

2016 Seattle Human Rights Commission Workplan

as of February 2016

Co-Chairs: Danielle Wallace, Margaret Babayan, Marcel Baugh

Secretary: Julianna Tesfu

Commissioners: Sarah Bishop, Lara Diaconu, Alejandra Gonza, Amy Huang, Ken Nsimbi, Jason Poydras, Julianna Tesfu, Danielle Wallace, Margaret Babayan, Marcel Baugh, Onya Robertson, Edlira Kuka, Ashley Miller **[Vacant Mayoral Appointee Seat], [Vacant Mayoral Appointee Seat]**

Interns: TBD

Staff: Marta Idowu

Task Forces: Economic and Social Rights Task Force
Civil and Political Rights Task Force
Cultural, Immigrant, Refugee, and Tribal Rights Task Force

Standing Committees: Executive Committee
Appeals Committee

Ad Hoc Committees: Bylaws Review Committee
Human Rights Day Planning Committee (2016)
Retreat Planning Committee (2017)

Economic and Social Rights Task Force

Guiding Human Rights Instruments:
Universal Declaration of Human Rights
International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Task Force Chairs: Julianna Tesfu, Jason Poydras, Danielle Wallace, Ken Nsimbi

Housing and Homelessness

<i>Goal: Promote the right to adequate and affordable housing.</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr.	Task Force Leads
Monitor implementation of State of Emergency Provisions	1	Jason Poydras, Julianna Tesfu, Danielle Wallace
Release human rights statement upon release of 2016 One Night Count in relation to other events	1	Danielle Wallace
Provide ongoing input relating to Ordinance relating to Source of Income-Based Discrimination	1-2	Danielle Wallace
Monitor Mayor's implementation of Emergency Task Force on Unsheltered Homelessness' recommendations	1-4	Julianna Tesfu
Monitor and provide input regarding recommendations for safe parking and other programs that address the basic needs and rights of people living in their vehicles	1-2	Ken Nsimbi, Danielle Wallace
Monitor housing affordability policy and legislation	1-4	Jason Poydras, Julianna Tesfu, Danielle Wallace, Ken Nsimbi
Provide public comment regarding human services and human rights during the city budget process	4	Jason Poydras, Julianna Tesfu, Danielle Wallace, Ken Nsimbi
Public Health, Environment and Food Rights		
<i>Goal: Raise awareness of the human right to health relating to the environment.</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr.	Task Force Leads

Track the City's Environmental Justice Initiative and seek opportunities for involvement based on community concerns.	1-4	Ashley Miller
<i>Goal: Advance the right to subsistence, culture, and health</i>		
Review newly-released state-led draft rule to update water quality standards for toxics in Washington (human health criteria rule)	1	Margaret Babayan, Lara Diaconu
Submit public comment that outlines human rights implications of draft rule	1 – 2	Margaret Babayan, Lara Diaconu
Participate in hearings and public workshops regarding new rule	2	Margaret Babayan, Lara Diaconu

Civil and Political Rights Task Force		
Guiding Human Rights Instruments: Universal Declaration of Human Rights International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights		
Task Force Chair: Onya Robertson Task Force Members: Marcel Baugh, Ashley Miller, Lara Diaconu		
<i>Goal 1: Reduce Barriers to Housing and Reentry</i>		
Plan	Qtr.	Task Force Leads

Participate in Fair Chance Housing Committee and work closely with stakeholders to develop policy recommendations.	1-4	Marcel Baugh
Engage Seattle City Council members to advocate for initiatives developed by the committee. Work with partners to build community support and momentum for effort.	1-4 depending Committee timeline	
<i>Goal 2: Keep SHRC engaged in Seattle's police reform process</i>		
Plan	Qtr.	Task Force Leads
Meet with previous Commissioners, Community Police Commission (CPC) members, members of the DOJ/SPD Consent Decree monitoring team, and other stakeholders to build upon SHRC's past involvement in the police reform process	1	Onya Robertson, Marcel Baugh, Ashley Miller, Lara Diaconu
Continue to build relationships with both prominent and lesser heard community stakeholders in the police reform process (including No New Jim Crow; Ending the Prison Industrial Complex (EPIC); Washington Incarceration Stops Here (WISH); etc.)	1-4	
Attend community forums for CPC and monitoring landmarks	1-4	
Continue to draft response letters and recommendations for City Council members and the general public informed by human rights	1-4	
Stay abreast of developing law enforcement issues such as body worn cameras and other issues as they arise (including research, subscription to list-serves, and reaching out to concerned community members)	1-4	

