



Seattle Tax Advisory Group

Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023
10:00 am

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Joseph Cunha, Tax Administrator, City of Seattle
Mark Watterson, Tax Audit Manager, City of Seattle
Kevin Guichon, Tax Policy Analyst, City of Seattle

Marsha McLean, State & Local Tax Compliance Manager, Weyerhaeuser
Brian Aaragon, Amazon

Minutes:

1. Welcome and introductions.

-n/a-

2. Payroll Expense Tax.

Training. The city has been holding quarterly payroll expense tax trainings. The trainings are still receiving strong interest and attendance. Last attendance had approximately 60 attendees out of approximately 100 that had registered. The city plans to continue the quarterly trainings if attendance is strong.

3. Legislation.

No substantial legislation came out of this last legislative session that affected the cities. One bill, ESSSB 5199 (2023), exempts gross income from the activities of printing/publishing a newspaper and the publishing of eligible digital content from state B&O tax. The bill also updates RCW 35.102.150 by stating the activities subject to the sourcing under RCW 35.102.150 are those newspaper publishing and digital content publishing activities that are exempt from state B&O tax. The cities do not expect any notable impact from ESSSB 5199 (2023).

4. Rule Updates.

The city plans to hold a hearing on amended and new rules. The city will amend rules 5-007 Penalties; 5-133 Warranties; 5-500 Computer Software; 5-501 Computer Hardware; 5-502 Information Services; and introduce two new rules 5-503 Digital Products and 5-XXX Confidentiality of Tax Information. The city is anticipating a hearing date in the second week of July. Rules will be available for public review and comment two weeks prior to the hearing.