

Citywide Business Advocacy Team Activity Update



Background – Citywide Business Advocacy Team

- In 2010, Mayor McGinn called for formation of the Citywide Business Advocacy Team (CBAT) as part of the ***Seattle Jobs Plan***. Also in 2010, the City Council passed a Statement of Legislative Intent supporting the establishment of the CBAT and instructed OED to formalize the team and identify key recommendations for policy modifications and process improvements to enhance the City's responsiveness to businesses.
- In early 2011, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed between OED, FAS, SDOT, DPD, SPU, SCL, SFD, and SPD that established the CBAT.

Meet the Team



Seattle Public Utilities - Mike Brennan



Office of Economic Development - Roque Deherrera



Seattle Department of Transportation - Brian de Place



Office of Economic Development - Kris Effertz



Seattle City Light - Kelly Enright



Seattle Police Department - Captain Joseph Kessler



Seattle Fire Department - Chief John Nelsen



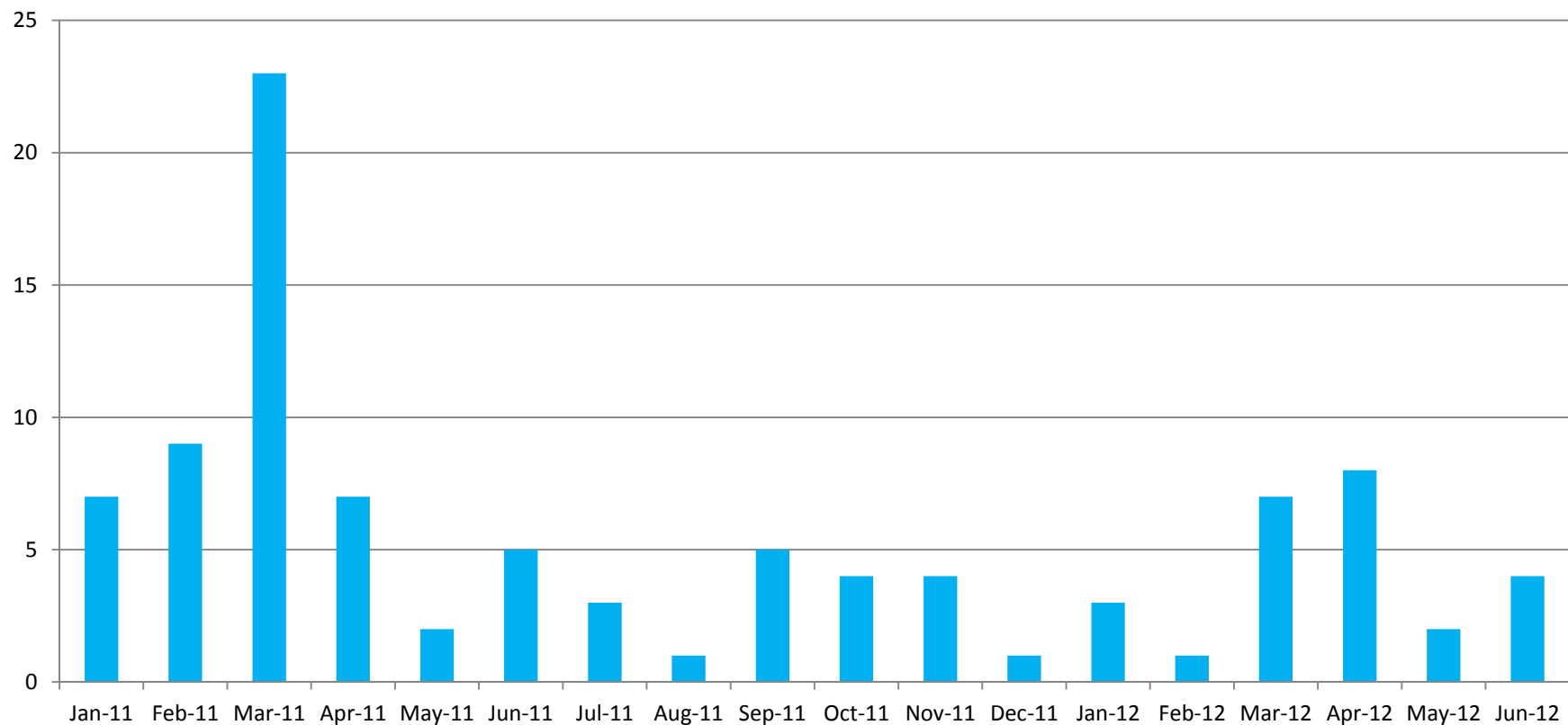
Customer Service Bureau - Cynthia Phillips



