



The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649
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ISRD 156/25

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, October 14, 2025

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Place: Hybrid Meeting

Board Members Present

Samantha Wong (SW), Vice-Chair
Kyle Jacobson (KJ)
Gary Lee (GL)
Jade Yan (JY)

Staff Present

Rebecca Frestedt (RF)
Nelson Pesigan (NP)

Absent

Heather Hargesheimer (HH)
Eric Chan (EC)
Adrian Lam (AL)

Key

BM Board member
AP Applicant
SM Staff member

Vice-Chair Samantha Wong called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

101425.1 ROLL CALL

101425.2 MEETING MINUTES

There were no meeting minutes to approve.

101425.3 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at the meeting.

101425.4 CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

101425.41 Right-of-Way at Maynard Ave S. between S. King and S. Weller St.

Record number: DONH-COA-01882

Applicant: Nathaniel Moxley, Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment

Proposed replacement and planting of six trees on Maynard Ave S. Green St.

SM Rebecca Frestedt provided a brief overview of the application. The application is a proposed replacement and planting of six trees. Two of the six trees are being replaced in-kind and do not require Board approval.

Presenter Nathaniel Moxley, Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment mentioned that a couple of years ago, USDA Forest Service grant of \$12 million was secured to enhance urban forestry in Seattle's CID and Beacon Hill neighborhoods, which have the city's lowest tree canopies. The project involves planting trees and creating a neighborhood team in the CID to engage the community. Initial efforts include planting trees in empty tree wells, with a focus on hardy species like Kentuckea Yellowwood and Eddie's White Wonder (Dogwood), chosen for their resilience and community preference.

Presenter Moxley noted that collaboration with the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and local businesses has been key, and a five-year maintenance plan is in place to ensure the trees' survival. The goal is to plant all empty tree wells in the CID over the next four years, improving the area's greenery and meeting community demand for white-flowering trees.

BM Gary Lee asked whether the trees to be planted would be a half-inch caliper. Presenter Moxley responded that, per SDOT's requirements, the trees will have a minimum caliper of one and a half inches and will be approximately eight to nine feet tall at the time of planting.

BM Lee asked whether the area would be covered with bark. Presenter Moxley responded that the bark will need to be removed and replaced with soil, in accordance with SDOT's requirements.

BM Lee asked about the use of rubberized materials in the planters. SM Rebecca Frestedt responded that there had been prior approval for replacing many of the tree pits with Flexi-Pave, a porous rubberized treatment. However, it is currently not being used due to a more recent decision not to implement it, and no further updates have been provided.

SM Frestedt noted that the Board has the option to approve either treatment-Flexi-Pave or wood chips-or to include more specific conditions in a motion if additional treatments are desired

BM Kyle Jacobson was curious about how the tree plantings on Maynard were selected. Presenter Moxley explained that the location was chosen because it is adjacent to Hing Hay Park, and the planting coincides with the replacement of a Zelkova tree during a similar period. The contiguous nature of the new plantings helps build excitement for the Forest in Seattle project.

BM Jacobson commented that King Street, outside Hing Hay Park, has three trees grouped together, but the stretch between 4th and 10th Avenues lacks tree coverage and could benefit from additional plantings. Presenter Moxley noted that SDOT should conduct a neighborhood survey, and engage the community to determine what types of trees should be planted.

SM Frestedt reminded the board that an amended motion can be made regarding the tree pit and paving materials. Any revision should include a clear relation or condition to guide the OSE's understanding of the tree pit specifications. SM Frestedt suggested that a revision to the existing motion be included to allow flexibility in selecting the tree pit material.

BM Lee proposed an amendment to the motion to grant the applicant flexibility in selecting tree pit materials, allowing for the use of common best practices.

Action:

I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for tree replacement and planting, per the submitted application materials.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on considering the application submittal and Board discussion at the October 14, 2025, public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the **following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and relevant Standards:**

Seattle Municipal Code (SMC)

SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of Approval – application, review and appeals

SMC 23.66.334 – Streets and Sidewalks

Secretary of the Interior Standards

#9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property.

MM/SC/GL/JY

4:0:0 Motion carried and passed unanimously.

101425.5

STAFF SUMMARY AND BOARD BUSINESS

SM Frestedt informed the board that today is the deadline for submitting nominations for the three ISRD Board seats. Nominations have been received for each position, and more information about the candidates will be sent after the deadline. The registration deadline to vote in the election is the 20th.

SM Frestedt noted that since the last board meeting in August, several administratively reviewed applications have been processed. She summarized the list that was posted with the agenda.

The next meeting is planned for October 28th, and a quorum is needed to proceed with any applications.

Vice-Chair Samanta Wong adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.