

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, June 6, 2023 / 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Co-chairs: Inga Manskopf, Kevin Werner

Location: Video Conference, in-person at City Hall

Members Present:, Inga Manskopf, Sam Ferrara, Rachel Ben-Shmuel, Geri Poor (Freight Board), Jessica Nguyen , Dennis Gathard, Tyler Blackwell, Alex Bejaran Estevez, Clara Cantor, Saroja Reddy (City Budget Office)

Members Absent: Lisa Bogardus, Quinn Kelly (Bike Board), Natasha Riveron (Pedestrian Board), Councilmember Alex Pedersen (City Council), Kevin Werner, Chris Miller (Transit Board)

Guests: David Burgesser, Therese Casper, Kit Loo, Ben Hansen, Meghan Shephard, Kris Castleman, Greg Funk, Serena Lehman, Kalen Carney, Katie Olsen, Janet Loriz, Monica Rodriguez (all SDOT), Ellena Jones, Arthur (members of the public)

MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 5:01PM

Welcome and roll call

Inga M.: Conducted roll call for committee members.

Katie O.: Introduced City staff.

Public Comment

Inga M.: Asked if anyone wanted to give public comment. No public comment.

Agenda item #1: SPU South Park Drainage Partnership Overview

Therese C.: Provided an [overview of the recently completed paving and drainage project](#) in South Park to address the chronic flooding in the area. In addition, intersections were improved by adding crosswalks and other channelization elements and gravel roads were paved. The project included significant King County grants to support addressing the flooding issues. Now the stormwater flows is piped to a future flood control pump station and water quality treatment facility.

Clara C.: Is this timeline normal for a project like this?

Jason S.: This is a pretty typical schedule. There were about 50 businesses and residents we had to coordinate with. Groundwater and other challenges contributed to the length of construction.

Therese C.: There was some additional time for SPU's options analysis.

Rachel B.: Where is the drainage going since the pump station is not built yet?

Jason S.: This project built a new drainage system that utilizes the existing storm drain on 7th that the pump station and water quality facility will receive this flow when it is built. Currently, the pump station is built but in testing. The pump station will allow the area to drain during high tides and alleviate the flooding of roads and properties.

Kevin W.: What ideas do you have for the next levy?

Therese C.: This area is unique in that neither department had assets (paving and drainage) and so the partnership was key to getting these improvements constructed.

Sam F.: Is there more work needed in this area?

Jason S.: Yes, there are opportunities to improve other streets and drainage in this area.

Alex E.: Estimate to finish the cost of the entire project?

Jason S.: The options analysis included a ballpark estimate of about \$100M.

Inga M.: It's nice to see that you planted 8 trees for every one tree removed. And I think SDOT should get credit for that.

Agenda item #2: SPU Broadview Partnership Overview

David B.: Provided and [overview of the SPU Broadview program](#). The purpose of this project is to make sidewalks more comfortable for walking and safer in partnership with SPU. The budget for this project is \$8.6M. We conducted a prioritization process to determine the highest priority needs for pedestrian and drainage improvements. The highest priority for sidewalk improvements in this is Greenwood Ave. It's a priority transit corridor and new sidewalks would fill gaps in the arterial sidewalk network. The project is divided into two phases. The second phase has grant funds that warranted a different schedule. Phase 1 (N 117th to N 125th) is completed. Phase 2 is scheduled to start construction this year. This phase includes sidewalks between N 125th and N 130th, and neighborhood greenway connections.

Inga M.: The project name should include mention of sidewalks since they are such a significant part of this work.

Kevin W.: What would you recommend for the next levy?

David B.: It would be great to have the prioritization and scoping completed prior to the levy and then we could have named the program more appropriately, to your point.

Rachel B.: With neither department wanting to address assets, how can we improve these partnerships?

David B.: We partner with SPU and other city departments on many projects.

Sam F.: Could we have more planning work completed in advance to address these areas?

David B.: Having designs completed is helpful for grant readiness as well.

