



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Utility Advisory Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Jesse Barham
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Thursday, May 1, 2025

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Kover called the meeting to order and read the Tribal Acknowledgement.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Vice Chair Melissa Kover, Committee member Donald Krug, Committee member Kathryn Walton-Elliott, Committee member Ben Gossett, Committee member Scott Hancock, Committee member Dennis Bloom and Committee member Dani Clark

Absent: 1 - Chair Kristin Lamson

1.B. STAFF PRESENT

Water Resources Director and Staff Liaison Jesse Barham
Drinking Water Utility Director Mike Vessey
Waste ReSources Director Gary Franks
Budget & Finance Analyst Casey McGovern
Climate Resilience Coordinator Natalie Weiss
Public Works Administrative Specialist Lindsay Walker

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[25-0395](#) Approval of April 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Thad Curtz provided written and verbal comments focused on sustainability in regard to the City's Comprehensive Plan Climate Chapter Update.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM UAC AND STAFF

Vice Chair Kover welcomed new Committee Member Ben Gossett.

Water Resources Director Barham provided the following updates:

Distributed the UAC's 2025-2026 Work Plan which was adopted by the City Council at their meeting on April 29th. Staff will also email it to UAC members.

The Comprehensive Plan chapters are going to City Council for acceptance. Natural Environment Chapter on June 10th and Utilities Chapter on June 17th.

Capital Projects Updates -

28th Ave flooding issue is being looked at for both short and long term solutions.

Old Port 1 lift station rebuild in NW Olympia along the shoreline will go out to bid soon.

Brawne Avenue water quality retrofit will be constructed this summer above the West Bay Park along West Bay Drive.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[25-0388](#) Utilities Financial Update: First Quarter 2025

Budget and Finance Analyst McGovern provided the briefing. UAC members asked clarifying questions and thanked staff for providing the information.

Information only. No action requested.

[25-0394](#) Comprehensive Plan: Climate Element Briefing

Climate Resilience Coordinator Weiss provided the briefing. UAC members asked staff clarifying questions and thanked staff for the briefing. City staff is accepting comments from the public by June 1st.

Information only. No action requested.

[25-0393](#) Utility Assistance Programs Update

Water Resources Director Barham presented the briefing. Staff provided a background in the establishment of each program, the criteria to qualify and participation data.

UAC members asked questions and held a discussion with staff. Committee members provided feedback on the programs.

The UAC was supportive of staff adjusting the disability proof of eligibility documentation for the Lifeline Rate Program and increasing the amount of support provided to customers and adjusting to once per year for the Helping Neighbors Program

Staff will respond to several follow up questions from the UAC.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Kover adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.