
Minutes

Indigenous Advisory Council

Friday, September 13, 2024

12:30 PM PST – 2:30 PM PST

In-Person Meeting Location

Seattle City Hall 600 4th Ave, Seattle, WA 98104

Room 370

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

Remote Meeting Location

WebEx

Members Present

Councilmember Donny Stevenson, Councilmember Jay Mills, Megan Castillo, Suzanne Sailto, Esther Lucero, Derrick Belgarde, & Asia Tail

Members Excused

Councilmember Jeremy Takala & Jaci McCormack

Meeting Guests

Bridget Igoe, Office of Sustainability and Environment; Jenna Franklin, Giulia Pasciuto, & Mishelle Oun, Office of Planning and Community Development

Items

Number	Topic	Time
1	Welcome and Opening Blessing	5 min
2	Approval of the Agenda (September) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approved without changes. Approval of the Minutes (August) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approved without changes.	5 min
3	Food Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff from the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) briefed IAC members on the recently released Food Action Plan.• OSE works in the areas of Inclusive Climate Workforce, Reducing Climate Pollution, and Healthy, Resilient Communities. Within the area of Healthy, Resilient Communities, OSE works on Food Policy and Programs, including the Food Action Plan. The first and last Food Action Plan was developed in 2012. The 2024 update of the Food Action Plan presents a shared vision and roadmap for how the City and community partners can support an equitable, sustainable, and resilient local food system.• The Food Action Plan interdepartmental team included regular participation from 9 City departments that work in areas of food and nutrition security, food waste prevention, urban agriculture and community gardening, economic development and labor, and planning and community development.• The Food Action Plan update began in 2021 with the foundational work of literature and program reviews, development of Food Justice Values in coordination with the Environmental Justice Committee, and Racial Equity Toolkits. In 2022, OSE lead focused community engagement, including an urban Native listening session with Rising Tides Indigenous Planning Group. In 2023, OSE began to address gaps in Tribal engagement and outreached Tribal Nations and engaged in	35 min

Tribal engagement with Tribal staff to inform the Food Action Plan in coordination with the Office of Intergovernmental Relations. In 2024, the Food Action Plan was rigorously reviewed by the Mayor’s Office and Seattle City Council.

- The Food Action Plan goals are: 1) Increase Community Food Security, 2) Support Locally Grown and Traditional Foods, 3) Prevent Food Waste and Climate Pollution, and 4) Advance and Equitable Local Economy. Under these goals are eight strategic priorities. Within the strategic priorities are a number of new references to Tribal and urban Native priorities. This includes new references to the protection and enhancement of Tribal sovereignty and Tribal treaty rights, traditional foods, land stewardship by Coast Salish and urban Native communities, and recognition of Tribal Nations, urban Indian organizations, and Tribal enterprises as key partners through the plan actions.
- Next steps for the Food Action Plan include continued delivery of core City programs, development of mapping and dashboard tools to track progress, and continued interdepartmental and community collaborations to support the plan priorities.
- Members discussed the importance of a Food Action Plan that includes Tribal and urban Native community priorities. Members reminded City staff of the importance of aquaculture and environmental protections of the Salish Sea that is too often left out of food system and environmental management discussions, but it is essential to the traditional food systems of Coast Salish people. Members expressed interest in collaborating with OSE as Food Action Plan implementation continues.

4

Equitable Development Initiative

35 min

- Staff from the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD) briefed IAC members on the history and current work of the Equitable Development Initiative (EDI).
- The City’s Equitable Development Initiative (EDI) plays a crucial role in fostering equitable development in Seattle through community-based solutions, inclusive growth and anti-displacement strategies, and addressing disparities experienced by race, place, or other intersectionality.
- Today, EDI is guided by the Equitable Development Implementation Plan (EDIP) Financial Investment Strategy, and EDI Community Advisory Board.