Agenda item 3: Stairways Program Overview

Greg F.: Shared an [overview of the stairways rehabilitation program](#). There are over 650 stairways in Seattle. We are on track to meet the stairway rehabilitation Levy deliverable commitments. Many stairways were built in the 1920's. Many streets are connected by stairways. We rebuild 5 to 8 stairways each year. Inspections are completed on a five-year cycle to inventory repairs needed. We have rehabilitated 39 stairways life to date in the levy. S Morgan St & Martin Luther King, W Dravus St & 10th Ave W, and 10th Ave S & S Trenton St are some of the most recent stairway projects.

Inga M.: Why is Princeton St taking so long?

Greg F.: We we were short staffed.

Inga M.: Why are you so successful achieving the levy goals?

Greg F.: Fortunately, we had a capital project budget and some funding from community groups in addition to the Levy funding. The average stairway cost \$120K to \$150K. Material costs have gone up a lot though.

Clara C.: What is the longevity of an upgraded staircase? What is the scale of the problem?

Greg F.: The staircases we are building now are designed for 50-to-60-year life spans but could last 100 years unless there's an earthquake. By the end of this levy we will have replaced most of the stacked slab stairways, which are most vulnerable to seismic events. If we can maintain the current level of funding beyond this levy for another similar period, we should be able to get the stairways as a whole in a pretty good place and then focus more on maintenance and less on rehabilitation.

Kevin W.: Is there a reason stairways are separate from the sidewalks program?

Greg F.: Stairways are unique and are reinforced and sidewalks are not. Sidewalks are also the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to maintain.

Clara C.: Is the current metric for deliverables working?

Greg F.: Fortunately, we have some short and longer staircases so it has worked but the next program we'll have longer and therefore more costly staircases.

Agenda item 4: Q1 2023 Report

Serena L. and Kalen C.: Shared [highlights from the Q1 2023 Levy Report](#). In our Safe Routes category we completed many projects: no turn on red sign installations, two safe routes to school projects, and two traffic spot improvements, over 2,000 sidewalk safety repairs, progress on the Melrose Ave E neighborhood greenway projects, as well as advancing several neighborhood street fund projects. In the Maintenance and Repair category, we completed 103 bridge spot repairs, design of several paving projects, tree planting (over 200), and advanced several bridge seismic projects. In the Congestion Relief category, we are continuing design and construction of several multimodal corridor projects, we completed 55 signal diagnostic evaluations and 11 transit spot improvements, more than 11 blocks of new sidewalks, and we awarded the construction contract for the East Marginal Way project. In Q1 we invested \$25.5M in Levy funds and \$45M in all funds.

Inga M.: Carryover is allocated to programs and projects, correct?

Kalen C.: That's correct.

Inga M.: So it's expected that there will be some carryover to 2025?

Kalen C.: That's correct.

Geri P.: The blue is Levy funds spending and the grey is local funding. Is that correct?

Kalen C.: Yes, that's correct.

Geri P.: On slide 10, can you talk about 2025 carryover?

Kalen C.: That would be spent on levy projects that continue beyond the end of 2024.

Inga M.: Why have you been so successful getting things done lately?

Serena L.: We are focused on finishing the Levy strong and we are now not in the middle of a crisis like the pandemic, W Seattle bridge closure, or a concrete strike.

Agenda item 5: Committee business

Subcommittees & Modal Boards

Geri P. (Freight Board): At the May meeting we talked about the Route 40 multi modal corridor project, sent letters on vision zero and discussed a new ordinance on urban freight downtown.

Meeting Minutes for Approval

Inga M.: Any comments on the minutes?

Rachel B.: I motion to approve.

Sam F.: I second the motion.

Inga M.: No opposed so the minutes are approved.

Adjourn: 6:55PM

Action items

Action items below capture tasks from previous meetings. Completed items will remain on action item tracker for one additional set of meeting minutes to capture “complete” status and will then be removed.

Action item	Meeting	Lead	Status	Deadline
Dennis: Requested annual bridge reports as outlined in legislation.	May 2, 2023	SDOT	In progress; SDOT combining annual reports to share with LOC.	Mid-2023