

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Equity Board & Human Services Commission**

6:00 PM
October 16, 2024

Senior Center, 75 NE Creek
Way, Issaquah

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Human Services Commissioners:

Jaime Fajardo, *Chair*
Trish Bloor
Manny Brown
Maury Edwards
Madeline Fish, *excused absence*
Huma Mohibullah, *virtual*
Lucretia Choto
Preston Miele, *youth representative, virtual*

Administration/Staff:

Hannah Roberts, Human Services
Coordinator
Dale Markey-Crimp, Assistant to the City
Administrator
Thomas Valdriz, Sr. Transportation Planner

Equity Board Members:

2025 - Ray Manahan
2025 - Shalanda Fleming, *excused absence*
2025 - Tony Curry, *excused absence*
2025 - Varnika Dokka, *youth representative*
2026 - Cristina Abonce
2027 - Priti Mody-Pan, *Chair*
2028 - Karthik Kashinath
2028 - Lesley Millender-Irwin
2028 - Lorna Gilmour, *excused absence*

Equity Board Alternate Members:

2025 - Kelly Munn
2025 - Shani Kapoor
2026 - Kunal Srivastava, *youth representative*

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

Please note, this agenda also serves as the special meeting notice pursuant to RCW 42.30.080.

Purpose: This is a special joint meeting with the Equity Board to provide feedback on the Light Rail Station Area Vision and Guiding Principles.

CALL TO ORDER

Equity Board Chair Priti Mody-Pan called the special meeting to order at 6:18 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment.

CHAIR REPORT

a) **Opening Question**

Presented by:
Priti Mody-Pan, Equity Board Chair

Chair Mody-Pan provided an opening question to start the meeting: “what is your favorite thing about Autumn as a season?” All present members and virtual attendees as well as present staff responded to this question.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **Central Issaquah Light Rail Station Area Vision and Guiding Principles**

Presented by:

Thomas Valdriz, Senior Transportation Planner

Senior Transportation Planner Valdriz provided a presentation on the Central Issaquah Light Rail station area vision and guiding principles reviewing the background information, community engagement feedback efforts and the vision. The Central Issaquah Light Rail station area vision includes accessibility and connectivity as a central hub, feature a well balance experience for all users and is a community asset that authentically reflects the community’s character.

The Human Services Commission and Equity Board had a discussion to address the questions – 1) Do you agree with the vision and guiding principles as presented? 2) Are there any changes you would like to see? Members had questions about the implementation of the vision and plan that Valdriz was able to address. Areas of concern for consideration include fee reduction options for people with limited income, accessibility, safety for walkers, materials used, climate changes, gentrification, and wetland areas and significant delay.

Equity Chair Priti Mody-Pan suggested changes to consider in the guiding principles to remove the word “character” as it is a code language for exclusionary policies and consider using the word “value”. Mody-Pan also stated that the language in the guiding principles sounds like a word soup of all the right words, the inclusion is clear but doesn’t provide enough information to be the critical point for decision making. Equity Board member Munn asked for equity statement be considered in the vision so people who need the transportation the most are considered.

Closing Thought

Facilitated by:

Priti Mody-Pan, Equity Board Chair

Chair Mody-Pan adjourned the meeting with an opportunity for all members present to share one word or phrase to describe their feeling at the end of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

The next regular Human Services Commission meeting is currently scheduled for November 20, 2024.