



**Levy to Move
Seattle Oversight
Committee
Members**

Rachel Ben-Shmuel

Brian Estes

Katie Garrow

Alex Krieg

Joseph Laubach

Nick Paranjpye

Shefali Ranganathan

Betty Spieth-Croll

Laurie Torres

Blake Trask

Phyllis Porter

Bicycle Advisory Board

Paul Muldoon

Pedestrian Advisory Board

Pat Cohn

Freight Advisory Board

Ron Posthuma

Transit Advisory Board

City Councilmember

Mike O'Brien

City Budget Director

Ben Noble

Committee Staff

Elliot Helmbrecht

elliott.helmbrecht@seattle.gov

(206) 615 - 1235

April 27, 2017

RE: Move Seattle Oversight Committee 2016 Report to the Mayor and Council

Dear Mayor Murray, Council President Harrell, and Councilmembers,

We are pleased to offer this first annual report to you from the Levy to Move Seattle (LMS) Oversight Committee. The voter-approved levy includes a charge to the Oversight Committee and SDOT to provide annual reports to the Mayor and Council. We are pleased to present the first annual SDOT report which provides a summary of progress toward implementation of improvements funded by the levy in 2016. Separately you will receive the 2016 Annual Report from SDOT which, at this time, the Oversight Committee has not received nor reviewed.

The Committee met six times in 2016, including a mini-retreat at the October meeting. The initial co-chairs Betty Spieth-Croll and Elizabeth Kiker were appointed by the committee at its October 20, 2016, meeting. In November, Elizabeth Kiker resigned her position due to her family's relocation to the East Coast. Member Calvin Goings resigned in early 2017 due to a change of employment. We thank both Elizabeth and Calvin for their service in 2016.

The Move Seattle Oversight Committee has been active and engaged in the implementation of the levy. In addition, it's been gratifying that this work has sparked public interest with regular participation in our meetings by members of the public. A full archive of meeting materials, public comments, and minutes is available online for access by all.

In this first start-up year of the nine-year levy, the Oversight Committee worked closely with staff to track results of levy funding, learn more about the SDOT programs funded with levy proceeds, and most importantly, to find the appropriate level of financial reporting to ensure our ability to provide oversight as outlined in the legislation. The pursuit of this optimal level of financial reporting is ongoing with both staff and committee committed to getting this right. There is a tremendous amount of data to report to the committee and the public; providing both a high-level summary and the details needed is complicated but doable. This work continues into 2017 and is likely to be an ongoing effort on of both the committee and staff.

Additionally, the committee spent time on a set of operating roles and responsibilities, adopted April 2017, that provide a clear framework for working together and in partnership with the City. This

framework includes a rotating, two year term co-chair leadership model which offers the Committee both consistency and diversity of leadership throughout the term of the levy.

Along with these start up activities, the major Committee accomplishment of 2016 was the selection of the Neighborhood Street Fund projects. The Committee reviewed five applications from each of the 13 Neighborhood District Councils with sub-committee teams visiting each project location and evaluating projects using an identical set of criteria which included safety, the racial and health equity demographics of the project area, the rank order of each project submitted by the Neighborhood District Council, and the history of each Council having a prior NSF project funded. At the Committee's October meeting the sub-committee teams presented their recommendations to the full Committee for projects to move forward and the full Committee made the final selections. This initial round of Neighborhood Street Fund project selections required an abbreviated timeline and process. Understandably, neighborhoods and citizens were very interested in our selections and we received some feedback on the process and outcomes. We will be working with staff to ensure lessons learned from this 2016 round are used to improve the next round selection process. Taking on the responsibility of Neighborhood Street Fund project selections is beyond our Move Seattle legislative charge, but we feel it's an appropriate activity for our committee and is a continuation of the practice of the Bridging the Gap Oversight Committee.

As we look forward, we encourage SDOT to pursue ways to measure levy performance that go beyond just outputs. We know that levy funds have and will continue to improve the quality of life for Seattle residents in terms of mobility, safety and connectivity. By adopting these kinds of practices for reporting on levy implementation SDOT will be better able to reflect these kinds of improvements.

The Oversight Committee's legislative charge is to review implementation of levy funded projects and we do this by tracking progress made over the last quarter, last year, and since the beginning of the levy. We believe it would contribute to the wise stewardship of citizen approved funds to have the opportunity to provide input to SDOT as Levy to Move Seattle funded projects are prioritized for the coming and future years.

Finally, we'd like to thank Council member O'Brien for his active engagement with our work, and city staff, especially SDOT liaison Elliot Helmbrecht, for their diligent and responsive work with the Oversight Committee during 2016.

We look forward to our oversight activities in 2017 and welcome new committee members Blake Trask and Katie Garrow to this work.

Sincerely,

Betty Spieth-Croll
Co-Chair (2016/17)

Shefali Ranganathan
Co-Chair (2017/18)