Department of Planning and Development - Bryan Stevens

CBAT by the Numbers – Business Issues by Month

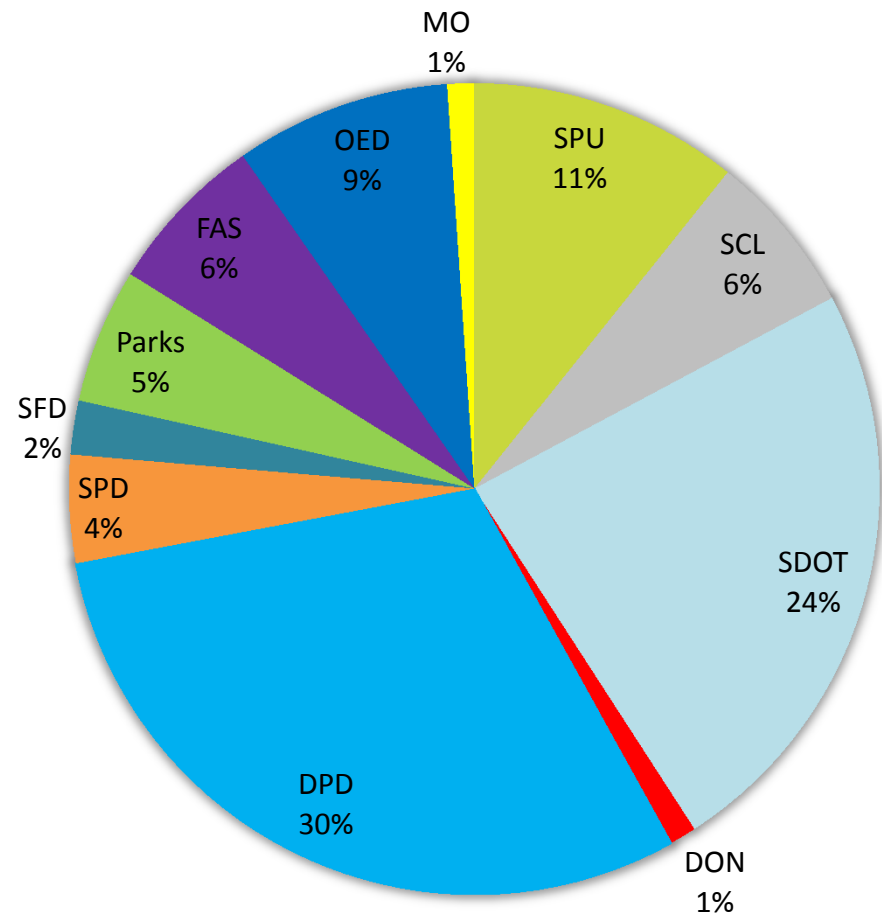
Exhibit 1 shows business issues by month. Except for the large spike of 23 issues in March of 2011, which coincided with the formalization of CBAT, the number of issues per month ranged from one to nine.



CBAT by the Numbers – Agency Referrals

Exhibit 2 shows the number of city agencies that were the subject of a referral for business assistance.

The majority of business issues involved DPD (30%) and SDOT (24%).

