

Green New Deal Oversight Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING SUMMARY	Date: 10/16/2023
	Time: 5:00pm – 7:00pm
	Location: Zoom
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Tomás Madrigal, Emily Meyers, Steve Gelb, Peter Hasegawa, Debolina Banerjee, Matt Remle, Ken Workman
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Nina Olivier, Maria Batayola, Jess Wallach, Keith Weir, Andrea Ornelas, Eunice How, Rachel Heaton
GUESTS:	Elise Rasmussen (OSE), Sara Cubillos (OSE)

DECISIONS MADE	The Board did not have quorum.
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FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS			
#	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TARGET DATE
1	Elise will send out a link to the GND Library, budget Presentation, and the Resilience Hubs presentation.	Elise	October
2	Send Elise any questions about the Resilience Hubs presentation.	Board members	
3	Review the UFC and GNDOB letter proposing an amendment to the Tree Protection Ordinance and provide any feedback.	Board members	ASAP
4	Connect with Elise on any budget questions.		ASAP

MEETING NOTES

Peter Hasegawa and Debolina Banerjee (GNDOB Co-Chairs) and Elise Rasmussen (Climate and Environmental Justice Associate) facilitated the meeting.

Notes taken by Sara Cubillos (Climate Justice Advisor).

WELCOMES AND INTRODUCTIONS

Debolina started the meeting, reviewed the meeting agenda, and provided a land and legacy acknowledgement.

APPROVING PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

The Board did not have a quorum and will approve the September meeting minutes in a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

UPDATE: GNOB AND UFC JOINT LETTER ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE

A video was shared from **Maria Batayola** with an update on the joint Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) and GNOB letter to Council for a proposed amendment to the Tree Protection Ordinance. Maria will send a survey when she returns to Seattle to gauge interest in participating in a joint committee with the UFC about the Tree Protection Ordinance.

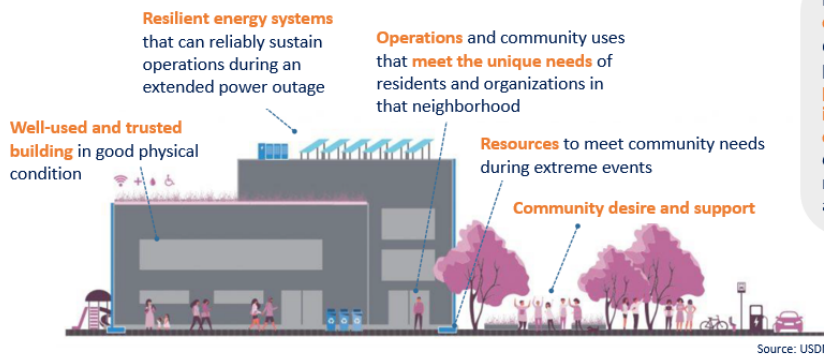
PRESENTATION: SEATTLE'S RESILIENCE HUBS STRATEGY UPDATE

Bin Jung, the Office of Sustainability and Environment's (OSE) Resilience Hubs Advisor, presented on the Citywide Resilience Hub Planning work.

Presentation highlights:

- Citywide Resilience Hub Plan (CRHP) will outline how the City plans to develop and support a network of trusted, community-serving facilities that can support residents before, during, and after a disruption, as well as in their daily lives.
- OSE also has \$1.5M for investments to support building upgrades and other recommended strategies such as solar panel installation, battery storage, air filtration, and emergency preparedness training.

What makes a Resilience Hub?



- Anticipated Planning Timeline:
 - Fall/Winter 2023: Begin community engagement and needs assessment.
 - Early 2024: Continued engagement, needs assessment, and coordination with City agencies.
 - Spring/Summer 2024: Co-create recommendations and funding priorities with community partners and City agencies.
 - Fall/Winter 2024: Conclude engagement and draft, edit, and release Citywide Resilience Hub Plan

Board member questions and staff responses:

- **Tomás:** Is there a plan to align/coordinate with the many buildings that the City of Seattle began purchasing for Arts? **Bin:** We are aware the Cultural Space Agency acquired buildings and find

opportunities where those facilities can be utilized or aligned with the goals of the Resilience Hub planning work.

