



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

### **KICKOFF** | 12:30-12:55pm

Welcome – Adam Ziemkowski

Opening – Kshama Sawant

Greetings

- Camp Dearborn Residents
- Hospitable Seattle Workers
- Sarah Mae, 23rd Ave Small-Business Owner
- King County Councilmember Larry Gossett
- Seattle City Councilmember Lisa Herbold

### **PANEL – WE CAN END HOMELESSNESS** Facilitated by Kshama Sawant | 12:55 - 1:45pm

- Julia Sterkovsky, Executive Director, Seattle Human Services Coalition
- Violet Lavatai, Membership & Development Coord., Tenants Union of Washington State
- Tim Harris, Founding Director, Real Change;
- Danni Askini, Executive Director, Gender Justice League;
- Sheley Secrest, Vice President, Seattle King County NAACP
- Jarvis Capucion, Member, SHARE/WHEEL

### **LINKING THE FIGHT TO END HOMELESSNESS WITH OTHER**

#### **STRUGGLES** | 1:45 – 1:55pm

- Lisa Daugaard, Deputy Director, Public Defender Association
- Katie Wilson, General Secretary, Transit Riders Union
- Jon Grant, Outreach Director, Raise Up Washington

### **PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY WORKSHOPS** | 1:55 - 3:25pm

- Break / Workshop Setup | 1:55 - 2:05pm
- Workshops | 2:05 - 2:55pm
- Workshop reports | 2:55pm - 3:25pm

### **CLOSING REMARKS** | 3:25 - 3:30pm

- Kshama Sawant



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

### PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY 2016 WORKSHOPS:

1. Consent at City Hall: Policing Sex vs. a Strong Sexual Violence Policy
2. Freedom for Nestora Salgado: Indigenous leader and political prisoner
3. Homelessness and Public Transit
4. Implementing Single Payer and Health Care as a Human Right in Seattle
5. Making LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) Work For Everyone
6. Pacific Northwest Pledge of Resistance Teach-In
7. Municipal Broadband - The People's Internet
8. Preventing Illegal and Fraudulent Foreclosure; a Major Path to Homelessness
9. Rent Smart – Tenant Rights Workshop
10. Social Justice Education
11. Spiritual Activism
12. Twelve Weeks Paid Family Leave – Join the Struggle to Win It in 2016
13. Unpermitted Tent Encampments: Finding Solutions
14. Wage Theft and Organizing
15. What is Democratic Socialism?
16. The Struggle for LGBTQ Rights & Gender Justice
17. Unionizing Seattle Workers

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS:

#### **1. Consent at City Hall: Policing Sex vs. a Strong Sexual Violence Policy**

The first half of this workshop will focus on defining consent, busting rape myths and rooting out rape culture in Seattle. The second half of the workshop will introduce a dialogue between sex negative and sex positive feminism, examining the policing of sex vs. healthy sexual violence policy. We look forward to hearing from everyone and discussing the legislation of sex and sexual violence with a goal to report on where the government should be doing more and where they might do a little less.

\*Trigger Warning\* while we will make every effort to be sensitive to trauma and will not be delving into explicit narratives, we will be discussing sexual violence, rape and sex trafficking in a large crowded room and want to make sure to give a fair heads up to



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

anyone interested in joining, with the disclaimer that we are not counselors nor certified advocates.

### **2. Freedom for Nestora Salgado: Indigenous leader and political prisoner**

Nestora Salgado of Renton, Washington has been unjustly imprisoned in Mexico for 2 and 1/2 years. She was elected to lead an indigenous community police force in her hometown in Guerrero, Mexico, which successfully combated drug cartel violence and corrupt politicians. Learn more about this dynamic woman leader from local Freedom for Nestora Committee activists and learn how you can help the international campaign to free her.

### **3. Homelessness and Public Transit**

The Transit Riders Union will host a workshop on what transit justice means for people experiencing homelessness, and how we can combine the struggle to end homelessness with the fight for better public transit. Topics discussed will include the use of buses as shelter, fare enforcement equity, affordability of public transit, and framing mobility as a human right. We will end by brainstorming a potential direct-action on Sound Transit's Link Light Rail, which does not accept the Reduced Fare Bus Tickets many homeless people rely on as proof of payment.

### **4. Implementing Single Payer and Health Care as a Human Right in Seattle**

The workshop will explain Single Payer Health Care financing and the Principles of Health Care as a Human Right. Inadequate or too expensive Healthcare is one cause of homelessness and one hindrance to getting out from under homelessness. The goal of the workshop is to identify individuals or organizations who want to implement these concepts in Seattle to establish easy access, for all Seattle residents, to the healthcare they need. Participant questions, experience and ideas are welcome.

### **5. Making LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) Work For Everyone**

The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program, which began in 2011 in Belltown, is expanding to the East Precinct in 2016, and is already taking referrals from



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

throughout downtown Seattle. LEAD is an innovative partnership between police officers, prosecutors, neighborhood leaders, and service providers, to connect people who commit law violations due to addiction and mental illness to case management and services, rather than sending them through the traditional justice system. LEAD was rigorously evaluated and found to reduce recidivism by 58% compared to people sent to jail and court as usual. The workshop will address how to build and strengthen the LEAD program so that it can more fully meet the needs of Seattle neighborhoods.

