

December 10, 2024 Meeting - Seattle Community Technology Advisory Board

Topics covered included: Conversation with Seattle City Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth (Council District 3 and Chair of the Parks, Public Utilities & Technology Committee); CTAB 2024 Year-End Summary Document; Committee Updates

This meeting was held: December 10, 2024; 6:00-7:30 p.m., via Webex

Attending:

Board Members: Phillip Meng, Coleman Entringer, Omari Stringer, Isabel Rodriguez, Hailey Dickson, DeiMarlon Scisney, Femi Adebayo

Presenter: Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth

Public: Dorene Cornwell, Sanchit Gera, Harte Daniels

Staff: CTO Rob Lloyd, Tracye Cantrell, Jon Morrison Winters, Brenda Tate, Vinh Tang, Cass Magnuski

17 In Attendance

Phillip Meng: Let's get started with a quick round of introductions. Let's start in the room.

INTRODUCTIONS

Phillip Meng: As we get started, we have a very exciting agenda today, featuring Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth. We will leave a longer period of time at the beginning of that session for the introductions. But, so that we can begin, can I get a motion from the board to approve the meeting minutes from November?

DeiMarlong Scisney: I so move.

Phillip Meng: These are not controversial items, I find. Can I get a second?

Isabel Rodriguez: Second.

Phillip Meng: All in favor? That's everyone. And do I have a motion to approve today's agenda?

Omari Stringer: I move to approve.

Isabel Rodriguez: Second.

Phillip Meng: All in favor? Great. Motion passes. We are so excited to welcome Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth to the Community Technology Advisory Board. Please keep me honest here, but in my memory, this is the first time we have had a Councilmember here. As most of us probably know, Councilmember Hollingsworth is deeply involved in the committee on Parks, Public Utilities, and Technology, and serves currently as the chair of the committee on Libraries, Education, and Neighborhoods. Councilmember Hollingsworth, would you or a member of your team like to make a quick introduction?

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Yes, and please feel free to call me Joy. I really appreciate you. I serve District 3, which is Central District, Madrona, Leschi, First Hill, Capitol Hill, Judkins, Madison Park, Madison Valley, Mountlake, Eastlake, Portage Bay. All of those neighborhoods wrapped into one. We have over 100,000 residents in District 3. It is the second most dense neighborhood on the West Coast. It is the most dense neighborhood north of San Francisco. First Hill is and Capitol Hill is, as well. I work generations deep in Seattle and have a long history here, and serve as the chair of Parks, Utility, and the wonderful Technology, as well. I am looking forward to working with you all, and thank you for having me here. I am actually downstairs on the second floor. I didn't realize that it was in person, so maybe halfway through the meeting, I will run upstairs, because I haven't seen Director Lloyd. I haven't seen you in a minute.

Phillip Meng: Well, fantastic. We are so excited to have you. A little bit of context about the Community Technology Advisory Board, whose mission is to advise City government stakeholders and to represent our broader community on a range of technology issues. We have a really diverse set of interests within the board, ranging

from digital health to digital equity, to questions around privacy and surveillance, Smart Cities, and so forth. The board also has a series of committees that include both board members and community members that work towards various projects. The exact committees that we have vary from time to time. We are actually at a point where we are looking to expand our suite of committees. They include Digital Equity and Outreach committees, and a committee on Privacy and Cybersecurity. All of our meetings, as you know, are open to the public, and we really welcome community engagement here. We want to better understand, from your perspective as to what your priorities are when it comes to community technology, and hopefully, we can just start a conversation on ways that folks like us can be helping out.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Thank you, Phillip. I will share some of the priorities we have when we are thinking about technology. I would like to start with our north star for our office is always youth and kids, so whenever we are thinking about any type of policy that we are trying to craft and create, we are always thinking about how are we setting ourselves up for future and for kids. And that's why I love some of the priorities that we have for technology, because it is all around how we are navigating our youth and our families and our kids. So, the first thing I think I think you mentioned, I want to recognize and say thank you all, especially the volunteers on the call, for doing this City service. Volunteers don't get paid, but you are doing a City service. So, I just want to start by thanking you because I think one of the biggest things that someone can give besides money, even more than that is their time, because that is something that we cannot get back. So, I just want to thank you all for that. The one thing that we talk about is digital equity. During the pandemic, I was working at a foodbank emergency feeding program. And then I left and went to Northwest Harvest. And one of the things that we saw -- we service a ton of schools. And during the pandemic, one thing that I saw is that we had more than 400 food banks throughout the State, and we did a thing called Three Square Meals for kids, where we would go to the school, drop off groceries, so they had three square meals over the weekend, because that is the time when most kids are hungry. And one of the things that I learned about was this massive digital equity with kids. And not being able to have laptops or internet was going out all of the time. So, a lot of kids doing homework in their living room, and they had their family behind them, and they couldn't learn. It was a really big divide. I am always talking to parents about how there is this big disconnect with having opportunities for access to internet, and then also laptops, or a lot of people just have their phone. How many times do you see people on their phone, and they are able to look up anything in the world on your phone. So, digital equity is really important to us. The second thing is providing. The Mayor put into his budget the opportunity for an app to be created for kids to be able to link to mental health. I think we have an amazing opportunity to create a really great app opportunity for kids to be able to navigate resources for either mental health, after school programming, arts and culture, an event that they can engage themselves in. There is a lot of stuff on social media that is very, very detrimental and harmful to kids. And trying to combat that by using technology to get them away from technology, if that makes sense. So, using technology and apps that connect them to

