

# City of Seattle



**Director**

**Office of  
Economic Development**

**Confirmation Packet  
March 18, 2026**

**Beto Yarce**



March 18, 2026

The Honorable Joy Hollingsworth  
President, Seattle City Council  
Seattle City Hall, 2nd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Hollingsworth:

It is my pleasure to transmit to the City Council the following confirmation packet for my nomination of Beto Yarce as Director of the Office of Economic Development (OED)

The materials in this packet are divided into two sections:

1. **Beto Yarce**

This section contains Mr. Yarce's appointment form, oath of office form, resume and the press release announcing his nomination.

2. **Background Check**

This section contains the report on Mr. Yarce's background check.

I am pleased to inform you of my nomination of Beto Yarce as Director of the Office of Economic Development (OED). OED offers a range of support and resources aimed at strengthening local businesses and building a diverse, robust economy that benefits everyone in Seattle. This decision was shaped through thoughtful discussions with members of my transition team to ensure it reflects our shared vision for inclusive growth and opportunity.

Beto Yarce is a business executive, entrepreneur, and nonprofit leader dedicated to advancing economic equity and entrepreneurship. Fluent in English and Spanish, he brings over 15 years of experience driving growth and impact across business, nonprofit, and public sectors. Appointed by President Joe Biden as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Region 10, Beto supported more than 1.3 million small businesses through expanded access to capital, counseling, and federal contracting opportunities. He also served as Executive Director of Ventures in Seattle, where he led the organization's turnaround and expansion. His career reflects a lifelong commitment to empowering communities, strengthening small businesses, and building inclusive economic opportunity.

This nomination reflects my commitment to create economic opportunity that lifts people up and builds a city where everyone feels welcome to start and grow a business. Choices that are good for our economy must also be good for our people—supporting small businesses means creating jobs close to home, and investing in thriving business districts means building spaces where entrepreneurs and residents can succeed together. As I said in my inaugural address, “We will build an economy from the bottom up, not the top down—because when we invest in people and neighborhoods, prosperity follows.” Our work will focus on expanding access to capital, education, and innovative programs so small businesses can thrive and prosperity reaches every corner of Seattle. We will remove barriers that prevent businesses and workers from succeeding, ensuring that economic growth is shared broadly and equitably.

**Quotes from Community Leaders:**

Teresa Mosqueda King County Councilmember District 8

"I am thrilled the City of Seattle will have the skills and expertise of Beto Yarce serving as the Director of Seattle's office of Economic Development. Through his work founding and leading Ventures, he has helped countless individuals get on the ladder to economic security. As the leader of the Office of Economic Development, he will bring this dedication for helping others build an economy that grows healthy communities not just profits. With Beto at OED I am sure the relationship between the City and the County will continue to prosper, and small businesses and entrepreneurs will have a steady hand to guide them at the city in these unstable times due to the federal government. I whole heartedly support him for this role and humbly ask for your support on his confirmation."

Michelle Merriweather, President and CEO, Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

"I am excited to see Beto Yarce step into this role at such an important time for Seattle's economic future. Beto understands that true economic development must include and uplift the communities that have historically been left out. He understands that economic development is not just about numbers, it is about people, families, and the dreams of entrepreneurs who power our neighborhoods. I am excited for his leadership and confident that he will work to build an economy that is inclusive, resilient, and reflective of Seattle's diverse communities."

Ryan Calkins, Commissioner, Port of Seattle

"Having worked closely with Beto over many years, I'm thrilled that Mayor Wilson has asked him to lead OED. Beto has a proven track record of successful economic development working with small businesses that serve as the heartbeat of our city to larger businesses employing thousands of workers throughout the region. Just as important, his own experience as an entrepreneur will guide the City's efforts to expand business opportunities for people from every community."

