

## **RESIDENTS RATE PRIORITIES FOR THE 2015-16 CITY BUDGET**

In May, Seattle City Councilmembers visited Seattle neighborhoods to ask local residents about their city spending priorities. The four Community Budget Workshops were held in the Columbia City, Central District, University District, and Delridge neighborhoods on May 6, 7, 8, and 14 respectively.

### **May 2014 Community Budget Workshops**

#### **Columbia City**

- **Date:** Tues., May 6, 2014
- **Focus:** Human Services/Housing/Economic Development
- **Location:** Rainier Community Center

#### **Central District**

- **Date:** Wed., May 7, 2014
- **Focus:** Transportation/Land Use
- **Location:** Garfield Community Center

#### **University District**

- **Date:** Thurs., May 8, 2014
- **Focus:** Parks/Neighborhoods/Libraries/Arts
- **Location:** University Heights Community Center

#### **Delridge**

- **Date:** Wed., May 14, 2014
- **Focus:** Public Safety/Civil Rights
- **Location:** Youngstown Cultural Arts Center

The workshops drew roughly 70 attendees, many of whom rated city budget priorities through a questionnaire. At the first two workshops, residents were asked to rate the priority of a full list of city departments and services ranging human services and housing to the arts and police. The third workshop questionnaire covered parks, libraries, arts, and neighborhoods. The final workshop featured a questionnaire about police, fire department services, and civil rights. Attendees at all workshops were also asked to share the two most important funding needs for their neighborhoods.

Councilmember Nick Licata, who chairs the City Council Budget Committee, thanks attendees for sharing their priorities for the 2015-16 City Budget. Responses to the questionnaires are summarized below.

## HUMAN SERVICES – May 6 & 7 Questionnaires

	Number of Responses	Average Priority (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Homelessness	45	8.80
Public Health	44	8.07
Youth Services	44	7.68
Aging and Disability	45	7.60
Early Learning/Family	44	7.30
Domestic Violence	44	6.82
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in early learning</li> <li>• Save city for future years</li> <li>• All are important and can't decide</li> <li>• Homelessness is an important issue</li> <li>• Adult shelters</li> <li>• Funding for sexually exploited youth</li> <li>• Continuing education</li> <li>• Homeless</li> <li>• Yearlong shelter</li> <li>• Funding for encampments</li> <li>• More services to Lake City &amp; Bitter Lake</li> <li>• Real cost-of-living funding</li> <li>• \$15 minimum wage</li> <li>• Encampments - share/wheels, tent cities</li> <li>• Debting immediately vs long term planning</li> <li>• OED</li> <li>• Job readiness</li> <li>• Transportation assistance</li> <li>• Behavioral health</li> <li>• City livability</li> <li>• Mental health Issues</li> <li>• All of the above</li> <li>• Job programs for 18-25 year olds without college degrees</li> <li>• Vocational focus programs</li> <li>• Funding for encampments</li> <li>• Homeless services and prevention</li> <li>• Specific LGBT youth shelter options</li> <li>• Substance abuse services needed</li> <li>• Funding for the 24 hr. crisis line</li> <li>• Programs that address youth and young adult homelessness</li> <li>• Low income housing</li> </ul>		

### HOUSING – May 6 & 7 Questionnaires

	Number of Responses	Average Priority (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Extremely Low-Incoming Housing <i>Under \$18,500/year income</i>	45	8.60
Very-Low Income Housing <i>Under \$31,000/income</i>	45	7.82
Low-Income Housing <i>Under \$44.750/year income</i>	45	6.89
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wants the city to make room for people of all incomes</li><li>• Put resources where they are needed most</li><li>• Adult shelters</li><li>• Market rate housing</li><li>• Low income housing</li><li>• Affordable housing for low-moderate income population</li><li>• Need market rate housing-affordable housing</li><li>• Rent control</li><li>• Rent control</li><li>• Tired of city subsidizing development at 80% AMI</li><li>• Poorer folks having to compete for affordable units</li><li>• Shelter funding for youth and young adults</li><li>• Families with children should be given priority.</li></ul>		

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – May 6 & 7 Questionnaires

	Number of Responses	Average Priority (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Job Creation	46	7.74
Support for Start-Ups	45	6.36
Business Services	45	5.82
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency survival shelter</li><li>• Encampments</li><li>• Safe parking</li><li>• Mental health services</li><li>• Community service officers/outreach</li><li>• Business education/outreach to comply with ordinance</li><li>• Create local jobs</li><li>• Youth Build</li></ul>		

