollingsworth, Kettle, Strauss**

**Opposed: None**

**I. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

**J. ADOPTION OF OTHER RESOLUTIONS**

**K. OTHER BUSINESS**

**L. ADJOURNMENT**