



# Minutes

Indigenous Advisory Council

Friday, August 9, 2024

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**

Councilmember Donny Stevenson, Councilmember Jay Mills, Megan Castillo, Suzanne Sailto, Esther Lucero, Derrick Belgarde, & Asia Tail

**Members Excused**

Councilmember Jeremy Takala & Jaci McCormack

**Meeting Guests**

Sam Keller, Seattle Public Utilities  
Rachel Banner, Seattle Parks and Recreation

**Items**

Number	Topic	Time
1	<b>Welcome and Opening Blessing</b>	<b>5 min</b>
2	<b>Approval of the Agenda (August)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved with changes.</li> </ul> <b>Approval of the Minutes (July)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved with changes.</li> </ul>	<b>5 min</b>
3	<b>Shape Our Water</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) staff briefed IAC members on the Shape Our Water initiative, a 50-year plan for Seattle’s Water Resilience (drainage and wastewater systems). The briefing included an overview of Shape Our Water, an outline of engagement strategies and where the IAC might plug in and time for questions and answers.</li> <li>• Shape Our Water is currently in the planning process after several years of analysis and visioning. The planning process includes brainstorming solutions and developing alternatives with stakeholders. Evaluating alternatives against social/equity, environmental, affordability, and resilience goals that were set during the visioning phases and selecting preferred alternatives with stakeholders. Implementation is the next phase.</li> <li>• The analysis phase looked at the current drainage and wastewater system and found that there is too much, too fast running through the system. SPU explored the impacts of this on water quality and aquatic health. SPU looked at system stewardship and shocks and stresses to better understand what system development could look like.</li> <li>• The visioning phase included a series of engagements and activities is a wide range of community partners. The visioning process resulted in goals for community and environmental health, resilience, multi-benefit investments, and community-centered partnerships.</li> </ul>	<b>30 min</b>

- The planning phases has included brainstorming solutions for current and future challenges. Developing alternatives in the areas of program, policy and projects that align with the goals. Evaluating and comparing alternatives that could also help reach the goals. Combining the highest value solutions into a single preferred alternative. Adn creating a plan for short-term (6 years) and long-term (50 years) actions
- Currently stakeholder engagement includes in-reach workgroups focused on SPU staff, ad-hoc works with key audiences, government-to-government engagement with Tribal Nations, key partner workgroups with institutional partners, community workshop, and a leadership forum of external stakeholders.
- IAC members discussed the importance of Tribal and urban Native engagement in the initiative. Members shared about the aquatic food systems that have sustained Coast Salish tribal communities since time immemorial and the devastating impacts of industrialization, urbanization, and the ongoing impacts of transportation, recreation, and sewage overflows on local waterways. Members emphasized the need to protect and restore the Salish Sea through the infrastructure improvements at sewage facilities that better address power outages that have caused overflows in the past. Members discussed the emerging science around tire additives that are now linked to devastating impacts on juvenile salmon. Members discussed the development of a standard of care that sets a high bar for protection of the Salish Sea. Tribal Nations are using culture and sovereignty as the foundation of responsibility to steward the water. Tribal Nations are already engaged in water resource management and climate change issues and interested in SPU’s efforts. At least one UIO is engaged in Shape Our Water. Indigenous consultants are also involved. Members expressed interested in staying engaged on policy solutions, theory and values development, and project solutions at the work evolves in the coming years. Members flagged upcoming Tribally-led water summit hosted in partnership with ATNI to ensure SPU is learning directly about Tribal priorities from Tribal organizations and Tribal leaders.

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**Seattle Parks and Recreation Updates**

**5 min**

- SPR staff provided updates on the a few projects that engaged the IAC in 2023-2024. The Parks CommUNITY Fund moved into the participatory budgeting phase and included several Indigenous
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priority project ideas. SPR's certificate of approval was approved by the Pioneer Square Historic Preservation Board to remove a boulder in City Hall Park. An IAC letter of support for the certificate of approval was submitted with the SPR application.

5	<p><b>Native Youth Political Empowerment Summit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four IAC representatives were identified to attend the Native Youth Political Empowerment Summit. Youth from across Washington State will attend the summit and learn from local and regional leaders working in the area of civic engagement and community organizing. The IAC will lead a plenary session to discuss Native representation and engagement with local government. Members discussed options for plenary questions and discussed desire learning objectives.</li> </ul>	<b>15 min</b>
6	<p><b>Old Business</b></p> <p>2024 Annual Work Plan – possible action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members completed a final review of the draft annual work plan and approved the work plan for submission to the Seattle City Council and the Mayor's Office.</li> </ul> <p>Spokespersons – possible action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members approved CM Stevenson and Suzanne as spokespeople for the IAC. While term is not defined, members expressed approval for rotating roles over time in recognition of shared leadership principles.</li> </ul> <p>Indigenous Peoples' Day updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IAC funded five IPD events and coordinated centralized marketing through an event poster and social media content that can be shared by community and Tribal partners. The IAC also supported Canoe Family participation at Seattle area events.</li> </ul>	<b>25 min</b>
7	<p><b>Member Announcements</b></p>	<b>Up to 5 min</b>
8	<p><b>Hybrid Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were no requests for public comment.</li> </ul>	<b>Up to 10 min</b>
9	<p><b>Closing &amp; Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly invoicing for July-Sept is due November 30.</li> </ul>	