

SEATTLE RENTERS' COMMISSION (SRC) SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2025

10:00-11:00 AM

Webex link and Seattle City Hall, Room 370

Purpose: The Seattle Renters' Commission (SRC) was established to represent the interest of renters located in Seattle, to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on public policy matters of importance to renters citywide.

Commissioners in attendance Kate Rubin, Lydia Felty, Julissa Sanchez, Dan Godfrey

Commissioners not in attendance Atif Osami

People with pending appointments in attendance: Julia Payne

Staff: Laura Jenkins

Quorum: Yes

Public Comment: Yes

(Transcriber's note: These minutes provide a summary of key points discussed. A full recording is available upon request.)

Welcome & Acknowledgments

- Land and labor acknowledgments led by Commissioner Felty.

Approval of Agenda and Public Comment

- The agenda for January 27, 2025 meeting was approved with additions.

Discuss Response to Pending Seattle Renters' Commission Appointments

- All appointments are about to expire at the end of February. Councilmember Moore, the Chair of the Housing & Human Services Committee, has not moved forward appointment packets for a vote that have been submitted (some over a year ago).
- The commission discussed ideas about how they would like to respond to the lack of updates/movement related to new appointments and reappointments.
- The commission voted for and approved a larger action to try to fill Renters' Commission appointments. The main idea floated around is to attend a City Council meeting in person to provide public comment and invite partner commissions to do so as well.
- The commission voted for and approved that, at the point it may be necessary, the chairs can write a letter about the Renters' Commission advocating for its current structure, specifically renters only membership, or against creation of a new commission with different membership requirements and send it to Council.
- Moving forward, Staff Liaison Jenkins will share all letters from the commission to the Renters' Commission email list of 2,500 people.

Proposition 1A - February 11, 2025 Special Election

- Seattle Renters Commission voted for and approved that they will endorse Proposition 1A (for the February 11th Special Election) and communicate that in various channels including via social media and a public endorsement opportunity (as available).

Rent Stabilization – State Bill

- The commission voted and approved support for rent stabilization as defined in the Housing Alliance's call to action. The commission voted to support this by either/both writing a letter at the point it's necessary and signing on publicly to show they are in support.
 - Commissioner Rubin will share on social media.

Future Renters' Commission Meeting Scheduling

- Commissioners confirmed a special meeting (to discuss the potential renters' listening session) on Friday, January 31st from 4-5pm works for them.

Meeting Adjournment Time: 11:00 AM

Decisions and Votes made during this meeting:

1. The commission voted for and approved that, at the point it may be necessary, the chairs can write a letter about the Renters' Commission advocating for its current structure, specifically renters only membership, or against creation of a new commission with different membership requirements and send it to Council.
2. The commission voted approve a larger action to try to fill Renters' Commission appointments. The main idea floated around is to attend a City Council meeting in person to provide public comment and invite partner commissions to do so as well.
3. Seattle Renters Commission voted for and approved that they will endorse Proposition 1A (for the February 11th Special Election) and communicate that in various channels including via social media and a public endorsement opportunity (as available).
4. The commission voted and approved support for rent stabilization as defined in the Housing Alliance's call to action. The commission voted to support this by either/both writing a letter at the point it's necessary and signing on publicly to show they are in support.