



City of Seattle

Mike McGinn, Mayor

Seattle LGBT Commission

Seattle LGBT Commission: 2013 Work Plan

The Seattle LGBT Commission is pleased to present its work plan for 2013.

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.

The Commission developed its work plan through a review of objectives and achievements in the 2012 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 November 2012; and community feedback on 2013 Work Plan aspirations at a public Community Meeting on January 16, 2013.

PRIORITY AREAS:

Economic Justice

Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders working to address issues of economic justice.

Education and Outreach

Build relationships, educate, and outreach around intersectional identities (such as ability, age, class, ethnicity, faith, gender identity, immigration status, race, sexual orientation). Promote and distribute the anti-bullying Total Bull resource card while fostering and strengthening relationships within the LGBTQ youth community.

LGBTQ Community Center

Support community efforts to establish an LGBTQ Community Center.

LGBTQ Elders and Aging

Collaborate with community groups focusing on the needs of LGBTQ elders and aging populations.

LGBTQ Immigrants and Refugees

Work with the newly established Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and support community organizations addressing the key challenges for Seattle LGBTQ immigrants (including citizens, documented and undocumented immigrants), refugees, asylees, and bi-national couples.

Police and Community Impact

Strengthen relationship with LGBTQ communities around services, responses, protection, treatment, and communications with/by Seattle Police Department (SPD). Foster ongoing communication with SPD, SPD LGBTQ Advisory Council, and the newly established Police Commission.

Transgender Inclusion and Access

Work with the City and community groups focusing on improvement of transgender inclusion and access. This may include collaboration on transgender empowerment initiatives, access to bathrooms and other gendered spaces, and access to shelters and healthcare.

Youth & Gender Identity—Access to Services

Continue working with Human Services Department and Seattle-King County Public Health (particularly the Youth Empowerment and Housing Divisions) to improve services to LGBTQ and additionally marginalized youth and transgender adults.

ONGOING GOALS OF THE LGBT COMMISSION INCLUDE:

- Strengthen **advising relationships** with the Mayor’s Office, City Council, and City Departments.
- Collaboration with the Seattle Office of Civil Rights (SOCR) and the additional 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.
- **Legislation:** Formalize how the Commission reviews and considers potential legislation.
- Provide support to foster, connect, and sustain relationships with local organizations.
- **Seattle Office of Civil Rights:** Work with the SOCR to promote continuous inclusion of LGBTQ training as part of the City’s Race and Social Justice Initiative.
- Continue outreach to and education of public on the LGBT Commission mission, while also supporting LGBTQ community organizations and events.
- Ongoing review of commission bylaws, attendance, and budget.
- Develop, implement and maintain a recruitment and orientation plan for new commissioners.
- Consider future and sustainable evaluation and assessment measures including consideration of a Seattle Snapshot Survey follow-up.

The Commission’s current committee structure is as follows:

Government Relations Committee: The Government Relations Committee acts as the conduit between the Commission and governmental entities, including making recommendations for action to the Mayor’s Office, City Council, and City Departments.

Programs & Outreach Committee: The Programs & Outreach Committee is responsible for the Commission’s public presence, including marketing and communications, Commission events, and community outreach.

Internal Affairs Committee: The Internal Affairs Committee is responsible for the internal mechanics of the Commission, including recruitment, orientation, and team-building.

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.

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.