



**Special Events Committee Meeting Minutes**

March 12, 2026

Via Microsoft Teams Meeting

Member and Partner Representatives in Attendance:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Noted in Minutes As</b>
Citizen Representatives	N/A	Citizen
Department of Neighborhoods	Najma Sheikh Israel Rios	DON
Finance and Administrative Services Licensing	Toner Eren	FAS
King County Metro Transit	Camilo Penuela Mya Camarillo Tyler Pedersen	METRO
Mayor's Office	TBA	MAYOR
Parks and Recreation	Carl Bergquist	PARKS
Seattle Center	Gretchen Lenihan	SC
Seattle Fire Department	Lt. Jamie Scott Lt. Deborah Williams Chief Melissa Kennedy	FIRE / SFD
Seattle Police Department	Lt. James Sather Sgt. Jason Domholt	SPD
Seattle Police Department/Traffic	Lt. Bryan Clenna Lt. Brandon James Sgt. Dean Ikei	SPD Traffic
Seattle Dept of Construc & Inspect/Structures	Dean Greenleaf	SDCI Structures
Seattle Dept. of Construc & Inspect / Noise Abatement	Anthony (Tony) Jagow	SDCI Noise
Seattle Department of Transportation	Jack Bighorse Hannah Tyo	SDOT
Seattle & King County Public Health	Amanda Styer	SKCPH
Seattle Public Utilities Y	Pat Kaufman	SPU
WA State Liquor & Cannabis Board	Lt Robert Rieder Kalynn Gubbe	WSLCB
Office of Economic Development	N/A	OED
Special Events Office	Kiah Patzkowsky	CHAIR
Special Events Permit Specialist	Alex Mielcarek Sarah Ly	SE

Special Events Permit Admin	Hana Peoples	SE
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Additional Attendees:

- Tuyen Tan (CID BIA); Bonnie Lackey

**Public Comment**

- No public attendees

**Roundtable/Announcements**

- CHAIR: Memorial Day event at Hing Hay Park, requesting a 21-gun salute. Would we allow this in parks jurisdiction or on sidewalks/curbs?
- SPD: Could be alarming to the neighborhood so we would need to notify the neighborhood.
- PARKS: SPD needs to be notified when they expect to have the salute, but Parks are fine with this event.
- SPD: We would also need to notify radio and look at CAP rounds, which is powder.
- CHAIR: SEO and Parks can work together with that organizer to share with them the requirements. Is it allowed in the park, or would it still need to be on sidewalks outside of park property?
- PARKS: I need to look deeper into it.
- CHAIR: Sure, we can discuss offline.
- SPD: Is this an event where SPD is expected to be present? We should have some sort of SPD presence because of the shooting noises in the neighborhood.
- CHAIR: Will look into whether SPD is historically involved in event. It will be Memorial Day weekend. If there are SPD resources available, it is a wise idea to have them there.
- PARKS: They will be in full military garb. If you see it, you can see what is going on but if you can only hear it, people will be alarmed.
- SPD: This will be West Precinct detail.
- CHAIR: Another question I have is: are there any requirements around handing out leaflets in Seattle? This would be for wayfinding for restaurants, shops, transit, waste management. An organizer asked about this in the CID and Stadium area.
- SC: I would be cognizant whether this is a sponsored activity (marketing) or not.
- CHAIR: This is follow-up that I am already doing. Also, do you need a business license to do this?
- SDOT: The question is if its free speech or marketing?
- CHAIR: We will do some digging and circle back when we have more information.
- CHAIR: Next question: events on the top floor of a parking garage on Columbia. What sort of things do we need to consider? Height requirements, safety etc.
- SC: The rooftop at Mercer, events have been closer to the center of the roof level so not much driving people to the edge.
- FIRE: The captain brought this up, we have requirements in place for non-conforming locations/venues, only one temporary public assembly per quarter. They would then apply alongside SDCI for change of use for that venue or space. This might apply to this, but I would need to look at the application for certainty.

**Review Previous Meeting Minutes**

- CHAIR: Do we have a quorum?