resources that will take them away from technology, where they don't have to use their phone to get information or engage or connect with people so they can put down their phone. It is the one advice I always give kids is put your phone down. Throw it away and really just engage with people. The third thing -- and I say Director Lloyd, but I know it is CTO, but you are my guy. We have had conversations about how anybody, when they think we are from Seattle always say, oh, you all are so lucky; you have Amazon; you have Microsoft, all these technologies around us. How can we leverage that as a City to have better services? To have better connection with people? To make sure that the City, out-facing the technology that we are using as a City is not backwards? That people feel like technology should be used to help make their lives a lot better should not be cumbersome? Government should be accessible. It should be easy. I can order anything. In a couple of years, you are probably going to be able to buy a house on Amazon and close within two days. It is so easy for you to get anything at any point in time to consume. On the government side, how can we make it easier for us to be able to interact with people, with engagement on services, with contacting their Councilmember, finding out when meetings are, or finding a City department, how to navigate certain issues. How can we make just easier for people to live their lives a lot better? That is the one thing that I am constantly hearing about. Can we utilize technology to figure out how to live our lives a lot better in the City of Seattle? And I think that we have an opportunity with our leadership, with our people in the department, and then you all in advisory, who are on the ground listening to folks to be able to provide feedback so that we can just make our lives a lot better and efficient so we can spend more of our time one-on-one with people? I will stop there, because that was a lot.

Phillip Meng: Thank you so much, Joy. Let's move to an open conversation. Do folks in the room have any questions, any responses to start?

Hailey Dickson: Hi, Councilmember Joy. It's so nice to meet you. I feel like when you talk about health and safety issues is one of the primary focuses of Council this year. I have been talking with the committee for the past few months about starting some engagements to promote digital wellbeing. So, I think that there will definitely be opportunities for us as a committee to support those efforts. It is something that I am really passionate about engaging with the community. I look forward to having conversations about how we can use technology to do that.

Phillip Meng: I want to second that. Joy, thanks for what you said about the importance of finding opportunities to disconnect, and to promote digital health and wellbeing. The question is do you have thoughts on what we can do as community members, or as this board, to advance some of those goals? For instance, are there

specific research areas, or areas of community engagement that would be helpful there? This is even something that I struggle with personally, to have a healthier relationship with technology, and to build on some of that momentum in the work that we do in the next year.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: That's a great question. So, a part of the groundwork that we are doing at Council, one of the legislative items that I put in, which was a statement of legislative intent which was to have the executive by 2025 in June send out a full inventory of all of the City programming that touches kids. So, all of the program that crosses over, that has any connection with youth development, youth after school programs, anything with youth, bottom line, we are going to get a full inventory of it. And I think that is important before we craft any legislation where we define what does the City have. It would be great to understand from your perspective, because you are in the community and you connect with people, maybe sending me some resources from community groups that are great resources to just start with. It doesn't have to be a full list. Just three or four youth organizations that are doing certain things, because I am going to take an inventory of all of the youth organizations that we have in our City. How do we marry that with our City departments? It would be great to get it from your perspective that piece. It would be great. And I am more than happy to connect with you and tell you here is what we are thinking about. This is some stuff that we are drafting, and you can give us feedback about some of the programs that we need to fund for the Family Education Levy. That is going to come down the pipeline this year. You only get seven years to fund a levy. And I think that this Family Education Levy is going to be our most important levy of all time for our crossroads of what is going on with our kids, especially with the gun violence going on, and the after school activities for folks This is going to be our most important levy, and we have to get it right. And I think we have to get it right, particularly on the technology side and access, as well, baked into this levy. So, it would be great to come back to you all. You all meet once a month, right? It would be great to come back once we have some formulated ideas about what we are thinking about proposing in the levy. This has this technology component. What do you all think? It would be great to come back and do that.

Phillip Meng: That would be fantastic. I think the members of the board, and community members here, I imagine would have a lot of interest. Are any funding line items related to technology? Are any of those becoming more concrete in the process of designing the levy package?

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: There has not. We are in the early stages of that. Councilmember Maritza Rivera will be leading the committee on that. She chairs the Department of Neighborhoods, and DEAL, the Department of Early Learning,

education. What we are planning to do is to get briefings on it. I was planning to bring up the technology component to staff to find out what has been funded in the past. What does that look like in the intended outcomes, and then what are the impacts? And then, what can we propose in terms of new stuff, and I'm more than happy to loop you all into that conversation.

Phillip Meng: That would be wonderful. All right. I know that I have been talking a little bit. Back to the group.

DeiMarlon Scisney: I have a question. Phillip, you got mine in the community engagement. So, another question that I have, though, was just around the digital equity piece that you spoke on. You spoke on access to devices, the number of devices, etc. So, I am curious to know, just in the cuts in budget, and being a Technology Matching Fund reviewer with plans to be another reviewer this year around those funds that are being dispersed directly into community around this procurement process. Are there any other initiatives or just goals to amplify what you talked about for digital equity?

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Great question. Let me repeat back what I think I heard, just to make sure that I can answer it correctly. It's so good to see you. I feel like I haven't seen you in a minute. It was at Black Wall Street. That was the last time I saw you. The question you asked is regarding the digital equity piece. We did have budget cuts. I am assuming that you are wondering how did those budget cuts impact furthering the digital equity component for the City of Seattle. Did I say that right?

