

## Levy to Move Seattle Oversight Committee Meeting

[Levy Oversight Committee bylaws – adopted April 2017](#)

[Move Seattle Levy legislation, approved June 29, 2015](#)

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 / 5:00 – 7:00 PM

**Co-chairs:** Inga Manskopf, Kevin Werner

**Location:** Video Conference, in-person at City Hall

**Members Present:**, Inga Manskopf, Sam Ferrara, Rachel Ben-Shmuel, Geri Poor (Freight Board), Jessica Nguyen, Dennis Gathard, Tyler Blackwell, Alex Bejaran Estevez, Clara Cantor, Saroja Reddy (City Budget Office), Councilmember Alex Pedersen (City Council), Kevin Werner, Lisa Bogardus

**Members Absent:** Natasha Riveron (Pedestrian Board), Chris Miller (Transit Board)

**Guests:** Elsa Tibbits, Gerard Green, Joanna Valencia, Ben Hansen, Meghan Shephard, Margo Iñiguez Dawes, Kris Castleman, Serena Lehman, Kalen Carney, Katie Olsen, Brian Sperry, Caryn Walline (all SDOT), Hannah Thoreson, Ryan Packer (The Urbanist), Riley (member of the public)

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** 5:00PM

### Welcome and roll call

Katie O.: Conducted roll call for committee members and introduced City staff.

### Public Comment

Kevin W.: Asked if anyone wanted to give public comment. No public comment.

### Agenda item #1: Arterial Asphalt and Concrete Program

Elsa T: Provided an [overview of the Arterial Asphalt and Concrete program](#). This program is on track to repave up to 180 lane miles in accordance with the Levy ordinance. This includes pavement improvements on several of the 7 transit corridors that are part of the Levy program such as Delridge Way SW and Madison St. The AAC program focuses on preservation, mainly through asphalt mill and overlay improvements, to extend the life of the street 10 to 20 years. These paving projects are often the vehicle for delivering complete streets elements more efficiently. This program also delivers reconstruction projects, which are more costly, but some streets are so busy and deteriorated that they need to be rebuilt. These projects often use concrete instead of asphalt and as a result can last 50 years or more.

Alex P.: I appreciate you being up front about the paving needs and effects of heavy loaded vehicles like buses on our streets, as well as how this work benefits cyclists.

Rachel B.: Can you explain a higher Pavement Condition Index (PCI) in underserved areas and the multicolor graph in your briefing?

Ben H.: The PCI is the pavement condition index. A PCI rating between 0 and 100 is assigned to each street to characterize the pavement condition of the street. This was the main metric used to base our equity analysis in the beginning of the Levy. We found the pavement condition in underserved areas was slightly better than other areas. In spite of this, we have completed a large number of projects in underserved areas as part of this Levy. Margo is going to share some information on how we will be using the Race and Social Equity Index to facilitate prioritizing future work.

Kevin W.: What have we learned from this Levy that we can apply to the next Levy? Is there any data from the last five years that can be added to the 2018 data? Have these PCI ratios been compared to other cities?

Ben H.: We have an update of our pavement condition assessments in progress now. There's a \$1.4B backlog in major paving projects that are needed. The Levy provided \$250M and we have been able to add to that some grant funding but that amount does not address the need. The overall pavement condition of our streets would benefit from greater investment.

Alex P.: How do you account for pavement spending in the budget when you combine with other elements as part of larger projects on corridors?

Ben H.: When you look at the budget for arterial maintenance programs, the majority of the funds goes to paving. These programs partner with other larger projects and funding from those other project budgets pay for the non-paving elements.

Gerri P.: The East Marginal Way corridor is getting rebuilt to heavy haul standards.

Ben H.: This project will also create separation from vehicles and cyclists.

Rachel B.: Who decides the Levy funding amount for paving?

Meghan S.: It's an iterative process of assessing paving needs, working with the communities, and leveraging other fund sources as opportunities arise.

