

Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board (CAB)

MEETING SUMMARY	Date:	August 15, 2025
	Time:	9am – 11am
	Location:	Virtual (in-person meeting changed to virtual due to power outage at the meeting location)
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Joey Lu, Nurhazila Mohamath, Bilan Aden, Tanika Thompson Bird, Angie S. Wood, Yamila Sterling, Jen Moss, Dan Torres, Laura Nicholson	
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Barbara Rockey, Barbara Baquero	
VACANT SEATS:	None	
GUESTS:	Star Berry, Office of Sustainability & Environment Bridget Igoe, Office of Sustainability & Environment	

Meeting Slides

Welcome and Introductions

No public comment.

T. Thompson Bird, CAB Co-Chair, opened the meeting, facilitated introductions, and reviewed the agenda.

Overview of the SBT Budget and City Budget Process, Presented by Bridget Igoe

B. Igoe presented an overview of the SBT budget including the SBT Financial Plan and budget by investment category and program. [See slides](#) pages 3-11. This information was intended to provide historical context for the CAB's [current budget recommendations](#) (May 30, 2025), which were also reviewed to bring newer CAB members up-to-speed.

CAB members then reviewed the City's budget process ([see slides](#) pages 12-16).

City Updates, Presented by Bridget Igoe

B. Igoe presented updates related to the FEPP Levy, proposed B&O Tax, and August revenue forecast. [See slides](#) pages 17-21 for details.

Questions and Comments from CAB members:

- **Re: SBT-funded birth-to-three investments appearing to move to the new FEPP Levy ([FEPP Levy Investment Estimates](#))** – what was the reason for this? Is the FEPP Levy a better revenue source than SBT (i.e. more protected, more stable)? Or is this simply in direct response to the CAB's recommendations? Or is there increased demand for these birth-to-three services and the FEPP Levy can better accommodate that demand?

- The CAB would like to hear more from DEEL on this topic. There was a sense that the FEPP Levy may be less protected and that DEEL has the discretion to move funds within the FEPP investment categories to meet needs in other areas.
- **Re: food assistance included as a priority in the new B&O tax proposal ([press release](#))** – although some food bank leaders were quoted in the B&O press release, since that time, some of the amendments for the B&O tax were watered down so much that the Seattle Food Committee has been hesitant to do more advocacy since the tax revenue may not be as targeted as they were originally proposing.

CAB Foundations, Facilitated by Star Berry

Links to foundational documents:

- [CAB Rules, Policies, and Procedures](#) (last updated February 2023)
- [CAB Vision, Values, Budget Principles, and Meeting Agreements](#) (last updated February 2023)

S. Berry facilitated a continuation of the CAB’s discussion about its foundational documents to ensure a shared understanding among CAB members and to collect input on potential updates and enhancements.

Comments from CAB members:

- **Re: the vision statement** - There is an opportunity to address intersectionality in the vision and link the work the CAB is doing on food and early learning to other important issues areas like housing, economic development, gentrification, and community leadership.
- **Re: the at-large member of the Executive Committee (section 3.3 in bylaws)** – Yes, it would be useful to describe the role and purpose of the third person on the Executive Committee. For example, specify that the at-large member rounds out the perspectives of the co-chairs, provides additional perspectives to the co-chairs, fills in for the co-chairs as needed, etc.
- **Re: any updates to bylaws/policies/procedures** – recommendation not to define things too stringently to allow for necessary flexibility without having to constantly modify the bylaws.
- **Re: terms for the Executive Committee (section 3.4)** – consider adjustments to dates and procedures for co-chair nominations and votes (again, keeping things open and flexible). It still might be useful to (1) hold elections at the end or beginning of the calendar year and (2) keep Executive Committee terms starting at the beginning of the calendar year. This way the Executive Committee processes will be less likely to interfere with the cadence of the budget process to which the CAB’s work aligns. Staff will review and suggest potential edits for CAB consideration.

The meeting adjourned just after 11am.

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