



## 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 April 10, 2026

### ATTENDING

Advisory Council Members: Alex O'Reilly, Dolores Wiens, Dr. Joel Domingo, CM John Boyd, Lorna Stone, Sarah McKiddy, and Wyvonne Ray

Staff: Blake Matthews, Dinah Stephens, Jacqueline Cobbs, Maria Langlais, Mary Pearson, Michael Adusah, Sherry Wu, and Stevie Elliott

AAA Partners: Dax Tate (SCA), and Tiffanie Toms (MCAAE)

Guests: JJ Wong, Anat Caspi, Kelly Brown, Ellie Anderson, Brittany Blue, and Heidi Johnson

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### GUEST PRESENTATION

OS-CONNECT- a WA State proviso funded the first ever statewide inventory for sidewalks. Now What? By Anat Caspi, PhD

### ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Alex O'Reilly opened with a call for public comment; none received.

#### FEBRUARY MINUTES:

A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Lorna Stone and seconded by CM John Boyd. Motion carried.

#### RSJ MOMENT:

Topic: More Equity in Architecture Equals More Equitable Development. Member discussion focused on universal design, accessible neighborhoods, and the impact of the built environment on equity.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL CHECK-IN:

Council members shared lived examples related to accessibility, mobility challenges, and community design impacts.

### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Advocacy Committee: Joel Domingo reported on continued concerns about affordability pressures on older adults. Tracking restoration and future sustainability of county grant and MIDD behavioral health funding and monitoring federal House Bill 6361 (Ban AI Denials in Medicare Act); council will continue watching for needed action.

Planning & Allocations Committee: Lorna Stone provided updates on Area Plan stakeholder engagement and public hearings expected to come before the Council for approval in fall.

VSHSL Board Seniors Committee: Alex O'Reilly reported on equity of levy-funded services countywide, with a focus on capacity-building for underserved rural areas and future RFP planning. The board is revising bylaws to update procedures.

Universal Design Council: Dinah Stephens announced successful advocacy to include accessibility language in Seattle's Comprehensive Plan, the upcoming Universal Design competition. She reported on the session with Dept. of Commerce to strengthen universal design in statewide building standards.

Mayor's Council on African American Elders: Dinah Stephens provided updates on the expanded property-tax exemption legislation (now signed by the Governor).

Age-Friendly Seattle: Dinah Stephens reported on new caregiver and ageism-in-healthcare initiatives, and \$1.5M being guided toward property-tax exemption outreach and access improvements.

## **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: Sound Cities Association is beginning recruitment for vacant committee seats. Councilmember Boyd shared update on Kent's six-month moratorium related to ICE facility proposals

## **ADS DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Local, State and Federal Updates: Mary Pearson provided updates on D.C. policy conference, Older Americans Act reauthorization needs, HR1/Medicaid impacts on refugees and asylees, statewide initiatives (WA Cares, HRSN), and internal ADS process-improvement efforts.

## **REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND CLOSING**

Announcements: Sherry Wu shared details of the May 16 "Mama Jo" dementia film screening and community engagement event at Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute.

Michael reminded members of the upcoming May 15 joint meeting with the Mayor's Council on African American Elders; members encouraged to provide 2025 accomplishments and 2026 priorities.

Closing: The regular meeting was adjourned to transition into an Executive Committee session.

## **Next Advisory Council meeting is May 15, 2026**

Please contact Michael Adusah with questions or to request accommodations: (206) 471-2229 or [michael.adusah@seattle.gov](mailto:michael.adusah@seattle.gov)