- **Steve:** Is there a thought of using early pilots like Miller and Bethanny UCC can be used as places to pilot programmatic investments? **Bin:** Yes, those sites will be included as case studies and pilot examples.
- **Steve:** There is an attraction to the big shiny things like solar panels, but some of the more pressing needs are things like A/C or weatherization upgrades. Is this taken into consideration during this planning process? **Bin:** We are working to plan for Resilience Hubs that would provide a spectrum of services and capital improvements and respond to the needs of a specific community.
- **Peter:** Do you see case studies at the city or metro level that are doing resiliency well? If so, what examples are there where legacy investments are now paying off in the event of climate hazards? How are cities being nimble and responding to the current and future challenges of climate? **Bin:** Baltimore did a good job of working with community organizations if the organizations felt ready to take on becoming a Resilience Hub. The needs assessment we will be doing in 2024 will also include looking at other cities that are responding to climate challenges.
- **Steve:** The City and state agencies are making huge investments in affordable housing. It would be good to include in the plan how those places can become hubs. It would also be good to look at the science to understand what the climate will look like 10, 20, 30 years to better understand what impacts we might face as a city and region.
- **Tomás:** Will there be a monetary ask of the GND that the Board should be aware of? **Bin:** Not sure at the moment, but there is a plan for the existing 2023 and 2024 budget.
- **Peter:** How can we push this work faster? **Bin:** There is a lot of funding right now to invest in resilience related resources for community-based organizations to apply and implement these projects. There will be funding to scale these kinds of solutions.

Elise asked Board members to share any remaining questions and comments with her via email. Elise and Bin will work together on responses.

UPDATE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Tomás shared an update from the Community Engagement Committee:

- Clear need for technical assistance for Community Assemblies.
- We will be meeting with the People's Economy Lab (PEL) on October 30th to contract with them for technical assistance, support for grassroots organizations, etc.
- PEL will provide a training on how to conduct Community Assemblies for the Board, other City Boards and Commissions and grassroots organizations.

Board member questions and Committee responses:

- **Steve:** Will the assembly be open for the full Board to participate in or just for the community engagement committee? **Tomás:** It will be open for the full Board.

DISCUSSION: PROPOSAL FOR GND STRATEGY

Peter shared an update about the Projects, Programs, and Policy Committee (PPP Committee) and proposed a strategy for information gathering. Peter proposed using King County's Wedge Analysis as a starting point to identify the most pressing needs. From there, the PPP Committee would prioritize which documents in the GND Library to review. The PPP Committee could do the document review and then share key findings with the full Board, or the full Board could share the responsibility of document review and presenting that information at Board meetings.

After discussion, the Board decided it would be better for the PPP Committee to take the lead on document review, but the PPP Committee would also identify 5-10 core documents for the full Board to review.

Steve suggested that it might be good to approach the document review by goals, needs, or priorities to right size the workload and maximize the impact of the documents. **Debolina** had the idea of making executive summaries available to the full board. We will need to organize the documents by type of document and content focus.

Peter said the PPP Committee will move forward with the document review and create criteria for how the Committee is categorizing the information. The PPP Committee will then work with the full Board to create proposals and recommendations based on the information.

DISCUSSION: NEXT STEPS FOR BOARD'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE CITY BUDGET PROCESS

Staff presented on the City's budget process.

Board member questions and comments:

- **Tomás** shared that he wants to ensure that GND funding is not used to fund the backlash to gains made in response to George Floyd's murder (e.g., laws increasing penalties for drug offenses). He was concerned that the new Council may not have the same level of support for the GND. While Council candidates will not be influencing this budget cycle, they will be implementing the budget. This Board functions ethically and the Board should be focusing on damage control, given the political climate, he was concerned that future work will not be easy.
- **Matt** shared similar concerns as Tomás because Councilmember Mosqueda has been the champion for Jumpstart funding. It is important for Board members to be out sharing about the GND and other areas Jumpstart is funding and that those funds be for its intended purposes.
- **Steve** asked if there was interest among Board members to split up and meet with every Council member to ensure the word about the GND is getting out because we don't know where our next supporter on the Council will come from.
- **Debolina** said she agrees with Steve. If we look at the broader funding of the Green New Deal, it has stayed the same this year and has not been reduced or changed. She proposed the Board focus on budget items that are one time funding adds that they think should be continued funding. For example, it is unclear how Resilience Hubs will be funded to implement the recommendations from the planning work. Indigenous Led Sustainability and EJ Fund has stayed the same, but the EJ Fund did get a general fund reduction and would like to understand that

shift. Debolina's questions for new Council members will be focused on an appetite for progressive revenue and the continuation of the Jumpstart funding.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elise shared staff updates:

- OSE is hiring 2 interns to support the Climate Justice team to work on the communications for the EJ Fund and to support community engagement and communications for the GNOB.
- Oversight Board Application Process is now closed. We have received 30 applicants for the open Board seats.
- Lunch and Learns will be getting started soon. The first Lunch and Learn will focus on the City's draft Workforce Development Recommendations.

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

- Elise will send out a link to the GND Library, budget Presentation, and the Resilience Hubs presentation.
- Send Elise any questions about the Resilience Hubs presentation.
- Review the UFC and GNOB letter proposing an amendment to the Tree Protection Ordinance and provide any feedback.
- Connect with Elise on any budget questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm