



2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In January 2008, the Seattle City Council promised residents that it would focus on three critical themes and underlying priorities. This document reflects those three themes and stated objectives (bulleted) for 2008, along with their corresponding accomplishments (numbered).

Foster safe, just, and healthy communities for all

- Protect public safety and challenge gang violence by investing in human services and police resources
 1. Approved an \$8 million Youth Violence Prevention Initiative.
 2. Strengthened the police accountability system.
 3. Funded 20 new officers per year at an annual cost of approximately \$2 million.
 4. Increased police officer compensation so that Seattle can compete for the best recruits. Officer salaries will increase by an average of 35+% over the next four years.
 5. Continued pilot programs to help drug offenders exit the cycle of addiction and crime. Allocated \$1 million in 2009.
 6. Secured funding for crisis intervention teams of police officers and mental health professionals through King County's new Mental Health and Drug Dependency (MIDD) program.
 7. Secured funding for safe housing and treatment for children involved in prostitution through King County's new Mental Health and Drug Dependency (MIDD) program.

- Increase affordable housing through incentive zoning and innovative financing
 1. Approved Incentive Zoning Ordinance. (Ord. 122882)
 2. Supported low income housing at Fort Lawton.
 3. Approved revisions to the multi-family property tax exemption program for affordable housing. (Ord. 122730)
 4. Approved rezone of Interbay neighborhood with incentives for affordable housing. (Ord. 122835)

- Take action to improve pedestrian safety
 1. Moved Pedestrian Master Plan forward.
 2. Approved funding for sidewalks, red light cameras, and speed enforcement vans in school zones.
- Keep neighborhoods in the driver's seat of neighborhood plan updates
 1. Created a neighborhood planning advisory committee. (Res. 31085)
 2. Provided \$150,000 per year in staffing and consultant resources to support the work of this committee and to provide additional planning outreach.
- Maintain and enhance our built environment to promote sustainable communities and a strong economy
 1. Made more than \$45 million in 2008 Bridging the Gap investments in street maintenance, new bike facilities and pedestrian safety measures.
 2. Seattle Public Utility and City Light have continued capital maintenance and enhancement investments.
- Increase City support for the most needy
 1. Provided additional funding of nearly \$600,000 annual funding for shelter services and basic food provision.
 2. Expanded annual City funding by \$180,000 for domestic violence prosecution and victim support.

Invest public resources fairly and effectively

- Move forward regional decisions on light rail, the Viaduct, and SR520
 1. Supported Sound Transit 2.
 2. Worked to move Viaduct and SR 520 decisions forward.
- Make the transportation system work by investing Bridging the Gap funds in bicycle and pedestrian facilities
 1. 39 blocks of new or repaired sidewalks
 2. 3.3 miles of new bike lanes
 3. 19 miles of new sharrows

- Ensure equal access to technology and pioneer new ways to engage the community through technology
 1. Began program development and provided \$175,000 funding for a Citizen Engagement Portal.
 2. Increased funding available through the City's Technology Matching Fund. (An additional \$75,000 per year)

- Take action to maintain a sustainable Seattle City Light, in partnership with its employees, customers, and suppliers
 1. Cut \$18 million in unjustified expenditures from the proposed City Light budget.
 2. Kept rates stable and financial policies strong.
 3. Approved a new integrated resources plan with emphasis on conservation and renewables. (Res. 31076)
 4. Approved a new five-year aggressive conservation acquisition plan and provided funding in the 2009-2010 budget.
 5. Approved a new long-term contract for low-cost and environmentally sound power from the Bonneville Power Administration. (Ord. 122805)
 6. Approved two new contracts for renewable resources. (Ord. 122808 and 122672)

- Find new ways for meaningful public involvement to develop a balanced 2009-2010 budget that meets community needs by spending every dollar wisely
 1. Pioneered better access to budget documents and conducted extensive community outreach.
 2. Approved a balanced budget that preserves vital services while staying within lower revenue projections.

Build a livable city for our future

- Ensure that Seattle's Parks, Seattle Center and the Pike Place Market continue to meet the diverse needs and interests of the people of Seattle
 1. Created successful Parks for All Levy.
 2. Approved new Seattle Center Master Plan. (Res. 31071)
 3. Placed successful Pike Place Market Levy on the ballot.
 4. Approved land use code changes to control redevelopment at Magnuson Park. (Ord. 122829)
 5. Adopted guiding principles for potential transition of Seattle Aquarium Management. (Res. 31080)

- Implement the Zero Waste Strategy
 1. Approved new solid waste contracts with expanded food waste recycling services. (Ord. 122653 and 122760)
 2. Passed a ban on foam food containers. (Ord. 122751)
 3. Authorized a new construction and demolition waste recycling program. (Ord. 122760)
 4. Provided funding for a new matching grant program to promote waste reduction.
 5. Passed a waste reduction measure to eliminate tens of millions of disposable shopping bags. (Ord. 122752)

- Protect the urban forest and plant more trees
 1. Consolidated tree provisions in the Comprehensive Plan. (Ord. 122832)
 2. Approved a resolution directing the Department of Planning and Development to develop codes extending the City's tree protection efforts to include groves or groups of trees. (Res. 31065)
 3. Introduced and took community input on an Interim Tree Protection Ordinance. (Council Bill 116404)
 4. Launched community discussions about how to protect and enhance the urban forest.