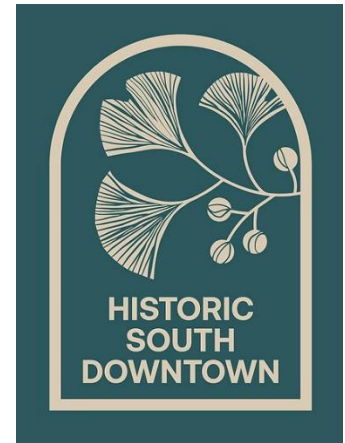


# Historic South Downtown Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, August 22, 2023



Present: Shava Lawson, Diane Le, Derek Lum, Quynh Pham,  
Dana Phelan, Jessica Rubenacker, Jessa Timmer

Staff: Kathleen Barry Johnson, MaryKate Ryan, Ellen Ta

Public:

Emily Kim, Pastry Project

Norma Timbang, Consultant

## **CALL TO ORDER** (Action)

Dana Phelan called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.

Public Comment: None

## **CONSENT AGENDA** (Action)

Presenter: Dana Phalen, Shava Lawson

- *Meeting Minutes (June 2023)*
- *Treasurer's Reports (June 2023, July 2023)*

*Motion by Quynh Pham to approve the consent agenda. Second from Jessa Timmer. Approved by all. Motion passes.*

## **AD HOC COMMITTEE WORK** (Information)

Presenter: Kathleen Barry Johnson; Norma Timbang

- *Partners/Strategy*
- *Lay of the Land*
  
- See spreadsheets
- Lay of the Land
  - *Committee Members: Quyen, Jessa, Jen, Tuyen*
  - Prolific spreadsheet identifying partners
  - During the meeting, we reviewed the different identified partners and partnership type.
  - Next steps, HSD needs to think through how we want to build partnerships in a strategic way (for each), tailored approaches for many partners. For instance, for ACRS, we can start with conversations with key staff members, to see how we can support and how we can be a good partner over tea or coffee

- Question: There are many orgs on this list. How will we determine priorities for outreach?
- Partners/Strategy
  - *Committee Members: Derek, Dana*
- Norma reviewed Aspirations (connect to partnerships in timeline)
  - **Building Partnerships**
  - **Primary Investor in Communities/Property Development** (space for people, greenspace, tree canopy, land banks, Pier 48)
  - **Funding and Capacity Building** (grant funding development like Pike Place Market, grow capacity to do the work through staffing and infrastructure, new office)
  - **Branding/How You Want to Be Seen/Growing Community** (HSD is first of its kind, neighborhood history and education, help other communities grow CPDA in their communities)
  - **Research** – who's doing what? What is the lay of the land? [DONE]
- Norma reviewed Responsibilities and Accountability
  - Third Party External Evaluation/Community Assessment (research community needs assessments done by organizations who serve HSD constituencies, identify where HSD can support/collaborate)
  - WSBLE partners provide feedback (living out our values)
  - Question: Would you like to create milestones?
- Norma reviewed potential Next Steps
  - Prioritize partnerships and create loose timeline of when to approach potential partners and what will you do to enhance partnerships? What work you'd like to do with them?
  - Prioritize aspirations and add to the timeline for partnerships
  - Consider impending legislation, new legislation/policy or what you might advocate for as lead or partner (*Partners/Strategy*)
  - Identify what's in alignment with or is continuing from 2024 Strategic Plan
  - Make decision on Responsibility/Accountability/Results work to be done and add to timeline. What would you like to commit to in the first half of 2024? Second half of 2024? 2025? 2026? 2027?

## ELECTIONS, MIXER (Information)

Presenter: Kathleen Barry Johnson

- Kathleen mentioned that back in 2021, HSD converted some of the three-year board terms to two-year terms, a restructure for the election cycles; see spreadsheet for details.
- Seat PS 1, PS 5, CID 6, and PS 9 were appointed to two-year appointments to get all board members on the three-year cycle.
- HSD needs to recruit someone for local legislative King County position and Pioneer Square resident position – Emily Kim of Pastry Project will take this position, one year remaining on term and then would have reelection next year
- Mixer Updates:
  - Aleksa Manila will be our host for the 2023 mixer.
  - Still waiting to confirm the location (will know within the week) and will push out invites ASAP

*Motion to appoint Emily Kim to vacant Pioneer Square Resident Seat (a one year and two months term) by Jessa Timmer. Shava Lawson seconds. Approved by all. Motion passes.*

## **REPORT ON COMMERCE BILLING** (Information)

Presenter: Kathleen Barry Johnson

- Kathleen had a final meeting with Commerce Billing yesterday to discuss the funds HSD needed to spend down to confirm that all expenditures would be covered. Roughly \$123,046 left from reallocation that wasn't spent down.
- The legislature is currently in session. Kathleen is hoping that funding will roll over into the current biennium budget/allocation and adding language to use in a less restrictive way/open it up. This would be roughly \$200,000 (\$123,046 remainder and \$68,863 in Community Investments funding)

## **ISR D GUIDELINES UPDATE** (Information)

Presenters: MaryKate Ryan

- MaryKate shared an update on the ISR D Guidelines. The design guidelines have been updated and ISR D is supposed to share out at a public hearing sometime this fall, likely into October
- HSD staff has reviewed the updated guidelines, hired a consultant to review and work on some of them, written a response to ISR D and will send in, hoping to send into City to review comments before public hearing
- Right now, Department of Neighborhoods is to translate these design guidelines
- Among the comments (our letter is 3 pages): we would like to have the city come back to the CID to say this is what we learned from our failed process but that likely won't happen. Nothing has really changed since the 2019 guidelines to the 2023 guidelines. But they did go through SEPA process so now moving through the process.
- Pulling apart the guidelines for new construction and with things most people do in our neighborhood (those are the ones that need to be translated if they want to be engaged in an equitable way) but now the City doesn't want to translate 50 pages due to cost.
- HSD is asking for ISR D to renovate the photography in the guidelines (they included old photos that aren't representative the neighborhood now), suggested they go back through the historical narrative as a basis for guidelines. Basically, HSD said these aren't ready to go to public hearing at this time.
- Jessa: do these guidelines have administration review vs board review? Not clearly outlined.

## **UPDATE ON VISION GROUP ACTIVITIES** (Information)

Presenters: Derek Lum, Quynh Pham

- Derek and Quynh gave an update on the Vision Group which discusses: Neighborhood Characteristics, Transportation, Housing, Business Support
- Vision Group has been meeting with lots of community folks, several more meetings scheduled, still waiting to hear back from more community engagement before next steps. Likely the next step would be to go out to the public. Intention is to share the Vision Group's document more broadly.

- The challenge is that the CID has lots of dreams and high expectations. Strong voices at the table are driving some confusion, that the group wants to do everything. But this is supposed to be a broad vision and some meetings get into the weeds.
- Headwater People are summarizing the meetings and will be able to share to the larger group for next steps.
- Overall questions: How are we overlapping and how can we engage?

## UPDATE ON CIVIC CAMPUS PLANNING (Information)

Presenters: Jessa Timmer

- Jessa gave an update and mentioned an article that came out today – King County is rethinking the civic campus in Pioneer Square. One of their big visions is to do something with the corrections center (the big cinder block building), which is outdated and no longer serves them. There are other buildings that need to be reconsidered, including the historic courthouse and some other buildings, 13 buildings total. King County also owns a parking lot in SODO. Ultimately, King County is looking to update their campus.
  - Article: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/king-county-explores-downtown-revamp-options-like-moving-jail-to-sodo/>
- The property in NE Pioneer Square is valuable and not in its best use. There is a community advisory group that has been meeting monthly for the past few months to comment on some of the ideas King County has formulated.
- One of the strong ideas is to move corrections to SODO campus and renovate that area. King County would still keep the bus shelter but build on top of it, including a corrections facility. The plan seems more baked than what King County is saying. Part of the issue that Jessa has brought up is that by selling off King County property in Pioneer Square and developing the SODO area, King County is essentially skipping over and not investing in our neighborhoods, and then instead creating two new neighborhoods with their money.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). Began at 6:15pm and returned at 6:30 p.m.

## FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER (Information)

Presenters: All

- *Upcoming Events*
- Celebrate Little Saigon took place on SAT 8/5/2023
- CIDBIA cancelled this year's Night Market
- MaryKate: neighbor loved Pastry Project

## ADJOURN (Action)

Meeting adjourned by Dana Phelan at 6:32pm.

## ZOOM COMMENTS

17:10:33 From Shava Lawson (she/her) Seattle Parks Foundation To Everyone:  
aye

17:23:28 From Shava Lawson (she/her) Seattle Parks Foundation To Everyone:  
this is such a great list!

17:28:23 From MaryKate (she/her), HSD To Everyone:  
Office of Economic Development?

17:47:21 From Derek Lum To Everyone:  
Sounds useful!

17:48:14 From Shava Lawson (she/her) Seattle Parks Foundation To Everyone:  
Seems like you are a perfect fit to join our board, Emily!

17:48:29 From Diane Le To Everyone:

Reacted to "Seems like you are a..." with ❤️

17:50:53 From MaryKate (she/her), HSD To Everyone:

Emily, if you have a headshot you like, send it to me so we can add you to the Board Members part of our website. marykate@historicsouthdowntown.org

17:59:44 From Kathleen Johnson HSD (she/her) To Everyone:

Reacted to "Emily, if you have a..." with ❤️

18:04:39 From Emily Kim To Everyone:

Reacted to "Seems like you are a..." with ❤️

18:04:42 From Emily Kim To Everyone:

Reacted to "Emily, if you have a..." with ❤️

18:05:16 From Emily Kim To Everyone:

Thank you all! And MaryKate, I will send you a photo!

18:12:30 From Kathleen Johnson HSD (she/her) To Everyone:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/king-county-explores-downtown-revamp-options-like-moving-jail-to-sodo/>

18:12:33 From MaryKate (she/her), HSD To Everyone:

We know we do not want them to do this: <https://www.yahoo.com/news/york-building-world-tallest-jail-100013023.html>