

Levy to Move Seattle
Oversight Committee
Report to
Seattle City Council

December 2023

Agenda

- Oversight committee purpose
- Oversight committee recommendations – ordinance
- Preparing recommendations
- Early comments
- Timeline

Bottom Line Up Front

- The LOC will be recommending voters approve a new levy after the current one expires next year.
- The LOC will send final recommendations to the mayor and council by March 2024, as outlined in the ordinance.

Oversight Committee Members 2023

Name	Appointing authority
Rachel Ben-Shmuel, <i>Secretary</i>	Mayor
Lisa Bogardus	Mayor
Samuel Ferrara	Mayor
Tyler Blackwell	Council
Clara Cantor	Mayor
Dennis Gathard	Council
Alex Bejaran Estevez	Council
Vacant	Bicycle Advisory Board
Inga Manskopf, <i>Co-chair</i>	Council
Vacant	Transit Advisory Board
Jessica Nguyen	Mayor
Geri Poor, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Freight Advisory Board
Natasha Riveron	Pedestrian Advisory Board
Kevin Werner, <i>Co-chair</i>	Council
Councilmember Alex Pedersen	
Budget Director Julie Dingley	

Oversight Committee Purpose

The Levy to Move Seattle Oversight Committee will serve as a vital mechanism of accountability on how levy revenues are spent. The Oversight Committee is an advisory body that monitors revenues, expenditures, and program and project implementation. The Oversight Committee advises the City Council, the Mayor, and SDOT on responding to program and project cost savings or overruns. The Oversight Committee reviews SDOT's program and project priorities and financial plans, and makes recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding the spending of levy proceeds. The Oversight Committee will publish annual reports to the Mayor, City Council and people of Seattle.

Ordinance 124796, Section 9

Between January 1 and April 30 of 2024, the Oversight Committee is requested to make a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council regarding the advisability of proposing to the voters of Seattle another levy to authorize additional property taxes for implementation of transportation improvements.

The factors to be considered by the Oversight Committee in making any such recommendations will include, but are not limited to:

- (a) the City's success in project implementation, including its ability to manage and control project costs;
- (b) the availability of alternative revenue sources that provide a more direct link between the tax or fee paid and the use of the City's transportation system; and
- (c) the underlying need for funding to support the uses identified in Section 6.

The Mayor and Council will consider any timely recommendations that may have been made by the Oversight Committee.

Preparing recommendations

Assessing implementation: Spring 2022-Summer 2023 SDOT provided overviews of all 30 levy programs to the Oversight Committee.

Availability of other revenue sources: Oversight Committee identified some other sources and is receiving assessment of other transportation-linked sources from SDOT in November.

Underlying need for future levy: Oversight Committee & SDOT collaborating on linking STP with future funding sources.

Reflecting on oversight function and developing recommendations for improvement.

Final letter to council and mayor to be completed before March 2024.

Program presentations

The program names listed below are as they appear on the dashboard. They may appear differently in levy meeting materials.

When	Levy Deliverable (per dashboard)	Levy Program
Sept 2021	Vision Zero corridors	Safe Routes
April 2022	Safe Routes to School	Safe Routes
Aug 2022	Crosswalks, arterial lanes repainted . . .	Safe Routes
Aug 2022	. . . traffic signals, spot improvements	
Aug 2022	Regulatory street signs replaced	Safe Routes
Feb 2023	Bike lanes, greenways	Safe Routes
May 2022	Sidewalk improvements	Safe Routes
May 2022	Curb ramps, crossings upgrades	Safe Routes
Nov 2022	Neighborhood Street Fund	Safe Routes
Aug 2023	Lane miles repaved	Maintenance & Repair
May 2023	Paving spot improvements	Maintenance & Repair
May 2023	Bridge spot improvements	Maintenance & Repair
April 2023	Bridge seismic improvements	Maintenance & Repair
2021	Fairview Bridge	Maintenance & Repair
Mar 2023	Bridge replacement planning, design	Maintenance & Repair
June 2023	Stairway rehabilitation	Maintenance & Repair
June 2021	Landscaping, trees	Maintenance & Repair
June 2023	SPU - South Park – drainage partnership	Maintenance & Repair

When	Levy Deliverable (per dashboard)	Levy Program
March 2022	Multimodal improvements	Congestion Relief
Aug 2022	Signal maintenance	Congestion Relief
Aug 2022	Intelligent Transp. Systems (ITS)	Congestion Relief
Dec 2022	Transit spot improvements	Congestion Relief
N/A*	Graham St light rail connections	Congestion Relief
2021	Northgate bridge	Congestion Relief
	Mt Baker light rail connection	Congestion Relief
Dec 2022	New sidewalks/crossing improvements	Congestion Relief
June 2023	SPU - Broadview	Congestion Relief
Feb 2023	Bike parking, trail spot improvements	Congestion Relief
2020	Lander Overpass	Congestion Relief
June 2022	East Marginal Way	Congestion Relief
June 2022	Freight spot improvements	Congestion Relief

*From 2021 & 2022 annual reports: Sound Transit currently shows the S Graham St light rail station opening in 2031. In response to Levy program revenue shortfalls and Sound Transit's timing, the funds have been removed from this program. When Sound Transit's timing changes, SDOT will address the City's funding contribution.

Today

Share information about program implementation.

Not ready to share information about other possible revenue and need for future funding. These recommendations will be ready by March.

Program implementation overview

- Of the 30 programs, SDOT is meeting or exceeding 27 the 2015 goals.
- The bike program will get close to meeting amended 2018 goals, though some specific projects outlined in levy will not be completed.
- The multimodal goals will not be met by the end of 2024.
- The Graham Street light rail connection is indefinitely postponed.
- Though Vision Zero “projects” are meeting goals, the city is no closer to meeting the goal of eliminating traffic-related deaths than in 2015.
- While the number of bridges receiving seismic upgrades is meeting goals, the specific bridges are different than the original goal.

For reference:

[PowerPoint Presentation \(seattle.gov\)](#)

Highlights

- Northgate pedestrian bridge
- Lander Street bridge
- Fairview bridge
- Safe Routes to School
- Neighborhood Street Fund
- Tree planting
- Partnerships with SPU

What's next

- The LOC will be recommending voters approve a new levy after the current one expires next year.
- The LOC will send final recommendations to the mayor and council by March 2024, as outlined in the ordinance.