



Meeting Minutes #44

(Adopted 10/22/2025)

Swedish Cherry Hill Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC)

June 11, 2025

6:00 – 8:00 PM

(Transcriber's Note: The notes shown below are summaries of statements provided. They are not transcriptions and have been shortened and edited to include the major points raised. Full comments are retained in the files in video recording and available upon request.)

In-person Location:

Swedish Cherry Hill Campus

James Tower, Swedish Education Conference Center (SECC), Conference Room C

500 17th Ave

Seattle, WA 98122

Virtual:

Webex

Committee Members Present:

Claire Lane

Maureen Devery

Ellen Sollod

Casey Langsjoen (virtual)

Swedish Cherry Hill staff:

Rachel Jenner

Camila Level

City of Seattle Staff:

Nelson Pesigan, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON)

Dipti Garg, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON)(virtual)

Sarah Sodt, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON)(virtual)

Nathan Torgelson, Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)

Gordon Clowers, Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)

Sabey Staff:

Tina Tufts

Theresa Wright (virtual)

Opening & Introductions

Nelson Pesigan opened the meeting. A brief introduction was followed.

Response from SDCI on IAC Complaints on Land Use and Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to SDCI and SDOT

Nathan Torgelson of SDCI noted that it acknowledges and take the committee's comments seriously. Regarding code violations, it is the general philosophy of SDCI to work with the applicant or the Institution to bring them into compliance in a collaborative and cooperative mode.

Nathan Torgelson mentioned that the Institution is not proposing a major amendment to the Master Plan and there are current plans in place to address the transportation issues.

Nathan Torgelson noted that since the hotel has not been built, there is nothing for SDCI to comment or enforce, and will continue to work with the Institution and the neighbors to ensure compliance with the Transportation Management Plan (TMP) and the Master Plan.

Gordon Clowers of SDCI noted that about reviewing the two complaint letters related to the transportation management plan and the land use. Gordon took the role of an ombudsman in reviewing the letters and developed an appropriate response in consultation with the city staff who reviewed the letters.

Gordon Clowers commented about being pro active in engaging the Institution in moving forward to ensure compliance with the transportation management plan and keeping the Institution accountable and responsible in meeting their goals.

Claire Lane echoed the concerns raised by the committee about Swedish's historical non-compliance with the transportation management goals and with the recent permitting of the hotel project.

Claire Lane highlighted the need for better communication and engagement between SDCI, the Institution, the committee and community members regarding compliance issues in the MIMP.

Claire Lane and the committee expressed concerns about the hotel project being fundamentally different and non-compliant with the existing MIMP.

Claire Lane noted that since the Institution disassociated from the hotel project, there were questions about the hotel's permissible use and compliance with the MIMP.

Ellen Sollod expressed its frustrations over the ongoing issues with compliance and the lack of transparency and inadequate and unclear communication and responses from SDCI regarding the hotel project.

The committee seeks and asks for better communication and transparency regarding project approvals from SDCI and especially about whether SDCI and SDOT consulted with one another regarding compliance with the transportation management goals and how did SDCI came to the conclusion to issue the permits for the hotel project to continue knowing that there were outstanding land use complaints and compliance issues from the committee and the neighbors.

5-year MIMP Public Community Meeting

Rachel Jenner shared a draft agenda item to the committee to be discussed at the community meeting.

The community meeting will be at the Byrd Barr place on Saturday, July 19th beginning at 10:00 am.

Bill Zosel of the Squire Park Community Council confirmed that the Council set aside time in the agenda for Swedish's presentation.

Rachel Jenner mentioned that they are confirming any coordination and arrangements for displaying any visual models or information related to the Master Plan specifically with the MIO (Major Institutions Overlay).

Rachel Jenner noted that there will be information available regarding outreach and recruitment for new members and interactive activities for community members including feedback on what residents appreciate about the Cherry Hill campus and suggestions for improvement.

Camila Level noted that Swedish is following up King County Metro and Commute Seattle to ensure there is a table set up at the meeting to discuss about transit options and improvements.

Sabey Update

Tina Tufts mentioned that they will be hosting a transportation fair next Wednesday.

Public Comments

Bill Zosel commented about the magnificent work the committee has put through to address these issues to the issue and in front of the Hearing Examiner. Bill Zosel commented about having SDCI to take another closer look at the complaint letters and take into consideration the letter from Swedish about their associated with the hotel project.

MaryPat DeLiva commented about what happens if SDCI denies or does not approve permits and if there are any issues

Committee Deliberation

The committee briefly deliberated on the responses from Nathan Torgelson and Gordon Clowers regarding their responses on the transportation and land use complaints.

The committee would like a response and a follow up with the assigned SDCI land use reviewer and manager to confirm whether SDCI consulted with SDOT regarding Swedish's substantial progress on the SOV rate in relation to the hotel permit.

The committee requested that all future communications about the land use complaints are adequately disclosed and accessible to the committee and the public.

The committee asks that all required elements of the TMP are being met by Swedish and provide updates on any additional compliance requirements or strategies are being implemented.

The committee would also like to know any possible remedy to appeal a non-compliance on permissible use. The committee felt that they were not given a clear answer and did not receive any feedback from the complaint letter.

The committee reiterated that they would like to move forward from the hotel project issue and are willing to work with the Institution and the City to achieve this goal. The committee continues to ask and consider better strategies for improving communication and transparency between SDCI, Swedish, and community members regarding the ongoing projects.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm