



Minutes

Downtown Advisory Committee

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

10:00 AM

2nd Floor, City Hall

HYBRID MEETING DETAILS

26-00384 Please click the link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83331274129>
Webinar ID: 833 3127 4129
Or by Telephone: (253) 205 0468; (253) 215 8782

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

ROLL CALL

*Present: Elizabeth Borders, Chair; Rachele (Sanders) Burch; Erin Gabrielle; Bill Hallanger; Rikissa Harrison; Dawn Morgan; Karl Salzsieder; Ruth Kendall, Council Liaison;
Excused: Laura Hight; Ariel Large; Allan Rudberg; Kat Cooper;
Staff present: Nick Little, Irene Rutikanga, Nancy Vandehey
Guests: Amelia Nesbit, Downtowners;*

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

26-00385 MINUTES FROM APRIL 21, 2026

The minutes were approved as presented. This passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marc Rowland shared that he was in attendance for the meeting at the Roxy Theatre and also attended the Council meeting. He suggested that we move towards a Portland model to support local art.

NEW BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

26-00386 JANUARY 20TH COMMUNITY MEETING - REPORT BACK FROM MAY 14TH COUNCIL MEETING

Nick Little provided an update from the report given to City Council on May 14th. Council's direction was to move forward with an RFP for the Schneider lot, explore improving lighting downtown by potential grant funding and revamping the Revolving Loan program. There was excitement that lighting and the revolving loan program will be moving to the forefront for DAC to expand on moving forward.

26-00387 DOWNTOWN SIGNAGE - REPORTING BACK

Nick Little was not able to research fully the information on signage spacing requirements. He'll work on that for next meeting as that is the next step needed.

26-00419 UPDATE ON DOWNTOWN PARKING STATUS (SPOTS)

Nick Little has been working with Chief Huhta on revising the LMC for parking requirements. We will start with the changes only in the Downtown area as there is many needed changes for all parking requirements city wide. His goal is to bring this to Council on June 11th.

Nick was thanked for all the hard work to tackle all of these issues that we've been discussing for years.

REPORTS

26-00388 DOWNTOWNERS REPORT

Amelia Nesbit reported back from Downtowners on the happenings going on downtown. Downtowners are working with the City to find a solution for a one time clean up of the sidewalks. Third Thursday is the Downtowners meeting schedule and held at Body Rock studio with a virtual option.

SHOW & TELL

26-00389 BRING FORTH THE FUN & POSITIVES

Ruth Kendall shared photos from a recent trip to Santa Barbara on a painted intersection. There was also an Apple News article on Bellingham on the work they are doing to revitalize an area with vacant storefronts.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Liz Borders asked for a volunteer to walk downtown twice a year and count empty storefronts. Rikissa Harrison volunteered.

Liz Borders shared that she will be moving and will be resigning from the board by the summer. She is willing to stay on virtually as long as needed. She will continue her work with Broad Strokes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 am.