

## Nightlife Advisory Board Background

The Nightlife Advisory Board was created by the City Council by Resolution 31003 in late 2007 to advise the City Council in 2008 and 2009 regarding policy issues related to the City's promotion, development and sustainability of the nightlife industry in Seattle. Included in its work was examining the effectiveness of the City's enforcement of nightlife related regulations, emerging nightlife issues related to increasing density in urban villages and centers, and ways to support positive nightlife management practices.

The Nightlife Advisory Board membership included three neighborhood representatives, three nightlife representatives, one noise expert, one person with public safety experience, and one person with liquor control board experience.

The Nightlife Advisory Board (NAB) issued its final report in late 2009, and presented its recommendations at the December 15, 2009 meeting of the Culture, Civil Rights, Health and Personnel Committee. It issued a recommendation to:

*Revise City Ordinances to allow Seattle Police greater ability to enforce public nuisances and disturbances violations, specifically fighting and drunk and disorderly conduct. Provisions should be made to allow officers to issue a warning, for individuals to voluntarily correct or cease the behavior, and for officers to issue a citation in the form of a ticket to those who do not correct or cease the behavior.*

*The NAB agrees that this recommendation provides the greatest opportunity to address undesirable behavior and thus address one of the biggest problems often associated with nightlife. The NAB believes that the recommended code revision will have a number of benefits, including:*

- *The identification of "problem patrons", who will then have any offenses as part of their record.*
- *The "power of persuasion": knowledge of the law and the fine should persuade the majority of individuals from engaging in the behavior.*