

GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD



MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2026

5:00 – 7:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Nancy Huizar, Matt Remle, Brittani Cain, Akiksha Chatterji, Leah Wood, Jamie Stroble, Hannah Lindell-Smith, Rachel Heaton, Nina Olivier, Rosalund Jenkins, Peter Hasegawa, Fatima Kabba

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Stephanie Ung, Camille Gipaya, John Sanchez, Elizabeth Baskerville, Emily Pinckney

GUESTS OSE Staff: Elise Rasmussen, Jazzmin Fragiacomio, Ashlyn Gonzalez-Soriano, Marion Romero, Sarah Chatter

Seattle City Budget Office: Akshay Iyengar

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of March Meeting Minutes
Adopt 2027-2028 City Budget Recommendations

MEETING NOTES

Matt Remle and Nancy Huizar (GNDOB Executive Committee) facilitated the meeting.

Meeting notes were taken by **Jazzmin Fragiacomio** (Climate Justice Planning & Development Specialist), **Elise Rasmussen** (Interim Climate Justice Advisor), **Marion Romero** (Climate and Environmental Justice Associate) and **Ashlyn Gonzalez-Soriano** (Climate and Environmental Justice Intern).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Nancy Huizar started the meeting, reviewed the meeting agenda, and facilitated introductions.

The Green New Deal Oversight Board (GNDOB) continued its new welcome routine where a Board member shares about themselves and their work for Board members and the public to get an understanding of the wide array of work that Board Members are a part of. **Rosalund Jenkins** shared results from the Puget Sound Electrical Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship program. 28 of 30 individuals completed the program, 26 individuals met Union standards and are now competing for 15 direct entry slots to the Puget Sound JATC to which will allow them to join the union electrical trade. **Akiksha Chatterji** was selected to share at May's Board meeting.

Rachel Heaton asked about what is appropriate for inviting members of the public to monthly Board meetings. Staff encouraged Board members to invite all members of the public to monthly meetings as

they are public meetings. Members of the public can just sit in to listen and are always welcome to provide public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VOTE: APPROVAL OF THE MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Peter Hasegawa motioned to approve the minutes. **Brittani Cain** seconded. **The Board voted to approve the March Meeting Minutes. Unanimous approval.**

STAFF UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff provided the following updates and announcements from the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE).

- **Elise Rasmussen** recapped the First People's Climate Fund Launch on April 14th, a first of its kind fund founded from a prior budget recommendation from the Board. **Matt Remle** highlighted the possible impact of budget recommendations and the importance of Indigenous and Tribal leadership and collaboration in advancing environmental justice. Elise shared the application for the Transportation Levy Oversight Committee which oversees levy funds by monitoring budgets, tracking progress, and ensuring appropriate use of funds. Elise communicated Mayor Wilson's March 30th press release announcing new investments in Seattle's Immigrant and Refugee Communities to expand legal defense services. Elise provided an update on the Board's preliminary Climate Action Plan (CAP) recommendations and positive feedback from city staff.
- **Jazzmin Fragiaco** recapped the Clean Heat Program Lunch-and-Learn, where Clean Heat Program staff shared information on rebates for individuals to transition from heat oil to heat pumps. Staff encouraged Board members to watch the recording from the meeting to learn more. Jazzmin shared the Environmental Justice Committee is recruiting 4 individuals. Applications are open and will close on May 8th there is no specific criteria for applicants but prioritize members of Seattle. **Matt Remle** shared about his experience supporting organizations doing environmental justice work in the region by helping select grantees. Staff will follow up with board members about specific criteria regarding committee and application process.
- **Marion Romero** provided updates on scheduling the upcoming Board's Field Trip. **Rachel Heaton** shared about the importance of land-back movements for climate work and Indigenous communities and a tentative itinerary. Marion shared details about upcoming Board appointments. There will be 9 positions open for new members and reappointment. Staff requests Board members support with the application review and interview processes.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board's Executive Committee shared the following updates and announcements.

