



U DISTRICT BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT AREA

**RATEPAYER
ADVISORY
BOARD**

Jennifer Antos
*Seattle Neighborhood
Farmers Markets*

Max Blume
The Blume Company

Sally Clark
*Campus Safety
University of Washington*

David Cohanim
Whitefall, LLC

Kathleen Esnaurizar
*Student
University of Washington*

Rachel Fyall
*Evans School
University of Washington*

Chris Giles
*U District Resident
University Plaza*

Joe Gruber
U District Food Bank

Mary Kay Gugerty
*The Evans School
University of Washington*

Jeanette Henderson,
*UW Real Estate
University of Washington*

Lincoln Johnson
*Student Life
University of Washington*

Michaelann Jundt
*Academic Affairs,
University of Washington*

Nikole O'Bryan
Nikole O'Bryan, DDS

Chris Petersen
Café Allegro

Chris Rauls
University Book Store

D'Vante Rolle
University Presbyterian

Carolyn Thompson
Neptune Building

Hui Tian
Studio 19 Architects

**U District Business Improvement Area
Ratepayer Advisory Board
Meeting Agenda**

4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

June 25, 2026

[Zoom Meeting](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Call to Order RAB & Ratepayers Annual Meeting
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of March 2026 RAB Meeting Minutes RAB Votes
5. Acceptance of the May 2026 Financials RAB Votes
6. Governance Update & Board Term Renewals
 - o *Term-Limited Board Members Rolling-Off in 2026*
 - o *Board Member Term Renewal: Jennifer Antos* RAB Votes
 - o *Board Member Term Renewal: Sally Clark* RAB Votes
 - o *Board Member Term Renewal: Carolyn Thompson* RAB Votes
7. Program Updates
 - o *Clean & Safe*
 - o *Economic Development*
 - o *Urban Vitality*
 - o *U District Events*
 - o *Marketing & Communications*
8. Proposed 2027 Budget & Work Plan Presentation RAB Votes
9. Renew UDP as Program Manager RAB Votes
10. New Business
11. Adjourn UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board Meeting
12. Ratepayers Vote on Work Plan & Budget Ratepayers Vote
13. Ratepayers Vote on Program Manager Ratepayers Vote
14. Adjourn Ratepayers Annual Meeting



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206.547.4417 | udistrictpartnership.org/udbia/

Joint UDP & UDBIA Board Meeting Minutes

11:30am to 1:00pm

March 17, 2026

The U District Partnership, 1415 NE 45th St, Fireplace Room, Seattle WA 98105| HYBRID

UDP Board Members in Attendance in Person

Aaron Hoard – UW, Co-Chair
Trevor Peterson – U Book Store, Treasurer
John Hix – Seattle Vineyard Church
Katie Betz – Urban Renaissance Group
Julie Blakeslee – UW Planning
Jeremy Eknoian – UW Real Estate
Josh Gana – UW Housing & Food Services
Don Schulze – UDPA
Shruti Shah, University Book Store

Lois Ko - Sweet Alchemy
Paul Yunker – U District Food Bank
Maya Lu – Boba Up
Stephen Antupit – U District Resident
Naomi Lewis – Luminati Labs
Miles Richardson – Audi Seattle/University VW
Darren Rose - 206 Properties
Anson Lin – Astora Construction
Ashley Van Dragt, Chapel on the Ave

UDP Board Members Not in Attendance

Anna Sorokina – WSECU
Emily Scully – Shultzzy's Bar & Grill
Jessie Quan – Ladd & Lass Brewing, Secretary

Rick Jones - Schooley Mitchell, Co-Chair
Alfred Shiga – Shiga's Imports

RAB Members in Attendance

Jennifer Antos – U District Farmers Market
Max Blume – The Blume Company
Sally Clark – UW Campus Security
Mary Kay Gugerty – UW Evans School
Nikole O'Bryan – Nikole O'Bryan, DDS

Lincoln Johnson – UW Student Affairs
Jeanette Henderson – UW Real Estate
David Cohanin – Synergy Construction
Joe Gruber – U District Food Bank
Chris Rauls – University Book Store
Chris Giles – Resident

RAB Members Not in Attendance

Lora Gastineau – Novell Condominiums
Carolyn Thompson – The Neptune Building
Polly Yorioka – University Presbyterian Church
Brian Sellen – American Campus Communities

Sandy Sun – Corbit Building
Hui Tian – Studio 19 Architect
Chris Peterson – Cafe Allegro

UDP Staff

Don Blakeney – Executive Director
Hannah Kiburz – Economic Dev Manager
Lauren Carey – Events Manager
Marcus Johnson – Director of Clean & Safe Operations

Janet Lee – Urban Vitality Manager
Nikki Somers – Operations Manager
Pollyanna Yokokawa – Marketing Manager

Guests

Rong Ren - Ravenna BECU
D'Vante Roll - University Presbyterian Church
Rachel Fyall - UW Evans School
Kathleen Esnaurizar - UW Student

Michaelann Jundt - UW Undergraduate Academic Affairs
Royce Morrison – University Congregational United Church of Christ

** Please note, there may have been other guests but due to the hybrid/Zoom format and people entering and leaving at different times, we were unable to track all guests.*

Welcome and Introductions

Aaron H. started the meeting, with a round of introductions. After introductions, Aaron H. opened both the UDP and UDBIA Board meetings.

Public Comment

Aaron H. called for public comment, there was no public comment, although several community members were present to observe the meeting.

Approval of UDP Board Meeting Minutes

Aaron H. introduced the February 2026 meeting minutes, asked for any questions or amendments. Aaron H. requested a motion to approve "The UDP Board minutes from the February 2026 UDP Board Meeting."

Motion: Jeremy E. moved to accept the February 2026 UDP Board meeting minutes.

Second: Julie B. seconded the motion.

Abstentions: John H. abstained

Approval: The motion was approved.

Approval of Ratepayer Board Meeting Minutes

Jennifer A. introduced the December 2025 meeting minutes, asked for any questions or amendments. Jennifer A. requested a motion to approve "The UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board approves the minutes from both the September 2025 and the December 2025 UDP-UDBIA Board Meetings."

Motion: Jeanette H. moved to accept the September & December 2025 UDP Ratepayer minutes.

Second: Chris R. seconded the motion

Abstentions: no abstentions

Approval: The motion was approved unanimously.

UDP Finance Committee Update and Approval of the Financials

Trevor P. started with an overview of the UDP spending and that it is largely on track for 2026. A few of the variances include unanticipated grant & donation income, along with underspend on staffing and contracted services. Other variances include an overspend on staff development, and other program expenses.

Note: A full financial narrative is included in each UDP Board meeting packet, speaking directly to any variances in the budget, which is approved each year at the Annual Meeting each June.

Motion: On behalf of the Finance Committee, Trevor P. moved to accept the February 2026 financials as presented at the March 17, 2026 Board Meeting.

Second: No second was required because this motion came from the Finance Committee.

