



City of Seattle

Seattle Renters' Commission

June 5, 2024

Re: Urgent Request: Release of Allocated Funds to SDCI for Tenant Workgroup

Dear Honorable Mayor Bruce Harrell:

We, the members of the Seattle Renters Commission (SRC), write to you to express our frustration and concerns about the delay in releasing the \$50,000 general funds allocated in the 2024 budget to the Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections (SDCI) to convene a tenant workgroup to develop and recommend strategies to protect the health and well-being of Seattle renters.

According to the Seattle Municipal Code, the SRC is tasked with providing information, advice, and counsel to your office, City Council, and relevant departments concerning issues and policies affecting renters across the city. Supporting this project was identified as our primary goal when we developed our work plan for 2024.

On February 7th, we began the process to appoint three renters to the workgroup as outlined in the CBA ([SDCI-803-A-2](#)). The following day, our DON liaison informed us that the appointment process needed to be paused until we “get a greenlight from the Mayor's Office or City Budget Office.”

It is now June, and the lack of action is unacceptable.

As unpaid volunteers committed to serving the best interests of Seattle renters, we refuse to accept a mere symbolic role as a commission in name only, devoid of the power to effect real change. This delay has not only impeded our ability to fulfill our responsibilities, it's a disregard for the democratic process.

Please prioritize the release of the designated funds without further delay.

Sincerely,

The Seattle Renters' Commission

Seattle Renter's Commission

Website: www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/seattle-renters-commission

Staff Liaison Contact: don_src_liaison@seattle.gov