### **6. Pacific Northwest Pledge of Resistance Teach-In**

We are sick and tired of the Northwest being turned into a fossil fuel corridor. Enough is enough! We are standing up and fiercely resisting all new fossil fuel infrastructure in the Pacific Northwest by asking to people to pledge to commit acts of peaceful civil disobedience to oppose all new fossil fuel projects in the Northwest. Today's event will include a huge announcement of an upcoming action that will be of national importance in the fight against the power of the fossil fuel industry. Speakers include Council member Mike O'Brien, Sarra Tekola of Women of Color Speak Out and Eric de Place, policy director of the Sightline.

### **7. Municipal Broadband - The People's Internet**

What is the history and current state of publicly owned Internet in the United States?  
Where is Seattle in creating an affordable, publicly owned Internet option?  
Why is publicly owned and operated Internet an equity and economic justice issue?  
What can you do to make this a reality?

### **8. Preventing Illegal and Fraudulent Foreclosure; a Major Path to Homelessness**

Families with children, veterans, seniors, and the disabled are especially vulnerable to the engineered, deceitful, predatory assault by the banks that has been going on for almost a decade. The banks continue to deceive our public officials saying foreclosure issues are "all in the past". Yet, illegal foreclosure continues on a daily basis. This workshop will connect the dots by explaining how illegal foreclosure creates not only homelessness but also causes increased rents and destruction of neighborhoods. What



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

is MERS? And why do you care? MERS owes every county in our state millions in uncollected revenues that could address problems of homelessness, infrastructure, education and more. Holding banks accountable prevents homelessness, keeps rents from skyrocketing, and is the fair and equitable action of a progressive society. Learn how we end this massive abuse and restore due process in Washington State.

### **9. Rent Smart – Tenant Rights Workshop**

Know and assert your rights as tenants. Navigate the housing search and landlord screening process. Protect yourself from eviction and housing loss. Learn how to get deposits back and repairs made.

### **10. Social Justice Education**

The Social Justice Education workshop will explain the recent closure of social justice schools and the need to open new schools. It will also explain the Wells School model and the significance of social justice education. The presenters will facilitate discussion on how social justice education relates to economic justice, and how it is a democratic obligation of Seattle Public Schools to provide the social justice education option.

### **11. Spiritual Activism**

For many, radical activism and creative resistance has been powered by spiritual courage. In this workshop we will explore the role of spiritually-rooted practice and wisdom in our lives as activists, disruptors, subversives, and co-creators. The content will be a mix of storytelling, group dialogue, and teaching on concrete spiritual practices.

### **12. Twelve Weeks Paid Family Leave – Join the Struggle to Win It in 2016**

12 weeks paid family leave is a basic human right that should be guaranteed to all workers, regardless of their gender identity or family configuration. It is unacceptable that thousands of Seattle workers - and their recently born children! - do not enjoy this basic right. Last year, Councilmember Sawant put forward a budget amendment to fund 12 weeks paid family leave for City of Seattle employees. It lost by only one vote. Come discuss this crucial issue, and join the struggle to get that final vote to win 12 weeks paid



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

family leave for City employees, and for all workers in Seattle and throughout Washington State.

### **13. Unpermitted Tent Encampments: Finding Solutions**

The Jungle, Camp Dearborn, under bridges, in greenbelts, people are living in unpermitted encampments, and have been for a long time. Neighborhood safety committees are shouting about criminals and needles, calling for cleanup. Advocates say stop the sweeps until better options are available. The City Council has approved \$200,000 for sanitation needs at unauthorized encampments - garbage cans, portapotties & water. Many approaches will be needed to overcome the barriers that make tenting necessary or preferable to other options. Come work on finding solutions.

### **14. Wage Theft and Organizing**

In a world where wage theft runs rampant, Working Washington has the solution: ORGANIZE!

### **15. What is Democratic Socialism?**

The last decade of economic crisis, bank bailouts, and ongoing racism, poverty wages, wars, and environmental destruction have convinced many ordinary people that capitalism does not work for them. And for the first time in decades, millions are looking to democratic socialism as an alternative to capitalism. But what is democratic socialism? Can we really live in a world where people have access to a life of dignity, with a stable living wage job, a home, food, and access to high quality education, health care, and retirement? Come discuss "What is Democratic Socialism" with the socialists who elected Kshama Sawant and helped lead the \$15 minimum wage victory.

### **16. The Struggle for Gender Justice in Housing & Homelessness**

"What does Gender Justice in Housing and Homelessness look like? This workshop will focus on a facilitated discussion about some of the barriers for women, trans and gender non-conforming, and LGBTQ people in accessing and maintaining stable housing. From



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCILMEMBER KSHAMA SAWANT

# 2016 People's Assembly

## We Can End Homelessness

February 27, 2016 | 12:30 – 3:30pm | Seattle City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes

discrimination to gender segregated spaces to public fear mongering of Transgender people - we will explore how gender justice can be integrated into housing justice."

### **17. Unionizing Seattle Workers**

UNITE HERE Local 8 is the hospitality union of the Northwest. Join their organizers as they discuss how unionization affects the lives of Seattle workers, how Seattle compares to other cities, and what the fight to organize more workers will look like in coming years. To hear more about how the affordable housing crisis is affecting hospitality workers, visit [hospitableseattle.org](http://hospitableseattle.org).