Approval: The motion was approved unanimously.

Acceptance of UDP February Financials

Motion: On behalf of the Finance Committee, Joe G. requested a motion to approve "The UDBIA Board accepts the February 2026 UDP financials as presented at the March 17, 2026 Joint UDP/BIA Board meeting."

Second: No second

Abstentions: no abstentions

Approval: The motion was approved.

UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board Nominations

Jennifer A. re-introduced D'Vante Rolle, Director of Outreach with the University Presbyterian Church. Jennifer A. also introduced Rachell Fyal: Associate Professor with the Daniel J Evans School of Public Policy and Governance with UW, Kathleen Esnaurrizar: Student with College of Engineering UW, and Michaelann Jundt: Senior Associate Dean with Undergraduate Academic Affairs with UW. Jennifer A. requested a motion to "Approve all 4 nominations to the UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board.

Motion: Lincoln J. moved to approve all nominees to "The UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board".

Second: Nikole O. seconded the motion

Abstentions: no abstentions

Approval: The motion was approved

Executive Director Report

Don B. started with an update on the UDP 5 Year Strategic Plan that was introduced in 2024 and will go through 2029. Largely, UDP is on track with the workplan, as many items were front loaded and already complete. There are a few items that have been paused due to timing, as well as multiple tasks in process and on-track. A full copy of the strategic plan progress report was made available in the UDP March Board packet.

Economic Development Report

Hannah K. started with a look into the Economic Development Report that was completed in early 2026. This report offers a comprehensive overview of the U District, and highlights key metrics on foot traffic in the neighborhood, as well as real estate development, residential growth & demographics, and the economic impact of the University of Washington, along with transit ridership, and more.

Next Hannah K. offered information regarding City of Seattle Tenant Improvement Grants. The Office of Economic Development (OED) has launched a new program to support small businesses by helping reduce financial barriers for improvements, including signage, and equipment. Applications are due by Monday, April 13, 2026.

Lastly, Hannah K. gave an update to business opening and closings, as well as upcoming openings, and temporary closures.

Public Safety Advocacy

Marcus J. shared an update on the open air drug market activity and how it impacts businesses, residents, and public spaces. Marcus J. discussed how UDP is responding to this area which includes Public Safety Committee meetings, SPD and public safety coordination, ambassador monitoring and reporting, as well as hiring a neighborhood outreach coordinator, and sending out a perception survey. Advocacy for this includes elevation concerns with city leadership, sustained enforcement & coordination, public right of way improvements, and city leadership walks of the neighborhood.

Note: A full Clean and Safe Program Report is included in the UDP Board meeting packet, which talks about other areas of the Clean & Safe Program.

Urban Vitality

Janet L. began with an overview of the concerns regarding scooters and intersection daylighting. UDP staff are coordinating with LIME, SDOT, and others to help with thoughtful implementation of the upcoming scooter corrals. Coordination includes flexible designs, multi-purpose uses, and easy loading/pick up of scooters. SDOT will be sharing a map of the new corral locations soon.

Janet L. noted that the community engagement on strategic initiatives will be ramping up and will include LID I-5 RFP process, subarea plan, and other SDOT projects.

Lastly, Janet L. offered other public realm updates that included a “Call for Artists” which had over 45 entries and closed on March 15, 2026 and finalizing the renewing space management contracts.

U District Events

Lauren C. started with information regarding the “First Annual Night Blossom” event on the UW Quad. This event is happening on Saturday, March 21st. Lauren also gave a call out to volunteers to help protect the trees during the event.

Next, Lauren C. offered more information regarding the 2026 Cherry Blossom Season and the 5th Annual U District Cherry Blossom Festival. Secret Seattle, Seattle Met, and The UW Daily all wrote about the event.

Lastly, 2026 U District Street Fair has kicked off and is nearly sold out. Lauren C. offered some in-depth look at the number of vendors, local business participation, and the Neptune Main Stage, which will be featured at 41st and University Way.

Upcoming UDP Meetings

Aaron H. gave a reminder of upcoming BOD and UDBIA Ratepayer board meetings.

New UDP Board Business

Aaron H. called for new business, there was none.

New UDBIA Board Business

Jennifer A. called for new business, there was none.

UDP Board Adjournment

Aaron H. adjourned the UDP Board meeting.

UDBIA Adjournment

Jennifer A. adjourned the UDBIA Board meeting.



Finance Committee Report & Budget Narrative

Prepared on 6/9/26

This financial narrative provides a summary of The U District Partnership's financial statements as of May 31, 2026. The notes below correspond to the profit and loss statement, the balance sheet and our collections report from the City.

Budget Report

June is the end of the UDP's fiscal year, so the spending for FY 2026 is largely wrapping up, giving the Board a clear indication of where things will land for the year. Spending for UDP is largely on track with the 2026 budget, with some persistent variances. On the income side, we see unanticipated grant and donation income which is offset on the expense side by an uptick in other program expenses. These variances are explained below in greater detail. The numbers along the left side of the page correspond with the numbers on the budget report:

Income:

43400 – Donations & Partnerships: *Unexpected donations are driving this increase in income. A generous donation from Tom McQuaid came in \$10,000 more than expected. Also the Lincoln Properties supported the station park series for \$10,000 that wasn't in the 2026 budget.*

444300 – BIA Contract: *Three projects are contributing to the variance in BIA income. The new self-watering flower baskets, the light rentals for the first annual night blossom walk, and the office renovation, which is a timing issue, and for which UW is going to substantially reimburse the organization.*

44530 – Grants: *UDP received several generous grants this year that have gone to support and deepen the impact the organization has in the U District. These grants included allocations from the City Council championed by Councilmember Rivera to support homeless outreach and cleaning in the U District. UDP has grant-funded contracts with SPU and SDOT. The Rotary also generously awarded UDP funds to support the self-watering flower baskets, which was unexpected.*

46400 – Interest & Other: *This variance is attributable to a partial income related to unclaimed property in the form of uncashed checks.*

47000 – Program Fees: *This is the line where UDP tracks income from events, such as the Street Fair vendor booth fees. The variance here represents a timing issue and should flatten out by the end of the fiscal year.*

47215 – Sponsorship Income: Sponsorship for Chow Down came in about \$25,000 higher than anticipated, which is causing the majority of this variance. Cherry Blossom Festival sponsorship was also up by a few thousand dollars as well. Street Fair sponsorship came in about \$7,000 over budget, which was great to see—thanks in large part to Thumbtack coming in as the main stage sponsor.

Expense:

60000 – Staffing Expenses: The underspend in staff costs are related to an unfilled Events Specialist position, but will likely be offset by our underbudgeting for medical expenses, which may land us with a total variance of \$10,000 by the end of the year. The reorganization of the team and event-related work will not impact this year’s budget.

61000 – Professional Fees: UDP brought on consultant support including an HR firm this year to support the organization and update the handbook, and this accounts for some of the variance seen on this line.