Beto Yarce:

"I am grateful and honored to serve as Director of Seattle's Office of Economic Development and to collaborate with Mayor Katie Wilson and her team. I'm thankful for the mayor's trust and shared commitment to building a more inclusive economy for our city. Together, we will strengthen healthy businesses, support thriving business districts, and partner with community organizations to ensure economic opportunity reaches every corner of Seattle. As a small business owner and immigrant, I understand firsthand the challenges many entrepreneurs face. I am eager to work with our team and community partners to build an economy from the bottom up—expanding access to capital, education, and innovative programs so small businesses can grow, create jobs, and help build lasting prosperity for current and future generations."

The Honorable Joy Hollingsworth  
Beto Yarce Confirmation Letter  
March 18, 2026  
Page 3 of 3

I trust that after reviewing Mr. Yarce's application materials, meeting with him, and following the thoughtful review of Councilmember Rinck's Human Services, Labor, and Economic Development Committee, you will find that Mr. Yarce is the ideal leader for OED.

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, Chief of Staff Kate Brunette Kreuzer would welcome hearing from you. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie B. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie B. Wilson  
Mayor of Seattle

**SECTION**

**A**



January 18, 2026

Beto Yarce  
Seattle, WA  
Transmitted via e-mail

Dear Beto,

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you to the position of Director of the Office of Economic Development at an annual salary of \$237,948.

Your appointment as Director is subject to City Council confirmation; therefore, you will need to attend the Council's confirmation hearings. Once confirmed by the City Council, you serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

Your contingent offer letter provided employment information related to the terms of your employment, benefits, vacation, holiday and sick leave.

I look forward to working with you in your role as Director and wish you success. We have much work ahead of us, and I am confident that the Office will thrive under your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kaite B. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kaite B. Wilson  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Seattle Department of Human Resources file



# City of Seattle Department Head Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> <i>Beto Yarce</i>	
<b>City Department Name:</b> <i>Office of Economic Development</i>	<b>Position Title:</b> <i>Director</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Appointment</b> OR <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Reappointment</b>	<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> Council Confirmation <b>to</b> Mayor's Discretion <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
<b>Background:</b> Beto Yarce is a business executive, entrepreneur, and nonprofit leader dedicated to advancing economic equity and entrepreneurship. Fluent in English and Spanish, he brings over 15 years of experience driving growth and impact across business, nonprofit, and public sectors. Appointed by President Joe Biden as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Region 10, Beto supported more than 1.3 million small businesses through expanded access to capital, counseling, and federal contracting opportunities. He also served as Executive Director of Ventures in Seattle, where he led the organization's turnaround and expansion. His career reflects a lifelong commitment to empowering communities, strengthening small businesses, and building inclusive economic opportunity.	
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  <b>Date Signed:</b> March 18, 2026	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

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



CITY OF SEATTLE ▪ STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OATH OF OFFICE

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State of Washington

County of King

I, Beto Yarce, swear or affirm that I possess all of the qualifications prescribed in the Seattle City Charter and the Seattle Municipal Code for the position of Director of the Office of Economic Development; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington, and the Charter and Ordinances of The City of Seattle; and that I will faithfully conduct myself as Director of the Office of Economic Development.

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Beto Yarce

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

[Seal]

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Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

## Beto Yarce

Strategic Business Executive, Entrepreneur, Nonprofit Leader, and Presidential Appointee fluent in English and Spanish.

- Fundraising
- Networking
- Marketing and Outreach
- Policy development
- Strategic planning
- Strategic thinking
- Negotiation and problem solving
- Management and Oversight
- Budget management
- Program design, implementation, and management
- Public Relations
- Diversity and Inclusion leadership

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### CEO-Founder

#### Beto Yarce Consulting

September 2022-Present

- 15 years of experience in business, nonprofit, and entrepreneurship. We specialize in organizational change and are dedicated to delivering exceptional results while empowering organizations to thrive.
- Our services include team building, coaching, organizational restructuring, strategic planning, relationship building, donor partnerships, collaborations, public speaking, emotional intelligence, and fostering a growth mindset.
- With a focus on driving growth and creating lasting impact, we provide innovative solutions and strategies to help businesses and nonprofits achieve their goals. Trust in our experience and expertise as we guide you towards success in navigating the ever-changing business landscape.

