

# Minutes

## Indigenous Advisory Council

Friday, October 31, 2025

12:30 PM PST – 2:30 PM PST

**In-Person Meeting Location:** Seattle City Hall 600 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Seattle, WA 98104

Room 370; [Instructions for visiting Seattle City Hall \(bus access, parking, & building access\)](#)

**Remote Meeting Location:** WebEx

### Members Present

Tia Yazzie and Derrick Belgarde

### Members Excused

Councilmember Donny Stevenson, Councilmember Jay Mills, Councilmember Jeremy Takala, Suzanne Sailto, Esther Lucero, and Jaci McCormack

### Meeting Guests

Lisa Cieko and Danielle Devier, Seattle Parks and Recreation

### Items

#### 1. Welcome and Opening Blessing

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda (October) and Approval of the Minutes (September)

- No quorum, adjusted agenda to remove Urban Canopy Equity Plan discussion
- No quorum.

#### 3. Green Seattle Partnership Strategic Plan

- Staff returned to share updates and next steps from the Green Seattle Partnership (GSP) strategic planning process.
- Staff reviewed the goals of GSP including restoration and maintenance of forested parklands and designated natural areas in Seattle and 2) expanded and galvanization of an informed, involved, and active community around forest restoration and stewardship.
- Staff reviewed the GSP partnership model including 1) City of Seattle employee in Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Public Utilities, and the Office of Sustainability and Environment, 2) Professional crews comprised of technical expertise, 3) community members that volunteer and participate in a range of stewardship events, and 4) partner organizations that focus on paid job training, youth programming, engagement among non-English speaking populations across education and volunteer opportunities.
- Staff reviewed the May 2025 IAC engagement on the GSP strategic plan. Staff reflected back what they heard from IAC members including 1) the importance of keeping Seattle green, including revitalization of unused parks, 2) the value of community input and engagement, 3) the importance of storytelling and knowledge sharing including storytelling about land-base and gathering practices, making the case for the deep connection of the Salish Sea to the urban forest, and sharing the longer history and tribal experiences of the land and waters in the region.

- Staff previewed the 10-year vision statement from the draft strategic plan and discussed where IAC feedback was integrated into the language. Staff discussed where IAC feedback was integrated into the strategic pillars of 1) partnership building, 2) land care and stewardship, and 3) community programming. In the partnership building pillar, staff discussed activities and outcomes related to advancing relationships with Tribal Nations and urban Indian organizations.
- In the pillar of community programming, staff discussed the activities and outcomes around school participation in land-based education programming, including integration with existing school-based educational curriculums that feature Tribes and Native communities. In the pillar of stewardship and land care, staff reviewed the activities and outcomes around engaging Tribal Nations and urban Indian communities in knowledge sharing to improve ecological restoration and climate resilience.
- Member shared appreciation for the thorough engagement, integration of feedback from a range of Tribes and Native communities, and appreciation for returning to share how feedback was integrated. Members noted opportunities to enhance activity and outcome language to reflect intergenerational learning opportunities with an emphasis on children, youth, and elders.
- Staff shared intent to return to the IAC or share an electronic copy of the final strategic plan in early 2026.

#### **4. Member Announcements**

#### **5. Closing & Next Steps**