



# Seattle

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 26, 2025

Contact: Sage Wilson (no relation)  
206-227-6014  
WilsonTransitionMedia@seattle.gov

## Seattle Mayor-Elect Announces Transition Team Members

*Expert group to help deliver on vision of affordable, accessible, innovative city*

Mayor-Elect Katie Wilson today announced a 60-member transition team which brings extensive knowledge of housing, business, labor, arts, community safety, civil rights, transportation and other fields. Over the next several weeks, members of the transition team will identify and reach out to dozens of additional community advisors to gather the broadest possible range of input, identify priorities, and help equip Mayor-Elect Wilson to successfully execute her vision as the next mayor of Seattle.

**“I’m a coalition-builder** — that’s how I ran my campaign, and that’s how I’ll govern,” said Mayor-Elect Katie Wilson. “My transition team brings people together from a wide range of backgrounds, perspectives, and expertise to **help me deliver on the vision that guided my campaign: a vision of a city that is more affordable, more accessible, and more innovative**, where economic growth is paired with equity, government functions effectively, and communities feel supported and heard by their city government.”

**“I don’t expect everyone on the transition team to agree with me on every issue, and it doesn’t matter who they supported in the election,”** Wilson continued. “I have sought out their input and invited them to join my transition team because **being a successful mayor means being a mayor for everyone.**”

The transition team is organized into seven policy areas focused on:

- Housing Affordability & Community Needs
- Economic Development & Workers Rights
- Transportation & Environment
- Arts, Culture & Creative Economy
- Civic Narrative & Major Initiatives
- Standing Up for Our Values
- Public Safety, Parks & Wellbeing

Transition team members in each policy area will solicit input from a broad base of community advisors to identify short, medium, and long-term priorities that advance the Mayor-Elect’s

platform in accordance with her vision. The transition team also includes six student and youth advisors.

## **Transition Team Leadership**

**Andrés Mantilla**, Transition Director; Uncommon Bridges

**Karen Estevenin**, Transition Co-Chair; Executive Director, Protec17

**Tiffani McCoy**, Transition Co-Chair; Co-Executive Director, House Our Neighbors

**Quynh Pham**, Transition Co-Chair; Executive Director, Friends of Little Saigon

**Brian Surratt**, Transition Co-Chair; President and CEO, Greater Seattle Partners

## **Housing Affordability & Community Needs**

*Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Colleen Echohawk**, CEO, Community Roots Housing

**Jon Scholes**, President & CEO, Downtown Seattle Association

*Policy Area Members:*

- **Cate Bridenstine**, Executive Director, Imagine Institute
- **Alvertis Brooks Jr.**, Executive Director, Rainier Valley Community Development Fund
- **Gregory Davis**, Managing Strategist, Rainier Beach Action Coalition
- **Alison Eisinger**, Executive Director, Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness
- **Nakita Venus**, Executive Director, Seattle's LGBTQ+ Center

## **Economic Development & Workers Rights**

*Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Richard de Sam Lazaro**, Senior Director, Government Affairs, Expedia

**Corina Yballa**, Political Director, MLK Labor

*Policy Area Members:*

- **Jeanie Chunn**, Founder, Seattle Restaurants United
- **Arif Gursel**, Founder and Executive Director, The Union
- **Toshiko Hasegawa**, Commissioner, Port of Seattle
- **Joe Mizrahi**, UFCW 3000, Seattle School Board
- **Terrance Stevenson**, Director, SeaCiti Initiative, WTIA

## **Transportation & Environment**

*Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Shemona Moreno**, Executive Director, 350 Seattle

**Anna Zivarts**, Program Director, Disability Mobility Initiative

*Policy Area Members:*

- **Lowell Bander**, 9Zero Climate Innovation Hub
- **Lindsay Goes Behind**, Chief Impact Officer, Seattle Foundation
- **Lee Lambert**, Executive Director, Cascade Bicycle Club
- **Paulina Lopez**, Executive Director, Duwamish River Community Coalition
- **Gordon Padelford**, Executive Director, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways

## Arts, Culture & Creative Economy

### *Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Randy Engstrom**, Co-Founder & Principal, Third Way Creative

**Ben Hunter**, Artistic Director, Northwest Folklife

### *Policy Area Members:*

- **Michael Greer**, President and CEO, ArtsFund
- **Jesse Hagopian**, Educator, Author, and Blues Musician
- **Edwin Lindo**, Co-Founder, Estelita's Library
- **Amy Nguyen**, Executive Director, Watershed Community Development
- **Elisheba Wokoma**, Co-Executive Director, Wa Na Wari

## Civic Narrative & Major Initiatives

### *Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Alex Hudson**, Executive Director, Commute Seattle

**Joy Shigaki**, President & CEO, Friends of the Waterfront

### *Policy Area Members:*

- **Lilliane Ballesteros**, Executive Director, Latino Community Fund
- **Dr. Ana Mari Cauce**, President Emeritus, University of Washington
- **Andrea Caupain Sanderson**, Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director, Ile Kimoyo
- **Leo Flor**, Chief Legacy Officer, Seattle FIFA World Cup 26
- **Mari Horita**, SVP, Seattle Kraken

## Standing Up for Our Values

### *Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Roxana Norouzi**, Executive Director, OneAmerica

**Jaelynn Scott**, Executive Director, Lavender Rights Project

### *Policy Area Members:*

- **Caedman Cahill**, Civil Rights Attorney
- **Deaunte Dampier**, Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention, King County
- **Mubarak Elamin**, American Muslim Advancement Council
- **Faduma Fido**, Collaborative Governance Lab Leader, People's Economy Lab
- **Abdi Jama**, Community Legal Advocate

## **Public Safety, Parks, & Wellbeing**

### *Policy Area Co-Leads:*

**Lisa Daugaard**, Co-Executive Director, Purpose.Dignity.Action

**Dominique Davis**, CEO, Community Passageways

### *Policy Area Members:*

- **Asia Adam**, Executive Director, OurHope
- **Erin Goodman**, Executive Director, SODO Business Improvement Association
- **Rev. Dr. Robert Jeffrey, Sr.**, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
- **Gregory Joseph**, Communications Director, Alliance for Gun Responsibility
- **Lonnisha Landry**, CEO, Just/Us Love Ones

## **Student & Youth Advisors**

- **Leo Falit-Baiamonte**, President, Seattle Student Union
- **Russell McQuarrie-Means**, Student, South Seattle College
- **Bailey Medilo**, Staff Organizer, Washington Bus
- **Simon Kreft**, Student, Seattle Central College
- **Rayne Thompson**, Student, University of Washington
- **Sonal Virk**, ASUW Vice President, University of Washington

###