62000 – Office and Overhead Expenses: This section has a few variances, including expenses related to conference travel, which can be better planned for next year. Some of the Street Fair banking and service fees are still waiting to land and will close out by the end of the year.

70000 – Direct Program Spending: There is a large underspend shown in contracted services and program supplies. These are mostly related to the U District Street Fair and will be resolved during the month of June before the end of the fiscal year. Entertainment is an overspend for this year’s budget but came in lower than last year. This is largely due to the new programming and partnership with the Neptune. Lastly, UDP incurred unanticipated spending associated with the new grant funding, which shows up here as a large variance from the budget.

Balance Sheet Report

The balance sheet shows a stable cash position, and an uptick in receivables. The lease liabilities and rights continue to show a variance because of our lease extension with UW. Since we moved to Quickbooks Online, we have a new account to hold funds that enables Quickbooks to pay our federal taxes automatically. This is reflected under assets.

BIA Assessment Collections

UDP has been working with the city to ensure that the budget target of 95% collections is attained. The numbers below reflect collections through April, 2026. Billing goes out in June and December, so those numbers are updated twice annually.

Assessment years 2019-2024 are on track with assessment year 2025 still catching up as delinquent assessments roll in. In general the average UDBIA collection rate is higher than 95% over time, generally taking a couple of years for each fiscal year to hit this target.

| Fiscal Year | Amount Billed | Amount Collected | Collection Rate |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 2019 | \$ 946,505.32 | \$ 940,514.37 | 99.37% |
| 2020 | \$ 1,215,841.04 | \$ 1,203,865.60 | 99.02% |
| 2021 | \$ 1,271,712.04 | \$ 1,252,574.05 | 98.50% |
| 2022 | \$ 1,325,847.14 | \$ 1,302,967.85 | 98.27% |
| 2023 | \$ 1,596,501.52 | \$ 1,565,836.44 | 98.08% |
| 2024 | \$ 1,760,687.52 | \$ 1,714,879.46 | 97.40% |
| 2025 | \$ 1,826,882.56 | \$ 1,666,289.45 | 91.21% |

Budget Report
The U District Partnership
July 1, 2025-May 31, 2026

| | Jul 1 2025 - May 31 2026 | | | Annual |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | YTD Actual | YTD Budget | Variance | Budget |
| Income | | | | |
| 43400 Donations/Partnerships | 170,917.00 | 146,666.67 | 24,250.33 | 150,000.00 |
| 44430 BIA Contract | 2,046,233.13 | 1,995,205.58 | 51,027.55 | 2,165,377.94 |
| 44530 Grants | 130,311.15 | 32,750.00 | 97,561.15 | 39,500.00 |
| 46400 Interest and Other | 6,958.36 | 0 | 6,958.36 | 0.00 |
| 47000 Program Fees | 218,477.73 | 238,000.00 | (19,522.27) | 238,000.00 |
| 47213 Retail Sales | 1,226.31 | 2,416.67 | (1,190.36) | 2,500.00 |
| 47215 Sponsorships | 106,166.81 | 78,083.33 | 28,083.48 | 78,500.00 |
| Total for Income | 2,680,290.49 | 2,493,122.25 | 187,168.24 | 2,673,877.94 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| 60000 Staffing Expenses | 1,348,616.43 | 1,333,241.83 | 15,374.60 | 1,451,877.56 |
| 61000 Professional Expenses | 45,518.24 | 34,166.66 | 11,351.58 | 36,000.00 |
| 62000 Office and Overhead Expenses | 220,102.41 | 222,376.31 | (2,273.90) | 238,878.00 |
| 70000 Direct Program Expenses | 848,022.78 | 872,859.35 | (24,836.57) | 920,151.00 |
| Total for Expenses | 2,462,259.86 | 2,462,644.15 | (384.29) | 2,646,906.56 |
| Net Operating Income | 218,030.63 | 30,478.10 | 187,552.53 | 26,971.38 |
| Other Income | | | | |
| Other Expenses | | | | |
| Lease Amortization Expense | 26,552.27 | 26,552.27 | \$0.00 | \$26,971.38 |
| Total for Other Expenses | 26,552.27 | 26,552.27 | \$0.00 | \$26,971.38 |
| Net Other Income | (26,552.27) | (26,552.27) | 0.00 | (26,971.38) |
| Net Income | 191,478.36 | 3,925.83 | 187,552.53 | 0.00 |

Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
The U District Partnership
As of May 31, 2026

| | Total | | |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | As of May 31, 2026 | As of May 31, 2025 (PY) | \$ Change (PY) |
| Assets | | | |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Bank Accounts | | | |
| 10100 Operating Bank Accounts | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10110 WSECU Checking | 105,095.47 | 94,654.19 | 10,441.28 |
| 10111 WSECU Savings | 161,057.10 | 160,595.37 | 461.73 |
| Total for 10100 Operating Bank Accounts | \$266,152.57 | \$255,249.56 | \$10,903.01 |
| Total for Bank Accounts | \$266,152.57 | \$255,249.56 | \$10,903.01 |
| Accounts Receivable | \$273,287.93 | \$169,851.58 | \$103,436.35 |
| Other Current Assets | | | |
| 12021 Employee Advances | 559.16 | 234.22 | 324.94 |
| 12022 Prepaid Expense | \$17,284.52 | \$1,000.10 | \$16,284.42 |
| 12026 Lease Rights | 346,025.94 | 33,119.29 | 312,906.65 |
| QuickBooks Tax Holding Account | 17,999.11 | | 17,999.11 |
| Total for Other Current Assets | \$381,868.73 | \$34,353.61 | \$347,515.12 |
| Total for Current Assets | \$921,309.23 | \$459,454.75 | \$461,854.48 |
| Fixed Assets | \$27,334.29 | \$16,449.57 | \$10,884.72 |
| Other Assets | | | |
| 17025 Security Deposits | 8,235.87 | 8,235.87 | \$0.00 |
| Total for Other Assets | \$8,235.87 | \$8,235.87 | \$0.00 |
| Total for Assets | \$956,879.39 | \$484,140.19 | \$472,739.20 |
| Liabilities and Equity | | | |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Accounts Payable | \$13,289.39 | \$72,378.34 | -\$59,088.95 |
| Credit Cards | \$6,772.68 | \$4,829.21 | \$1,943.47 |
| Other Current Liabilities | | | |
| 20210 Deferred Revenue | 500.00 | 34,265.19 | -33,765.19 |
| 20220 Lease Liability | 390,346.67 | 33,880.56 | 356,466.11 |
| 24000 Payroll Liabilities | \$65,876.60 | \$61,340.74 | \$4,535.86 |
| Total for Other Current Liabilities | \$456,723.27 | \$129,486.49 | \$327,236.78 |
| Total for Current Liabilities | \$476,785.34 | \$206,694.04 | \$270,091.30 |
| Total for Liabilities | \$476,785.34 | \$206,694.04 | \$270,091.30 |
| Equity | | | |
| 30000 Opening Balance Equity | 179.79 | \$0.00 | 179.79 |
| 32000 Unrestricted Net Assets | 288,435.90 | 267,474.67 | 20,961.23 |
| Net Income | 191,478.36 | 9,971.48 | 181,506.88 |
| Total for Equity | \$480,094.05 | \$277,446.15 | \$202,647.90 |
| Total for Liabilities and Equity | \$956,879.39 | \$484,140.19 | \$472,739.20 |



DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSAL

2026 – 2027

The DRAFT U District Partnership (UDP) budget for FY27 reflects both new funding streams and a growing UDBIA assessment. It also reflects the ongoing support of a wide range of valued community partners. The priorities and initiatives outlined below continue to support the core objectives of the UDP's five-year strategic plan with investments and services that drive meaningful improvements across the district. The UDBIA assessment is projected to reach approximately \$1,890,000 in the coming fiscal year. With an anticipated 95% collection rate, UDP expects to generate a solid base income of about \$1,797,000 from the UDBIA—providing a strong, stable base of funding for the year ahead. In addition, there are a variety of grants that will provide new capacity for a range of economic development programs outlined below.

PROJECTED INCOME FOR 2027

Income from FY2027 UDBIA Assessment: \$1,797,345

Each year, the UDBIA Assessment provides the base funding for the programs administered by UDP. This funding is stable and can be projected each year. This money is unrestricted, insofar that it's approved by the BIA and is in alignment with the establishing ordinance.

Existing Grants: \$293,750

In the year ahead, there are a few grants that have been secured to support UDP programming in the U District, including ongoing support for UDP's cleaning and outreach programs from the City of Seattle that allow us to continue staffing at FY2026 levels.

New Grants: \$700,000

By the end of FY2026, UDP will be under contract with the Federal Highway Administration for a \$1,500,000 grant to support a two-year feasibility study project looking at the potential of lidding I-5 and reconnecting the U District with Wallingford. In addition to these funds, the City of Seattle has contributed \$250,000 to the effort with funding from the Seattle Transportation Levy.

Donations & Partnerships: \$50,000

Several neighborhood partners have committed to financially supporting UDP programming again this year. UHeights currently supports the morning ambassador shifts, and Amazon is coming back to generously support activation in the U District Station park.

Program Fees: \$261,500

The income from program fees is largely attributable to the booth fee payments from the annual U District Street Fair. These fees are invested into covering the costs of the event each May.

Sponsorship: \$85,000

This past year, UDP has made solid strides in bringing in new sponsorships for each of the annual festivals. Most event revenue can be attributed to Street Fair booth fees, but sponsorship remains an opportunity to bring in external funding and in-kind contributions from event partners.

BIA Surplus Spending: \$305,530

Every year, there is a difference between UDP's budgeted and actual spending. Typically, UDP slightly underspends, allowing unspent funds to be rolled into the following year's program budget. In addition, UDP consistently maintains a surplus of city-held funds beyond the required reserves, which can be allocated to future budget priorities. While the lion's share of the UDBIA's annual assessment is collected each year, there are still outstanding assessment dollars that UDP is actively working to collect. These funds are not included in the current budget but could provide additional flexibility over the next two years. Currently, this budget projects approximately \$305,530 to be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

PROPOSED 2027 BUDGET & WORK PLAN

Maintaining a welcoming, well-kept commercial corridor is foundational to a thriving local economy. Cleaning and safety services remain the core of BIA investment for exactly this reason—they keep the U District functioning as a place people want to be, whether they're here to shop, work, grab a meal, or call it home. Complementing these core services, targeted improvements to the public realm and proactive business support work together to strengthen the district's overall appeal. Meanwhile, marketing initiatives and community events do double duty: they build neighborhood identity, draw new visitors, and generate their own revenue through booth fees and sponsorships, offsetting much of their cost. The proposed 2027 work plan and budget reflects these priorities, with projections set alongside 2026 allocations for easy comparison.

Proposed 2027 Safety & Outreach Budget: \$681,248**2026 Safety & Outreach Budget: \$520,511**

The bulk of the safety and outreach budget goes toward maintaining UDP's daily ambassador program—the backbone of the district's approach to public safety. The major jump in this budget line-item is the funding for outreach from a city grant. In addition to boots on the ground, UDP will continue hosting monthly case conferencing sessions designed to address the persistent effects of serious behavioral health issues in the neighborhood. UDP also remains an active and vocal presence at the city and county level, bringing together neighborhood stakeholders and pushing for meaningful progress on cleaning, safety, and outreach priorities. A primary focus of the work this year will be devoted to unwinding the entrenched drug market at NE 47th and Brooklyn.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *Sustained daily on-call ambassador program*
 - *7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m. Monday - Friday*
 - *2 p.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday & Sunday (with the aim of adding a Saturday morning shift later in the year)*
- *Periodic late night security patrols at the beginning of Fall and Winter Quarters*
 - *10 p.m. – 3 a.m. periodically on Friday and Saturday nights*

- *Dedicated U District homeless outreach coordinator*
 - *Monday - Friday*
- *Monthly homeless census using King County's One Night Count methodology*
- *Seattle Neighborhood Impact Framework with multi-agency case conferencing for high-impact individuals*
- *U District Public Safety Committee*
- *Public safety walks with city leaders*
- *Quarterly meetings with Seattle Police Chief*
- *Quarterly meetings with the North Precinct Commander*
- *Participation on the North Precinct Advisory Council*

Proposed 2027 Cleaning Budget: \$626,334

2026 Cleaning Budget: \$586,405

The UDP Clean Team has grown steadily in both staffing and hours to keep pace with the district's needs. This past year, the team logged roughly 8,500 cleaning hours--and even that level of output struggles to keep up with demand, particularly given the persistent graffiti and frequent biohazard situations that come with a high concentration of people experiencing homelessness. Several city grants are expected to contribute more than \$125,000 toward these efforts and continued expansion will be necessary in coming years as assessment revenue permits.

