

Levy to Move Seattle Oversight Committee Meeting

[Levy Oversight Committee bylaws – adopted April 2017](#)

[Move Seattle Levy legislation, approved June 29, 2015](#)

Date/Time: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 / 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Co-chairs: Geri Poor, Kevin Werner

Location: Video Conference, in-person at City Hall

Members Present: Inga Manskopf, Kevin Werner, Sam Ferrara, Geri Poor (Freight Board), Jessica Nguyen, Alex Bejarán Estévez, Saroja Reddy (City Budget Office), Donna McBain Evans (Bike Board), Rachel Ben-Shmuel, Tyler Blackwell, Lisa Bogardus, Dennis Gathard, Councilmember Rob Saka, Clara Cantor

Members Absent: Natasha Riveron (Pedestrian Board)

Guests: Meghan Shepard, Francisca Stefan, Margo Iñiguez Dawes, Kris Castleman, Serena Lehman, Kalen Carney, Katie Olsen, Bill LaBorde, Brian Sperry, Chris Eaves (all SDOT), Chris Gregorich (Mayor’s Office), Aaron Blumenthal (City Budget Office), Heather Marx (City Council), Ryan Packer (The Urbanist), Josh (Transit Advisory Board Rep), Hershland, Patricia Killam, Gary, Doug MacDonald, Theresa, Tyler Vasquez, Susan

MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 5:02 PM

Welcome and roll call

Geri P.: Conducted roll call for committee members.

Katie O.: Introduced City staff.

Public Comment

Geri P.: Asked if anyone wanted to give public comment. No public comment. Doug MacDonald forwarded a letter to the LOC.

Agenda item #1: Transportation Funding Plan Update

Meghan S.: Provided an update on the [Transportation Funding Plan](#). The funding plan is our approach to addressing multiple time periods in terms our needs for the transportation system. We will have a variety of fund sources in the Transportation Funding Plan, which may include: real estate excise tax, bonds, levy, vehicle license fees, grants etc. We have significant needs to maintain our existing infrastructure as well as addressing mobility needs. Safety and maintenance are a top priority for our Transportation Funding Plan. Stakeholder input is really important for this plan and we have a number of ways we are doing this work. Safety assessments, asset condition assessments, residents polling, lessons learned from the Move Seattle Levy, race and social justice equity, and other factors are all part of shaping the Transportation Funding Plan. Polling shows top priorities of residents include: safety, bridge

repairs, repaving streets, safe routes to schools, expanding the tree canopy, and fixing potholes. About half of respondents recognize the need for additional funding. In Quarter 1 2024, we plan to draft the Levy renewal and in Q1/Q2 2024 we plan public engagement to get feedback.

Kevin W.: What is the funding gap to get all assets in good condition?

Meghan S.: There's a lot we want to do. There's no upper limit. That's why polling is helpful so that we can right size the work we are offering.

Kevin W.: There's a sense we are still falling behind. What would it take to catch up?

Kris C.: It depends on what level of asset condition we want to achieve. To replace all our assets it would cost over \$40B. Not all assets need replacement with a like structure. Our transportation asset management plan will help up determine how to most cost effectively improve the asset conditions across our different types of assets.

Sam F.: The polling about the \$1.2B vs. \$1.7B. How was that expressed?

Meghan S.: It was given in different terms to help people easily understand what their contribution would be. Such as the cost per median home and incremental cost compared to the existing levy.

Clara C.: We have a lot of asset condition information, like the sidewalk study that was done a few years ago. It seems like we are doing this backwards by asking voters how much funding they could support, as opposed to determining the funding needed and asking voters to support that level of funding. When can we expect more specifics on what work is planned?

Meghan S.: Each time we brief you we will have and share a greater level of detail on the plan specifics.

Josh (Transit Advisory Board Rep): Can we get a copy of the report you referenced? We sent a letter about the Seattle Transportation Plan as it seemed the plan was short on specifics. What's the best way for us to provide recommendations?

Meghan S.: We will be at one of your upcoming meetings to share more details and take feedback.

Lisa B.: The roads and bridges continue to be in worse condition. It's not surprising you heard from the polling that roads and bridges are top priorities. Are you weighting specific asset types more than others based on the polling results?

Meghan S.: We are looking at those inputs from the poll results to help shape the plan. Maintenance and modernization are big components of the plan.

Lisa B.: Is there a plan for charging stations for electric vehicles?

Meghan S.: We are planning around low pollution neighborhoods in terms of charging stations for small business owners.

Councilmember Rob S.: I read some reporting about this poll that suggest people are supportive of a \$1.7B levy. Was that correct? The need is fairly profound. I'd like to know more about the methodology. Did we weigh the priorities in the poll?

Meghan S.: We contracted with EMC research for a two-split survey. EMC has a lot of polling experience. 1,000 people living in Seattle were polled in December. 500 were asked about the \$1.2B scenario. They were given priorities on a scale of 1 to 7 and we included an opposition statement. We saw some places of weakness for the \$1.7B scenario. We did not weigh the outcomes or cost of specific items.

Donna E.: How should the bike board prepare to talk to you about this? Are you seeking ideas?

Meghan S.: We are coming to a joint Bike / Ped board meeting tomorrow night, and we do want to hear from you about projects.

Rachel B.: I'm responding to Doug MacDonald's letter. Pavement condition is deplorable. Can you summarize the asset condition status in the future?

Agenda item 2: Committee Business

LOC Draft Recommendation and next steps

Committee members discussed Mr. MacDonald's letter and potential revisions to their recommendation letter.

Margo I.D.: In response to the question about the Freight Spot Improvement program's equity, the program focuses on improving freight mobility and safety and makes a majority of their investments in the highest and second highest equity areas in the city.

Meeting Minutes for Approval

Alex B.: I motion to approve the January minutes.

Sam F.: I second the motion.

Geri P. The January minutes are approved.

Adjourn: 7:05 PM

Action items

Action items below capture pending tasks from this and prior meetings.

Action item	Meeting	Lead	Status	Deadline
Share the data behind the chart on slide 5 .	Nov. 2023	SDOT	Working on request.	ASAP