DeiMarlon Scisney: Correct. Because I am a part of programs like the Technology Matching Fund. I have seen its positive benefits to community in device procurement and other things. And so, I am just curious, with you highlighting that, are there efforts to amplify the efforts there. Or is there anything in the works?

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Yes, there is. I am so glad that you spoke on it. You have the knowledge of the impact: This is what this goes to; these are the kids it impacts; this is the community it impacts. All of this great stuff. I know there are opportunities for public/private partnerships. I am willing to do whatever it takes to amplify. If we need to fund raise, and I need to go and talk to a big donor or some people in a different community if there are certain projects, that you are saying that you identify these kids at this school in South Seattle and it would be great if they had these

laptops or devices or whatever it is, and for me to go and find out -- let me go and talk to this company; or navigate over here; let me find out if this department has any funds to be super creative about certain things. I am more than happy to do that and amplify it that way, to use me as a resource, or also for different programs that need me to write them a letter of recommendation. I do it all of the time for grants that people are trying to get at the County or State level for funds for different stuff. Sometimes, if it doesn't come from the City, I understand. I know that we are in a budget crisis and we had to make tough decisions, but I'm willing to go find that money somewhere else so we don't cut the impacts on people.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Got it. So you touched on what you would do going to the City and touching on that. There aren't any additional, to clarify, funds there because of the cuts.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Not that know of, but I will be open to figuring out how it pertains to the levy. We lost this money on this. Can this be a levy line item? Or a bucket that secures digital equity for community. That is also a option.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Awesome. Thank you.

Phillip Meng: Thanks, D. Back to the floor.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Easy group! Thanks, all. Have a great night. I'm messing with you all.

Phillip Meng: One rather open-ended question: I would love to learn a little bit more about legislation and other activity that's passing through City Council, either through the committee or through Council, that we should keep our eyes on. I should, for full disclosure, say that I am reading through Legistar, which prompts the question. But, Joy, I would like to get a sense of what activity you're following most closely right now.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: That's a loaded question. A couple things. We just passed a budget. Our office we able to secure over \$15 million for the District. One of the biggest pieces that we are super proud of is the participatory budget, with \$10 million to redirect to its original intention to go to the Black community vi arts and culture. We also had money for community-based investments for housing, home ownership opportunities, and then also youth violence prevention, and then money to go into a young adult day center, between 18 to 25. A lot of our kids just don't have a place to go during the morning time. And so, a day center that will be either in the Central District or South End. So, the budget pieces we are going to be following closely and monitoring their progress, because I think more so than anything that people want to see how their dollars are affected and impacted. I think the City can do a lot better job of showing outcomes and how the money that people are paying into taxes better serves them. People say, okay Joy, you allocated \$1.5 for Lower Woodland for a softball field. Well, that's in Lower Woodland. Why are we doing that? well, that is the hoe of four high school softball teams where girls are rained out 30 percent more than boys. We also have where the Little League teams can be able to utilize these fields year round. If people are able to see how this \$1.5 million investment impacts thousands of kids and people, then they would say, "Oh, we get it. We understand." Or if I am showing them how the arts and culture piece for the Black community and the preservation of that in our City where we are seven percent of the population , and how important it is that we continue to preserve this culture so we're not becoming like the Bay area. No knock on San Francisco, but how the culture has just been sucked out of that City, we can't do that. We have to have certain things. When people see those events, they see what they're like. They see the Black Wall Street; they see the Urban League events; they see all these great events. They see that these are the programs that we all can enjoy for free, and they're funded by the City. Okay, we understand why these things are important. The continue culture, community, and commerce. I am going to be working on that. The second thing, legislatively, the biggest thing? Comprehensive Plan. So, us up-zoning, us stabilizing our community, where growth is happening, where it is not. Where grocery stores are going. Where parks are going. All of these different things that the blueprint for our City, the nuts and bolts, the stuff that is going to impact us in 20 years, why it's so important. We are going to be working on the Comprehensive Plan that you will see take up most of Council's time for the first two quarters of next year.

Phillip Meng: Thanks, Joy. I realize that I missed earlier that Dorene had her hand raised. Sorry for going on and on, Dorene. The floor is yours.

Dorene Cornwell: I'm not sure where to go with all of this. I am officially over 60, so I'm going to ask some questions. there are a couple of aspects of digital inclusion that are a little bit of a challenge as far as services for seniors, and also some parenting/grandparenting issues. The services for seniors are -- well, first of all, people who have not grown up playing with their phone before they eat breakfast, they really

want to talk to a human. Technology is awesome because it makes it easy to do some things faster and more quickly. What happens sometimes is that you cut out the human, and that leaves out people who don't do technology. So, I want to ask for your thoughts on that. And another thing, with some projects that I worked on is where kids wind up with access to laptops through school but maybe parents don't have literacy skills or there is a parenting piece where the kids clearly know more than the parents about a bunch of things. And so, I am always concerned about helping parents do what they need to do to be effective parents. Those are a couple of topics that I am interested in. I'm going to add one more. The Comprehensive Plan thing: I am at an age where, besides my own mother, I know lots of other people who are moving into retirement communities. And the retirement communities are saying, oh, we have lots of aging elders with a lot of money. But not all of the aging elders have a lot of money. And the people who serve the retirement communities can't afford to live here. So, when I think about part of my wish list about comprehensive planning I would love to see that addressed.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Thank you, Dorene. You gave me a lot, which is good. So, your first question was regarding digital equity for seniors. I can tell you that if I don't get a phone call from my mom once a day about how to change the channel, CCTV, Cash App, I'll be like, Mom, are you okay today? I moved her away from Direct TV a year ago, and she hasn't been back since. I got her on YouTube TV. That was a challenge to navigate someone from Direct TV.