- SE: Yes

### **Meeting Minute Approval**

*Vote to approve **February** minutes postponed to April meeting as they were not shared with SEC.*

### **Special Event Expected/Active Application Overview for World Cup Window**

- CHAIR: There are already a few applications in progress that are specific to the World Cup. Fan celebrations will be a distributed model, with watch parties at the Waterfront, Seattle Center, Pacific Place, and Boxyard/Victory Hall. We expect activations at Westlake Park.
- CHAIR: Marches to the Match we have discussed at subcommittee meetings. We expect to receive an application at the end of the month to discuss those impacts to Alaskan Way.
- SDCl: WorldStunt asked about a temporary structure permit. I don't think they need one, if it's just in the street between Pike & Pine. I didn't really see a site plan.
- CHAIR: Thank you. It's in the Eproval pipeline so we will officially take a look.
- SC: Uptown Arts & Culture Coalition will likely be an applicant.
- CHAIR: Thank you for that notice. Alex is working on a calendar that will include attendance estimates, permitting authorities, ticketed or not, & alcohol service or not for events in June & July.
- CHAIR: Installations around Lumen Field begins on March 17.
- SDCl: SDCl is working on a temporary structure permit beginning on March 17. We are looking at ways to have this in place for longer than four weeks as it is a repeated activation, allowed once per quarter.
- CHAIR: We also have a meeting later today with the Convention Center.
- FIRE: For the Convention Center, do you have a location?
- CHAIR: It is an outdoors watch party structure.
- LCB: With Iran pulling out of the game, is there any update on the schedule?
- CHAIR: Per news sources, if Iran does not participate in the competition, FIFA has the authority to decide to continue the group with the remaining teams or add another team. It is all TBD.
- SC: This has to be handled by FIFA, and it will then be trickled down to LOC.
- CHAIR: There are a lot of rumors and things are moving fast. Let's be careful with the information we are hearing.
- SC: I would like to flag for the committee, we are continuing to book events as per usual, we will be working hard to make sure that any applications for your individual departments get to you well advance.

### **CID Block Party**

- CHAIR: CID Block Party is historically in August, this year shifting to June 18.
- EVENT: Hello, I am Tuyen, I am the new Executive Director of the CIDBA. Previously, the Block Party occurred underneath the freeway on King St and also the Interim parking lot, intend to move to 5th Ave south of Jackson for 2026.
- EVENT: Sound Transit proposed to us to have an activation on top of the Chinatown International Station during the Club World Cup. Vision was to have multiple booths so people would linger and help with crowd congestion. We were only able to do two booths at the time and a DJ, along with a virtual scavenger hunt. We weren't able to capture a lot of people as people beelined to the stadium, but people stopped by for free waters and ice cream and other happenings. Considering different strategies to make people linger for World Cup. We are collaborating with Wing Luke Museum to explore changing the location to 5th Ave. So, when

fans exit the escalators at the station, they will see lively activity and avoid impacting residents and medical clinics further east into the CID.

