



# Seattle Tax Advisory Group

## MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Wed. June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 10:00 am      **Location:** Seattle Municipal Tower (700 Fifth Avenue)  
40th Floor—Conference Room 4080

### **Attendees:**

Joseph Cunha, Tax Administrator, City of Seattle  
Glen Lee, Finance Director, City of Seattle  
Mark Watterson, Tax Audit Manager, City of Seattle  
Kevin Fitzpatrick, FileLocal Program Manager, City of Seattle  
Damian Hunt, Senior Tax Manager, Amazon  
Ingrid Sudyam, Manager Indirect Taxes, Starbucks  
Sonjia Barker, Peterson Sullivan  
Dan Robillard, Expedia

### **Meeting Minutes**

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**FileLocal Update.** File Local continues to grow in use. The overall trend is growth in users filing and paying. The key focus right now is improving the signup process – making it easier for new users to create accounts. More cities are showing interest. Expect Renton and Bremerton to come on board in or around Q3 2018. An additional 2 to 3 cities possibly coming in 2019. FileLocal was the 2018 GOFA winner.

**Sweetened Beverage Tax Update.** Sweetened beverage tax revenues expected to exceed estimates. The focus is on getting returns from those businesses expected returns from and cross-checking with Redistribution Certificates. Reminder letters will be sent to those businesses who used a redistribution certificate to advise them they are responsible for SBT distributed in the City for retail since they utilized the redistribution certificate.

**Employee Hours Tax.** City Council did vote to repeal the EHT yesterday. No additional information is available at this time.

**Apportionment Task Force Update.** The Apportionment Task Force mandated by HB 2005 is progressing through its mandated time frame. After reviewing different models, the group is narrowing its focus on identifying workable sourcing methods as they may pertain to individual customers and business customers.

The task force consists of three members from the business community and three members from Washington Cities (Seattle, Tacoma, and Lake Forest Park). A report is due back to the State Legislature at the end of October 2018.