#### Regional Administrator Region 10

U.S. Small Business Administration SBA [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

January 2024- January 2025

- As the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Region 10, appointed by President Joe Biden, I serve as the President's voice in my region, championing the SBA's mission to empower the American dream of business ownership. In this capacity, I oversee all SBA programs, offices, and operations across the Pacific Northwest, encompassing Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.
- Region 10 is home to over 1.3 million small businesses that employ nearly half of the workforce in this economically and culturally diverse area. It encompasses some of the most remote businesses as well as global leaders in innovation. As the primary resource and advocate for small businesses, supported by the strengths of the federal government, I manage a team of leaders across the region to help them achieve their goals. This includes providing access to capital, counseling, federal contracting, and disaster assistance, while also acting as a liaison with Headquarters and the White House. My efforts are dedicated to fostering growth, encouraging entrepreneurship, and ensuring businesses have the tools they need to thrive.

### **Chief Program Officer**

**Mission Economic Development Agency MEDA** <https://medasf.org/>

**September 2023- December 2023**

- Responsible for overseeing MEDA's client-serving programs, including the Family Economic Success programs, Mission Promise Neighborhood, and Fondo Adelante, a business development initiative and community development financial institution (CDFI). Beto provides vision, leadership, coaching, and support to the programs team, driving impactful change in the communities they serve.

### **Executive Director**

**Ventures** [www.venturesnonprofit.org](http://www.venturesnonprofit.org)

**Seattle, WA**

**May 2014- July 2022**

- Reorganized the organization from a \$400K deficit to a \$3.3M budget and increased the team from 10 to 25 members.
- Balanced budget during transition time, reducing expenses and increased efficiency.
- Leading the organization in promoting business and economic development with key stakeholders.
- Leading team to define and achieve organizational goals and objectives.
- Maintaining external relations with community agencies, business assistance organizations, financing institutions and public agencies.
- Leading team in the implementation of all program components, including training, business technical assistance, lending programs, on-going marketing assistance, Individual Development Account (IDA) activities, and business & personal support services.
- 13 years' experience and responsibility of microfinance programs, including firsthand experience managing 7(a) and microloan programs for SBA. Experience managing the CDFI providing oversight and managing the organization's lending program, including:
  - Determine and manage lending policies, procedures, and rates. Oversee pipeline activities, underwriting, collections, documentation, write-offs, workouts, customer service. Follow Loan Policies and Procedures.
  - Manage the Board Advisory Loan Committee (BALC) – including member relations, planning, meetings, and communication.
  - Founder of the Latino program and created all systems in Spanish to support this community in access to capital with our financial products including, peer loans, microloans, business builder loans and ongoing TA with a 98% repayment rate.
- Fundraising on behalf of the organization through donor relations, grant applications, with highly successful outcomes with foundations philanthropic organizations, identifying and pursuing new sources of revenue, earning revenue and social enterprise experience.
- Increases public awareness with marketing and outreach in different outlets, including Radio, TV, Newspaper, magazines, social media, and blogs
- Increased and diversified funding sources, doubled individual donors, cultivated new major donors, built key relationships with foundations, corporate and government agencies.
- Increased engagement with human resources, building staff morale, offering professional development opportunities, expanded benefits and reduced turnover from 7% to 2%.
- Leads Diversity Equity and Inclusion across the organization including board, staff, stakeholders and clients.

