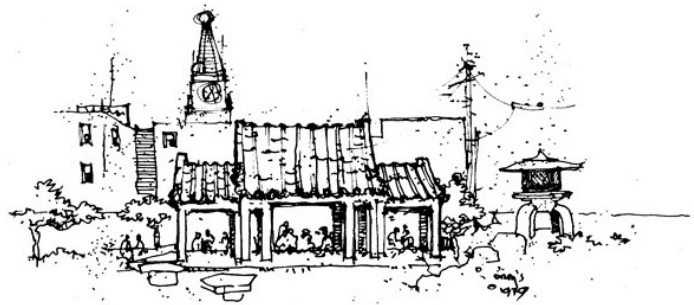




The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649

Street Address: 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor

ISRD 77a/26

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MONDAY, May 18, 2026

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: Seattle City Hall, 600 4th Ave., 4th Floor, Tahoma Conference Room (in-person)
Hybrid Meeting

Board Members Present

Heather Hargesheimer, (HH)

Kyle Jacobson (KJ)

Jade Yan (JY), Vice-Chair

Zhiyun Zhu (ZZ)

Staff Present

Nelson Pesigan (NP)

Rebecca Frestedt (RF)

Lillian Young (LY)

Interpreters:

Absent

Hyan Ho (HyH)

Samantha Wong (SW), Chair

Key

BM Board member

AP Applicant

SM Staff member

Vice-Chair Jade Yan called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Rebecca thanked Board members for meeting outside of the regular meeting schedule.

051826.1 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no in-person or virtual public comments.

051826.2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

051826.21 CID Street Pole Banner Project

Applicant: YongKang "YK" Zhou, CIDBIA

Record number: DONH-COA-02122

Design and Street Use: Proposed banners to be installed on 107 red lantern streetlight poles in Chinatown and Little Saigon. Artwork by Stevie Shao.

AP Yongkang Zhou, Chinatown International District Business Improvement Area (CIDBIA), in partnership with the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), presented a proposal to install new pole banners on approximately 107 red-lantern pedestrian streetlight poles throughout the district, primarily in Little Saigon and Chinatown.

The project is intended to enhance neighborhood identity, support revitalization efforts ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2026 and provide a lasting visual feature beyond the event.

SM Rebecca Frestedt clarified that the proposal had been briefed at the previous meeting; however, because the item had been noticed only as a briefing, the formal application and notice requirements were not completed until after that meeting. As a result, the board had to wait until today to take official action.

SM Frestedt also reminded the board that its review of proposed artwork includes considerations such as placement, materials, colors, scale, lighting, and attachment methods. No concerns were raised by the board during the prior briefing.

BM Heather Hargesheimer expressed that she had no further questions or comments, noting her appreciation for the thoroughness of the proposal, the detailed preparation, and the extensive public outreach.

Vice Chair Jade Yan concurred, adding that although she was not present at the prior meeting, her experience working in the neighborhood reinforced her recognition of the significant outreach conducted by the BIA.

Action:

BM Heather Hargesheimer move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for installation of banners on 107 red lantern pedestrian lighting fixtures, per the submitted application materials.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the May 18, 2026, public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and relevant Standards:

Seattle Municipal Code (SMC)

SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of Approval – application, review and appeals

SMC 23.66.334 – Streets and Sidewalks

Secretary of the Interior's Standards

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated

from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/HH/KJ

4:0:0

The motion passed and approved unanimously.

051826.22

Mural at 1032 S. Jackson St.

Applicant: Anh Nguyen, Friends of Little Saigon; Felix Tran, Friends of Little Saigon

Record number: DONH-COA-02139

Design: Proposed application of a painted and stenciled mural on a 120' long concrete wall along S. Jackson St. Artwork by Stacy Nguyen.

AP Anh Nguyen and Felix Tran of Friends of Little Saigon presented a proposal for a painted and stenciled mural along the 120-foot retaining wall at 1032 S. Jackson St., created by artist Stacy Nguyen, intended to celebrate and visually enhance the Little Saigon cultural streetscape.

BM Hargesheimer sought clarification on the mural mock-up, asking about the white lines where the steel elements appear on the retaining wall. She inquired whether those lines are intended to remain white in the final design or if a different color is planned.

AP Nguyen explained that the steel elements on the retaining wall will remain exposed and unpainted and noted that paint does not adhere well to the steel unless the beams are fully sanded, which is not planned for this project.

BM Hargesheimer asked whether any protective coating, such as an anti-graffiti sealant, is planned for the mural and noted the artwork's quality and expressed hope it would not be needed but sought clarification on whether such protection is included in the project.

AP Nguyen stated that the team plans to apply an anti-graffiti coating to the mural and added that the stencil design was intentionally kept simple to allow for easy touch-ups if graffiti occurs and noted that a three-year maintenance budget has been allocated to support ongoing upkeep.