In 2025 UDP converted a part-time clean team position to full-time, bringing the in-house roster to five--a meaningful marker for a team that recently completed its transition to fully in-house operations. UDP will also keep coordinating second-story graffiti removal for participating property owners and will continue using issue-tracking software to manage work orders and measure response times.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *7 x week cleaning of south Ave area*
- *2 x week cleaning of north Ave area*
- *1 x month cleaning of general cleaning area*
- *2 x year community clean-ups*
- *5 in-house clean team members*
- *Issue ticketing and tracking software*
- *Public realm maintenance, supplies and equipment*
- *Planting strip maintenance on NE 43rd Street*
- *Coordination of discounted/privately-funded second floor graffiti removal*
- *Targeted/seasonal cleaning: pressure washing, leaf and snow removal*
- *Advocacy for enhanced ongoing City support for cleaning, and improved solid waste collection*
- *Annual coordination and watering of the flower baskets on University Way NE*
- *Table, chair, and umbrella management in public seating areas*

Proposed 2027 Economic Development Budget: \$246,797

2026 Economic Development Budget: \$174,252

In early 2026, UDP produced its first ever U District Economic Development report which chronicled all of the growth in the University District over the past decade. This research enabled UDP to become an authority on the U District's economic dynamics while continuing to be an advocate and resource for small businesses. Looking ahead, the 2027 work plan maintains a strong commitment to supporting small businesses, with an added emphasis on retail recruitment to further strengthen the district's commercial core.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *Business attraction, retention, and expansion*
 - *Updated small business landscape database*
 - *Commercial vacancy tracking and tenant matchmaking*
 - *New retail economic evaluation and strategy*
- *Database management and economic reporting*
 - *Public/private development infrastructure tracking and advocacy*
- *Small business assistance and promotion*
 - *Small business technical assistance*
 - *Business promotion campaigns, event support*
 - *Continued grants to support small businesses and organizations*
- *Convening and engagement with U District stakeholders*
 - *Economic Development Committee*
 - *U District Community Council*

Proposed 2027 Marketing & Communications Budget: \$206,721

2026 Marketing & Communications Budget: \$180,730

In the year ahead, UDP will keep building visibility for both the neighborhood and the organization through focused marketing and communications work. Event-driven traffic continues to give both the UDP and U District Seattle websites a measurable boost in reach and usability, and a fresh round of photography is sharpening how the U District's story (and UDP's role in it) gets told. That momentum carries into 2027 with planned website updates and a continued emphasis on narrative, putting the district's character and its stakeholders front and center.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *Expand and deepen engagement through strategic social media and email marketing campaigns*
- *Drive traffic to UDistrictSeattle.com, keeping content fresh, engaging, and informative*
- *Invest in new content on the UDP and U District Seattle websites to better showcase the organization's growing impact on the district and the district's character and offerings*
- *Pursue positive earned media coverage to further elevate the U District's visibility and reputation*

Proposed 2027 Lid I-5 Feasibility Study Budget: \$700,000

2026 Lid I-5 Budget: \$0

In 2024, UDP applied for a Reconnecting Communities grant from the federal government, which was awarded in 2025. This funding would provide \$1,500,000 to conduct a feasibility study to evaluate the potential engineering, construction and programming of a lid over Interstate-5 between Wallingford and the U District. The City of Seattle has also committed \$250,000 to this effort through the Seattle Transportation Levy. UDP staff have been working with the Federal Highways Administration to finalize the contract this spring and expect to launch the project in the fall of 2026. The funding represented in this budget line-item represents roughly half of the funding for what is expected to be a two-year project.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *Government contracting:*
 - *Finalize the contract with the Federal Highway Administration*
 - *Finalize contract with Seattle Department of Transportation*
- *Project management:*
 - *Launch an RFP for a consultant team to lead the feasibility study*
 - *Hire project staffing to support the study work*
- *Community engagement:*
 - *Launch a community advisory committee*

Proposed 2027 Placemaking & Urban Vitality Budget: \$196,197

2026 Placemaking & Urban Vitality Budget: \$279,484

UDP's Urban Vitality Committee will continue to shape the neighborhood's input into Seattle's upcoming Comprehensive Plan updates, ensuring U District voices are heard and that stakeholders have a hand in defining a more connected and resilient district. The opening of the privately owned public space at NE 43rd & Brooklyn Ave NE gave UDP the opportunity to launch a Station Area Park series, which will continue this summer with dance classes and community events. City grants will fund a new Mobility Hub art installation program near the Light Rail Station. BIA dollars will support upkeep of UDP-owned placemaking signage, tree lighting, and flower baskets, along with management of the outdoor furniture and umbrellas at NE 43rd Street and the Station Park. UDP will also stay engaged on transportation issues--monitoring activity, sharing information transparently, and advocating to protect the district's economy and livability as construction and investment continue.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *Coordination and fundraising for beautification projects:*
 - *Murals, public art, and placemaking*
 - *Public Art and placemaking*
 - *Improve / replace urban elements: pedestrian lights, etc.*
- *Continued placemaking and beautification*
 - *Summer flower baskets*
 - *U District signage featuring new neighborhood branding*
 - *Tree light maintenance*

- *Plaza furniture management for NE 43rd Street and U District Station Park*
- *Public infrastructure, access and mobility tracking and advocacy*
- *Convening and engagement with U District stakeholders*
 - *Urban Vitality Committee*
 - *Lid I-5 North Seattle Coalition*
 - *CUCAC*

Proposed 2027 U District Events Budget: \$441,511

2026 U District Events Budget: \$586,955

Each year, UDP produces a dynamic lineup of high-quality events that attract visitors and showcase the unique character and vitality of the U District. These events not only drive foot traffic but also strengthen the district's identity as one of Seattle's most vibrant neighborhoods.

Work Plan Highlights:

- *Seattle Boba Fest – August 1, 2026*
- *U District Chow Down – October 3, 2026*
- *U District Cherry Blossom Festival – Spring 2027*
- *56th Annual U District Street Fair – May 15 & 16, 2027*
- *Expanded sponsorship for events and programs*
- *Potential additional promotions throughout the year*

Proposed 2027 Program Management Budget: \$395,334

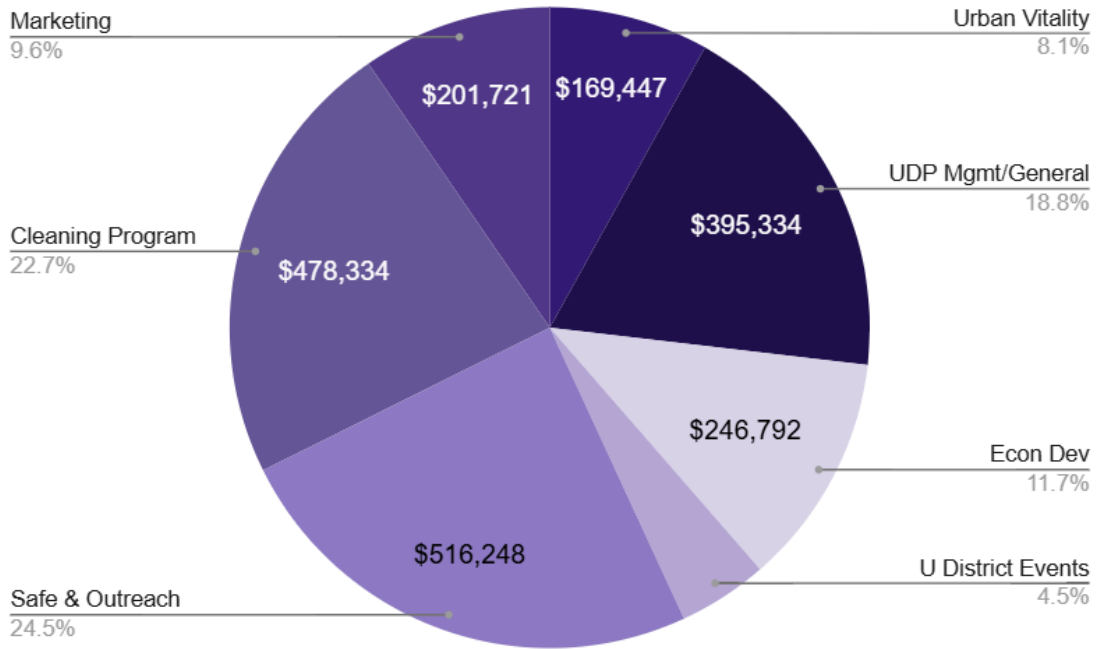
2026 Program Management Budget: \$345,551

As program manager, the U District Partnership provides professional management and oversees the investment made through the business improvement area dollars on behalf of ratepayers in the district.

