



Seattle LGBT Commission

Seattle LGBT Commission: 2014 Work Plan

The Seattle LGBT Commission is pleased to present its work plan for 2014.

Mission: The Commission's role is to effectively address and present the concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender citizens of Seattle to the Mayor, City Council, and all City Departments through recommendation of legislation, policy, programs, and budget items.

Values: The Commission endeavors to advance its work using an intersecting lens of racial, economic, gender, and social justice.

The Commission developed its work plan through a review of objectives and achievements in the 2013 Work Plan; findings from Snapshot Seattle, a citywide survey and analysis conducted by the Commission in 2010-11 (available online at: <http://www.seattle.gov/LGBT/>); areas prioritized at the Seattle LGBT Commission retreat in October 2013; and community feedback on 2014 Work Plan aspirations at a public Community Meeting on December 11, 2013.

WORKPLAN COMMITTEES & PRIORITY AREAS:

Community Access Committee: The Community Access Committee works to improve LGBTQ community members' access to and inclusion in vital city services, and to address issues of economic justice.

These issues may include homelessness and housing insecurity, LGBTQ business development and training, workers' rights and the minimum wage, and access to and quality of services for vulnerable populations, including youth, trans and gender non-conforming people, elders and aging populations, immigrants and refugees, and people who are living with HIV or AIDS.

Community Infrastructure Committee: The Community Infrastructure Committee works to support and facilitate community efforts to expand, improve, and establish community spaces and organizations providing culturally competent services to LGBTQ communities in Seattle.

This work may include supporting community efforts to establish an LGBTQ Community Center and advocating for an Office of LGBTQ Affairs, or alternatively an LGBTQ Advisor to the Mayor, to collaborate with the LGBT Commission, the Office of Civil Rights, and community organizations to address the concerns of LGBTQ community members.

Community Empowerment and Safety: The Community Empowerment and Safety Committee works to strengthen relations between the Seattle Police Department and LGBTQ communities, to address targeting and discriminatory policing, to improve community safety, and to provide resources to the SPD as they work to improve services for LGBTQ communities.

This work may include strengthening relationships with LGBTQ communities around services,

responses, protection, treatment, and communications with/by Seattle Police Department, and continued collaboration with the Community Police Commission to address issues that affect the LGBTQ community, as well as supporting organizations and community members in addressing issues of violence in our communities.

ONGOING GOALS OF THE LGBT COMMISSION INCLUDE:

- Evaluate, develop, and improve training of Commissioners on race and social justice issues, ethics, legislative advocacy, and other necessary skill areas.
- Strengthen advising relationships with the Mayor’s Office, City Council, and City Departments.
- Collaborate with the Seattle Office of Civil Rights (SOCR) and the other Commissions under SOCR on projects impacting Seattle LGBTQ communities.
- Align the Commission’s goals and work plan with the City’s annual budget to ensure meaningful impact on budget issues.
- Review and track legislation affecting LGBTQ communities.
- Provide support to foster and sustain relationships with local organizations. Education and outreach around intersectional identities.
- Work with the SOCR to promote continuous inclusion of LGBTQ training as part of the City’s Race and Social Justice Initiative.
- Conduct outreach and educate the public on the mission of the LGBT Commission.
- Support LGBTQ community organizations and events.
- Conduct ongoing review of commission bylaws, attendance, and budget.
- Develop, implement, and improve a recruitment and orientation plan for new commissioners.
- Evaluate assessment measures including consideration of a Seattle Snapshot Survey follow-up.

The Seattle LGBT Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Seattle City Hall (600 Fourth Avenue) in Boards and Commissions Conference Room L-280. The entrance to City Hall is on 5th between James and Cherry. Please use the intercom to access City Hall after hours.

For more information about the Seattle LGBT Commission, please visit the Commission’s website at: <http://www.seattle.gov/LGBT/> or contact Marta Idowu via email at Marta.Idowu@seattle.gov, or by mail at:

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Information is available in alternative formats on request by calling (206) 684-4537.