

The Seattle Planning Commission advises the Mayor, City Council and City departments on broad planning goals, policies and plans for the physical development of the City. The Commission's work is framed by the Comprehensive Plan and its vision for Seattle into the 21st Century, and by a commitment to engaging citizens in working to reach these goals.

The Seattle Planning Commission is an independent, 16-member advisory body appointed by the Mayor, City Council, and the Commission itself. The members of the Commission are volunteers who bring a wide array of expertise and a diversity of perspectives to these roles.

2017 COMMISSIONERS

Grace Kim, Chair	Tim Parham
Kara Martin, Vice-Chair	Marj Press
Michael Austin	Julio Sanchez
Keiko Budech	David Shelton
Eileen Canola	Lauren Squires
Lauren Craig	Jamie Stroble
Sandra Fried	Patti Wilma
Jake McKinstry	

STAFF

Vanessa Murdock, *Executive Director*
John Hoey, *Senior Policy Analyst*
Katy Haima, *Policy Analyst*
Robin Magonigil, *Administrative Staff*

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2017
Annual
Report

SEATTLE
**PLANNING
COMMISSION**

2017 HIGHLIGHTS



46 Briefings from City Departments

We received briefings and provided feedback to 6 City Departments, 2 regional planning agencies, Council and Council aids, and the Mayor's staff.



8 Letters to Council or City Depts.

We prepared 8 letters to Council and other City Departments provide recommendations on how their work might better meet the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, including racial and social equity.



3 Comments at Council Meetings

We provided testimony on the Pedestrian Master Plan, the Design Review Program Improvements proposal, and the Parks & Open Space Plan.

1,254 Total Hours

Total Hours

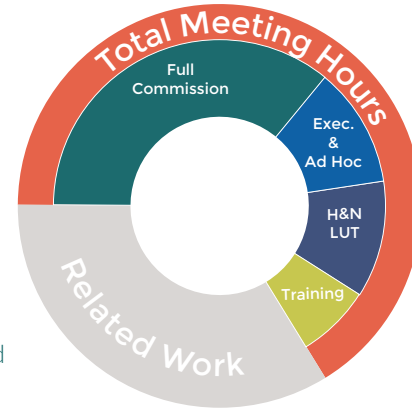
829 meeting hours
426 related work

Commissioners spend time preparing for meetings, attending community events, and researching topics.

55 Total Meetings

The Housing and Neighborhoods Committee (H&N) and Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUT) meet monthly. The Executive Committee meets twice a month and as needed to work on special projects.

- 20 Commission Meetings
- 18 Committee Meetings
- 17 Exec & Ad Hoc Meetings



ONGOING WORK

Our 2018 work plan includes briefings, discussions, and research to help guide the City Council and Mayor on the following priority issues:

Mandatory Housing Affordability

The Commission will continue to support the intent of the City's Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA) proposal and follow the project through the 2018 legislative process, attending City Council sponsored Open Houses and Public Hearings.

Industrial Lands Policy

Historically a strong proponent for the protection of Seattle's Industrial zoned lands, the Commission looks forward to reviewing any changes to the policies that may be proposed following the 2016/17 Task Force on Industrial lands.

ST3: West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

The Commission looks forward to informing the locally preferred alternative for the Seattle portion of ST3 throughout 2018 and into 2019.

Comprehensive Plan

As stewards of the Comprehensive Plan, the Commission reviews any amendments proposed to the Plan. In addition, the Commission will take an active role in reviewing the development and finalization of equity and Plan indicators that will inform elected officials and City staff on the success of the growth strategy outlined in the 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Letter: One Center City Near-Term Strategies

- Joint letter with the Seattle Design Commission
- Recommended reevaluating the timing of the Convention Center Expansion and moving buses to surface streets.
- Encouraged a short-term strategy that aligns with the overarching vision for One Center City, including the pedestrian experience of the public realm.
- Recommended enhancing connections to downtown's surrounding neighborhoods and to elevate safety for pedestrians and bicycles.

Letter & Testimony: Pedestrian Master Plan

Supported SDOT's approach to prioritize safe pedestrian access to schools and frequent transit stops, prioritized through a racial and social equity lens.

Letter: MHA Implementation Recommendations

Provided recommendations regarding zoning changes, urban village expansions, and related policies to reduce displacement and disparities in housing choice.

Email: Comments on the MHA DEIS

- Provided recommendations to inform the preferred alternative in the FEIS.
- Suggested additional displacement mitigation measures and measures to achieve a range of affordable housing types across the city and within each neighborhood.
- Encouraged further mitigation for housing near sources of pollution, such as freeways.

Letter: 2016-2017 Proposed Comp. Plan Amendments Recommendations

Letter: ADU/DADU EIS Scoping

Letter: Climate Change Preparedness

- Supported the plan as a blueprint for future decision-making processes, and inclusion of race and social justice as a guiding principle.
- Encouraged elevating the importance of collaboration amongst agencies and departments to take bold actions.

