



# Seattle

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Departmental Leadership to Address Three of My Top Priorities

by Katie Wilson

I ran on a platform focused on addressing our homelessness crisis, reducing childcare costs, and improving our transportation system. Today I am announcing my decisions on who will lead the critical city departments that work on these issues: the Seattle Human Services Department (HSD), the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL), and the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT).

### Addressing Our Homelessness Crisis

Reducing unsheltered homelessness will be a top priority for my administration. We particularly need to take quick action to open new emergency housing and shelter beds ahead of the World Cup in June 2026. Success will require close collaboration between my administration, the King County Regional Homelessness Authority, service providers, the business community, and many other stakeholders. To partner with my office in this work, I am retaining **Seattle Human Services Department Director Tanya Kim**. Together, I am confident that we can provide people the care they need, in dignified settings, and bring proven solutions to scale.

***"I love the Human Services Department, and I know our exceptional workforce and exceptional partners are ready to tackle the critical work ahead. I look forward to working to implement the mayor's vision, build upon our department's collective strengths, and move quickly over the next four years to open new emergency shelter and bring people inside."***

**—Tanya Kim**

## **Making Childcare Affordable and Accessible**

A vibrant city is one that welcomes families and provides opportunities for children and adults alike to thrive. But right now, working families across Seattle are struggling with soaring childcare costs. As mayor, I am committed to working with families, providers and advocates to develop policies and partnerships that expand access to affordable childcare. A key partner in this work will be the Department of Education and Early Learning, and I will be retaining **Director Dwane Chappelle** to collaborate with my office on this effort.

***“I am honored to continue serving as Director of Education and Early Learning under Mayor Wilson’s administration. The renewed FEPP Levy represents a historic investment in childcare and preschool—bringing affordable, high-quality childcare to 4,500 children and supporting 5,000 childcare workers annually. Quality, affordable childcare is an essential infrastructure for our city’s economic vitality, our children’s futures, and as a family-friendly city.***

*In close partnership with Mayor Wilson’s administration, we will develop a seamless continuum of support from cradle-to-career, ensuring that every Seattle child—regardless of zip code, income, or background—has the opportunity to thrive.”*

**— Dr. Dwane Chappelle**

## **Investing in a World-Class Transportation Network**

My administration is committed to building a transportation network that allows every person in every neighborhood to safely and reliably get where they want to go, whether they use transit, walk, bike, roll, or drive. We have the opportunity to move quickly to shape Seattle’s transportation future in line with this vision. In just the next year, Sound Transit will make key decisions regarding West Seattle and Ballard Link, our Seattle Transportation Measure will be up for renewal, and we’ll continue to deliver on projects across the city that were funded through the recent transportation levy.

Success on this quick timeline will require strong operational expertise, which is why I am excited to announce **Angela Brady as Interim SDOT Director** to lead on these critical issues in 2026. Angela comes to SDOT from the Office of the Waterfront, Civic Projects and Sound Transit, where she oversaw implementation of the new Waterfront Park, and where she currently serves as the City of Seattle’s Designated Representative to Sound Transit. Angela is committed to addressing our maintenance backlog, and shares my vision of world-class transit, a citywide network of protected bike lanes, safe and accessible sidewalks, great pedestrian spaces, and housing-rich neighborhoods packed with amenities. I want to thank Adiam Emery for her dedicated service to the SDOT and the City of Seattle.

***“I am honored to be selected for this critical role with the new administration, particularly at such a pivotal and exciting time for our city. I have worked tirelessly through many years of community engagement, planning, design, and construction to successfully deliver on major investments that will forever shape Seattle’s waterfront and our city’s identity and I am thrilled to be able to offer my leadership and expertise toward delivering on SDOT’s commitments to the public as part of the Seattle Transportation Levy and so much more. I want to thank Mayor-elect Wilson for trusting me with this important role, and I am truly looking forward to working in partnership with her, other city departments, communities, and key agency partners as we continue working to ensure efficient and safe access to all modes of travel in Seattle.”***  
**— Angela Brady**

***“It has been an honor to conclude my more than 30-year career with the City of Seattle in the department that welcomed me and shaped me professionally—from starting as an intern to ultimately leading the department as director.***

*I will forever cherish serving as Deputy Mayor and leading SDOT in securing the largest voter-approved transportation levy in the City’s history, alongside adoption of the Seattle Transportation Plan, our 20-year vision for Seattle’s future.*

*Returning to the department earlier this year has been deeply rewarding as we collectively launch levy deliverables, oversee the first phase of the Revive I-5 closures, and develop the operational plans needed to prepare for upcoming FIFA events. This return reflects a meaningful journey in my beloved second home city, where I have raised my two wonderful children.*

*I am deeply grateful for the partnership of the talented SDOT staff, City Council members, community stakeholders, the Administration, and Mayor Harrell and his Executive Team.*

*As I step away from this role, I remain committed to supporting the incoming executive leadership team during the transition and helping position SDOT and the City of Seattle to deliver a transportation system that is safe, equitable, and affordable, and that connects people to places and opportunity.”*

**— Adiam Emery**

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