

GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD



Seattle
Office of Sustainability
& Environment



MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2025

5:00 – 7:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Emily Pinckney, Rosalund Jenkins, Jamie Stroble, Fatima Kabba, Nancy Huizar, Camille Gipaya, Brittani Cain, Akiksha Chatterji, Matt Remle, Elizabeth Baskerville, Hannah Lindell-Smith, and Leah Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Peter Hasegawa, Stephanie Ung, Rachel Heaton, Nina Olivier, and John Sanchez

GUESTS OSE Staff: Elise Rasmussen, Jazzmin Fragiaco, Ashlyn Gonzalez-Soriano, Gus Williams, and Weston Brinkley

ACTION ITEMS Approval of October Meeting Minutes

MEETING NOTES

Nancy Huizar (GNDOB Executive Committee) facilitated the meeting.

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

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Nancy Huizar started the meeting, reviewed the meeting agenda, and facilitated introductions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VOTE: APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

Matt Remle motioned to approve the minutes. **Emily Pinckney** seconded. **The Board voted to approve the October Meeting Minutes. Unanimous approval.**

STAFF UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jazzmin Fragiaco and **Elise Rasmussen** provided the following updates and announcements from OSE.

- **Jazzmin Fragiaco** provided updates and reminders on:
 - End-of-the-Year Celebration on December 19th, a scheduling survey will go out to gauge availability for the GNDOB Retreat

- Invitation to the City of Seattle's 2025 Boards and Commissions Appreciation Reception on December 5th.
- GNDob Stipends with a submission deadline of December 5th.
- **Elise Rasmussen** provided updates on:
 - The administration transition process over the next few months as a new Mayor and new Councilmembers are sworn in and brought up to speed on City work.
 - Low Carbon Concrete continues to be a priority for the City and the GNDob. The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) will start testing low carbon concrete options and aims to meet with GNDob to provide updates in the future.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Matt Remle** provided an update on the Indigenous-Led Climate Initiative Fund (ILCIF). A program with funding of \$5.4 million aiming to award 6-8 grants ranging between \$500,000 and \$1 million to support climate initiatives led by Tribes and organizations who serve urban Native communities in Seattle. The ILCIF review team has been onboarded and will read grant applications in early December with grant distribution slated to happen in early 2026.
- **Nancy Huizar** provided an update to the Board that the Executive Committee scheduled a meeting with Councilmember Rink regarding the GNDob's response to the Mayor's Proposed Budget. Councilmember Rink stated it was too late to incorporate the GNDob's suggestions but suggested the GNDob meets with Councilmembers prior to Budget season in the future. Nancy also shared that the Executive Committee is scheduling one-on-ones with Board members to discuss member priorities and interests.
- **Emily Pinckney** shared the GNDob monthly meetings will incorporate sharing community events in the future. Emily stated there will be no December meeting and instead the GNDob will have the End of the Year Celebration.

PRESENTATION: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Gus Williams (OSE Climate & Workforce Development Advisor), presented on his work at the City regarding climate and workforce development focused on career pathways and job training, prevailing wage integration and labor standards, community centered program design, and cross-sector partnership and collaboration. **Gus** shared different trainings the City offers and community partners the Climate & Workforce Development program support.

After the presentation Board members asked or shared:

- **Jamie Stroble** asked if there have been conversations about addressing and building workforce capacity beyond the trades.
 - **Gus** responded that those conversations are happening and knows that there are climate and sustainability related jobs that are not necessarily related to the trades. **Gus** shared he, and the colleagues at the City, have changed the terminology they have used to climate workforce to encompass more careers than the trades.

- **Rosalund Jenkins** shared an article about Electrical Pathways work that **Gus** was instrumental in supporting and requested that Board members send interested folks to the Electrical Pathways program for climate career development.
- **Fatima Kabba** asked what outcomes best reflect long term success. And how are you tracking whether participants feel supported after completing the training programs.
 - **Gus** responded to the second question first by sharing there are retention funds built into contracts with trainers to ensure that trainees are getting support for a certain period of time after their training is completed. To the first question, **Gus** said that job progression and access to micro credentialing are two ways long term success is reflected.

Emily Pinckney closed this agenda item out by thanking **Gus** for his time and shared that the Board is looking forward to hearing more in the future.

PRESENTATION: OVERVIEW OF THE CANOPY EQUITY AND RESILIENCE PLAN

Weston Brinkley (OSE Urban Forestry Adviser) presented on the purpose, progress, and timeline of the City's Canopy Equity and Resilience Plan (CERP), and urban forestry planning conducted by the City. CERP was created to address the inequitable distribution of tree canopy in Seattle by growing and maintaining Seattle's tree canopy where it is most needed based off the Racial and Social Equity (RSE) Priority Areas. Weston shared future outreach and engagement opportunities with Board & Commissions, Tribes, other Institutions, and focused sessions with Impacted Communities.

After the presentation Board members asked or shared:

- **Elizabeth Baskerville** asked if there is a potential to work with Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection (SDCI) on requirements for new developers for tree canopy in high priority areas line Chinatown International District.
 - **Weston** responded by sharing that the team recognizes that the high priority areas they identified are places that are faced with challenges of displacement and gentrification and that is something the team is considering as the CERP gets developed.
- **Matt Remle** expressed his thanks for the presentation and shared that he is looking forward to the release of this report.
- **Jamie Stroble** asked if Board members could recommend people for the focus groups.
 - **Weston** shared that he would take the recommendations into consideration and work with partners to assemble focus groups.
- **Fatima Kabba** asked if the boundaries of the priority areas are flexible. Fatima shared that community members may identify needs outside of the mapped priority areas and wondered if those boundaries could be adjusted based on community input.
 - **Weston** shared the initial priority area maps are the first step in identifying where the team may target their efforts. The team is aware that maps do not fully capture the reality of communities and are able to be flexible when it comes to targeted efforts.

- **Fatima** also asked how the City plans to coordinate with other major landowners such as Seattle Public School, Seattle Housing Authority, and private landowners to make sure the work is not siloed.
 - **Weston** shared the Urban Forestry work that is happening in the City is moving toward a more coordinated and collaborative model than in the past. The City is standing up and new program called Foresting Seattle that is foraging partnerships with the Seattle Housing Authority and other like partners to take a different approach to urban trees and foresting.
- **Rosalund Jenkins** asked if investments in tree canopy cover could be focused on low-income housing properties and adjacent public spaces and thereby reducing gentrification pressure. Rosalund shared that the City often uses lagging indicators in mapping tools when trying to understand who lives in which neighborhoods and what their incomes are. Rosalund also asked if additional cooling measures, such as cool pavement installations, are being considered in this plan as a concurrent solution to deal with heat impacts.
 - **Weston** expressed gratitude to Rosalund for pointing out that the team needs to be aware of lagging indicators and that they will keep that in mind as the team updates their analysis.

Emily Pinckney closed this agenda item out by thanking **Weston** for his time and shared that the Board is looking forward to hearing more in the future.

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

Jazzmin Fragiaco instructed GNDOB members to email her any questions they have regarding the presentations, and she will forward them to the presenters for a response.

Emily Pinckney moved to adjourn the meeting. **Elizabeth Baskerville** seconded. **The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7pm. Unanimous approval.**