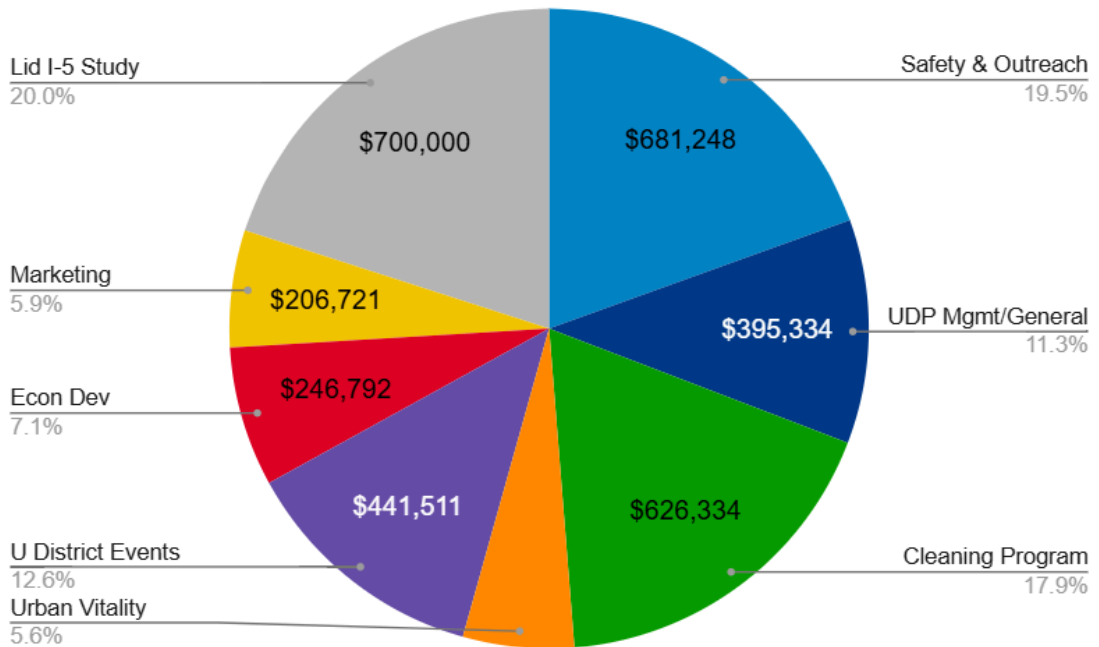
Work Plan Highlights:

- *Convene UDP Board and UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board meetings*
- *Strong advocacy on behalf of the neighborhood*
- *Engagement with other community partners*
- *Program oversight and accountability*
- *Fundraising and financial management*
- *Community convening and networking*