- Job + education is important
- What does "business services" mean?
- Workforce development and training especially for youth / young adults
- Community driven economic development
- Rainier Beach food innovation district
- Small businesses efforts to pay the increase in minimum wage
- Tax reform
- Boeing tax breaks
- Small business grants to help deploy minimum wage
- New business start ups
- WA CASH model of peer-review loans
- Jobs for youth
- Jobs for homeless youth
- Renew \$250,000 allocation for youth care
- Youth build employment program
- Innovation; Pop up greenways (long-term temporary); new technology (i.e. materials for transportation)
- Industry has special needs to operate and these needs are ignored by recreational groups. Also laws are ignored and broken.
- Environmental Recovery!! Compensate for health impacts and Duwamish communities for generations of no response to their problems.

#### **TRANSPORTATION – May 6 & 7 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Bus Service Hours	47	7.85
Street Maintenance	47	7.04
Bridge Maintenance	47	6.67
Pedestrian Improvements	47	6.50
Freight Mobility	47	5.79
Waterfront	46	4.96
Bike Lanes/Tracks	47	4.39
New Streetcar Lines	47	4.19
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure they work together &amp; connected</li> <li>• Waterfront—HAH!</li> <li>• Connect streetcar and bus lines</li> <li>• Licensed bikes</li> <li>• Bus routes not being cut</li> <li>• Buses can more easily go where transit is needed. Waterfront public access is very important (Greenlake is model).</li> </ul>		

- Yes, regarding pedestrian improvements--please do not count things like crosswalks as a pedestrian improvement. The crosswalks exist solely to mitigate risk posed by cars. The funding should count as money spent on cars not pedestrians.
- Increase revenue with more red light, speed, and school zone enforcement cameras.
- Reprioritize funding toward achieving zero traffic deaths or serious injuries in car v. bike/ped collisions.
- Fund the BMP implementation at \$30M/year
- Pedestrian-scale street lighting
- Would like to see more general funds allotted to painting/repainting crosswalks, safety improvements at intersections, crossing the street in general
- I'm concerned that someone will die before a crosswalk is installed at 12th & Holden.
- I don't know what you consider waterfront as it is not defined. Therefore, I cannot comment.
- Bikes receive most of the transportation budget. They represent 4% of the commuters. 96% of Seattle residents are shortchanged by this.
- Public bus service should be funded as a priority.
- Active transportation encouragement and education
- "Complete streets", road diets, sidewalk maintenance, light rail to Ballard and West Seattle

#### **LAND USE / PLANNING – May 6 & 7 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Efficiency of Permitting	46	6.32
Transit-Oriented Development Planning	45	6.26
Community Outreach for Proposed Zoning Changes	47	5.82
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforce land-use codes</li> <li>• Nuisance Abatement</li> <li>• Open space and pedestrian access to stations</li> <li>• Ask Ballard what it was like in the 1980s...[Illegible]</li> <li>• Transit first</li> <li>• Ped/bike access to transit</li> </ul>		

#### **PARKS – May 6, 7 & 8 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
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Community Centers	48	8.10
Facility Maintenance	47	7.83
Cleaning, Landscaping/Tree Planting	47	7.34
Recreation Programs	47	6.60
Swimming Pools	46	5.87
Land Acquisition	47	4.87
Boating Ramps/Launches	48	4.50
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add more properties</li> <li>• Better maintenance</li> <li>• Waterfront</li> <li>• A sustained, permanent funding commitment to parks</li> <li>• Programming for LGBT youth, particularly youth of color</li> <li>• Install doors in bathrooms at parks</li> <li>• Tree planting</li> <li>• My community, Lake City, does not have a community center and desperately needs one.</li> <li>• Cultural--Northwest Native Carving and Canoe Center at SLU Park so United Indians can relocate human services to SLU b/c transit access--Duwamish can host Canoe Journey funded by Opp. Fund.</li> <li>• Safe access to parks--bikes, peds, ADA</li> <li>• Maintenance, affordable access to programs</li> </ul>		

#### **LIBRARIES – May 6, 7 & 8 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Library Hours	47	7.98
Computers in Libraries	48	7.40
Building Maintenance	47	7.32
Collections (Books, etc.)	47	7.28
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Libraries are funded with property taxes. What do you fund?</li> </ul>		