**Seattle City Council District 3 Candidate**  
November 2018- February 2019 [Seattle City Council](#)

**Latino Program Director**  
Washington CASH [www.washingtoncash.org](http://www.washingtoncash.org)  
Seattle, WA  
March 2008 – May 2014

- Established Latino Program starting with a budget of \$15K and expanded to over \$300K and growing.
- Secured funding with local banks and private foundations to create micro lending programs for the Latino community.
- Over 1,000 Latinos completed the business development training program, accounting for 32% of all Washington CASH clients.
- Served as a coach, mentor, and resource for new clients, consulted with business owners encompassing all phases of business.
- Strategic Planning, managing budgets and supervising staff.
- Curriculum development, implementation, utilizing feedback from client evaluations.

**Owner**  
**Cintli by Beto Yarce**  
Seattle, WA [www.cintli.com](http://www.cintli.com)  
March 2003 – June 2017

- Directed and managed franchises throughout Seattle Washington. Oversees all aspects within Latin and American marketing operations, responsible for strategic planning, lead generation and direct supervision of staff.
- Accomplished successful marketing through press releases, professional networking and by creating an educational focus to allow greater company exposure; ensures top-level customer satisfaction.

## **Education**

**Boston College**  
Center for corporate Citizenship, Carroll School of Management  
Academy for Nonprofit Leadership Certificate  
October 2019

**University of Washington**  
Non-Profit/Public Organizational Management Certificate  
March 2015

**MBA in International Business**  
Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)  
Guadalajara, Jalisco, México (1998–2002)

## **Community involvement**

Honor PAC board member 2023- July 2024  
Cedarmere Foundation board of trustees 2022-present  
Evergreen Business Capital board member 2019-October 2023  
Member of the City of Seattle Small Business Advisory Council (SBAC) 2018-2022  
Member of the City of Seattle Equitable Investment Task Force (ECITF) 2020-2021  
Washington State LGBTQ Commissioner 2020

Member of the City of Seattle Census Task Force 2019-2020  
Representative of the Mexican abroad IME 2012-2014 (Secretary)  
King County Civil Rights Commission board member 2012-2013

**Awards**

Business Leadership Award by University of Washington 2024  
Puget Sound Business Journal Business of Pride Award 2019  
Crosscut Business Courage Award 2018  
City of Seattle Emerging Leader Pride Award 2018  
Puget Sound Business Journal Innovation Award 2018  
SBA Director Excellence Award 2016  
GSBA Nonprofit of the year 2016  
NSHIMBA Community leader of the year 2012  
KOMO TV Latino Business of the Year 2009



## City of Seattle Office of the Mayor

### Press Release

### For Immediate Release

### Contact Information

Sage Wilson



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### Mayor Wilson announces departmental leadership decisions

**SEATTLE** - Mayor Wilson today announced her decisions on the leadership of several city departments.

"I could not be more excited about the talent and expertise of the people who have stepped up to lead city departments, and I know that together, this team will be able to accomplish extraordinary things," said Mayor Wilson. "I look forward to working with Quynh Pham at the Department of Neighborhoods, Amy Nguyen at the Office of Arts and Culture, Beto Yarce at the Office of Economic Development, Lylianna Allala at the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, Rico Quirindongo at the Office of Planning and Community Development, Mina Hashemi at Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Dr. Amarah Khan at the Office of the Employee Ombud. I am grateful to the outgoing department leaders for all of their contributions to the City over the years, and to the interim leaders for stepping up to aid my transition."

### Department of Neighborhoods

The Department of Neighborhoods is dedicated to help neighbors connect, build strong communities, improve their quality of life, and engage with city government. Jenifer Chao will be leaving the Department of Neighborhoods, and Sam Read will fill her role until Quynh Pham becomes Acting Director.

Quynh is currently the Executive Director of Friends of Little Saigon (FLS), a community development organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing Little Saigon's cultural, economic, and historical vitality. Her 14 years of nonprofit development experience have shaped local policy, advanced opportunities for Southeast Asian artists and cultural practitioners, and increased investments in BIPOC initiatives around equitable development and small business resiliency. She is also the mother of two toddlers, who continue to fuel her drive to ensure they grow up in a culturally rich, accessible, and diverse community.