Letter: OH Administrative & Financial Plan

- Supported OH's commitment to funding the preservation and production of a variety of affordable housing.
- Encouraged more funding for affordable housing in high-cost areas
- Included recommendations to achieve affordable units in smaller developments to achieve a wider variety of unit types.
- Encouraged expanded assistance for homeowners and homeownership, including resources for homeowner-developers.

Letter: 2017-2018 Proposed Comp. Plan Amendments Docketing Recommendation

Testimony: Parks & Open Space Plan

- Supported the data-driven analysis; encouraged use of qualitative indicators.
- Recommended using equity, poverty, health, and income as key criteria for the priority acquisition strategy.

Adopted Updated SPC Bylaws & Protocol & Procedures Manual

Testimony: Design Review Program Improvements

- Supported the requirement for Early Community Outreach.
- Encouraged considering the trade-offs between the desire to reduce development costs with the commitment to promoting community involvement and quality design outcomes.

JAN FEB MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

2018 SEATTLE PLANNING COMMISSIONERS



Tim Parham, Chair

Tim is a Real Estate Development Associate at Plymouth Housing Group, a non-profit that works to prevent homelessness while providing permanent, supportive homes.



Michael Austin, Vice Chair

Michael is an Urban Designer with Perkins+Will, where he is involved in planning and design projects throughout the Pacific Northwest.



Eileen Canola

Eileen is a Senior Planner with Snohomish County Planning and Development Services, working on a variety of long range planning policies and development regulations.



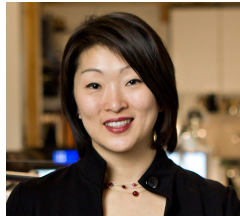
Sandra Fried

Sandra has worked at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as a grantmaker working internationally to improve access to information through public libraries.



David Goldberg

David helped launch Smart Growth America and Transportation for America, national movements focused on smart growth reform.



Grace Kim

Grace is a founding partner of Schemata Workshop, a design practice that works with public, private, and non-profit clients on community focused projects.



Ellen Lohe

Ellen works as an affordable housing developer at Beacon Development Group, and has worked in planning in New York, Boston, and Shanghai.



Rick Mohler

Rick is a principal of Mohler + Ghillino Architects and teaches design studios at the University of Washington. He is interested in the nexus of urban housing, transportation, and public realm.



Marj Press

Marj owns a small restaurant in Capitol Hill and has over twenty years' experience analyzing the feasibility and environmental effects of transportation infrastructure projects.



Kelly Rider

Kelly is a Housing Policy Manager for King County's Dept. of Community Human Services. She is a member of the Housing Levy Oversight Board.



Julio Sanchez

Julio works at Puget Sound Clean Air as a Community Engagement Associate, where he combines his strengths of community engagement and environmental justice.



Amy Shumann

Amy is an environmental health planner with Public Health-Seattle and King County where she focuses on health and equity in transportation and land use policies.



Lauren Squires

Laure is a multimodal transportation planner at Nelson/Nygaard. She has a background in sustainable design and planning.



Jamie Stroble

Jamie works for King County's Climate Action Team as a lead on climate change community engagement and partnerships, resiliency, and integrating social justice into climate work.



Patti Wilma

Patti worked for the City of Bellevue Planning and Community Development Department with a focusing on urban design and land use issues.

MISSION & DUTIES

The Seattle Planning Commission provides independent, objective analysis and advice to the Mayor, City Council and City Departments on an increasing variety of urban planning issues such as land use and zoning, transportation, and housing and community development. The Commission's work is framed by the Comprehensive Plan and its vision for Seattle into the 21st Century, and by a commitment to engaging citizens in working to reach these goals.

WHEN WE MEET

Our meetings are open to the public. Public comment is taken at our Full Commission Meetings.

Full Commission Meetings

Second Thursday, 3:00pm-5:30pm

Fourth Thursday, 7:30am-9:00am

Housing & Neighborhoods Committee

First Thursday, 7:30am-9:00am

Land Use & Transportation Committee

Third Thursday, 7:30am-9:00am

WHO WE ARE

Planning Commissioners have a wide array of professional backgrounds and live in neighborhoods across Seattle.

<i>Affordable housing</i>	<i>Community development</i>
<i>Community engagement</i>	<i>Non-profit housing</i>
<i>Real estate development</i>	<i>Small-business</i>
<i>Multi-modal transportation</i>	<i>Public health</i>
<i>Environmental justice</i>	<i>Policy analysis & research</i>
<i>Environmental health planning</i>	<i>Transit-oriented development</i>
<i>Architecture & urban design</i>	<i>Campus planning</i>
<i>Long-range planning</i>	<i>Urban Design</i>

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CONTACT US

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