Dennis G.: Does the City calculate the rate of pavement deterioration each year?

Ben H.: Yes, we model pavement deterioration and need over time. In 2013, our model showed that we needed \$67M/year to stabilize pavement conditions, and \$130M/year to significantly improve the pavement conditions.

## **Agenda item #2: Transportation Funding Plan**

Serena L.: Provided an introduction to the briefing on [the Seattle Transportation Funding Plan](#) that included a review of the Levy to Move Seattle accomplishments. This is the city's second transportation Levy. This Levy funded about 1/3 of SDOT's capital improvement budget in 2023.

This Levy funds safe routes, maintenance and repair, and congestion relief improvements. We have a variety of lessons learned that we are carrying into our next funding plan.

Hannah T.: For the Bridge Seismic program, the Fremont and Ballard bridges were too costly to deliver. SDOT replaced these bridges in the workplan with smaller bridges.

Rachel B.: I was also going to mention what Hannah said.

Serena L.: Yes, we need to do better in how we talk about workplan changes in the next transportation funding package. The Levy ordinance is our north star. The Levy ordinance included a goal of delivering seismic reinforcements on 16 bridges and did not specify which bridges.

Inga M.: The original Levy talked a lot about bike projects that ultimately were not built but other bike projects were built. How we talk about workplan changes will be important in the next Levy.

Dennis G.: I have had difficulty in getting the information I have requested from the City.

Kris C.: The team has met with you to provide you access to the information you have requested. We have balanced getting you the information you have requested while addressing security concerns about this sensitive information. We can follow up with you on this further.

Dennis G.: That's OK. I was able to find what I need online.

Francisca S.: Thank you Dennis; we spoke recently and I am glad that you found the information you needed.

Joanna V.: Provided an update on [the Seattle Transportation Plan](#). We are focusing on working with all communities in a variety of ways. Some key takeaways from communities include safety, more affordable transportation options, maintenance, investing in historically underserved areas, and access to transit. This work involves policy, performance measures, program needs and prioritization methods, and funding options.

Kevin W.: Reallocation of right of way space seems like an area of opportunity for the next Levy.

Joanna V.: Curb space management and other uses for street right of way like sidewalk cafes are something we have been incorporating into projects. The pandemic accelerated many of these projects.

Rachel B.: It would be great to have the draft STP for our LOC retreat.

Meghan S.: Presented about SDOT's work to develop a transportation funding plan, and about the current state of transportation funding. This is a chance to develop a plan that achieves our

vision for transportation in Seattle in the future. Our vision is driven by our desire to advance our values such as, safety, equity, and sustainability. We are beginning our engagement this summer, and we will use surveys and input from stakeholders in the fall to refine the funding plan.

Hannah T.: Consider that Council has doubled and tripled some property taxes recently and there may be some property tax voter fatigue. Impact fees may be a better way to go.

**Agenda item 3: Levy Equity Workplan Update**

Margo I D.: Shared an [update on the Levy Equity Workplan](#). The goal of this work is to build on existing practices and center equity in delivery by centralizing and standardizing how we incorporate equity in program prioritization. The need for this work was identified in the COVID-19 Impact Assessment Report.

**Agenda item 4: Committee business**

*September LOC Retreat Preparation*

Kevin W.: Katie circulated some slides on the retreat.

Inga M.: I recommend all committee members are familiar with the 2015 Levy ordinance. We have included a timeline for when we have received Levy presentations.

*Meeting Minutes for Approval*

Kevin W.: Any comments on the minutes?

Rachel B.: I motion to approve.

Inga M.: I second the motion.

Kevin W.: No opposed so the minutes are approved.

**Adjourn: 6:59PM**

**Action items**

Action items below capture tasks from previous meetings. Completed items will remain on action item tracker for one additional set of meeting minutes to capture “complete” status and will then be removed.

Action item	Meeting	Lead	Status	Deadline