**Quynh Pham:**

*"I am honored to step into the Department of Neighborhoods, a department that sits at the intersection of community and government. Through my work at Friends of Little Saigon, I have learned that the most effective solutions come from those closest to the challenges. In this new role, I look forward to working alongside and supporting Seattle's diverse neighborhoods."*

**Office of Arts and Culture**

The Office of Arts and Culture manages the city's public arts program, provides grants to support the arts, operates arts education programs and cultural facilities, and strives to make Seattle a place where everyone has the opportunity to engage in diverse arts and cultural experiences. Gülgün Kayim will be leaving the Office of Arts and Culture, and Kelly Davidson will fill her role until Amy Nguyen becomes Acting Director.

Amy Nguyen brings over a decade of public sector leadership to the position, including service as Deputy Director at the Office of Planning & Community Development and as Interim Deputy Director and Public Art Director at the Office of Arts & Culture. Raised in White Center and shaped by experiences in New York and New Orleans, Nguyen is committed to activating and sustaining

Seattle through arts and culture, so creativity is something everyone can access, in every neighborhood.

**Amy Nguyen:**

*“Creativity is how a city honors its past, heals its present, and imagines its future. I’m honored to serve as the Acting Director for the Office of Arts & Culture, and excited to support the artists and communities shaping Seattle every day. My north star is a future where more people have resources, space, and freedom to create and where meaningful cultural experiences are within reach and close to home.”*

**Gülgün Kayim:**

*“I’m honored to have served Seattle during a time of big changes for the Office of Arts & Culture and the city as we navigate post-pandemic recovery. Since I joined in 2023, I’m proud to have led stabilization of the department after major staffing and scope reductions, complete a comprehensive Strategic Plan, and rebuild capacity. Together, we strengthened community oversight by expanding the Seattle Arts Commission, brought back the King Street Station Advisors, improved operations, launched new programs to support organizational transformation in the cultural sector, and restructured the department to better align with the City’s community and civic priorities.*

*I’m especially proud of the relationships built with communities, cultural organizations, and civic partners across Seattle, as well as the department’s role in activating Downtown and installing major public art along the Seattle Waterfront. This work has set the stage for Seattle’s first-ever citywide Cultural Plan and prepared us to lead major cultural programming during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.”*

**Office of Economic Development**

The Office of Economic Development offers a range of support and resources aimed at supporting local businesses, support thriving neighborhoods, and help build a diverse, robust economy benefits everyone in Seattle. Alicia Teel will return to her position as Deputy Director when Beto Yarce becomes the Acting Director.

Beto is a business executive, entrepreneur, and nonprofit leader dedicated to advancing economic equity and entrepreneurship. Fluent in English and Spanish, he brings over 15 years of experience driving growth and impact across business, nonprofit, and public sectors. Appointed by President Joe Biden as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Region 10, Beto was responsible for supporting more than 1.3 million small businesses through expanded access to capital, counseling, and federal contracting opportunities. He is the CEO and Founder of Beto Yarce Consulting, where he helps organizations strengthen leadership, strategy, and performance, and previously served as Executive Director of Ventures in Seattle, where he led the organization's turnaround and expansion. His career reflects a lifelong commitment to empowering communities, strengthening small businesses, and building inclusive economic opportunity.

**Beto Yarce:**

*"I am grateful and honored to serve as Director of Seattle's Office of Economic Development and to collaborate with Mayor Katie Wilson and her team. I'm thankful for the mayor's trust and shared commitment to building a more inclusive economy for our city. Together, we will strengthen healthy businesses, support thriving neighborhoods, and partner with community organizations to ensure economic opportunity reaches every corner of Seattle. As a small business owner and immigrant, I understand firsthand the challenges many entrepreneurs face. I am eager to work with our team and community partners to build an economy from the bottom up—expanding access to capital, education, and innovative programs so small businesses can grow, create jobs, and help build lasting prosperity for current and future generations."*

**Office of Sustainability and the Environment**

The Office of Sustainability and the Environment works to ensure a clean and healthy environment for everyone who lives and works in Seattle. Michelle Caulfield will return to her position as Deputy Director when Lylianna Allala becomes the Acting Director.