Dorene Cornwell: My sister does a lot of that with our mom.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: But I completely hear what you are saying. I would love to pick your brain more about what the City can potentially do better. And we can have an offline conversation. I can get your contact information. Just to talk about what we can do better to help that transition. Our City is getting older. It's going to be the largest transfer of wealth and everything from our Baby Boomers to Gen X and the Millennials. How are we going to help people to be able to age in place? I would love for technology to be linked to home help and there are so many great things that are able to be used with technology that can link people together, not necessarily where we are replacing a human with technology, but helps you link a lot better, so you get to have more time together. I would love to pick your brain about that. I don't have an answer, but the second one....

Dorene Cornwell: It was about parenting and grandparents involved in child care and how to help them have those skills in technology to be effective parents and sometimes it is even just to get access to devices, because if a child has some access through school, do they need more than one device, or is Grandma trying to do everything on her smart phone. How to think about the household economy.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: I agree. We often think about kids, but we have to have the parents be successful, too.

Dorene Cornwell: Yes. The parent has to be involved. Nobody is born knowing how to do stuff. And kids, their job is to experiment, but in experimenting, you don't want to go back twice.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Right. Absolutely. I understand. The parent is the kids' first teacher. They need to be successful, and that's why in the levy, I plan to have conversations with Gil and other folks regarding what is our plan for parents to be successful; what are the investments that we're going to make, because that is an incredibly important component; and then the third one was about the Comprehensive Plan? Was it a comment?

Dorene Cornwell: Well, it's partly a comment, partly a question. It's as the City ages to the extent that you need more services, you need more care givers, you need more people to staff retirement communities. How can you make that affordable? Because time is money, and you don't necessarily want all of your care givers to be spending an hour each way commuting. That was housing, land use, making it affordable for people in different stages of life to live close to each other, especially if people shift to not driving. Or, like I say, are there situations where some level of help is valuable? Or needed?

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Right. Absolutely. I will link with you. We will get a meeting scheduled so we can talk about those things. Digital equity for seniors, and then the Comprehensive Plan stuff, as well.

Dorene Cornwell: All right. We can follow up offline. That would be great.

Harte Daniels: Hi. I apologize for coming late. And I apologize if you have answered, but I have questions. Like Dorene Cornwell, I am on the Digital Equity and Inclusion Committee, and have been for about 10 years. It is a pleasure to meet you. Thank you for all of your service. I'm hoping that you can hear me. Part of our charter or bylaws, and one of the questions that I have, if you haven't answered it already, is that we are to respond to you and what your needs are. So, if you haven't answered that already, for CTAB, I would like to hear that. I know that you probably have aides that do research for you, and you have all of these people from Seattle IT that are already devoted to digital equity and inclusion. So, you may have already given them what they can do for you, or you have those. But from us in the community, is there something that you want us to be looking at for you in 2025? That's one of my questions.

I have been interested, in the past couple of years, in Digital Equity and Inclusion. There is a "Catch 22" with grants and City money. I have learned that you have to be -- you in the in particular do a heck of a lot in the community, even to the detriment of their financial security. And I would like to see those people that step up from the community that their path be eased, as opposed to shoveling them all underneath these larger nonprofits. It's just something for you to chew on in that regard. The other things that, when we were talking about parents and their kids, we do have to realize that many of those kids may be latch key, because Seattle is not affordable, and parents may have to have two jobs in order to make ends meet and keep a roof over peoples' heads. And there have been studies that parents these days, even without that, have a lot more stressors on them, and being involved in more and more effort to get their kids ahead in things involved at school and things like that, their (unintelligible) is just not there. **royal sense, not you personally -- responsible on how that money is given out. The grants are competitive. And you have many eyes wanting to judge how the money goes out. So, you have rules in government. The problem is that competitiveness kinds of squashes collaboration and is more cost effective in my mind, and you get more bang for the buck if you can hook these people up together and find methods for collaboration. I would like to see the Technology Matching Fund and other things give more weight to those that truly are collaborating. Some large nonprofits in the nonprofit industrial complex chew up all of those smaller nonprofits in the neighborhood. I did the International Gathering of Grandmothers (unintelligible), and I have noticed that grandmothers**

Next one is my question about health care, and also for the kids' computer safety in a different manner that reverts to their health. You are hearing me a little bit falteringly because I am having neurological problems, that's from looking at the screen. Those have an effect. I think that you and others have found -- we were talking about use technology for this, use technology for that -- and they have now found that children

using those cell phones and those screens, it is actually physically changing the brain, and the portion of the brain that is being changed is the executive side, the frontal cortex, the ability to make decisions, the ability to have memory, and the ability to move. So, I don't know how much you would have impact through the parks or technology questions about lending help in that area. In health care, the State Legislature in March of 2020, started to allow actual remote health care. Also, the Obama administration through meaningful use, especially for meaningful use stage two, had health care put in technology, or paid them if they would put in technology so that people could do things remotely. Most of the Medicare/Medicaid patients do not use it for lack of understanding. When it comes to collaboration, health has been getting grants from the City through the Technology Matching Fund, but there are over a million on how to teach a specific demographic, how to use some technology. That hasn't been shared with the other nonprofits. But I saw a link to a care startup, if you want to look at that through the Community Health Plan of Washington, which is an AppleCare insurance provider. The problem is that their site is heavily rife with marketing for people to be able to use their insurance company. But that one site will show the issue and some of the things that people need to now. We need to increase. Also, your community health centers -- we have really qualified community health centers in the City -- have providers who are certified within the State to deal with drug problems. And a lot of them have to check in frequently, and they need to do that. And it's easier for them to do it remotely. And because there is a lack of rural doctors qualified, they check in with our Seattle doctors. So, those are some of my concerns, but one of the first things I wanted to remind you that I started with is what can we do for you.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: I am glad you reminded me, Harte. That was a lot, but I appreciate it, because everything that you said was incredibly important. And I was taking notes as you were talking. So, thank you. The first question you said, what can you all do for me. I guess it's a clarity question, regarding just technology, or with my priorities, or can you clarify a little bit?

