



Seattle Center Advisory Commission Meeting

June 4, 2026 | 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Armory Loft 3 / WebEx

Adopted

ATTENDEES

Commissioners: Mark Dederer, Will Ludlam, Michael George, John Olensky, Sally Bagshaw, Adriane Musuneggi, Lauren Campbell, Holly Golden, Matt Roewe
Absent Commissioners: Stacey Hutchison, Matthew Mead, Lara Mae Chollette, Gloria Connors, Eric Berlinberg, Eric Pettigrew, Sarah Rich
Seattle Center Staff: Randy Engstrom, Diamatris Winston, Rose Ann Lopez, David Kunselman, Kaori "Kiyo" Kiyono, Janet Chapman, Marc Jones
Guests: Rob Johnson

Welcome/Review & Approve May Minutes – Mark Dederer, *Chair*

- Vote to approve May meeting minutes: approved

Public Comment – Mark Dederer, *Chair*

No public comment

Director's Report – Randy Engstrom, *Acting Director*

- Seattle Center will kick off the World Soccer Fan Celebration, LET'S PLAY SEA '26, on June 11, 2026. This program will transform the campus into one of the region's largest free public gathering places, featuring FIFA-authorized public viewing experiences, cultural festivals, music, art, food, fitness activities, and community celebrations throughout the FIFA World Cup 2026.
- During the World Cup, various events are planned, including Visit Seattle Drone Show, hot air balloon event, 41st Annual Naturalization Ceremony, and Pridefest.
- Our proposed ballot measure will no longer move forward in 2026 but has broad support to be pursued in 2027. The measure would support long-deferred infrastructure upgrades and decarbonization efforts at Seattle Center.
- The Mayor's Office will establish a steering committee with City Council and community partners to lead planning, making the 2027 measure a shared top priority.
- New coffee shop in Armory – We will sign the lease for the new locally owned coffee vendor in replacement of Starbucks.
- This year's Northwest Folklife Festival has its most successful festival in nearly a decade, with record website traffic, the highest Monorail ridership in nearly ten years.
- Our department is preparing its budget submittal amid the City's \$175 million budget deficit, with all departments asked to identify potential reductions.

Waterfront Update – Tiffani Melake, *Waterfront Operations Manager*

- Tiffani Malake presented the [2025 Performance Standard Annual Report](#), highlighting budget, performance standards, and park inspections.
- Key achievements in 2025 include the opening of Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream shop, public restrooms, and the grand opening of the park.



- The park's budget carries a \$2.1 million carry forward to support operations through 2028.
- Waterfront Park operates under a different revenue model than Seattle Center. All earned revenue generated in the park goes to Friends of Waterfront Park to fund park operations and free public programming, with no revenue returned to the City.
- Vending program introduced last year received significant community feedback, and Friends of Waterfront Park is scaling it back in response.
- Park inspections transitioned from the Waterfront Park Oversight Committee members to community members during 2025. Due to inconsistent evaluation standards, staff plan to provide volunteer training on park operations and jurisdictional responsibilities to promote more accurate and consistent assessments.
- The Waterfront team is launching QR codes in the park within the next two weeks and will configure the OpenPoint platform so visitors can report their experience, including cleanliness and safety, with real-time feedback captured and filtered for inappropriate content.
- In partnership with Friends of Waterfront Park, Reign, Sounders, Rave Foundation will present “Seattle Soccer Celebration” at Pier 62 and the Local Organizing Committee (SeattleFWC26) at Pier 58 for selected dates in June 11 through July 6.
- Other upcoming events at Waterfront Park include Indigiqueer Festival, Block Party, Salmon Homecoming, Seattle Shines, and more.

Seattle King County Clinic Report – *Julia Colson, Managing Director, Seattle/King County Clinic*

- Seattle/King County Clinic returned for its 11th year April 23–26 at Seattle Center, once again demonstrating the power of community-based action in the face of growing healthcare gaps.
- Over four days, 3,164 people received free dental, vision, medical and social services, thanks to the dedication of over 5,000 clinical and non-clinical volunteers.
- Clinic successfully dispensed 1,000 prescription eyeglasses, which significantly improved patients' lives.
- The clinic saw a 35% increase in immunizations and provided \$3 million in services.
- Final report should be coming sometime in August.
- Immigration enforcement remained the primary concern at the clinic and we prepared a strong response protocol in place to ensure patient safety. No Immigration enforcement incidents occurred during the clinic.
- We’ve seen about a 2-3% decrease from the previous year in patient populations likely be affected by immigration enforcement.
- Demand for interpretation services increased, with services provided in 49 different languages. Overall patient diversity and level of need remained unchanged.
- The number of uninsured patients increased significantly, resulting in high demand for services.
- Patients lined up outside Fisher Pavilion 18 hours before ticket distribution, setting a new record.
- The clinic saw a 200-patient drop from the previous year, primarily due to volunteer turnover.
- Volunteers signed up early, but many canceled close to the clinic, affecting patient capacity.
- We are considering changes to manage volunteer turnover better in the future.

Good of the Order – *All*

- Commissioners are encouraged to attend the World Soccer Fan Celebration and share their feedback.
- David Kunselman provided updates on Memorial Stadium construction, including the installation of precast panels and steel frameworks.



- The stadium is expected to be ready for use by September 2027, with ongoing efforts to protect new landscaping.
- The project is on track, with no major cost overruns or change orders covered by contingency.
- The memorial wall of names will remain unchanged, with restoration and new landscaping around it.
- We will coordinate a future site visit to the opera loading dock so the Commissioners can view the Memorial Stadium construction site during a future meeting.

1:20 p.m. – Meeting adjourned