Renters' Guide to Giving Public Comment on the Draft One Seattle Plan

Public Hearing on Wednesday February 5th

Agenda:

- **4:00-5:00 PM** – Complete Communities Rally/line up for in-person public comment
- **5:00-7:30 PM** – In-person public comment
- **7:00 PM** – Signup for remote public comment will open
- **7:30 PM** – Hybrid public comment begins (alternating between remote and remaining in-person speakers)

The public hearing will continue until every member of the public who wishes to give public comment has the opportunity to speak. As long as the hearing is still going, you can sign up.

The Chair of the Select Committee on the Comprehensive Plan has stated that each speaker will be given two minutes to speak. **The mic will be cut off** when you've reached the allotted time.

The following guide to public comment by Be:Seattle includes some talking points drawn from 350 Seattle and the Complete Communities Coalition. Please see their guides for additional talking points.

1. **Introduce yourself, including the aspects of your identity that are relevant to your testimony, and where you live.**
    a. My name is _____.
    b. I am a/n [adjective(s)] renter and [descriptive noun(s)], living in [District # or neighborhood].
        i. Ability *(could be specific if needed, e.g. wheelchair user, Deaf, etc.)*
        ii. Worker *(could include industry or income)*
        iii. Family status *(parent, living in a multigenerational household, etc.)*
        iv. Member of a protected class *(Consider your safety; we do not recommend disclosing anything that could endanger you or your family)*
2. **Tell them what you want.**
    a. I urge you to strengthen the One Seattle Plan to ensure that renters, disabled people, and BIPOC communities in areas like the Central District, CID, South Park, and Rainier Beach are able to thrive as Seattle grows.
    b. The Anti-Displacement Framework must, at a minimum, include existing tenant services and renter protections to prevent renter displacement. Services like eviction prevention, support navigating landlord issues, and renters' rights and responsibilities education, and protections like the roommate ordinance, 180 days' notice for rent increases, Just Cause protections for lease renewals, the $10 late fee cap, and the ban on notice-delivery fees are missing and need to be added.

c. Our current exclusionary zoning has constrained housing supply while demand continues to grow. Allowing more homes citywide—like fourplexes, stacked flats, and mixed-use buildings—will help address the housing affordability crisis.
d. Seattle's growth must prioritize creating walkable, healthy, inclusive communities. We need to significantly expand zoning for accessible mixed-use development, especially in low-displacement, high-opportunity neighborhoods and near parks and transit, not polluted and dangerous arterials.
e. The proposed affordable housing bonus should include social housing, which provides permanently affordable, community-controlled affordable homes, and should be expanded citywide.

3. **Tell them why you want it.**
    a. Tell a personal story of how these changes could improve your life or your community, or could have improved your past circumstances.
4. **Restate the ask.**
    a. Please continue to strengthen the One Seattle Plan by including and expanding upon our existing tenant services and renter protections, allowing more homes citywide, expanding zoning for mixed-use development, and expanding the proposed affordable housing bonus to include social housing citywide.
5. **Close.**

Did you run out of time or think of something you wanted to add to your testimony?
Email Seattle City Council: **Council@seattle.gov**