Proposed BIA Spending: \$2.1 Million



Proposed UDP Spending: \$3.5 Million



DRAFT 2027 UDP BUDGET

| | | Program Management | Clean Program | Safety & Outreach | Economic Development | Urban Vitality | Lid I-5 | Marketing | Total Program Budget 27 | U District Chow Down | Cherry Blossom Fest | Boba Fest | U District Street Fair | Misc. Events & Promotions | Total Event Budget 27 | TOTAL UDP BUDGET 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Income | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 44430 | BIA Contract | 299,803.30 | 413,334.08 | 451,248.40 | 216,792.33 | 139,446.58 | 0.00 | 181,720.67 | 1,702,345.36 | 30,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 25,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 95,000.00 | 1,797,345.36 |
| | BIA Surplus Rolling Forward | 95,530.37 | 65,000.00 | 65,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 0.00 | 20,000.00 | 305,530.37 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 305,530.37 |
| 44530 | Grants | 0.00 | 130,000.00 | 140,000.00 | 0.00 | 23,750.00 | 700,000.00 | 0.00 | 993,750.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 993,750.00 |
| 44535 | Federal Highway Administration | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 600,000.00 | 0.00 | 600,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 600,000.00 |
| 44539 | Seattle Department of Transportation | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 23,750.00 | 100,000.00 | 0.00 | 126,750.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 126,750.00 |
| 44534 | Office of Economic Development | 0.00 | 100,000.00 | 140,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 240,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 240,000.00 |
| 44536 | Seattle Public Utilities | 0.00 | 27,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 27,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 27,000.00 |
| 43400 | Donations & Partnerships | 0.00 | 18,000.00 | 25,000.00 | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 4,000.00 | 50,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 46400 | Interest and Other | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 47000 | Program Fees | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 250,000.00 | 0.00 | 261,500.00 | 261,500.00 |
| 47213 | Retail Sales | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 47215 | Sponsorship | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 25,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 0.00 | 85,000.00 | 85,000.00 |
| | Total Income | 395,333.67 | 626,334.08 | 681,248.40 | 246,792.33 | 196,196.58 | 700,000.00 | 206,720.67 | 3,052,625.73 | 65,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 32,500.00 | 305,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 442,500.00 | 3,495,125.73 |
| Expenses | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Staffing Expenses | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 60100 | Wages & Salaries | 126,708.21 | 423,582.23 | 111,951.61 | 191,894.05 | 130,480.70 | 161,342.57 | 148,177.30 | 1,294,136.67 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 27,300.00 | 0.00 | 27,300.00 | 1,321,436.67 |
| 60020 | Payroll Taxes | 10,503.12 | 36,641.89 | 9,245.10 | 16,040.28 | 10,874.91 | 13,607.50 | 12,430.10 | 109,342.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,361.45 | 0.00 | 2,361.45 | 111,704.35 |
| 60030 | Medical Benefits | 8,626.57 | 68,102.49 | 9,093.14 | 17,976.18 | 11,426.54 | 17,726.86 | 14,927.95 | 147,879.74 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 147,879.74 |
| 60050 | Transit Benefit | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 60040 | Retirement Benefits | 3,801.25 | 12,707.47 | 3,358.55 | 5,756.82 | 3,914.42 | 4,840.28 | 4,445.32 | 38,824.10 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 38,824.10 |
| | Total Staffing Expenses | 152,639.15 | 541,034.08 | 133,648.40 | 231,667.33 | 156,696.58 | 197,517.20 | 179,980.67 | 1,593,183.41 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 29,661.45 | 0.00 | 29,661.45 | 1,622,844.86 |
| Professional Expenses | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 61100 | Accounting Fees | 32,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 32,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 32,000.00 |
| 61110 | HR Consulting | 10,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 61120 | Legal Fees | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| | Total Professional Expenses | 44,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44,000.00 |
| Office and Overhead Expenses | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 63600 | Banking & Service Fees | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | 16,000.00 | 0.00 | 16,900.00 | 16,940.00 |
| 62800 | Dues & Subscriptions | 2,775.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 25.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,800.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,800.00 |
| 62200 | Insurance | 1,300.00 | 3,300.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5,600.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 5,000.00 | 10,600.00 |
| 63100 | Licenses & Permits | 210.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 210.00 | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 18,000.00 | 0.00 | 21,500.00 | 21,710.00 |
| 62500 | Local Travel & Meetings | 3,500.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 | 900.00 | 750.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 6,050.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 750.00 | 0.00 | 750.00 | 6,800.00 |
| 63120 | Merchandise | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| 62300 | Office Equipment | 12,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12,000.00 |
| 62400 | Office Supplies | 6,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6,000.00 |
| 62900 | Postage & Mailing | 350.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 200.00 | 550.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 550.00 |
| 62150 | Renovations & Repairs | 15,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 16,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 16,000.00 |
| 62100 | Rent & Monthly Parking | 104,359.52 | 6,500.00 | 6,500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 117,359.52 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,600.00 | 0.00 | 1,600.00 | 118,959.52 |
| 63300 | Staff Development | 14,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 2,000.00 | 22,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 22,000.00 |
| 62700 | Technology & Software | 24,000.00 | 2,500.00 | 200.00 | 6,700.00 | 500.00 | 0.00 | 2,500.00 | 36,400.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 36,400.00 |
| 62600 | Telephone | 3,200.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 8,200.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8,200.00 |
| | Total Office and Overhead Expenses | 186,694.52 | 15,300.00 | 10,100.00 | 10,625.00 | 4,250.00 | 0.00 | 7,240.00 | 234,209.52 | 3,300.00 | 300.00 | 2,800.00 | 39,350.00 | 0.00 | 45,750.00 | 279,959.52 |
| Direct Program Expenses | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 70300 | Advertising | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 2,700.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,500.00 | 0.00 | 9,200.00 | 10,700.00 |
| 70310 | Committee & Board Meetings | 5,000.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7,500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7,500.00 |
| 70320 | Contracted Services | 7,000.00 | 8,000.00 | 534,000.00 | 2,500.00 | 31,750.00 | 502,482.80 | 14,000.00 | 1,099,732.80 | 28,000.00 | 12,000.00 | 5,450.00 | 134,000.00 | 5,000.00 | 184,450.00 | 1,284,182.80 |
| 70340 | Equipment Rental | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 14,000.00 | 5,700.00 | 6,000.00 | 55,000.00 | 0.00 | 80,700.00 | 80,700.00 |
| 70350 | Event Entertainment | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7,000.00 | 600.00 | 2,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 0.00 | 39,600.00 | 39,600.00 |
| 70360 | Other Program Expenses | 0.00 | 43,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,500.00 | 0.00 | 2,500.00 | 48,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 750.00 | 0.00 | 5,000.00 | 5,750.00 | 53,750.00 |
| 70370 | Printing & Reproduction | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 2,500.00 | 7,000.00 | 6,700.00 | 9,650.00 | 8,500.00 | 0.00 | 31,850.00 | 34,350.00 |
| 70335 | Program Supplies | 0.00 | 19,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 22,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 2,700.00 | 3,850.00 | 5,000.00 | 0.00 | 14,550.00 | 36,550.00 |
| | Total Direct Program Expenses | 12,000.00 | 70,000.00 | 537,500.00 | 4,500.00 | 35,250.00 | 502,482.80 | 19,500.00 | 1,181,232.80 | 61,700.00 | 29,700.00 | 29,700.00 | 235,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 366,100.00 | 1,547,332.80 |
| | Total Expenses | 395,333.67 | 626,334.08 | 681,248.40 | 246,792.33 | 196,196.58 | 700,000.00 | 206,720.67 | 3,052,625.73 | 65,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 32,500.00 | 304,011.45 | 10,000.00 | 441,511.45 | 3,494,137.18 |
| | Net Ordinary Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 988.55 | 0.00 | 988.55 | 988.55 |

Program Reports

UDP Board of Directors

June 16, 2026

CLEAN, SAFE & OUTREACH

Self-Watering Flower Baskets Installed on The Ave

UDP's new self-watering flower baskets have been installed on University Way. The upgraded baskets will help maintain healthier and more consistent plantings while significantly reducing the staff time and water required throughout the season. Sincere thanks to the University Rotary Club for its generous contribution, which helped make this important neighborhood beautification investment possible.

NE 43rd Street Programming and Beautification

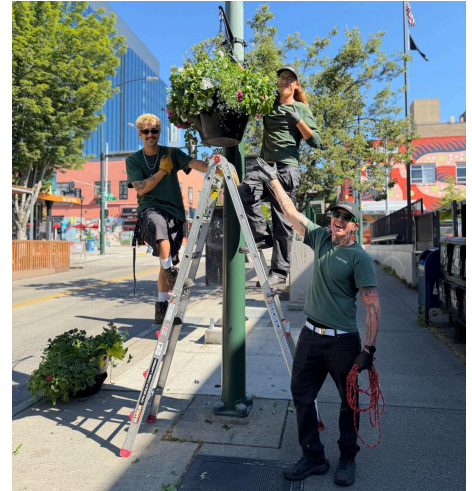
Seasonal programming has returned to NE 43rd Street with the installation of umbrellas along the street. On sunny days, UDP is also activating the park at the corner of NE 43rd Street and Brooklyn Avenue NE with tables and chairs. These amenities provide additional places for visitors, residents, and employees to gather, eat, and enjoy the neighborhood while helping create a more welcoming and active public space.

New mulch was also installed in the landscaped areas along NE 43rd Street. The mulch will help retain soil moisture, suppress weed growth, and improve the overall appearance of the street. In response to feedback about previous mulching efforts, UDP sourced a low-scent product that should not interfere with the enjoyment of nearby outdoor dining areas.

Homeless Outreach

Since the last update, Brad Mills has been hired by REACH as the dedicated Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator serving the U District. Brad is now onboarding into the neighborhood and beginning to build relationships with individuals experiencing homelessness, local service providers, businesses, community partners, and the U District Ambassador team.

This position will support and advance the Seattle Neighborhood Impact Framework through consistent, place-based outreach and stronger coordination among neighborhood partners. Initial work will include developing a deeper understanding of the local drug market and identifying individuals who may benefit from shelter, treatment, behavioral health care, or other services. Brad will also work closely with the Ambassadors and outreach partners to improve information sharing, follow up on priority individuals, and help connect neighborhood conditions with appropriate resources and interventions.