Lylianna currently serves as the Interim Deputy Director, and previously served as the City of Seattle's first Climate Justice Director. As the Climate Justice Director, Lylianna oversaw citywide implementation of Seattle's Equity & Environment Initiative and Seattle's Green New Deal. Prior to joining the City, Lylianna led climate & environmental policy & outreach for Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal.

**Lylianna Allala:**

*"I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the Office of Sustainability & Environment under Mayor Wilson's leadership. I share Mayor Wilson's commitment to building strong and inclusive partnerships and uplifting community centered solutions to ensure that Seattle's climate action yields tangible benefits for all our communities. I am immensely proud to lead this department of passionate people who have dedicated themselves to implementing innovative policies and programs that meet community needs and improve quality of life through clean air and water, healthy forests and trees, access to fresh foods, and inclusive pathways to careers that help Seattle reduce emissions and become more climate resilient. Caring for the environment must begin with caring for one another."*

**Office of Planning and Community Development**

The Office of Planning and Community Development partners with neighborhoods and businesses, and works across City departments to assess community needs, prioritize resources, and develop of a city that is inclusive, affordable, vibrant, interconnected and innovative. Mayor Wilson is retaining **Rico Quirindongo** as director of the Office of Planning and Community.

Rico has dedicated over 30 years to revitalizing and reimagining neighborhoods. Through his passion for architecture, civic engagement, and sustainable design, Rico has been at the forefront of projects that breathe new life into Seattle's urban fabric, ensuring that growth aligns with community values and environmental stewardship. As a founding member of the Northwest Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects, Rico has helped foster diversity and inclusion within the field. His leadership

extends across several prominent roles, from chairing the Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority Council to serving as President of AIA Seattle. In 2020, he delivered his first TED Talk and was recognized nationally as a “Citizen Architect” by the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Last year, he was named one of Seattle’s Most Influential by Seattle Magazine. Rico believes in the power of design in shaping resilient, inclusive communities.

**Rico Quirindongo:**

*“It’s an honor to remain at the helm of OPCD under Mayor Wilson’s leadership, and I’m grateful for the trust and partnership that make our work possible. With the passage of the Comprehensive Plan in December, we have an incredible opportunity to shape Seattle’s future. I’m excited to continue working with homeowners, renters, developers, nonprofits, and the design community to envision a city where everyone can live, work, and play. Our commitment is clear: embrace diversity, repair the harms of our redlining past, and create pathways to generational wealth-building in Black and Brown communities. We will foster a city where artists, entrepreneurs, small-business owners, and working families can afford to thrive, be seen, and be celebrated.”*

**Additional leadership decisions**

Mina Hashemi will remain as head of the **Office of Intergovernmental Relations**, and Dr. Amarah Khan will remain as head of the **Office of the Employee Ombud**.

Other departments will see interim leadership changes until a permanent director is selected. At the **Office of Housing**, Maiko Winkler-Chin will be leaving as director, and Andréa Akita will serve as Interim Director. At the **Parks Department**, AP Diaz will be leaving as director, and Michele Finnegan will serve as Interim Director.

**Dr. Amarah Khan:**

*“It is an absolute privilege to continue to serve the City of Seattle Employees as the Director of the Ombuds Office. Our office is a safe place for employees to report issues and concerns. For nearly seven years, we have diligently upheld the highest standards of confidentiality while ensuring conflict resolution*

*services are provided in a timely manner. I am grateful for Mayor Wilson's support and faith in this very important work."*

**Andréa Akita:**

*"I'm honored to serve in this interim role, leading the Seattle Office of Housing. Our team is dedicated to stewarding the City's affordable housing investments, policies, and programs to prevent displacement, create new opportunities, and preserve existing affordable homes. This work is rooted in collaboration, working jointly with others to achieve shared goals, because we know that only by partnering with communities, stakeholders, and advocates can we realize Mayor Wilson's vision of a Seattle that is affordable for everyone."*

