



City of Seattle

Central Waterfront Oversight Committee

Tuesday, June 2, 2026, Noon-1:30pm

Attendees: Emily George, Kim Lubyewski-Dodge, Geri Poor, Jon Scholes, Randy Engstrom, Jim Rowe, Ryan Smith, Gerry Johnson, Ed Leigh, Efrem Fesaha, Sage Farewell, Marc GarthGreen, Jessa Timmer, Joy Shigaki, Barbara Lee, Rachel Ligtenberg, Tiffani Melake, Alyssa Hall, Tessa Pilz

1. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Second meeting of the year
 - b. Randy Engstrom, Seattle Center Director
 - c. Kim Lubyewski-Dodge, Waterfront Emergency Services Unit Lieutenant
 - d. Efrem Fesaha, Boon Boona Coffee Founder & CEO

2. Friends of Waterfront Park Summer Programming & FIFA Activities
 - a. Seattle Soccer Celebration
 - i. Barge: June 11th-July 6th
 - ii. Partnership between Friends, Reign, Sounders, & Rave Foundation
 - b. Seattle Shines
 - i. Community Activation Series as global platform of FIFA World Cup to leverage local voices, art, artists, & neighborhoods
 - ii. June 9th: Central District with Made Space Seattle
 - iii. June 16th: Indigenous Waterfront with Tidelands
 - iv. June 30th: Chinatown-International District Showcase with CIDBIA and Union Cultural Center
 - c. Featured Artists:
 - i. Pier 62 Vinyl: Taylor Cameron
 - ii. Writer-in-Residence: Owen Oliver
 1. April 2026-April 2027
 - d. Upcoming Events
 - i. Indiqueer Festival
 1. 5th Annual
 2. June 27th, Pier 62, 2-8pm
 - ii. Salmon Homecoming
 1. September 19th, 10am-8pm
 2. Focus on canoe families with a refocus on salmon education
 - iii. Block Party
 1. 5th Annual
 2. August 29th, 1-8pm

3. Aims to bring people and local waterfront community together to foster connections in the area and honor the natural beauty of Seattle's waterfront and stories
 - iv. Movement, Wellness, & Play Events this summer
 1. Yoga by Mother Yoga
 - a. Tuesdays, 6-7pm on Pier 62, starting the 3rd week of July
 2. Zumba by We Move to Give
 - a. On Pier 62
 3. Hoops on the Pier
 - a. July 31st, 9am-6pm on Pier 62
 - v. Spotlight
 1. July 23-September 24, Thursdays from 6-8pm on Salish Steps & Pier 58
 2. Aims to invite the community to immerse themselves in Seattle's music, arts, and culture, featuring local artists and musicians
 - vi. Placemaking at Waterfront Park
 1. Dates are tentative; Locations are across social intersections
 - a. Pulling Together committee
 - i. Artist: Jackie Crane at University Street
 - b. Community Connections committee
 - i. Artist: Melvin Freeman at Seneca Street
 - c. Accessibility Advisory committee
 - i. Artist: E.T. Russian at University Street
 2. Jennifer Ott
 - a. Walking tours to tell stories of Seattle's evolving landscapes
 3. David Williams
 - a. Author, Naturalist, & tour guide
 - vii. Railroad Way Art
 1. 2026: Selection Panel
 - a. Contracting & Artwork Creation
 2. 2027: Printing & Installation
3. Public Safety
- a. Blue boxes
 - i. 6 on promenade
 - ii. New location at Railroad way North

- iii. Kim's team ESU, doing outreach and ensuring free speech artists are in the blue zones
- iv. Gets busy on the weekends
- v. These zones ensure the area is safe, and allows for pedestrian flow, people can still hear auditory cues in the surrounding area
- vi. Locations listed on website
- vii. For groups over 50, we can accommodate them in another area
- b. Driveway Protection: FIFA Match Days
 - i. Temporary bollards at driveways
 - 1. 57, Great State Burger, & Aquarium
 - a. Large planters will be placed behind the bollards as a visual deterrent/ barrier
 - 2. Pier 56 and Fire station remains open
 - a. ESU officers will be in these locations, monitoring who can gain and leave access: 1 hour prior and 1 hour after each match
 - 3. March to the Match, planned for June 19th and June 6th
 - a. March will begin at Pier 58, down the promenade, and over Yesler
 - c. Extra public safety help in the park during FIFA World Cup
 - i. Increased presence in the park during FIFA
 - ii. Harbor Patrol, Coast Guard, Life Safety Boats in the water
 - iii. EMTs and additional police support on game days
 - iv. Additional support on 4 days that are non-Seattle match days, but where matches will be presented on the barge
 - d. Unpermitted Vending
 - e. CD Scammers on the Waterfront
 - i. Recent news coverage, Fox 13
 - ii. Currently excluded from the park
- 4. Performance Standard
 - a. Maintenance
 - i. This quarter, at the recommendation of the subcommittee, we've changed the weighting
 - 1. Historically, if we didn't pass an area, we would receive 0 out of 5, however, this year we've adjusted it to having a possible score of 1,2,3,4, or 5 out of 5
 - b. Programming and Activation
 - i. This all lives with friends
 - ii. They passed in all categories, met the performance standard at 100%

