



Seattle Tax Advisory Group

Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2025
10:00 am

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Jamie Carnell, City Finance Director, City of Seattle

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

Stephanie Gilfeather, Director U.S. Indirect Tax, Inc., Expedia Group

Elvina Tong, Director Int'l Indirect Tax, Starbucks

Arcadia Corbett, Senior Manager, Global Indirect Tax, Expedia Group

Brian Aragon, JD, LLM, Senior Tax Manager, State & Local Tax, Amazon

Tara McGlaughlin, Director, State & Local Tax, Amazon

Minutes:

1. Welcome / Introductions

Mark Watterson—introduction for new members

2. Legislative Updates

A. State legislative update

Mark Watterson – We continue to monitor the State of Washington legislative session. At this point in the session, the city has not identified state tax legislation that will likely have significant impact to the city.

B. Proposition 1A (I-137) – Seattle Social Housing Tax

Mark Watterson

The Seattle Social Housing stakeholder meeting will take place Wednesday, March 12, 2025.

City Finance Social Housing Tax website is online –taxpayers can review the Seattle Social Housing code section on the city's website.

Joseph Cunha –We are in implementation mode for the Seattle Social Housing Tax.

Mark Watterson—We have received some initial questions about the first due date for the Social Housing Tax. For tax year 2025, Seattle businesses subject to the Social Housing Tax will file their return and tender tax due by January 31, 2026. Thereafter, businesses subject to the Social Housing Tax will file and pay the tax on a quarterly basis.

Brian Aragon—There was a question at Amazon about the first reporting due date for the Seattle Social Housing Tax. We were pleased that the city provided the first-year reporting information on its website.

Joseph Cunha—Similar to the Seattle Payroll Expense Tax, the city is going to complete a stakeholder process and draft a proposed rule for public comment.

Tarah –Will there be an opportunity to pay ACH credit?

Joseph –The ACH credit will likely not be available. This will be a question for Treasury. We may inquire to Jessica about this issue.

Mark—The city has received about 140+ registrations for the Seattle Social Housing Tax stakeholder webinar scheduled for March 12, 2025.

Joseph—City Finance requests that stakeholders who attend the Seattle Social Housing Tax stakeholder webinar pose questions, request clarifications and make any comments that will assist the city in completing the rulemaking process.

3. Seattle Payroll Expense Education/Trainings—

The city will be continuing the quarterly PET training sessions. The next PET training will take place the third week of March or early April.

4. Open items/questions