# Working Session: Seattle Planning Commission budget and housing papers

# City of Seattle Budget Process Overview

- The City of Seattle uses a biennial budget process.
- The Seattle City Council exclusively focuses on creating a budget for about two months every year, from late September through late November.
- The Mayor transmits a proposed budget to City Council in mid to late September.
- The Council's job, as defined by the City Charter, is to consider the Mayor's proposed budget, listen to members of the public, elevate issues and propose changes that are deliberated by the entire Council after robust community stakeholder engagement.

# Budget Process Overview

| Step 1 | Mayor delivers and CBO presents the Proposed Budget; Council deliberations begin |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Step 2 | Budget Hearings: CBO & Department Presentations, Central Staff Presents Policy Considerations; Revenue Forecast Update |
| Step 3 | Presentation of Chair's Balancing Package & CM Proposed Amendments |
| Step 4 | Vote on Balancing Package and Amendments |
| Step 5 | Final Council Action |

(Source: Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee, August 7, 2024)

# Budget Process Overview

- The Mayor's Proposed 2025-2026 Budget is scheduled to be delivered to Council on Tuesday, September 24.

- First meeting of the Fall 2024 Select Budget Committee Deliberations: Sept 25

- Department presentations: Sept 30 – Oct 3

- Central Staff presentation of policy considerations: Oct 16-21

- October Economic and Revenue Forecast Update: Oct 22

# Budget Process Overview

- Presentation of Chair's Balancing Package: Oct 30

- Councilmember proposed amendments due: Nov 1

- Budget Committee votes on the Balancing Package, including amendments: Nov 14 and 15

- Committee takes any final votes on budget legislation and technical amendments: Nov 19

- City Council takes final action on proposed budget and all associated budget legislation: Nov 21

# Public Participation in the Budget Process

There are the three ways the public can share their input:

• Budget Committee Meetings

• Public Hearings

• Written Comment

# Housing Affordability Paper Overview

Message
- We need to protect, maintain, and grow funding for affordable housing and community stabilization programs.

Goal
- Build awareness – make the data on the housing crisis more approachable and relatable to everyone, even those with housing security
- Empower people to engage in the budget process and support funding for affordable housing and the programs that support community-led projects

Audience
- People curious about housing and interested in engaging with City Council around the budget but may be unfamiliar with the process
- Include a glossary of common budget terms for this group

Timeline
- Late September when the Mayor's budget is transmitted to Council
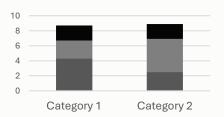
# Layout Example

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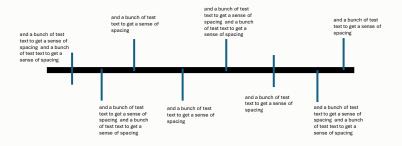and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing. and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing. and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing. and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing. and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing. and a bunch of test text to get a sense of spacing.

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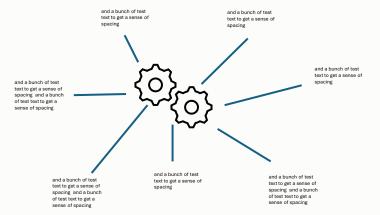
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## Call to Action

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## Closing Statement

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# Housing Affordability Paper Outline

## Introduction

- Why do we care about housing affordability as a city and a community?
  - Housing affordability impacts everyone
  - Access to affordable housing decreases risk of homelessness
  - Housing stability leads to improved health outcomes for both children and adults
  - Housing stability leads to improved education outcomes for children
  - Investments in the production and preservation of affordable housing has positive impacts on the local economy through the creation of jobs, property tax revenue, and increased business for local stores and services.
  - When we do not have enough housing, especially affordable housing, we see increased rates of displacement and disproportionate impacts to communities of color and low-income households.

# Housing Affordability Paper Outline

## Context of Housing Crisis

- High-level information on the housing gap
  - Graphic of housing production needed and what % of that needs to be subsidized
  - Note the market will not produce enough housing on its own
- Explanation of the mechanism behind what the city is already doing for affordable housing.
  - Graphic of the web of city departments, community orgs, and funding sources that come together to create the affordable housing system in Seattle
  - Timeline of housing development from funding to completion
  - Discuss importance of funding that supports community-led projects and how those investments are amplified by community benefits
- Note the housing gap that remains – what happens if that gap isn't addressed or is allowed to grow? Who is most impacted?

# Housing Affordability Paper Outline

## Call to Action

- What do we need to do? Protect, maintain, and grow the funding for housing affordability programs.
  - You can get involved by following the City budget process and speaking up for programs that support this work.

## Closing Statement

- Housing affordability brings benefits to everyone
  - Abundant housing leads to better communities through increased cultural and economic diversity, and better walkability and access to services. Housing affordability means the stability to stay long-term and build community, the ability to raise children in the city, to age in place in your home, and to see adult children and family friends able to move back home to Seattle.
  - A future where all these things are possible is tangible and we can get there through building more housing and focusing on subsidized, affordable housing and community-led housing projects.