

GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD



Seattle
Office of Sustainability
& Environment



MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2026

5:00 – 7:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Emily Pinckney, Fatima Kabba, Nancy Huizar, Brittani Cain, Akiksha Chatterji, Matt Remle, Elizabeth Baskerville, Leah Wood, John Sanchez, Jamie Stroble, Peter Hasegawa, Hannah Lindell-Smith

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Stephanie Ung, Rachel Heaton, Camille Gipaya, Nina Olivier, Rosalund Jenkins

GUESTS OSE Staff: Elise Rasmussen, Jazzmin Fragiaco, Ashlyn Gonzalez-Soriano, Marion Romero, Lylia Allala
Public: Sarah Schafer

ACTION ITEMS Approval of January Meeting Minutes

MEETING NOTES

Matt Remle, Emily Pinckney, and Nancy Huizar (GNDOB Executive Committee) facilitated the meeting.

Meeting notes were taken by **Jazzmin Fragiaco** (Climate Justice Planning & Development Specialist), **Elise Rasmussen** (Interim Climate Justice Advisor), and **Ashlyn Gonzalez-Soriano** (Climate and Environmental Justice Intern).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Emily Pinckney started the meeting, reviewed the meeting agenda, and facilitated introductions.

The Green New Deal Oversight Board (GNDOB) began their new welcome routine for public meetings, which is to have one Board member share more about themselves and their work so Board members and the public can have a better sense of the array of work that each Board member is connected to. **Matt Remle** modeled this new routine and shared about his community and his work as co-founder of Mazaska Talks, an organization leveraging economic power to fight repression of Indigenous rights and desecration of Mother Earth, by hosting campaigns, addressing treaty rights and tribal sovereignty, mentorship programs, and informal documentaries. **Elizabeth Baskerville** volunteered to share at next month's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VOTE: APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Matt Remle motioned to approve the minutes with amendments. **Nancy Huizar** seconded. **The Board voted to approve the January Meeting Minutes. Unanimous approval.**

STAFF UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jazzmin Fragiaco and **Marion Romero** provided the following updates and announcements from the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE).

- **Marion Romero** shared about her previous background at Got Green, an environmental justice organization working with working-class Black and Brown communities in South Seattle to build community power through door-to-door organizing and grassroots campaigns focused on improving housing and living wages. Marion shared she will be scheduling one-on-ones with Board members in the near future.
- **Lylianna Allala**, new Acting Director of OSE, introduced herself to the Board including her past roles, upbringing, and interests. She shared her previous experience at OSE across various roles and how she will work with the Board to develop people-centered solutions to complex issues, and advancing climate justice and equity. She invited Board members to schedule one-on-ones with her by contacting Marion.
- **Marion Romero** provided updates on:
 - The Boards' Retreat on March 5th-6th, with more information to come soon.
- **Jazzmin Fragiaco** provided updates on:
 - Early planning stages of a Board Field Trip led by Rachel Heaton to reconnect with nature. **Elise Rasmussen** shared about her experience at last year's field trip and encouraged attendance for this year's field trip.
 - Requesting Board members share the *Voices for Climate Action: Seattle's 2024 Community Assemblies Report* and *Seattle 2013 Climate Action Plan Progress Report* with their networks and communities to update them on community resilience work occurring in Seattle. Jazzmin informed Board members that the findings from these reports will be used to shape Budget and Climate Action Plan recommendations by the policy, projects, and programs (PPP) committee, and the City workgroup will also use these findings to shape draft actions for the Climate Action Plan.
 - Tax forms for members who received or requested stipends for 2025 should be in the mail. Jazzmin also outlined the process for 2026 stipends.
- **Elise Rasmussen** provided updates on Board meet and greets with City Council members.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy Huizar led Executive Committee updates and announcements.

- **Akiksha Chatterji** provided background on the Social Housing Board appointment and the Board's role in appointing a member. **Nancy Huizar** shared the timeline and process for appointing a member, including that potential candidates must submit a resume and letter of

interest by February 25, 2026. Executive Board Members will review materials and invite candidates to the Boards' March meeting to present about their work and intentions for the seat. The Board will vote on candidates during the meeting and appoint someone to the seat.

- **Matt Remle** shared an opportunity for a GNDOB legislative endorsement to stop the City of Seattle to work with banks who lend to or provide underwriting services for the fossil fuel industry. Matt shared examples of other states where similar legislation is being campaigned.

STAFF PRESENTATION ON 2026 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Jazzmin Fragiacom presented on the GNDOB's 2026 Budget Recommendations as a refresher for Board members who are newer to the budget recommendation development process. The Board, led by the PPP Committee, is currently working to develop its next suite of recommendations for climate investments for the 2027-2028 City Budget. The 2026 Budget Recommendations included:

1. Continued investment in Budgeted Programs that are delivering Climate Justice outcomes, which aim to sustain funding for programs that reduce emissions, build resilience, foster community leadership, plan for a resilient future, and deliver measurable benefits to frontline communities.
2. Honoring commitments made for the payroll expense tax to fund climate justice investments and initiatives. As well as leveraging alternative funding sources such as the Climate Commitment Act.
3. Reconsidering and funding high impact recommendations from previous years that remain unfunded, but remain critical to addressing service gaps, enhancing existing programs, and strengthening neighborhood-level resilience. The PPP Committee will consider which recommendations to uplift, given the current context and conditions.
4. Advancing strategic, low-cost projects including waste energy recovery in Seattle's existing infrastructure and risk and impact of extreme weather on mechanical infrastructure in buildings.

Matt Remle shared information about the latest Environmental Justice (EJ) Fund grantees and urged the Board to look into the work being funded on OSE's new blog. The EJ Fund is a long-standing priority for the Board, and is annually uplifted in the Board's budget recommendations.

POLICY, PROJECTS, AND PROGRAMS (PPP) COMMITTEE UPDATES

Leah Wood and **Jamie Stroble** shared PPP Committee updates including:

- A draft shared criteria for prioritizing and categorizing budget recommendations was created from a review of numerous documents and past criteria. The criteria includes building decarbonization & energy efficiency, clean & equitable transportation, climate resilience & public health, workforce development & economic inclusion. The criteria will be used to evaluate and put forward recommendations by the Board.
- Opportunities for Board members to be a part of the recommendation development process either at the Board retreat or optional PPP Committee office hours.
- Goal to share Climate Action Plan recommendations with City Staff in March and adopt the Budget recommendations in April.

John Sanchez shared updates on the Mechanical Insulation Energy Assessment, a first of its kind in Seattle. Using the Seattle Energy Benchmark to identify buildings with high energy use intensity (EUI), the Municipal Decarbonization Plan, and meeting with City Leadership, Seattle Center was selected for a mechanical insulation assessment. The assessment team utilized thermal imaging cameras to assess the Armoy and Central Utilities Plant, which provides heating and cooling to approximately 15 buildings using natural gas. The team hopes to complete a report soon that can be shared with the Board and City officials to highlight a possible low-cost, strategic option to meet building emission goals and increase green jobs.

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

John Sanchez moved to adjourn the meeting. **Nancy Huizar** seconded. **The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 pm. Unanimous approval.**