This dedicated outreach capacity is made possible through funding secured by District 4 Councilmember Maritza Rivera.

| DATE OF COUNT | NO. OF PEOPLE |
|---------------|---------------|
| 06/04/2026 | 81 |
| 05/29/2026 | 60 |
| 05/06/2026 | 71 |
| 04/22/2026 | 80 |
| 04/09/2026 | 46 |
| 03/11/2026 | 41 |
| 02/11/2026 | 34 |
| 01/14/2026 | 46 |
| 12/10/2025 | 32 |
| 10/15/2025 | 37 |
| 09/04/2025 | 83 |
| 08/06/2025 | 48 |
| 07/24/2025 | 79 |
| 07/02/2025 | 62 |

Monthly Homeless Census

UDP conducts a monthly homeless census to track changes in the unsheltered population and guide outreach and case conferencing efforts. The census uses the same method each month so trends can be monitored over time. A dedicated ambassador shift is assigned every month to document individuals in doorways, alleys, vehicles, encampments, and other known locations.

Counts are recorded by location, number of people, structures present, and whether individuals are known to ambassadors. The most recent census (shown in green below) identified 41 individuals living unsheltered in the U District. The highest count recorded was in 2021, at 150 people living outside.

**Counts over 50 are bolded.*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

U District Seattle Business Directory & Summer Specials

The U District Partnership has refreshed the business directory on UDistrictSeattle.com as part of a broader effort to promote local businesses during this summer's major visitor events and soccer-related festivities. Businesses were also invited to submit special [summer promotions](#) to be featured on the U District Seattle website, social media channels, and in the UDP newsletter. To further increase visibility, UDP is distributing QR codes and promotional materials for the directory and participating offers to local hotels and businesses, helping connect visitors with neighborhood dining, shopping, and experiences throughout the season.

U District Business Openings

Recent Openings:

- Roma Italian
- Xplosion Games (Pop-up)
- Alley Coffee
- Okonomiyaki Jiban-Ya

Upcoming Openings:

- Mikiya Wagyu Shabu
- Bite Theory
- Tonight We Race
- Alley Coffee
- Carmelo's Tacos
- Planet Fitness

PLACEMAKING & URBAN VITALITY

UDP Public Realm Investments and Activations

As the U District prepares for summer, several public realm projects are helping make the neighborhood more welcoming, vibrant, and memorable:

- *Seamless Seattle Signage Reflects U District Identity:* The Seamless Seattle wayfinding signs throughout the neighborhood have been refreshed with U District-specific branding. Visitors will now see familiar neighborhood symbols—including gargoyles, mammoths, and boba—alongside key landmarks, helping strengthen the district's sense of place.
- *Mobility Hub Art Installations Move Forward:* The U District Light Rail Station will host two temporary art installations as part of the Mobility Hub pilot. UDP and SDOT secured additional funding to support two of the community panel's top artist selections, with installation planned for late summer. An artist announcement will be shared once contracts are finalized.
- *Flower Day and Summer Activations:* On June 1, UDP celebrated the launch of the summer flower baskets by distributing nearly 100 mini bouquets of gerbera daisies, chamomile, and forest ferns to residents, workers, students, and visitors. Looking ahead, UDP has secured additional funding to launch a summer activation series at Station Park, featuring popular programs such as dance classes and movie nights.

UW Partnerships Expand Organizational Capacity

In addition to these public realm updates, UDP staff have been working on a number of long range planning and advocacy projects to shape the neighborhood's continued growth and prevent unintended consequences. This spring, Urban Vitality intern Erik Rayas completed his internship, playing a key role in coordinating data and mapping efforts between Lime, SDOT, and UDP. His work helped identify solutions that improved traffic safety and scooter parking while minimizing impacts to existing parking and loading.

Urban Vitality and Economic Development staff also partnered with the University of Washington's BIS 352 Geography course, where 32 students completed research, mapping, and data analysis projects focused on U District planning challenges. The partnership generated valuable datasets that would have been difficult for UDP staff to collect independently while strengthening relationships with both City and University partners. City staff, UW administrators, and UDP board members praised the quality of the student work and expressed strong interest in future collaboration and data sharing opportunities.

Subarea Planning Gains Momentum

The U District Subarea Plan process continues to advance, with the first public workshop held on April 23 and the initial survey closing on May 4. As City staff begin analyzing feedback, they have requested additional meetings and introductions to stakeholder groups, creating new opportunities for community voices to shape the plan.

Transportation Policy and Partnerships

UDP staff have participated in transportation policy discussions with the Downtown Transportation Alliance, Northeast Safe Streets, Councilmember Rinck's Transportation Roundtable, and Seattle Transportation Measure focus groups. These conversations helped elevate neighborhood priorities, while SDOT has demonstrated a strong commitment to partnership by working closely with UDP to evaluate transportation pilots and jointly assess neighborhood impacts.

Lid I-5 North Feasibility Study

UDP continues preparations for the launch of the multi-year Lid I-5 North Feasibility Study. Following participation in both the USDOT Reconnecting Communities Institute and the Washington Department of Commerce Capital Project Planning and Readiness program, staff have focused on refining project budgets, schedules, and governance structures to ensure organizational readiness. Staff anticipate sharing positive news regarding the finalized grant agreement in the near future.

MARKETING & EVENTS

The 55th Annual U District Street Fair

The U District Street Fair returned for its 55th celebration on Saturday, **May 16 & Sunday, May 17**. Nearly 300 artist, craft, food, and community vendors filled the streets of the U District. Also 27 local business activations spilled out onto the street with pizza, beer, shopping and more.

- *New Neptune Outdoor Main Stage:* This year, UDP forged a new partnership with Seattle Theater Group's Neptune Theater to bring The Neptune Main Stage to NE 41st, which was sponsored by Thumbtack.
- *UDP Releases U District Street Fair History Video:* Working with the creative team at Thread Theory, UDP Marketing developed a two-phase video project to highlight the history of the U District Street Fair with narrative provided by community stakeholders. In 2025, Thread Theory captured the event and created standard promotional videos, returning in 2026 to interview six people (from business owners, to long-time neighborhood advocates, to production leaders, and a member of the Shiga family) to share the history and importance of the event to the U District neighborhood. [Watch the video here](#)



5th Annual Seattle Boba Fest Returns on August 1

With nearly 20 bubble tea shops, the U District represents one of the highest concentrations of boba in the Seattle area. Each year, UDP celebrates this by hosting the annual Seattle Boba Fest.

Boba shops located in the U District neighborhood are invited to sign up to participate in the event by offering a single special, unique for the day of Seattle Boba Fest. Other U District businesses are invited to get in on the fun by offering bubble tea-centric or boba-themed specials (desserts, shopping, cocktails, etc.). [Businesses must register here to participate by June 23.](#)