

SEATTLE DISABILITY COMMISSION

2026 WORK PLAN

Co-Chairs: JJ Jensen, Bianca Gallegos, Scot Nelson

Commissioners: Samiya Nasim, Shelby Dey, Charlie Nguyen, Sawyer Stearns, Zachary Dar, Linda Finkle, Julia Thompson, Naomi Snow, Marc Cote, Elliott McMurray, Balvina Cortez

Nominated Commissioners: Dan Ramier

We believe in a world where disability is celebrated as an integral part of human diversity, inclusivity and equity. -Stanford Medicine Alliance for Disability, Inclusion, and Equity

Goals of the Seattle Disability Commission (SDC) are to:

1. Be a voice for the Disabled Community
2. Increase community engagement
3. Deepen partnerships and advocacy on policy
4. Recognize the importance of intersectionality & advocate for all people (see Disability Justice)

Upcoming Work:

The Seattle Disability Commission (SDC) will further its goals by focusing on the following areas:

1. Community & Belonging
2. Advocacy & Representation
3. Security & Access
4. Internal Growth & Development

Community & Belonging

Ensuring that the community feels connected to each other and to the Seattle Disability Commission (SDC) will always be an intersecting priority. In the coming months, this priority will be accomplished by a special project that focuses on building independent recreation ability for the disabled community in Seattle.

Advocacy & Representation

To ensure that the Seattle Disability Commission (SDC) is a bridge between the community and representatives, the commission will prioritize intentionally listening and seeking out voices that exist in the margins. This may be accomplished in the following ways:

- Hosting roundtable events to connect with the community
- Build bridges with elected officials by reaching out to remind them of the SDC's accomplishments and ways in which they can offer support
- Establish relationships with community leaders
- Communicate where advocacy efforts can be focused as different issues arise in meetings

Security & Access

Ensuring that every person's basic necessities are met is another priority for the Seattle Disability Commission (SDC). This year, the SDC hopes to build solidarity in employment security by:

- Connecting with local Seattle organizations and companies to establish a relationship
- Holding at least 1 listening session to learn about the employment security needs of the disabled community and presenting the information gathered to legislators
- Creating and awarding 1 company or organization to publicly recognize efforts in employment security for the disabled community

Internal Growth & Development

To ensure that the Seattle Disability Commission (SDC) stays connected to its work, the community, and fellow commissioners, it will work towards:

- Building strong support systems between commissioners and committees to ensure each member feels connected, safe with asking for help, and an active part in the goals and priorities of the commission
- Building commission capacity by successfully onboarding new commissioners and retaining current commissioners