**Maiko Winkler-Chin:**

*"It has been an honor to serve these last four years as Director of the Seattle Office of Housing. This team is one of the smartest in the City, navigating the complex challenges in creating and preserving affordable housing.*

*It's never just about housing. It's about creating lasting community assets, repairing past harms, and ensuring all neighborhoods offer diverse housing options. Our investments bring homes and vital neighborhood elements like small businesses, childcare, libraries, and cultural anchors.*

*Together, we achieved incredible milestones: passing the nation's largest Housing Levy at nearly \$1 billion, welcoming over 800 low-income families into affordable rental homes, helping 300 families buy their first homes, and advancing projects like Fort Lawton, Mount Baker Station, and Lake City Community Center. We adapted to meet the moment because Seattle has changed, and so must we.*

*I leave the Office in the hands of my good friend and mission partner, Interim Director Andréa Akita, who will continue the hard work of making sure everyone in Seattle has a healthy and affordable home. I look forward to seeing the policies, programs, and investments OH creates continue to shape Seattle."*

**Michele Finnegan:**

*"I'm honored to serve as Acting Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation, an organization powered by a passionate workforce committed to*

*strengthening communities and improving lives across Seattle through our parks, programs, and services. We share a vision for vibrant communities, a healthy environment, and affordable, accessible opportunities for all. I look forward to partnering with Mayor Wilson, City departments, and community members to support solutions to shared challenges facing our city.*

**AP Diaz:**

*"I'm grateful for the opportunity to have led the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department. With a workforce of nearly 2000 employees, they are the ones who make Seattle's Parks the 8th best park system in America. Even in the rainy, cold, and darkest of days they show up and out for community - providing exceptional park experiences, with a love and commitment to enriching the lives of children, teens, adults and our aging population. That's why our motto is Seattle Shines! During the past three years, we launched Swim Seattle to eradicate disproportionate drownings among kids of colors; worked to combat nature deficit syndrome by launching the Red Barn Ranch Initiative; created Seattle Mentors — a wage-based youth employment and mentorship program and are poised to now tackle the epidemic of loneliness plaguing our largest cities. We also secured the United Nations "role model" city status for our work on urban forest regeneration — the only U.S. City to receive this worldwide recognition and a commitment to advance our City's climate initiatives.*

*These accomplishments reflect only part of what we together helped deliver and performed for our City's parklands and waterscapes. Whether responding to natural disasters, supporting staff after traumatic events, or reimagining the role of parks in civic life — I endeavored to show up with strength, empathy, a friendly outlook, authenticity and a can-do spirit. I was proud to be the only Latino cabinet member and I am thankful to have been trusted by so many of our SPR workforce, respected in the community, and counted on by various City leaders and stakeholders such as the Seattle Parks Foundation, The Associated Recreation Council, The Zoo, The Aquarium and scores of neighbors, community groups and park advocates."*

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## **SECTION**

**B**



# City of Seattle

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## Seattle Human Resources

Kimberly Loving, Director

January 20, 2026

TO: Lindsey King – Talent Acquisition and Compensation Advisor - SHR

FROM: Annie Nguyen – Citywide Employment Compliance Advisor - SHR

SUBJECT: Background check for Sanchez Yarce, Carlos Alberto

The Seattle Human Resources has received a copy of **Carlos Alberto Sanchez Yarce's** background check provided by Global Screening Solutions. There were no findings that would impact their employment eligibility.

Cc: Personnel File

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Seattle Department of Human Resources

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 5500, PO Box 34028, Seattle, WA 98124-4028  
(206) 684-7999 • TTY:7-1-1 Fax: (206) 684-4157 • Employment Website: [www.seattle.gov/jobs](http://www.seattle.gov/jobs)

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