BM Kyle Jacobson expressed strong support for the mural's design and noted he had no issues or concerns with the proposal. Drawing from his experience in the neighborhood, he observed that murals with repeating patterns tend to be tagged more frequently, citing examples from nearby installations and his own building.

BM Jacobson concluded by praising the mural's vibrancy and noting that improving this area of the retaining wall would be a positive change.

Vice-Chair Yan thanked the applicants and expressed appreciation for the mural's cultural motifs and the insight into the artist's inspirations and encouraged considering, in the future, a plaque or brief description to help educate viewers about the design's cultural context. She noted that it is not part of the current proposal but felt it could be a valuable addition someday.

SM Frestedt noted that, if the Board wished to support the idea of a future plaque describing the mural's cultural context, language could be added to the motion indicating that such an addition submitted to staff for review would be a simple and straightforward process.

Action:

BM Hargesheimer move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for a painted mural on the south-facing concrete wall at 1032 S. Jackson St., per the submitted application materials (and *allowance for a future plaque or signage explaining the history and iconography represented in the mural, should the applicant choose to add it later*).

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the May 18, 2026 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and relevant Standards:

Seattle Municipal Code (SMC)

SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of Approval – application, review and appeals

Secretary of the Interior's Standards

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/HH/KJ

4:0:0

The motion passed and approved unanimously.

051826.23

Bike and Scooter Corrals

Applicant: Kim Pearson, SDOT

Record Number: DONH-COA-02034

Design and Street Use: Proposed installation of 8 on-street and 2 on-sidewalk corrals for biker's scooters, in addition to 3 previously-installed corrals.

SM Frestedt reported that the proposal under review includes eight new on-street and two on-sidewalk bike and scooter corrals, in addition to three previously installed corrals noted in the staff report. SM Frestedt clarified that standalone bike racks located on sidewalks adjacent to new corral sites are intended to be removed.

SM Frestedt also noted that the proposal seeks formal approval for the three corrals previously installed along 5th Ave S and S Weller St, bringing the total number of corrals to thirteen and added that potential adjustments may be forthcoming for installations near Union Station Plaza, and that several locations along 4th and 5th Avenues fall within the Pioneer Square Preservation District. The Pioneer Square Board reviewed those overlapping locations last week and recommended approval.

AP Kim Pearson from the Seattle Department of Transportation presented the proposed installation of bike and scooter corrals in the Chinatown–International District. The project is intended to improve safety and accessibility by daylighting intersections and organizing shared-mobility parking, so sidewalks remain clear. SDOT identified locations using ridership data, parking-related complaints, and right-of-way considerations, proposing both on-street corrals and on-sidewalk zone treatments using standard SDOT materials and markings.

AP Pearson and Austin Vigesaa reviewed seven on-street and six on-sidewalk locations, noting that outreach to adjacent businesses and property owners resulted in no significant concerns. Some stakeholders, including an assisted living facility and Sound Transit, expressed support for the improvements, with particularly positive feedback for the proposed zone at 4th Ave S and S Jackson St.

The applicants reported that overall community response has been neutral to positive as SDOT continues coordination with local stakeholders.

Board members expressed appreciation for the clarity provided by SDOT and discussed both the benefits and community concerns related to the proposed bike and scooter corrals.

BM Jacobson highlighted the importance of considering the ISRD's goals, noting that improved daylighting and reduced sidewalk clutter support pedestrian safety and accessibility and also shared his own experiences with blocked curb cuts and affirmed the value of clearer pathways.

Vice-Chair Yan raised questions about geofencing and operational challenges, noting frequent re-racking needs in busy areas, and elevated anonymous public comments regarding the loss of parking spaces at certain proposed locations.

Board members collectively emphasized balancing mobility improvements, pedestrian access, and community feedback as part of the review process.

Action:

BM Kyle Jacobson move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for installation of 10 bike and scooter parking corrals in the locations identified, per the submitted application materials.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on considering the application submittal and Board discussion at the May 18, 2026, public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and relevant Standards:

Seattle Municipal Code (SMC)

SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of Approval – application, review and appeals
SMC 23.66.334 – Streets and Sidewalks

Secretary of the Interior’s Standards

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/KJ/HH

4:0:0

The motion passed unanimously.

051826.3 STAFF SUMMARY AND BOARD BUSINESS

SM Frestedt provided updates on administrative reviews completed since the April meeting, noting that repairs have begun on the platform in front of Union Station to address a widening pavement joint that had become a tripping hazard; a temporary metal plate is being installed while a long-term solution is developed.

SM Frestedt reported the issuance of a notice for new wall signage at Union Center and described a proposed black-coated braided-chain fence intended to prevent objects from being thrown from the Yesler Bridge into the emergency services parking area below.

SM Frestedt is awaiting confirmation from the Mayor’s Office regarding a new board appointee, emphasizing the importance of maintaining quorum.

Vice-Chair Yan adjourned the meeting at 5:31 p.m.