Harte Daniels: Yes. If you will read the mission for CTAB in general. I came in late and maybe you've already answered this. That is our mission, and our mission is to meet your needs. And 2025 is coming up, and we're doing in our groups, etc. the planning for that. Not only do we bring things to you from the community but the first part of that mission statement states that we respond to your legislative or your vision of Seattle from you needs. Did you already answer that? I apologize.

Phillip Meng: I think we addressed it to some extent, but we would love to get your take here on priorities maybe more broadly. Harte, you raise a good point. Our mission

here is to serve the City, and we would love to get a great sense of the issues and priorities or where we can help.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Thank you. I'll give a broader sense. And thank you, Phillip, and thank you, Harte, for setting that platform up. We have just a couple of priorities, and I will just talk broadly. Obviously, safety is important to us. Some people say 'community safety;' some people say 'public safety.' I break it down into three parts. A pie. You have prevention, intervention, and enforcement. The Council, this year, has spent a lot of time on the enforcement piece. We have funded the intervention piece, as well. And next year, I am going to be focused on the preventative piece for folks. So, particularly for kids, that's going to be where our north star is going to be, the preventative piece. the after school programs for kids; the activities for young folks, the stimulation, all of those great things. The preventative, the arts and culture, those things that prevent people from going on the path where they are doing bad things on the streets. The second thing is going to be housing. We are definitely in a housing crisis. I am very fortunate to live in the house that my grandmother bought in 1947, that we turned into a triplex in 2002. Not everyone has that privilege to be able to find some type of affordable housing in our City, let alone it being transferred and passed down among different generations, and so I'm very cognizant of the housing crisis that we're in with more people driving in from outside the City. It is really difficult for people to be able to work, live, and play in the City of Seattle. That is a big concern of mine, just because my generation, millennials, are not able to buy a house like their parents. So, that is going to be big. The third thing is City services. In our office, we feel like we can control governance on day-to-day functionality of City services. I am not in the business of being labeled. Is Joy a moderate? Is Joy progressive. Is she over here? This is a nonpartisan position. And I tell people that I am not going to progressively fill your pothole, or conservatively fix the sidewalk. I am going to serve you, no matter what neighborhood you are in. And so, I think that bringing that type of tone to District 3 is a lot different than my predecessor, but I think it is much needed right now, particularly at the City Council level, that I am not using this platform for a political performing agenda, and that I am here to serve our district to ensure that your garbage gets picked up, the sidewalks, the parks are clean, the libraries stay open, the community center is functioning, the heat is on at the school, just operation of a City. I don't think people understand how just important that is. When someone's garbage gets picked up, after not getting picked up for two weeks, they are ecstatic. I remember when the street got repaved in this neighborhood that was bumpy as hell. I had so my cyclists hit me up. "Hey, thank you!" Just those little things can make your life so much better and enjoyable. And our City should be functional. It should work for people. I hate when people say that they called the City, and they couldn't get somebody on the phone. Just the other day, I called the non-emergency line and I was waiting for 30 or 45 minutes before someone answered the phone call! What the heck! That is not working for people. So, I am in the business of wanting to make sure that things are working for peoples' functionality, so they can go day-to-day and for their lives to be successful.

Those are some of my priorities: public safety, housing, and just functional government for day-to-day services.

Harte Daniels: Thank you. The follow-up on that, of course, is if you can figure out a way that technology dovetails into that so that we have something to grab hold of. One concept that I might throw out is -- and it also provides motivation for youth to become involved in technology -- is looking at your Office of Emergency Management, anything you do in that area that has an improvement filters out into those areas that you talked about. Because, when a disaster hits, all of those go down. It's sort of like the concept that if you look at your smart phone, most of those technologies, like Zoom and such and talking to it were done by software engineers, who were paid less money because they were developing those technologies for the disabled. And nobody cared that much for the disabled until somebody said, 'Oh, all of the able-bodied would like that. right? And a lot of your ADA stuff, you will find that the able-bodied are using it. So, it's something for you to focus on in technology or for you to think of something for us to bite on. We would like to help with that. My suggestion is that we could look at Bellingham. Having been part of the innovation team between Hurricane Sandy, there was a situation where all of the electricity, which means all of the routers as well as cell phones, were out, and there was a small minority marginalized community, which only had one bus route in and out. But people have been trying to help them with peer-to-peer networks. When FEMA and the

team worked with their routers, etc., in an entire section of the city. These people who had been ignored saved all of the rich people around them who had been ignoring them. So, that might be an area for us to think about being in those areas that you were talking about. Additionally, I have a non-technical question on the housing. People are judgmental about single-family housing, but when you do your tiny villages, those are all single housing. FEMA learned after Hurricane Sandy and they have ADA-compliant units that are three people. They go vertically. So, that's just a concept and if you figure a way, then we can discuss it in our committees. But if you figure out a way that technology fits, then we can help you with those. And I will just remind you of the others ones. I'm speaking of computer safety where we are talking about technology, but technology is becoming dangerous for the kids, besides just isolation and an inability to react to other people. it is actually physically difficult for them, easing parents who have two jobs, and making health care more available to those with English proficiency difficulty, which is immigrants and those on Medicaid, but they are not yet taking advantage of the technology to stay connected with health care. As a background, I do have certification in health care and have several years in that. As far as your operations, I have four years in technology and project management in large companies, which would not only include technology, but government. So, please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Thank you, Harte. I appreciate that.