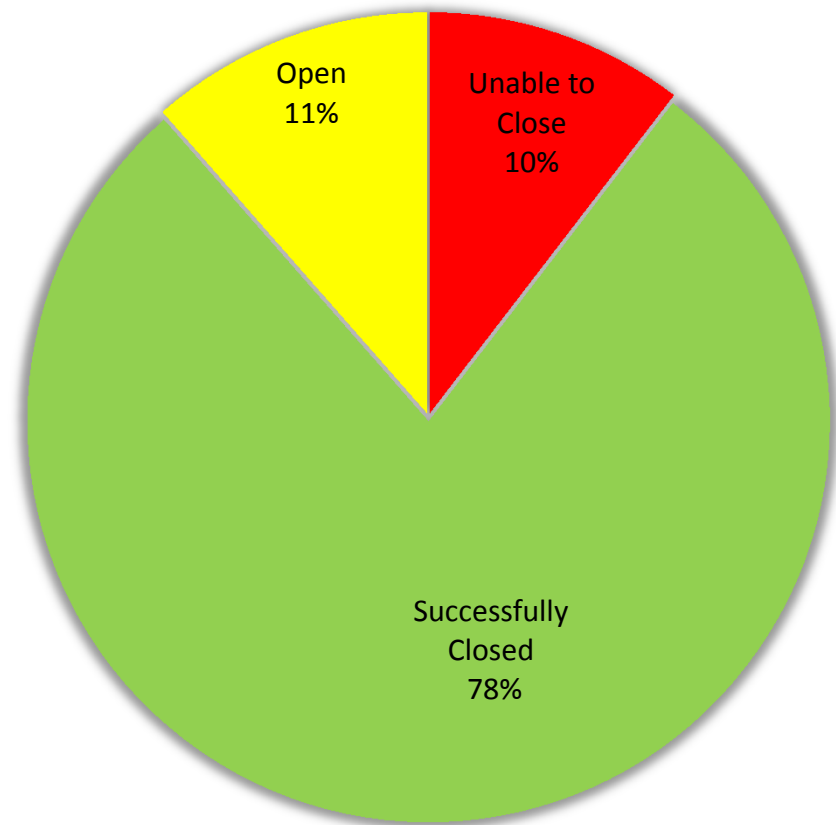


CBAT by the Numbers – Referral Status

Exhibit 3 shows the status of referrals.

“Successfully closed” means the issue was investigated by CBAT, regardless of whether or not a yes or no answer was given.

“Unable to close” means the issue was not investigated by CBAT, typically due to an unclear request or an inability to reach the customer.



Success Stories – Showbox at the Market

Showbox at the Market

- This iconic Seattle venue had been operating under a temporary occupancy permit from the SFD for a number of years.
- SFD alerted the Office of Film and Music that, after years of leniency, they would stop issuing temporary permits and require a permanent occupancy permit from DPD.
- CBAT discovered that, due to the Showbox's previous efforts to achieve occupancy, the process to gain compliance involved an over-the-counter permit, a few hundred dollars, and a final inspection by a DPD inspector.



Success Story – Neptune Theater

Neptune Theater and the Seattle Theater Group

- The Neptune Theater underwent major remodel that needed to be complete in time for the opening of the Seattle International Film Festival.
- Seattle Theater Group approached CBAT to assist in navigating permitting and infrastructure issues to obtain occupancy permit.
- CBAT member Mike Brennan coordinated reviews and inspections with Seattle Department of Transportation and Seattle Fire Department in record time.



Success Story – Ferguson Terminal

Ferguson Terminal

- CBAT helped Ferguson Terminal with their efforts to add additional electrical service to a large warehouse located in Ballard.
- Due to the unique nature of the warehouse, utility poles, streets, and Seattle City Light policy, the total project cost jumped from \$50,000 to approximately \$300,000.
- A solution was found that will save Mr. Ferguson more than \$100,000.



Next Steps – Finalize Recommendations

CBAT Policy and Regulatory Recommendations will be submitted to City Council on or before October 1st and will align with the following themes:

- Transparency regarding department policies and interpretations;
- System improvements resulting in quicker permitting;
- Increased support of business districts;
- Reducing the impacts of public construction projects on businesses; and
- Expanding opportunities for small businesses in Seattle.

Citywide Business Advocacy Team

