

## SEATTLE RENTERS' COMMISSION (SRC)

### MINUTES

June 5, 2024

6:15-7:45 PM

Webex, online

**Purpose:** The Seattle Renters' Commission (SRC) was established to represent the interest of renters located in Seattle, to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on public policy matters of importance to renters citywide.

**Commissioners in attendance:** Julissa Sanchez, Dan Godfrey, Kate Rubin, & Lydia Felty

**Staff:** Laura Jenkins & Alvin Edwards

**Quorum:** Yes

**Public Comment:** None

(Transcriber's Note: Seattle Renters' Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript and represent key points and the basis of discussion. The recording of the minutes is available upon request.)

### Welcome

Land and Labor Acknowledgements were shared by commissioners

**Approval of the agenda** (June); **Approval of the Minutes** (May 15 Special Meeting). The June 5 agenda and the May 15 special meeting minutes were approved.

**Letter addressing King County Legal Aid** - Commissioner Rubin introduced this topic at the May meeting and shared a press release from King County Councilmember Dunn who had put forward a motion to restrict access to legal aid. Also shared was a letter from the Action Network that another organization sent in response. The motion was moved to committee; Kate has been checking for updates, but this motion hasn't appeared on the agenda after almost a month and a half. Kate asked if the SRC wanted to send a similar letter as the one from the Action Network, and if so, would call for a vote. Commissioner Felty motioned to have Commissioner Rubin draft a letter from the SRC to the King County Council; Commissioner Godfrey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Rubin motioned to have the SRC sign on to the letter from the Complete Communities Coalition. Commissioner Sanchez seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Godfrey motioned to amend the agenda to include a discussion of appointments, updates from staff facilitators, and a discussion of a PDA appointment. Commissioner Rubin seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Rubin motioned to amend the agenda to discuss putting forward a letter supporting a bolder transportation levy and has a draft to share with the group. Commissioner Godfrey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Pending Commission Appointments** – staff indicated there are no updates. Staff will follow up on scheduling a meeting with Councilmember Moore’s office. Commissioner Rubin expressed concern over a recent referral for appointment and asked if the SRC could revoke it. Staff advised it depends on who appointed the commissioner. Commissioner Rubin will seek clarification from staff liaison when the co-chairs meet next week.

**Public Development Authority (PDA)** – Commissioner Godfrey learned there is one open seat, and he believes it is DON’s. He was told the PDA did not know the Area Median Income (AMI) or if it will need to be maintained, and that the PDA is seeking bookkeeping acumen. Commissioner Godfrey spoke with one of the candidates, who is interested in both the SRC and PDA; he did not recall seeing bookkeeping expertise on the resume. Commissioner Rubin said the SRC requested a meeting with the PDA board to clarify shared understanding.

**Transportation Levy Hearing** – Commissioner Rubin reported on public hearing she attended on the Seattle Transportation Levy; there was a strong call from the community to increase the levy, putting more focus on sidewalks, public transit and bike lanes. She met with a representative from Seattle Neighborhood Greenways and together they drafted a letter for consideration of a vote tonight by the SRC. Commissioner Rubin read the letter aloud and put forward a motion to send the letter on behalf of the SRC. Commissioner Sanchez seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Rubin will email the letter to the staff liaison this evening. Staff will verify amending the agenda and taking actions to ensure compliance with OPMA.

**2024 Workplan** – The draft plan is based on the 2023 work plan, the February retreat, and SRC conversations. The draft was reviewed and discussed section by section. Commissioner Felty put forward a motion to delete the word ‘draft’ from the document and approve the 2024-2025 work plan. Commissioner Rubin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment** – E. Mandisa Subira shared her ongoing concerns with her apartment management company. Commissioner Rubin suggested communicating with E. Mandisa Subira and commissioners via email on these concerns.

**Adjourn | 7:45PM**