- iii. 2025 was a great year for events and the grand opening, thank you to the team at Friends for all their hard work
 - c. Public Safety
 - i. Did not pass at 85%
 - ii. Items 11 and 12, are consistent in not passing in 2024 and 2025
 - 1. Kim's team to be working on incident reporting this year, in hopes of passing this for 2026
 - iii. Item 8: staff survey
 - 1. Passed in 2024
 - a. Smaller team
 - 2. 2025
 - a. Larger team and a lot of new employees
 - b. Survey responses said they felt they weren't trained adequately in regards to safety
 - i. In response to this, we've implemented additional safety trainings in 2026 in hopes of passing next year
5. Park Inspections: Quarter 2 Survey Results
 - a. Overview
 - i. Continue to utilize the same online platform for park inspection surveys.
 - 1. 8 individual surveys, one for each area of the park.
 - ii. Surveys were open this quarter from May 8th-May 31st
 - iii. Trainings Requirement
 - 1. In quarter 1, we conducted trainings for community members to learn more about the park surveys, park boundaries, and things to look for when completing surveys.
 - 2. Also held a training in quarter 2, which brought our full roster of trained individuals up to 16.
 - 3. Met with park inspections subcommittee, this quarter, decided to forego training requirement and open surveys to any of the community members identified by the committee, bringing our full roster now up to a group of 30 individuals.
 - a. Opening up the training to the full group, gave us 2 additional respondents this quarter that we wouldn't have otherwise received.
 - b. Overall response numbers remain relatively low, with the average number of respondents the same across both quarters.

- iv. This quarter, we passed 7 out of 8 park areas.
 - 1. Noting in Q1 we failed Pier 62 and East Sidewalks and passed these both at 93% this quarter.
 - 2. Railroad Way plazas continue to fall below our passing threshold, although we increased from 77% last quarter to 83% this quarter.
- b. Pier 58
 - i. Continued to receive high marks; 98% in quarter 1 and 97% in quarter 2.
- c. Pier 62
 - i. Failed last quarter at 89%, and passed this quarter at 93%.
 - ii. Multiple comments complimenting the planter boxes at the top of the floating dock.
 - iii. Three respondents commented on Pier 62 restrooms being closed during their inspection, and noted they'd like to see the stalls open more often.
 - iv. Low railing scores due to bird droppings; continuing to be an issue on this pier in particular. We spoke with our maintenance team to pay special attention to the railings for bird droppings after last quarter, and while they've increased their presence in this area, we'll continue to have our team keep a watchful eye on cleaning the railings.
- d. Overlook Walk
 - i. Passed at 93%.
 - ii. Our lowest scoring area was pedestrian paving at 67%.
 - iii. Four of the 12 respondents marked us down and provided detailed comments related to visible stains, graffiti, litter, and/ or gum on the pavement.
 - iv. We appreciate their detailed comments, as it gives our team specific areas to focus their pressure washing efforts to.
- e. Union Street Pedestrian Bridge
 - i. Passed at 91%.
 - ii. Similar to OLW, we received a lower score on the pedestrian paving with four comments mentioning paving issues related to gum, staining, graffiti.
 - iii. We also added an additional question on this survey, as recommended by our park inspections committee to inquire as to whether the elevator was working during their visit.
 - 1. All 11 respondents reported that the elevator was working during their visit.

- f. Promenade
 - i. Pass at 94%.
 - ii. Received multiple positive comments regarding the landscaping.
 - iii. Received the lowest marks on water fountains, which were flagged in comments due to both drinking fountains, and water fountains.
 - g. Habitat Beach
 - i. Passing at 96%.
 - ii. Beyond generally positive comments, no notable comments or themes.
 - h. Railroad Way Plazas
 - i. Our only non-passing area in the park this quarter at 83%,
 - 1. Still an increase from last quarters score of 77%
 - ii. 3 respondents mentioned not being able to find trash cans
 - iii. 4 respondents mentioned weeds in the planting boxes and strips.
 - 1. Our landscaping team just recently took this area on, and they will continue to bring it up to standards, as they clearly have done in other areas of the park.
 - i. East Sidewalks
 - i. Passed at 93%
 - ii. Notable due to historically not passing this area in the park
 - iii. Request from CWOC members to continue to keep an eye on this area of the park
 - iv. Suggestion to differentiate a North v. South portion of the East Sidewalks
6. Waterfront Operations
- a. Ongoing maintenance issues, not affecting day-to-day park experience issues, but our team is responding to a lot of follow-up work
 - i. Lighted bollards coming down (hit by vehicles or people leaning against them)
 - 1. Replacing these as quickly as possible, requires an electrician to be on-site during each re-install
 - 2. Currently creating a mitigation plan for increased traffic during FIFA
 - ii. Drinking Fountains
 - 1. Often getting stuck in the on position
 - 2. When the weather heats up, there is an internal mechanism that causes the water to continue running; we're aware of this issue and working to keep this from happening long-term
 - iii. Restroom

1. All 6 stalls are currently all fully operational, including ADA stall
 - iv. Pier 58 Fountain and Tsutakawa fountain
 1. Both currently off due to electrical/ potential safety issues
 2. If it is ruled as safe, it will be opened later this week
 3. Goal is to have both fountains up and fully functional by the first FIFA world cup match
 4. Working on a long-term preventative maintenance plan to ensure the fountains stay on in the future
7. MPD Planning
- a. Currently seeing a higher than expected rate of failure in parts/ portions of the park
 - i. Bumpers on the swings
 - ii. Various Restroom parts
 - iii. Fountain Pumps
 - iv. Drinking fountain valves
 - v. Bollards
 - vi. Light poles across the park (being hit by vehicles)
 - b. Subcommittee driving these conversations forward
 - c. Expect a new estimate post-FIFA