Cultural, Immigrant, Refugee, and Tribal Rights Task Force

Guiding Human Rights Instruments:
 Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 International Covenant on Social Economic and Cultural Rights
 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol
 Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Task Force Chair:

Task Force Members: Alejandra Gonza, Sarah Bishop, Amy Huang, Edlira Kuka, Margaret Babayan

Education

Goal: Reduce the School-to-Prison Pipeline by holding Seattle Public Schools accountable to end overly punitive and discriminatory school discipline practices

Plan: Promote the implementation of positive behavior supports as alternative rather than severe practices

Key Steps	Qtr.	Task Force Leads
Collaborate with partners to implement appropriate discipline practices - Address disproportionate suspension and expulsion rates amongst students of color - Engage in safe and effective school disciplinary policies and practices	1-4	Sarah Bishop, Amy Huang
Advocate for appropriate training for school police and personnel in implementing appropriate tactics - Advocate for student rights and family engagement	2-4	Amy Huang

- Advocate for the disaggregation of data on racial and ethnic disparities to inform stronger policies and practices		
Human Rights Advanced: Education, freedom from discrimination		
Immigrant and Refugee Detention		
<i>Goal: End inhumane detention of immigrants and refugees</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr. 1-4	Task Force Leads
Continue monitoring the treatment of detainees in Northwest Detention Center	1 – 4	Alejandra Gonza, Sarah Bishop, Margaret Babayan, Edlira Kuka
Communicate with the Department of Corrections to ensure the humane treatment of detainees in private prison facilities in WA and nationally	2 – 3	Alejandra Gonza, Sarah Bishop, Margaret Babayan, Edlira Kuka
Advocate for humane treatment of individuals impacted by targeted enforcement	1 – 4	Alejandra Gonza, Sarah Bishop, Margaret Babayan, Edlira Kuka
Human Rights Advanced: Freedom from torture, degrading, and inhumane treatment, right to safe asylum, access to medical care		
Human Trafficking		
<i>Goal: Prevent Human Trafficking in the supply chain</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr. 1-4	Task Force Leads
Identify opportunities to prevent human trafficking in the supply chain of city purchases	1 – 2	Alejandra Gonza, Edlira Kuka, Amy Huang

Collaborate with local and regional partners to support efforts to end human trafficking	2 - 4	Alejandra Gonza, Edlira Kuka, Amy Huang
Human Rights Advanced: Implements the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, prohibits forced labor, and advances workers' rights		
Indigenous Rights		
<i>Goal 1: Support efforts for Duwamish Recognition</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr. 1-4	Task Force Leads
Collaborate with Duwamish Tribal leaders to support efforts for recognition	1-4	Sarah Bishop, Edlira Kuka
Human Rights Advanced: Rights to culture, housing, healthcare, and education		
<i>Goal 2: Promote celebration of indigenous culture and history</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr: 1- 4	Task Force Leads
Support planning of Indigenous Peoples' Day Seattle 2016 celebrations Human Rights Advanced: Right to culture	2-3	Edlira Kuka
Freedom of Religious Practice		
<i>Goal: Analyze and advocate for policy change to prevent Islamophobia</i>		
Build relationships with community partners, support their work, and respond to community needs and action opportunities	2-4	Sarah Bishop

Human Rights Advanced: Right to religion, freedom from discrimination, right to culture		
Refugee Rights		
Key Steps		
Support and advocate for resettlement of refugees in Seattle and across WA	2 - 4	Edlira Kuka, Margaret Babayan
Advocate for research to support Seattle's refugee communities	2 - 4	Edlira Kuka, Margaret Babayan
Human Rights Advanced: Rights to housing, education, asylum, freedom from discrimination, and all other rights as outlined in the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees		

Standing Committees		
Executive Committee		
Marcel Baugh, Danielle Wallace, Margaret Babayan, Julianna Tesfu		
Appeals Committee		
Jason Poydras, Lara Diaconu		
<i>Goal: Advance the rights of Seattle residents relating to their protections under City labor and fair housing ordinances.</i>		
Key Steps	Qtr.	Task Force Lead

<p>Hear appeals and participate in hearings relating to Seattle’s Fair Employment Practices Ordinance (SMC14.04), Unfair Public Accommodations Practices Ordinance (SMC 14.06), Unfair Housing Practices Ordinance (SMC 14.08) and Paid Sick Time and Paid Safe Time Ordinance (SMC 14.16).</p>	<p>1 – 4</p>	<p>Jason Poydras, Lara Diacon</p>
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Ad Hoc Committees	
Bylaws Review Committee	
<p>TBD</p>	
Human Rights Day Planning Committee	
<p>TBD</p>	
Retreat Planning Committee	
<p>TBD</p>	