



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Transportation Revenue Task Force

CALVIN CHOW, ANALYST

STEPS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Origin with 2024 Transportation Levy Proposal

- Mayor Harrell proposed a **Financial Task Force** together with his proposal for the Transportation Levy renewal, to consider how levy funding integrates into a long-term transportation funding strategy.
- SDOT presented this [proposal](#) to the Select Committee on 2024 Transportation Levy, on June 4, 2024. The **Financial Task Force** would:
 - Provide a public forum for community and stakeholders to build consensus on transportation funding needs, and
 - Make policy and funding recommendations to the Mayor and Council.
- Current and potential transportation revenue sources available to the City include:
 - Property tax
 - Sales tax
 - Vehicle excise tax
 - Commercial parking tax
 - Transportation impact fees
 - Tolls/congestion pricing
 - Local improvement districts
 - General Fund revenues

Companion Resolution to Levy Proposal

- The Council endorsed the formation of the **Transportation Funding Task Force** in [Resolution 32137](#), Section 2.G. This was companion legislation to Ordinance 127053 which put the 2024 Transportation Levy before the voters.
- The Resolution requested that the Task Force:
 - Include a diverse and representative membership.
 - Focus on practicable options that could be implemented quickly.
 - Provide final recommendations by the end of 2027.
- The Resolution highlighted sidewalks, bridges, and paving projects as areas of the transportation network with the greatest need.

Resolution to Establish Task Force

- Subsequently (September 2024), the Council adopted [Resolution 32145](#) to establish the Task Force. This resolution affirmed that if the Levy passed:
 - That Council would confirm Task Force appointments through a future resolution.
 - That SDOT would establish and lead an interdepartmental technical working group to support the Task Force.
 - A minimum scope review transportation asset management, assess revenue sources, and recommend funding and delivery strategies.
 - Appointment of members by June 1, 2025.
 - Final recommendations by December 31, 2027.

Current Status

- The 2024 Transportation Levy was approved by voters.
 - SDOT anticipated that of the \$5 million included in the levy for Durable Infrastructure Solutions, approximately \$1.5-2.0 million would be set aside for costs related to the Task Force.
 - The levy spending breakdown included specific direction to investigate transportation impact fees as a funding strategy for meeting sidewalk, bridge, and pavement needs.
- During the 2026 Budget deliberations, SDOT provided an updated schedule.
 - **Q2-Q3 2025:** Consultant solicitation
 - **Q4 2025:** Consultant contract finalized for phase 1 scope
 - **Q4 2025:** Workplan developed and finalized, alignment on approach and outcomes
 - **Q1 2026:** Recruitment and City Council appointment resolution
 - **Q1/Q2 2026:** Task force launch and update Mayor and City Council every six months
 - **Q4 2027:** Final recommendations

Questions?