



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Seattle City Council pauses for a moment at the start of each year to measure progress on the previous year's priorities and set priorities for the months ahead. Our 2013 priorities ran the gamut from ambitious to lofty to humble and pragmatic. We're proud of our accomplishments furthering safety, healthy communities, mobility and prosperity. Here's how we think we did.

## MAINTAINING SAFE AND JUST COMMUNITIES

- “Banned the Box” to provide **job assistance to individuals with criminal records**, thereby increasing public safety and decreasing criminal recidivism.
- Increased funding for homeless families, by increasing shelter capacity, as well as strengthening Road to Housing efforts to **aid homeless vehicle campers** move toward permanent housing.
- Collaborated with the community, stakeholders and the Seattle Police Department to appoint a Community Police Commission, a new Director of the Office of Professional Accountability (OPA) and the Civilian Auditor of OPA to **advance police accountability** and reform policies necessary to build and maintain community trust.
- Provided direct funding for research into the causes and effects of **gun violence**.
- Helped **address chronic homelessness and street disorder** by collaborating with human service providers, police, businesses and residents.
- Ensured that rental properties comply with minimum life and safety standards by further enhancing the **Rental Registration and Inspection Program**.
- Advanced student safety by dedicating revenue generated by school zone speed cameras to **fund traffic and pedestrian safety projects near schools**.

## BUILDING HEALTHY, GREAT PLACES

- Adopted a Climate Action Plan outlining ways in which the City will become **carbon neutral by 2050**.
- Finalized a comprehensive rezone of South Lake Union to **accommodate future job growth and housing demands** while increasing support for affordable housing.
- Updated the Shoreline Management Program goals, policies and regulations **protecting and preserving Seattle shorelines for water-related uses**.
- Implemented a **comprehensive commercial recycling** plan requiring Seattle businesses to recycle aluminum, plastic and glass.
- Collaborated with King County and the Port of Seattle to create new waterfront park space and improve water quality through the **expansion of Magnolia's Smith Cove Park**.
- Adopted the **Third Avenue Streetscape Plan**, advancing public safety via capital improvements through the downtown core for the benefit of residents, visitors and businesses.



## MANAGING A STRONG CITY

- Adopted a **balanced budget** maintaining basic city services and providing funds for programs proven successful.
- Implemented the new six-year Seattle City Light Strategic Plan, including **simplified access to payment help** for low-income City Light customers.
- **Renewed the Metropolitan Improvement District (MID)** and expanded its high standards for safety, cleanliness and hospitality into Belltown.
- **Strengthened the City's whistleblower code**, encouraging public employee whistleblowing and enhancing protections from retaliation.
- Called for the City Auditor to conduct an **efficiency review at SDOT** to examine opportunities for project efficiencies, smarter investments and cost savings.
- Developed **sensible zoning regulations** in the new era of marijuana legalization.
- Increased the City's focus on **performance measurement**, program evaluations and **high-quality customer service** in all aspects of business.



## IMPROVING MOBILITY AND CONNECTIONS

- Enhanced transportation options by authorizing a **bike share program** and expanding **car2go**.
- Continued work with Seattle's Department of Transportation (SDOT) and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to create a **SR 520 West Interchange** that best serves corridor users and neighbors.
- Funded improvements and expansions to Seattle **neighborhood greenways and cycle tracks**.
- Monitored the **Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement project**.
- Continued citywide **mobility improvements**, including prioritizing bus corridors and high-capacity transit; updating the Bicycle Master Plan; development of a Freight Master Plan; and accelerated street maintenance.
- Approved a development agreement with Sound Transit for **high quality Transit-Oriented Development** around the Capitol Hill light rail station.



## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

- Fully funded the evidence-based Nurse Family Partnership, which connects first-time, low-income mothers with registered nurses to **enhance childhood development**.
- Established the Council's intent to make **voluntary, high-quality preschool** available to all 3- and 4-year-old children in Seattle.
- Supported updates to the Department of Parks and Recreation's **Legacy Plan** to develop sustainable funding options for City parks.
- Made progress requiring the targeted hiring of **economically or otherwise disadvantaged local residents** for city-funded capital projects.
- Updated workforce housing incentive programs to **increase the supply of affordable housing** in Seattle.
- Passed legislation that prevents Seattle Public Utilities from shutting off water to homes in which minors reside, **protecting children's access to clean drinking water**.