Phillip Meng: Great. Thanks again, Harte. I appreciate, as always, the mention of smaller organizations. As you might know, it's one of the biggest activities we work on regularly, every year. Many CTAB members participate in the process for the Technology Matching Fund as reviewers. I know a lot of us get excited when those kinds of resources go to smaller organizations where it really makes a difference in their capacity, and ability to serve their communities. I want to end up with one final question. I know that we've gone a bit overtime, but I think that folks are very excited about this conversation. I want to end up with one initiative that is very closely tied to CTAB's history. the Technology Access and Adoption Survey, by my understanding, was initiative between folks at the City, folks on CTAB, at least a couple of decades ago. This year, of course, we have new Technology Access and Adoption Survey results. I would love to understand if that has made its way to Council, and if so, how it has influenced the way that members of City Council are thinking about issues around technology?

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: My computer was cutting in and out. You asked -- what was the thing that came to Council, and how -- can you repeat that one more time?

Phillip Meng: The Technology Access and Adoption Survey. We would love to know if that has come to the attention of Council, and if so, how it has made its way into the policy-making process. That is a survey that we care very deeply about here at CTAB.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: I might have missed that one. I'm not familiar. That has not come to Council, to my knowledge just yet. And if I've missed it, I apologize and I can follow-up. But, yes I can't speak on that because I don't know, honestly.

From Chat: Harte Daniels 12/10/2024 7:06 PM • <https://seattle.gov/tech/reports-and-data/technology-access-and-adoption-study>

Phillip Meng: That's great, in the sense that we would love to send you the link. It is the work of David Keyes and so many folks at the digital equity team at Seattle IT. Many CTAB members have been very deeply engaged in that process over the years. We would love to share that as a follow-up on that and the other topics we have discussed today, like the families levy. We would certainly be excited to continue the conversation. Thanks, Harte, for the link. It is a phenomenal survey.

Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth: Awesome. I just clicked on the link, so I have it up. And I will take a read of that this week. Thank you.

Phillip Meng: Great. Moving on to the rest of our agenda, given that we are a little bit behind schedule, we will make sure to move through this pretty quickly. I want to flip the order a little bit. Before we talk about the 2025 workplan, I want to first go over the annual report. And I understand, including at the committee level, we are still in the process of putting together all of the details. This will come to approval from the whole board in the next meeting, but I want to give a preview of the content first, to make sure that we are not missing anything big. Can I get a confirmation that folks are able to see the annual report? Great. At a high level, we are focusing on three sections. One, we want to, in this draft of the report, put forward some of the key topics we have worked on this year, including the 2024 Technology Access and Adoption Survey; the various topics like Seattle Community Network; Open Data Day; updates from Seattle IT that we have covered in our meetings over the past few months; as well as areas like the Technology Matching Fund. And, of course, the fantastic guests who have joined us in these meetings. So, a quick question, and I know that there is going to be quite a bit of text on the page. Board members and members of the community, are there any other key updates that you would like to be included in this section of the text? I will take the silence to mean that this is fairly comprehensive. On the committee update side, and with apologies to Coleman Entringer, Harte Daniels, Dorene Cornwell, and team, I have pulled in the draft bullet points. I know that there are still some edits, and it is underway, but we can coordinate on getting the final text here before January, so that we can send it out to the board for review. The other sections are on new members, and more importantly, on new committees. So, if you recall, earlier in the fall we did a little bit of a census, if you will, on the number of interested members per committee. I have also, at times, informally reached out and I will be completing the reach out this month, on how deep the interest and number of people looks, so we can feasibly set up each committee. I want to bring this to discussion before the board and alignment here on whether we are able to support a fifth committee on Privacy and Cybersecurity. The Digital Equity and Outreach Committees are existing. And I want to call out both Femi Adebayo and also to DeiMarlon Scisney, who I know is working to jump start the work of the Outreach Committee and make it more active. It looks like we have enough interest from members in Digital Wellbeing, as well as the new Smart Cities and Digital Infrastructure hybrid committee. But I want to get a sense again of how many folks

would be interested in joining a Privacy and Cybersecurity Committee, to make sure that we have enough people to carry on the momentum. Perhaps, whether it is a show of hands, or folks can speak up, we would love to get folks' thoughts on committee structure and what we are looking at here. Omari Stringer, would you like to add anything to that, or just a show of hands as a show of support?

