



# Minutes

## **Indigenous Advisory Council**

Friday, August 11, 2023

12:30 PM PST – 2:30 PM PST

**In-Person Meeting Location:** Seattle City Hall 600 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Seattle, WA 98104  
Room 370

[Instructions for visiting Seattle City Hall \(bus access, parking, & building access\)](#)

**Remote Meeting Location:** WebEx



**Members Present:** Vice Chair Donny Stevenson, Councilmember Jeremy Takala, Megan Castillo, Esther Lucero, Derrick Belgarde, Asia Tail, and Jaci McCormack

**Members Excused:** Councilmember Jay Mills, Councilmember Suzanne Sailto

**Guests:** Eddie Sherman, Against the Current Consulting; Leah Tanner, Native American Women’s Dialogue on Infant Mortality; Jessica Wagner-Juarez, Potlatch Fund; Mike Tulee and Scott Pinkham, United Indians of All Tribes Foundation; Cina Littlebird and Jen Yogi, Northwest Justice Project; and Paula Motta-Molina, Urban Native Education Alliance

**Items**

---

1 **Welcome and Opening Blessing**

---

2 **Approval of the Agenda**

- Approved without changes.

**Approval of the Minutes (July)**

- Approved without changes.
- 

**Welcome and Introductions**

Megan Castillo, Position 4

3 

- Megan was introduced and welcomed to the Indigenous Advisory Council. **5 min**

Megan’s picture and bio have been updated on the Indigenous Advisory Council webpage.

---

**Seattle Urban Native Nonprofits (SUNN) Collaborative**

Introductions and presentation overview from Eddie Sherman

3 

- The SUNN Collaborative brings together 11 Native-led organizations to build collective power and advance the health and well-being of the urban Indian community in Seattle-King County. SUNN is the first collaboration of its kind in King County and represents a renewal and resurgence of unity and collective advocacy on behalf of the Native community. SUNN convenes and strengthens Native-led organizations throughout King County to build collective power through dialog, education, action, and advocacy.
- SUNN Collaborative has identified the following strategic collective advocacy areas: 1) Nurturing Community Engagement, 2) Investing in Youth, 3) Addressing Housing Affordability and Access, 4) Enhance Partnerships with Funders, 5) Invest in Health and Well-being, and 6) Increase Access to Economic Opportunities. SUNN Collaborative is building capacity to advance the strategic priorities through relationship building, strengthening policy capacity, and aligning efforts with the needs of the Native community.
- Group discussion on if/how we can collaborate to elevate collective policy priorities that would positively impact Native communities. SUNN Collaborative is developing a process for setting policy agendas that could be elevate through the IAC and vice versa. Some IAC members participate in the SUNN Collaborative to help cross-reference and identify potential areas of

**30 min**

---



alignment. Francesca will attend SUNN Collaborative Policy Committee meetings and report back to IAC on potential areas of collective advocacy.

---

**4 IAC Graphic Design**

- Members reviewed and discussed logo and banner design options created by Andrea Wilbur-Sigo. Discussions included support for the elements of cedar, hands, and clam basket and recommendations to reduce the number or break out elements into smaller pieces to increase visibility in small formats. Final round of designs anticipated for presentation at the October 2023 meeting. **20 min**

---

**City Budget Updates**

- Presentation and discussion on the Revenue Stabilization Taskforce recommendations and August economic and revenue forecast.
- Review the City budget process including a summary of the 2023 Mid-Year Supplemental Budget, the upcoming 2024 Budget, and foreshadowing the 2025-2026 Budget.
- Discussed how the City has temporarily supported the General Fund operating gaps through primarily JumpStart Payroll Expense Tax Fund and supplemental COVID-19 resources. Discussed the City’s anticipated \$224 million General Fund operating deficit beginning in 2025. Reviewed Central Staff memo outlining core drivers of the operating deficit including 1) nearly a decade of rapid economic growth in the region, 2) service expansion to meet growing population needs, 3) COVID-19 pandemic abruptly reducing General Fund revenue sources, and 4) addition of new on-going General Fund expenditures. **15 min**

5

- Discussed the task and status of the Revenue Stabilization Taskforce to identify new revenue options. Discussed the role and findings of the Office of Economic and Revenue Forecasts. The taskforce recommendations have been shared with Seattle City Council and the Mayor’s Office who will now review and consider if any of these recommendations will be pursued.
- The August Revenue Forecast highlighted that a slowdown is still forecasted because the Federal Reserve remains committed to cooling the economy and reducing inflation. Near-term revenues are up, but longer-term growth expected to slow. The OERF recommended adoption of the baseline economic scenario. This baseline will guide the Mayor’s Office in finalizing their 2024 Budget to present to Seattle City Council for deliberations starting ~9/26/23.

---

**6 Old Business**

- City land disposition policies: VC Stevenson presented at the 7/19 Housing & Finance Committee meeting on the values and policy rationale for incorporating Tribal governments and urban Indian organizations into land disposition policies. **15 min**



- City Hall Park: Members reviewed Draft 1 of a letter of support to the Pioneer Square Historic Preservation Board. Working with SPR to determine a timeline and to finalize the document.
- Native plant policy: IAC edits and comments have been shared with SPR for consideration. Additional feedback is being collected through Tribal Consultations and community engagement. Awaiting timeline updates from SPR staff. Intention to have SPR back when final policy is approved to close the feedback loop and continue the conversation through implementation efforts.
- Tribal Nations Summit report: OIR has released the [City of Seattle | Tribal Nations Summary Report](#). The release announcement was shared with Tribal, federal, state, and local elected leaders as well as Native and community partners. OIR and IAC will continue to collaborate on implementation of the commitments identified in the report.

---

7	<b>Member Announcements</b>	<b>5 min</b>
---	-----------------------------	--------------

---

**Hybrid Public Comment**

Required public comment period for community members to speak to agenda items

**10 min**

---

9 **Closing & Next Steps**

- April-June 2023 Quarterly Invoicing is due.
-