



Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

Creating choices for elders and adults with disabilities in Seattle-King County

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Advisory Council Meeting March 13, 2026

ATTENDING

Advisory Council Members: Alex O'Reilly, Cyndy Snyder, Dolores Wiens, Hannah Kimball, Jay Woolford, Dr. Joel Domingo, CM John Boyd, Lorna Stone, Tom Minty, and Wyvonne Ray

Staff: Allison Boll, Andrea Yip, Blake Matthews, Jacqueline Cobbs, Mary Pearson, Michael Adusah, Sherry Wu, Sue Siegenthaler, and Stevie Elliott

AAA Partners: Dax Tate, Kat Munson, Tracy Adair, Tiffanie Toms, and Pamela Williams

Guests: Ariel Schneier, JJ Wong, and Sarah McKiddy

GUEST PRESENTATION

Open Public Meetings Act, By Ariel Schneier, City Attorney, Asst

ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS

FEBRUARY MINUTES:

A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Cindy Snyder and seconded by John Boyd. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Council noted the absence of a public comment section on the current agenda and will add it for future meetings. No members of the public requested to speak.

RSJ MOMENT:

Topic: [Women's History Month 2026 | Celebrating Women's History Month: An intersectional lens](#). The Council discussed how women of color and older women are often rendered invisible in policy data and face unique forms of ageism and dismissal in society.

ADVISORY COUNCIL CHECK-IN:

Community Observations:

AI and Technology: Members noted a rise in AI applications, from "companionship robots" for vulnerable adults to apps developed by the TASCAR Center at UW that map curb cuts and construction zones for mobility device users.

Fraud Prevention: Awareness is being raised regarding elder fraud, including a scam protection presentation by the Bellevue Police Department on March 30.

Outreach: Tracy Adair is attempting to visit all 41 senior centers in the King County network this year and invited members to join.

Vacancies: The VSHSL Board is seeking a replacement for Cindy Snyder, and the Sound Cities Association is looking to backfill one vacancy on the Advisory Council.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Advocacy Committee: Joel Domingo reported on the conclusion of the state legislative session. The Council passed a motion to send thank-you letters to prime sponsors of successful legislation affecting older adults and people with disabilities.

Planning & Allocations Committee: Wyvonne Ray provided updates on the Northwest Universal Design Program and electric mobility initiatives. A proposed \$2.9 million cut to case management and \$3.8 million allocated to the Health Homes program

VSHSL Board Seniors Committee: Cindy Snyder is seeking a replacement for her seat on the board. Recent discussions included a review of the board's charter and bylaws following the levy renewal.

Universal Design Council: Tom Minty announced a Housing Design Competition in Seattle and Redmond to create permit-ready designs for ADUs and stacked flats

Mayor's Council on African American Elders: Michael recapped a meeting with Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth. Discussions centered on the impact of grocery store closures, the potential for "non-traditional" grocery stores, and housing strategies for increased collaboration between the MCAAE and the Councilmember's office.

Age-Friendly Seattle: No update provided.

REPORTS / ACTION ITEMS FROM AAA PARTNERS

DCHS: Tracy Adair highlighted upcoming community resource events in Maple Valley on March 27th and Discovery Park on April 20th.

Public Health: No report.

Sound Cities Association: Currently backfilling vacancies for the Advisory Council.

ADS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Local Updates: Mary Pearson reported that the city budget process begins in April. The city is facing an unidentified deficit, and advocates are encouraged to reach out to council members early.

State Updates:

Health Homes: Fully funded through 2027.

Case Management: Facing a 3% reduction (\$2.5 million); the state is assessing the impact on unit rates.

Medicaid: Funding secured for 1,100 non-citizens to maintain coverage. Washington State is now on a federal list for suspected Medicaid fraud; DSHS is coordinating a response and seeking AAA input on protection processes.

Federal Updates: Discussion of the HR1 bill impacts and a new strategic initiative was launched to realign the organization to simplify client interactions and improve access to resources.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND CLOSING

Upcoming Travel: Staff members Michael, Mary, and Jack will attend a federal policy briefing in D.C. the following week.

Action Items: Michael and Joel will collaborate to draft and send thank-you letters to state legislators who sponsored successful aging-related bills.

Closing: The regular meeting was adjourned to transition into an Executive Committee session to plan for future meetings, including a joint in-person meeting with the Mayor's Council on May 15.

Next Advisory Council meeting is April 10, 2026

Please contact Michael Adusah with questions or to request accommodations: (206) 471-2229
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