CTAB 2024 YEAR-END SUMMARY DOCUMENT

Omari Stringer: It can be a little concerns here, either relating some of the work and pulling it into something like Smart Cities and something like a digital responsibility committee or something like that, or if we are worried about overloading committees, then I think it will be fine to have fewer folks. What I think is we wanted no more than two or three members on the committee, so I think I would be happy to support that if some other members wanted to join.**bit of both. I know, historically, that we have had this committee and also partnered or kind of worked alongside the committee on the Surveillance Working Group in providing feedback on that public engagement for surveillance technologies, so I do think that it is an important committee to consider. But I'm wondering if there is a way to -- I think I am balancing two**

From Chat: Sanchit Gera Happy to contribute to the privacy committee in whatever way I can! Love the initiative 🥰

From Chat: Omari Stringer 12/10/2024 7:15 PM • Agreed. I know the IAPP (privacy professional org) has recently modified their mission to include privacy and AI Governance (responsible AI) as a combo field of "digital responsibility" that tries to encapsulate all of those related fields.

From Chat: Hailey Dickson 12/10/2024 7:14 PM • I know there was discussion about responsible AI as a topic... do we see that as falling within one of these specifically?

Phillip Meng: Thank you so much, Sanchit, for expressing interest. Both of these comments certainly add to the comments here. But at a high level, what we are looking at is that CTAB has 10 total seats on the board. Of course, we have lots of amazing community members who are a part of these committees. I just want to make sure that we are able to sustain what would be five committees. Everyone here, including board

members, are volunteers, and therefore, this is a meaningful ask. If we are comfortable with moving forward with five committees, I think we can proceed to a vote next month on the finalized version of this report. Were there any comments on pieces to add?

Dorene Cornwell: Is there an online copy of this draft? It's just that it is a little bit hard for me to interact with it in the screen share.

Phillip Meng: Of course. I will circulate this within the Digital Equity Committee and to the whole board.

Dorene Cornwell: Thank you.

Phillip Meng: Thanks for the call out, Dorene. As I said, this is still a draft. There are a couple of details that we need. For instance, I would like to recognize individually the CTAB members who have served as reviewed for the TMF and who have participated in the Technology Access and Adoption Survey, and so forth. We will get that circulated by next month. On that note, Hailey Dickson, your question is a great segue to our discussion of the work plan, and what lives in each segment here. In October, we had a broader discussion about some of the work items. A brainstorm, if you will, on what we wanted to achieve in the next year. I've done some synthesis of these items, to think about where we would place them within this committee structure. And on this slide, taking the assumption of sorts that we would be looking at a five committee program. Now, this is not exhaustive. They are really just examples of agenda items that would be taken on by the full board, as well as by committees. To your question, I think that something like Responsible AI would be tackled as a full board in our forums and other types of engagement, and in terms of work products, research products that would go into the Smart Cities and Digital Infrastructure Committee. It would be great to get everyone's feedback on any comments here. If there are any really big topics that are missing. This is something that, of course, we can also discuss in our smaller and informal conversations next month. But as you are looking at this, is there any reactions from the group?

Femi Adebayo: Just as a community member, I really appreciate that you have a Digital Wellbeing Committee, especially for mental health.

Phillip Meng: I want to give a big shout out to Hailey Dickson for elevating the topic with the board, too. It feels like there is a lot of enthusiasm in here and interest in taking that topic further. So, I am excited to get this committee set up.

Hailey Dickson: Thank you so much for that comment. And I am definitely interested in getting that committee off the ground in the new year. So, I am happy to meet with anyone who is interested. If you would like to talk about ideas or hearing Councilmembers' goals for the year. I look forward to Digital Wellbeing being a priority area. I think that there will be a lot of opportunity that we can support and put together learnings for the year in that area.

Harte Daniels: To that end, I would like to remind people that the recommendations for health, for AI, and social media, is abstinence. And to encourage them into connection with the earth and taking their phones away from them while in school. So, it is not going to come through the companies, themselves, but trying to figure out how to give parents and others ways of balancing their years. I was going to put into the chat about Character AI. That is a chat for youths that has been responding to kids conversing with it, and leading to actual harm, from cutting to suicide. As I mentioned earlier, this study is now being done on a change in the brain. So, I just want to remind people that all of the experts have been considering balancing and staying away from social media, and that comes into Joy's concept of encouraging Parks and Recreation.

Phillip Meng: This is indeed such an important topic. In that case, if there are no other comments....

Omari Stringer: I just have one quick comment. I wanted to piggyback off of the Character AI, because unfortunately, we will see more stories like that. I think it was a teenager who committed suicide after arguably being encouraged by the Character AI bot. To the broader point around how do we fold in responsible AI. I liked your approach of utilizing us as a full board, but then looking at the different committees to focus on those sub-specialties where there is crossover. So, for example, issues of potentially bad actors using AI to do deep fakes, to commit fraud, could be something that the Privacy and Cybersecurity Committee could cover, versus something like looking at youth impact of those chatbots. It could be about wellbeing, or if City services are going to be provisioned and provided by AI, that is something that the Smart Cities Committee could look at. So, I really like the idea of having it be peanut buttered, for a lack of a better word, across the board. And as these topics pop up, we can assign them to the relevant committee for that deeper dive into that specific area, or if there is a larger

project that the City wants to work on, or get some feedback on, we could take specific lenses that look at it. Because I don't think that that is something that is going to come up every month, that would warrant its own committee. But, I thin for certain topics, it may be useful for it to become part of each committee's work plan. I think it will touch a lot of different committees' work. And maybe that is something that we can work on with Digital Equity, impacts of the use of AI. That's a huge one. It is an area of focus for me, but also thinking about Outreach where community members want to better understand. I know that I have seen some kind of AI 101 series going on to make people aware of these types of technology, as it is likely that we will interact with them. Just echoing that point that I think it is going to be something that is seen across all of our work next year.