**ARTS – May 6, 7 & 8 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Cultural Space	48	6.33
Arts Education	48	6.21
Neighborhood Arts	48	6.04
Arts & Cultural Organizations	48	5.81
Employment in the Arts	48	5.35
Individual Artists	48	4.69
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is surprising art spending surpasses human services</li> <li>• It is nice to have an art program but I believe the basics should be funded first and then fund the arts program.</li> <li>• Play streets.</li> </ul>		

**NEIGHBORHOODS – May 6, 7 & 8 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Youth Violence Prevention	48	7.77
Neighborhood Matching Fund	48	7.48
P-Patches	49	6.39
Neighborhood Districts	48	6.06
Historic Preservation	49	5.80
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City dept. coordination by neighborhood</li> <li>• Youth violence prevention should be focused on black youth who are most impacted by violence, guns</li> <li>• Youth violence prevention not a one-fix issue</li> <li>• Neighborhood greenways--10</li> <li>• Industry does not have a neighborhood group. Industry is always ignored.</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• No more development on green belts.</li> <li>• More P-patches to offset loss of green space due to development. When houses go so do the flowers and the trees.</li> </ul>		

**POLICE – May 6, 7 & 14 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Implement Dept. of Justice Settlement	58	7.93
Increase Neighborhood Policing	58	7.55
Civilian Police Oversight	57	7.35
Traffic Enforcement	58	5.84
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community outreach</li> <li>• Relationship building</li> <li>• Job creation and training programs</li> <li>• Diversion programs like LEAD and community investment</li> <li>• Neighborhood safety/public safety</li> <li>• LGBT policies for crime victims</li> <li>• Data collection for sexual orientation and gender identity</li> <li>• Privacy impacts of technology</li> <li>• Build &amp; maintain community policing</li> <li>• Supports Community Police Commission; Does City of Seattle fund/support the JTTF?</li> <li>• Increase patrols in neighborhoods; start up 'beat cops' so community can know their police officers better; Increase community relation officers</li> <li>• Expand LEAD programs; special events with many police officers seem over funded; HLS is not for local police responsibilities</li> <li>• CPT - Stable teams; officer performance evals as part of NPP;</li> <li>• Cont. cultural competency trainings for SPD</li> <li>• Community Police Team (8); Block water support (8); CERT (9)</li> <li>• More LEAD programs</li> <li>• Safe routes to schools</li> <li>• Design roads for safety--2 lanes max (one in each direction and turn lane) on all residential arterials then you won't need to invest so much in public safety and pollution will be reduced. Acidification of the Puget Sound will be reduced.</li> <li>• Could the police please be less unfriendly? Not everyone is against you.</li> </ul>		

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – May 6, 7 & 14 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Fire Prevention/Suppression and Emergency Medical Services	57	8.23



<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical services</li> <li>• Annual curbside pickup for free</li> <li>• Clean-up/prevention</li> <li>• Training for Fire/EMS on serving LGBT communities</li> <li>• Thankful for their help with their 92 yr. old dad</li> </ul>	

**CIVIL RIGHTS – May 6, 7 & 14 Questionnaires**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Average Priority</b> (10 = highest priority, 1 = lowest)
Employment/Housing Discrimination	56	8.07
Paid Sick Leave Enforcement	57	6.84
<b>Additional Comments/Priorities (Summarized)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiatives for disabled people</li> <li>• Wage enforcement</li> <li>• Supports proposal regarding privacy/data review process</li> <li>• What are the opportunities for people of color?</li> <li>• Strengthen Wage; enact \$15/hr. proposal; 'Ban the Box'</li> <li>• New programs and equipment for privacy is a high priority that needs assessment; Whistle blowers should be encouraged</li> <li>• Sidewalks near Highland Park Elementary; Traffic signal on Holden</li> <li>• Gender Equality Initiative</li> <li>• Here to talk privacy, thanks for listening</li> <li>• Minimum wage / wage theft enforcement</li> <li>• Duwamish</li> <li>• Grants are not mentioned. This is a sum of money whose source is not disclosed but available to any association or individual by application to the department offering the "grant money." Some employee, without public..[Illegible], without City Council action, decides to give the money, and a project is then carried out even if it breaks the law. This needs legislation to control the projects given the money.</li> <li>• Duwamish opportunity fund needs to be funded beyond the first year (the first year was just a down payment).</li> </ul>		

## NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITIES – All Questionnaires

What neighborhood do you live in?	What are the two most important funding needs in your neighborhood?	
Arbor Heights	Assist community police team	Assist the Office of Civil Rights in building an “equitable” Seattle
Belltown/Downtown	More equitable use of public right of way (for active transportation users)	Public space use (i.e. Bell Street Park)
Bitter Lake	More services to low income youth, families and seniors in Bitterlake and Lake City neighborhoods	
Broadview	Neighborhood policing	Job creation
Broadview / Bitter Lake	Human Services (including affordable Housing)	Sidewalks
Capitol Hill		
Capitol Hill		
Capitol Hill	Low cost housing	
Capitol Hill	Affordable housing	Bike lanes
Central District	Workforce Development	Behavioral Health Services
Central District	Increase housing costs - gentrification	Pave 23 <sup>rd</sup> but do not implement road diet!
Chinatown / Downtown	Homelessness	Housing
Columbia City	Preserving affordable housing	Strong tenants’ rights
Crown Hill	Holman Road	Crossing of 17th at 85th NPSF submitted. Greenway
Delridge / Highland Park (District 1)	Economic development in SE Seattle	Transportation mobility within city / metropolitan area; skill training for young adults / not college

		bound
Downtown	Low income housing	Downtown policing / oversight
Downtown	Homelessness	Age wave
Downtown & U-District	Homelessness among youths & adults	
Green Lake	Parks, parking, community centers, library	
Green Lake	Park maintenance, safe bike lanes and sidewalks – they are in miserable shape	Work out funding sources
Greenwood	Construction project	public safety
High Point	Community Policing	Office of Immigrant + Refugee Affairs: ESL, immigrant and refugee business, supports for imm. & ref. communities, naturalization programs
Highland Park	Buses + Bus safety (Safety on 131)	Community policing officer  Sidewalks
Highland Park, West Seattle	Bus/transit	Gang/crime prevention – community policing
Homeless in King County	Funding for all year homeless shelter	Funding for encampments
International District	Community Activities for Korean residents	Community activities that mingle all residents, cross-culturally
International District	Homeless shelters	
Lake City	Full service community center	Additional park spaces to accommodate accelerated growth as a hub urban village
Lake City	Full-Service Community Center to serve our burgeoning population of youth and children.	Lacking sidewalks, we need to build our greenway network and provide pedestrian infrastructure on arterials

Madison Park	Safe arterial crossings for people walking and biking	
Maple Leaf	Protected bike lanes	neighborhood greenways
Maple Leaf	Pedestrian safety	Community officers  #3 is the emergency preparedness support
Miller Park	Street lighting	sidewalk repairs
Mount Baker	Crime Prevention	Street Maintenance
<i>Not Specified</i>	Low income housing	Job readiness programs
<i>Not Specified</i>	Renew last year's allocations for homeless youth and young adults programs	Include funding for youth & young adult shelter programs in the mayor's budget
Phinney Ridge	My neighborhood is doing pretty well. City can focus on other neighborhoods in need	
Pigeon Point	Infrastructure upgrades	Drainage issues
Queen Anne		
Rainier Beach	Transportation	Affordable housing
Rainier Beach	Job training and placement	Better senior outreach services
Rainier Beach	Community economic development – living wage job training	Small business sustainability for local residents via food innovation district
Rainier Beach	Civilian police oversight	Job creation / training  Thinking creatively for a way to change the regressive tax system at the state level so the city can fund these critical needs.
Ravenna	Transit	Low Income Housing (I am low income but not for the most

		common reasons. I don't know where I will go when my housing is condemned)
Seward Park	Transit	Police
South Park	Duwamish Cleanup	
Southeast Seattle		
University District	Jobs programs for homeless youth	Housing affordability for students
University District	Transit	public safety (crime)
Uptown	Social Services: the homeless problem is severe	Neighborhood policing – it's a dense area; cops shouldn't mainly be in cars, rather on bikes, etc.
Uptown/LQA	Social Services: high volume of homeless folks in doorways	
View Ridge/U-District	Parks	Social Services
Wallingford	Pedestrian safety	local business support
West Seattle - Alki	More transportation options	more street right of way to humans (parklets, bike corrals, bike infrastructure and crossing sidewalk improvements)
West Seattle - Alki	Streets	
West Seattle	Transportation Budget--Major Projects is too vague. This should be broken down	Transportation Grants is too vague and needs to be broken down to give particularity...
West Seattle		
West Seattle - Morgan Junction	Community Policing Teams	Block watch coordinators