- In 2024, EDI will begin a strategic planning effort (EDI 2.0) to update guiding documents and frameworks, originally created in 2016, to ensure alignment with evolving community and organizational needs.
- The EDI Framework includes six strategies to achieve community stability and resilience, including: 1) Advance economic mobility and opportunity, 2) Prevent residential, commercial, and cultural displacement, 3) Build on local cultural assets, 4) Promote transportation mobility and connectivity, 5) Develop healthy and safe neighborhoods, and 6) Provide equitable access to all neighborhoods.
- EDI funds these categories: 1) capacity-building, 2) site acquisition, and 3) advancing development of major capital projects.
- EDI used to be funded through one-time funding ranging from \$16-42 million. EDI is now sustained by the Payroll Expense Tax (\$19.7 million in 2024), Short-Term Rental Tax (\$5.1 million in 2024), and a federal Community Development Block Grant (\$430,000 in 2024).
- In 2023, EDI invested \$23 million in 34 total project awards for 31 projects. Projects are closely align with the displacement risk mapping tool developed by OPCD.
- EDI currently funds seven Native community-based organizational projects including: two projects by Chief Seattle Club, Yehaw Indigenous Creatives Collective, United Indians of all Tribes Foundation, Na’ah Illahee Fund, Duwamish Tribal Services, and the Seattle Indian Services Commission.
- Members expressed support the role and impact of EDI in advancing local anti-displacement projects. Members inquired about any OPCD or EDI roles in the redevelopment of Fort Lawton in Discovery Park- The project is current held at the Office of Housing and the Mayor’s Office. Members asked about the role of OPCD and EDI in leveraging other capital financing tools like Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) and New Market Tax Credits (NMTC). Members inquired about opportunities for City and community partners to develop joint advocacy strategies to support more LIHTC and NMTC opportunities among EDI grantees. Member expressed interest in having an IAC representative support EDI’s upcoming strategic planning process.

5	City Budget Process	20 min
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City staff briefed IAC members on the 2025-2026 City Budget process. 	
6	Old Business National Civic Review	25 min

- IAC members reviewed a draft submission of an article from the City of Seattle to the National Civic Review, a publication of the National Civic League. The National Civic Review is a quarterly journal featuring innovations in civic affairs nationwide. The City of Seattle submission features the Indigenous Advisory Council and City-Tribal Relations work.

Tribal Nations Summit: One-Year Update

- The Office of Intergovernmental Relations and Department of Neighborhoods briefed the Finance, Native Communities, and Tribal Governments Committee on September 18 regarding the City of Seattle | Tribal Nations Summit: One-Year Update. City staff were joined by Chair Forsman of the Suquamish Tribe and Councilmember Stevenson of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and member of the Indigenous Advisory Council.

Indigenous Peoples’ Day

- The IAC resourced four community-led events occurring on Monday, October 14, 2024 marks the 10-year anniversary of Indigenous Peoples’ Day in Seattle. In addition to event sponsorships, the IAC has provided graphic design services and poster art to be shared with all community-led events. The IAC has commissioned four articles by journalist Luna Reyna to feature regional Indigenous Peoples’ Day promotional content.

Thunderbird Treatment Center

- The IAC voted to send a letter of support for Thunderbird Treatment Center to King County Councilmember Mosqueda. The Thunderbird Treatment Center is a proposed 92-bed in-patient behavioral health treatment center on Vashon Island. This facility would increase in-patient treatment beds in King County by 62% and offer culturally attuned services, especially for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian people that are disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis. Esther Lucero and Suzanne Sailto disclosed interest in the project and abstained from action.

7

Member Announcements

**Up to
5 min**

- [Friends of the Waterfront will open the overlook walk](#) on Friday, October 4. The opening celebration is free and open to the public from 4:30-7:00pm.
- Seattle Indian Health Board is hosting the [28th Annual SpiritWalk and Warrior Run](#) on Saturday, October 19 at Daybreak Start Indian Cultural Center from 9am-1pm.

8	Hybrid Public Comment	Up to 10 min
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A member of the public shared information about a Community Conversation on Overdose Prevention & Narcan Training on October 20, 2024 hosted by United Indians of All Tribes Foundation. The event will run 1-2pm at the Beacon Hill branch of the Seattle Public Library: 2021 Beacon Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144.	
9	Closing & Next Steps	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly invoicing for July-Sept is due Nov 1.	