Phillip Meng: I haven't even thought about chatbots as a potential source of fraud, or other types of issues for the City, but you are absolutely right. In the same way that chatbots can be used to deter scammers by carrying on and mimicking conversations, it can also be used for the reverse. I think it would be really exciting if we are able to get ahead of that. And of course, the goal of this document is to have a relatively flexible architecture. Give the scope of the new committee work that we are launching going into the new year, we would want each committee to also put forth charters and other information about more detailed deliverables over the next few months. Are there any other comments? If not, I think in this meeting we can get a motion to approve the work plan, the 2024-2025 work plan.

DeiMarlon Scisney: I do have a question, if you don't mind. My question is just around outreach here. How are we defining that? CSOs, what is that?

Phillip Meng: One topic that has come up from time to time -- oh, that is a typo! CBOs! Community Based Organizations!

DeiMarlon Scisney: Okay. It's CBOs. Got it. Thank you.

Phillip Meng: I take it that I don't have to explain that one. That is a typo. I sometimes see that civil society oriented organizations. But community-based organizations is what I meant to write.

DeiMarlon Scisney: Got you. Thank you.

Hailey Dickson: I just have one more question. Sorry to add on. I wonder if -- I remember that Joy discussed that there might be budget for an app to better connect people in the City with services and technology. So, I wonder if Outreach could focus on is how to be that liaison to tighten that community feedback. That's just an idea of a key item that could fall under the Outreach Committee, as well.

Harte Daniels: That would probably be an addition to the old two-year program that the City has already done in that regard. Do we have somebody, Mr. Winters or somebody else that could remind us of that work?

Vinh Tang: There is a Mayor's initiative, called the Youth Connector. I think that's what Hailey Dickson is referring to. It was mentioned at the beginning.

Phillip Meng: Hailey, I think that's a great idea. This meeting is a great opportunity to, along with the conversation we had with CTO Lloyd at the last meeting. I think these are great opportunities to have more sustained engagement with City initiatives, and how we can support. And insofar as it relates to outreach to the public, I'm sure the Outreach Committee would be a good fit for those goals. If there are no other comments, do we need a motion on the work plan? Or would this be adopted alongside the statement next meeting?

Vinh Tang: The one thing that maybe I could manage (unintelligible). I could take a look at the minutes again to see if we are missing a bullet point here and there based on what Joy said. It's up to you, though. We can proceed today and formally adopt this, or wait for the next meeting.

Phillip Meng: I say let's adopt it all together with the annual report. I agree that in today's meeting, we have learned about some initiatives that I think that there will be a lot of interest around that we can incorporate into the work plan. Aiming to finish almost on time, are there any updates from committees that folks would like to share?

From Chat: Tang, Vinh 12/10/2024 7:28 PM • <https://harrell.seattle.gov/2024/12/10/seattle-expands-youth-mental-health-supports-with-launch-of-talkspace-virtual-therapy/>

From Chat: Tang, Vinh 12/10/2024 7:31 PM • The name of the initiative is called Reach Out Seattle <https://seattle.gov/mayor/one-seattle-initiatives/youth-mental-health>

From Chat: Tang, Vinh 12/10/2024 7:29 PM •

2025-2026 budget:

\$500K to support the design, creation and implementation of a “Youth Connector” program. This will be co-designed by and for teens to help improve access to and awareness of enrichment programs.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

DEI COMMITTEE

Coleman Entringer: The Digital Equity Committee met a couple of weeks ago. We talked about our updates, so I'm glad that you brought that up. We will further refine that at our next meeting, but I think those are directional. Glad to see those. And ten, for the upcoming telecom forum, we are still progressing. I know that I owe a couple of different people, so I hope that we will be able to send those out shortly. once we get our agenda written and approved for that. So, when I have time this week, I will try to send those out to the Outreach Committee, and I know we've had a couple of volunteers helping out with that, as well. Tracking for a January date for the telecom forum, and other than that, after the new year, we will be looking at any new slates of initiatives for the community.

Phillip Meng: Thanks so much, Coleman. We are very excited for the upcoming finalized draft of the end of year update, and of course, we have the telecom forum coming up, as well. For folks who are online, just note that Vinh Tang has sent over some more information about the Youth Connector program within the 2025-2026

budget. All right, finally, public comment. Are there any comments from folks in the meeting today?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Harte Daniels: The Naval Postgraduate School is opening their next field of experimentation. That would include governments, etc. People get together and mash up ideas for a solution or presenting solutions that they have. Coming out of the innovation team, we added HADR, Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Response. They are looking for ideas right now. And if you want to get to -- if now is not the proper time, you can connect with me to discuss on that. And local person on Bainbridge Island, I learned, had been handling the working group for the State Department on human geography, which is a concept that the Councilmember may wish to look at, if not CTAB members about how technology is and Geo Space openings are being used to assist the human condition. Thank you.

Phillip Meng: Thank you, Harte. Is there anything else? If not, we're just a couple of minutes behind schedule. Thank you so much, everyone, for joining. And thank you so much, Joy, for joining us in this December Community Technology Advisory Board meeting. It looks like we have much exciting work ahead setting up committees and our detailed work plans for next year. This is also our last full board meeting prior to the holiday season, and so I am wishing everyone a very, very happy holiday, and I look forward to seeing you all in January.

DeiMarlon Scisney: I'm sorry. Before we go, I just want to make sure -- Vinh Tang, real quick, do you have my information for next steps? Everything is good to go, right? And the web site set?

Vinh Tang: Yes.

Phillip Meng: Thank you all. All right. Good night. See you in January.