- **Matt Remle** shared an upcoming lunch-and-learn focused on learning about legislation aiming to ensure any bank hired by the City to underwrite municipal bonds either have a net zero by 2050

target for its lending and underwriting or does not provide major lending and underwriting for the fossil fuel industry. Matt also invited Board members to share Earth Day events from their organizations they would like to invite the Board to. **Hannah Lindell-Smith** shared a 350 Seattle event focused on pollution. **Nina Olivier** shared an event list from Green Seattle Partnership focused on community restoration events at public parks.

- **Nancy Huizar** shared an update on the Social Housing Board. The deadline has been extended to April 30th for candidates to submit resume and letter of intent materials.
- **Matt Remle** opened the space for **Peter Hasegawa** to share context on the Library Levy. Peter shared the Library Levy initially provided no funding for building electrification or cooling, but three amendments related to electrification and cooling were added and passed in a recent vote.

UPDATE: PAYROLL EXPENSE TAX REVENUE FORECAST

Akshay Iyengar from the Seattle City Budget Office presented an overview of the Budget Process. Akshay outlined the budget timeline from June to September based on economic and revenue forecasts, department-proposed changes, and mayoral priorities. Akshay presented expenditure numbers, breakdown of the Jumpstart Payroll Expense Tax (PET), the 2026 adopted Green New Deal budget, and the most current PET revenue forecast. Board members asked clarifying questions regarding the trends of allocated fund percentages and JumpStart PET priorities.

VOTE: GND OVERSIGHT BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2027-2028 CITY BUDGET

Jazzmin Fragiaco and Policies, Projects, Programs (PPP) Committee Members led the 2027-2028 Budget recommendations voting process. Thirteen recommendations were presented to Board members one-by-one to be voted on as “agree with recommendation”, “agree but have minor feedback”, and “I need to block the recommendation” via a Zoom poll. The vote was not an official approval but rather guided PPP members on next steps for each recommendation to be addressed at their next meeting. Board members provided feedback on the following recommendations:

- Recommendation 1 - Ensure PET Funding is Aligned with its Original Intended Use
- Recommendation 2 - Sustaining funding for the following existing GND funded programs: Clean Heat Program, Municipal Energy Efficiency Program, First Peoples Climate Fund, Clean Energy Apprenticeship and Workforce Development, Building Emissions Navigator Program, Community Leadership through Community Assemblies and Community-Led Research
- Recommendation 3 – Return Funding for the Environmental Justice Fund Back to its 2023-2024 Budget
- Recommendation 4 - Funding A Program for Youth-Led and Youth Serving Community Initiatives
- Recommendation 5 - Create A Healthy and Sustainable Homes Navigator Program
- Recommendation 6 - Coordinating Neighborhood-scale Decarbonization and Resilience Programs
- Recommendation 7 – Store and Distribute Climate Emergency Kits to High-Risk Displacement Communities and Low-Income Households
- Recommendation 8 - Implementing Green Infrastructure in High Air Pollution, Urban Heat Island, and Flood Prone Areas

- Recommendation 9 - Invest in Low Carbon Concrete Sidewalk Pilot Projects Throughout the City
- Recommendation 10 - Develop A Climate Resiliency Recovery Fund for Communities Impacted by Climate-related Disasters and Funds
- Recommendation 11 - Funding A Program to Provide Resilience Planning Technical Assistance to Communities Throughout Seattle
- Recommendation 12 – Launch A Study to Identify Economically Viable Opportunities to Recover Waste Energy from Seattle’s Existing Infrastructure
- Recommendation 13 - Launch a Mechanical Insulation Pilot in City Owned Buildings and Spaces

Feedback focused on minor edits to the language or clear suggestions focused on how to strengthen the recommendation. While Board members were given the opportunity to block a recommendation they did not agree with, Board members did not exercise that option and the recommendations were unanimously approved, with friendly amendments.

Matt Remle motioned to allow the PPP committee to incorporate board members’ feedback and approve recommendations. **Hannah Lindell-Smith** seconded. **Unanimous approval.**

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

Leah Wood moved to adjourn the meeting. **Matt Remle** seconded. **The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm. Unanimous approval.**