- EVENT: The idea for the CID Kickoff is closing the streets from Jackson to Lane St at 6:00am. No selling of alcohol. Event opening at 12:00p and event ending at 9pm and 11p street reopening. Events are still being confirmed but it will not include a watch party. There will be food walks and a mahjong social. Considering some vendors inside Union Station.
- EVENT: We are still working on maps for the stage and where bathrooms will be placed. We are also working on performances and organizing a Dim Sum eating world record.
- SDOT: I have concerns about it being on a Thursday and it being the day before a major World Cup Game. We will see an abnormal influx of people, and many reroutes for Metro.
- CHAIR: Is your concern more in line with Metro or with Traffic?
- SDOT: Both. We are encouraging people to use mass transit. If we are changing around these reroutes it will confuse riders. The closing of a major arterial and SPD support is also a worry.
- CHAIR: Thank you for addressing these concerns. We will address SPD concerns later.
- LCB: I heard you say there were no plans for alcohol service or businesses trying to activate a libation zone. If anyone is trying to apply for these applications, please let them know to get them in ASAP.
- KCM: 5th Ave is the only way our trolley coaches get in and out of Downtown. There is no other alternative. We cannot motorize our fleet on a weekday. With that, there is trolley wire all along 5th. We have concerns and want you to get in touch with our trolley teams. It's not a game day but closing down these trolley lines is a big concern.
- FIRE: We have the same concerns with road closures and accessibility to get to buildings along this route. We need a bigger sit-down meeting to mitigate safety problems.
- SDCI: I am working with stages on private property; we can discuss separately about stage permitting once you have a better idea of programming and performances.
- SKCPH: If there are any food booths operating, please make sure booths get food permits. We also notice that restaurants will prepare food inside and bring it out, they will still need a permit. Food vendors can contact our office with any questions.
- FAS: Do we have a vendor/supplier count? Are we looking at 25+?
- EVENT: Yes.
- FAS: Great, you can apply for the usual trade show application and add a vendor list on Eproval.
- PARKS: If you are looking to use Hing Hay, the park is getting many requests so get your application in ASAP.
- SC: I want to note, shoulder days (non-match days) there is a need for places with activations to give visitors things to do. I think there is a real benefit to have this event and a great way to highlight the neighborhood.
- SPU: A quick reminder on food service and requirements around recycling and compostable packaging. Let me know if you have any additional questions.
- CHAIR: I am hearing generally positive feedback on this event outside of operational and transit related concerns.
- SPD: As far as using the plaza above the light rail station. Is that King County property?
- EVENT: When we did the Club World Cup Activation, it was Sound Transit who helped us. I know there is a weight limit to the plaza as well.
- SPD: Maybe potential for more activation on the plaza if 5th Ave is not available?
- CHAIR: How feasible would it be to shift to King St and/or Weller, east of 5th, and then people cross 5th to get to the plaza.

- EVENT: If I were to pivot from 5th Ave, it would be for 7th. I would also need to look at garage impact.
- SDOT: I have a question. Where is the adjacent event?
- CHAIR: For Jam Fest it is in the alleys. Also wonder if Hing Hay could be a connecting point?
- SDOT: Is there a way we could instead run East West instead? Be east of 5th.
- EVENT: I will look into it and get back to you with new plans.
- CHAIR: For Metro, how much impact is there to Metro and for the sake of closing the loop on Weekends. Any flexibility?
- KCM: Let me ask my trolley team because we are running trolleys all of FIFA. Normally on weekends, we are able to motorize our fleet, but I need to reach out to them first.
- CHAIR: We will get the information from Metro. Maybe we could look into a weekend date and with the big match happening on the next day along with Juneteenth holiday.
- EVENT: We want to make this happen and make the event run smoothly and be less impactful for people in this neighborhood.
- CHAIR: Feel free while you're working on your application, feel free to email us with questions.
- EVENT: Thank you.

#### **World Cup Seattle Match Day Street Use Moratorium Vote**

- CHAIR: For moratoriums, on Seattle match days only, we proposed closures for all street use. Case by case discussion for parking lane, sidewalk and curb usage. Leaving flexibility for events related to FIFA or the LOC.
- SDOT: We want to make sure that FIFA affiliated events are prioritized, and non-FIFA events do not impede this.
- CHAIR: Free speech events are always an exception. We will very likely get applications for these events and want to make sure people have the ability to hold these activities.
- SDOT: We understand, we just want to be clear that we will not permit these events and they will be unauthorized.
- CHAIR: Street closures in Pioneer Square/around the Stadium are encompassed in an addendum on the annual operating plan with Lumen Field to close these streets on match days. Lumen has added language to allow for permitted special events and public space SDOT events within the closure to address "permit over permit" layering scenario.
- SDOT: Great point. That is correct.
- CHAIR: Occidental Mall application is being reviewed now, will need adjustments. Would we consider this moratorium with this one?
- SDOT: That needs to be addressed with higher ups. SDOT has addressed the currently submitted application. This street is a part of moratorium, and it is an SDOT right of way street.
- CHAIR: Understood.
- SDOT: For the purposes of voting, if you agree or don't, please vote accordingly.
- CHAIR: SDOT, how do you define the street portion of Occidental Mall?
- SDOT: I would need to go into the maps.
- CHAIR: This continues to be a point of contention.
- CHAIR: For North-South right of ways, we have this map for closing travel lanes on Alaskan Way, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th avenues.
- SDOT: This is for travel lane only closures. FIFA/LOC-produced events will be excluded from moratorium.
- PARKS: I wanted to confirm this restriction is about closing down roads?

- SDOT: This is travel lanes only. Parking/curb use is as usual for applications.
- SC: We need to be consistent. We want to make sure we are serving the good of people and making sure people are safe. We can make exceptions as a committee.
- CHAIR: The whole intent for this is mobility. Mobility can be maintained still; we can document this occurrence and state why we are making the decision.
- CHAIR: Motion to vote on this.
- SDCI: Second the motion.

**Moratorium Vote**

- Votes: All in favor, none opposed, OED abstained.
- APPROVED

**Review Recent Events**

Name of Event	Permit No	Event Start Date
<p><b>Seattle Cascades Northwest Cup</b>            FIRE: There were two people in this area, just me and a server. Very small crowd. They are going to have a league season with the same people, and we noted a few things we want to work with the promoter on. There was nobody in the alcohol service area.            CHAIR: Some of these events are unique whereas they are a part of a tournament, event dates depend on match results.</p>	S2610372	2/28
<p><b>Skechers Hot Chocolate Run Seattle</b>            SPD: This event went well.            SC: I just want to thank SPD for helping with 5th Ave access assistance for our staff.            FIRE: We had 4 inflatables and SDCI said they would look at start/finish. These inflatables were not permitted by us.            SDCI: If it's not in the street it's not a big deal, but they are showing a large, ballasted end for each side of the start/finish inflatable. Would love to get a heads-up next time on the location of the inflatable and plan sooner than later.            SC: If we could get more info on what we should look for in advance when it shifts from inflatables to a temporary structure.            SDCI: If they're using simple ballasts. We want to ask about engineered structures assembled.            SC: This is about the height of the structures?            SDCI: More about structures that are built on site with an engineer's drawings and have structural components. We can talk offline.            METRO: This is the second year that this run has done this route in my recent memory. In the future, could we</p>	S2610365	3/1

<p>have future access to Denny and 3rd? That is a common route for buses and its blocks away from runners.</p> <p>SDOT: I will look at the Traffic Control Plan. We shut off some of those streets because people don't have an out.</p> <p>METRO: The NB Lane is bus only. Just a note.</p> <p>SDOT: I will look into that for next year's planning.</p>		
<p><b>Lunar New Year Celebration</b></p> <p>DON: Was there a construction exemption made for the moratorium on this date? It usually happens before and after the lunar new year. Some people observed construction.</p> <p>SDOT: I am not familiar with that. I will be in touch with our street use teams.</p> <p>DON: If there is an official stance, we just want that information to be shared with us. It was on 5th south of King St.</p>	S2610391	3/7
<p><b>Seattle Women's March</b></p> <p>CHAIR: The march portion was not permitted but the gathering at Cal Anderson was.</p> <p>SPD: They did have motorcycle and bicycle brigade. I think they are expanding their reach into motorcycle clubs. There were about 300 people marching at most. No major issues except they changed the route that they submitted to us.</p> <p>PARKS: For SPD, did they have any vehicles or portable restrooms in the park?</p> <p>SPD: We don't know.</p>	#1518	3/8

#### Anything Else

- CHAIR: Please let us know if there are any particular events we need to discuss during future meetings. I am planning to start Pride planning in April.
- SC: For the No Kings Rally on March 28, organizer has declined to submit a special event application. Are you aware of any coordination calls surrounding this event?
- CHAIR: I will reach back out to organizers. Seattle Indivisible has an application for park use, but they also need to submit a special events application because of their size. Are they working with Seattle Center for a landing spot?
- SC: Yes, they have licensed for tabling at their landing spot. Will OEM be involved?
- SPD: They do intend to march, they are thinking from 70k-100k people.
- SC: There is an afternoon UFC event at Climate Pledge too.
- PARKS: The focus of the rally is supposed to be in the Bobby Morris Playfield section of the park. They may march out of Pike/Pine.
- CHAIR: I want to consider what our usual meeting dates are during the World Cup period, understanding scheduling difficulties during this time. I will ask about this during our April agenda.

ADJOURNED

