



# MEETING AGENDA

## COO-BSK ADVISORY BOARD/GOVERNANCE GROUP

May 26, 2023, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

King County International Airport Terminal Building

[7277 Perimeter Road S., conference room 110, Seattle, WA](https://www.kingcounty.gov/locations/terminal-building/7277-Perimeter-Road-S-Seattle-WA)

Zoom: Meeting ID 818 5138 9298

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81851389298>

or by phone: 253-215-8782

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Facilitator(s)</u>
9:00	<b>Welcome &amp; Connection</b>	<i>Matt Echohawk-Hayashi</i>
9:05	<b>Consent Agenda</b> <i>Objectives: Review and approve the May 26<sup>th</sup> agenda and the minutes from April 28, 2023 meeting</i>	<i>Matt</i>
9:10	<b>Introduction to new COO Interim Director: Elsa Batres-Boni</b>	<i>Matt</i>
9:15	<b>King County Office of Equity, Racial, and Social Justice (OERSJ) Strategic Plan Update</b> <i>Objectives: Presentation on the County's updating of its Equity &amp; Social Justice Strategic Plan, and discussion of potential collaboration opportunities with GG</i>	<i>Antonio Herrera Garza</i>
9:45	<b>Systems &amp; Policy Change RFP Funding Recommendation for One Additional Community Partner Applicant: Discussion and Decision</b> <i>Objectives: Reach consensus on awarding one additional Systems &amp; Policy Change grant</i>	<i>Michael Brown</i>
10:05	<b>Governance Group Nominating Committee's Appointee Recommendations: Discussion and Decision</b> <i>Objectives: Reach consensus on making recommendations to King County Executive for two new Governance Group appointees, Cha Cha Sawyer and Jody Miesel</i>	<i>Michael Seiwerath &amp; Sandhya Nakhasi</i>
10:20	<b>Continuation of Strategic Discussion</b> <i>Objectives: Continue strategic discussion from March and April 2023 meetings, and discuss follow up next steps</i>	<i>Matt</i>
10:50	<b>General Updates</b> <i>Objectives: Opportunity for members to share any general updates that may be pertinent to the group</i>	<i>All</i>
11:00	<b>Adjourn</b>	

### COO-BSK Advisory Board/Governance Group Members

*Bilan Aden  
Lydia Assefa-Dawson  
Michael Brown  
Kris Hermanns  
Carlos Jimenez  
Cilia Jurdy*

*Elsa Batres-Boni  
Patience Malaba  
Sandhya Nakhasi  
Gloria Ramirez  
Sili Savusa  
Joy Sebe  
Michael Seiwerath*

*Dae Shogren  
Yordanos Teferi  
Matias Valenzuela  
Jackie Vaughn  
Agaotupu Viena  
Joon-Ho Yu*

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# COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY GOVERNANCE FOUNDING

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## RESULTS STATEMENT

Create greater health, social, economic and racial equity in King County so that all people thrive and prosper, regardless of race or place.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Consistently demonstrate the values of equity, respect and partnership.
- Ensure low-income communities and communities of color affected by inequities develop and own the solutions.
- Advocate for and change institutional policies and processes to support equity goals.
- Encourage investments (both funding and in-kind resources) in long-term community capacity building and in systems, policy and practice changes that lead to greater racial and economic equity throughout King County.
- Catalyze alignment of funding streams and partner across issues and sectors to seek preventive strategies that address root causes of today's inequities.
- Be transparent and show how data and community expertise inform initiative strategies.
- Continuously learn, improve and share work publicly.
- Focus on geographic communities with the greatest needs, while simultaneously sharing lessons learned and building relationships across King County – *We are one King County.*

## VALUES

*We commit to guide Communities of Opportunity using these values:*

**Equity:** work intentionally to eliminate racial, ethnic, socio-economic and geographic disparities in health and well-being

**Process Equity:** an inclusive, fair and open process

**Community Engagement:** authentic community engagement that involves listening to and understanding the unique histories of communities

**Driven by quantitative and qualitative data:** Data will track and report progress, as well as support given for promising and evidence-based practices

**Innovation:** Recognize that change involves risk and value an adaptive approach that views failure as an important part of the learning process

## Communities of Opportunity-Best Starts for Kids Levy Advisory Board (Governance Group) Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 28, 2023 @ 9:00 AM

Location: King County Department of Community and Human Services Tukwila office, 645 Andover Park West, suite 100/room 130, Tukwila, WA

**Members Present:** Matias Valenzuela, Michael Brown, Sili Savusa, Yordanos Teferi **On Zoom:** Bilan Aden, Carlos Jimenez, Cilia Jurdy, Sandhya Nakhasi, Gloria Ramirez, Michael Seiwerath, Jackie Vaughn, Joon-Ho Yu

**Facilitators & Staff Support:** Matthew Echohawk-Hayashi (Headwater People), Ana Braxton (Headwater People), Martha Guerrero (Spanish language translator), Dan Bernard (COO), Sarah Daniels (COO)

### Welcome and Introductions

Matt opened the meeting, and members introduced themselves, as Sarah (COO staff) and Ana (Headwater People staff) were first time staff attendees of a Governance Group (GG) meeting

### Update on Confirmation of Governance Group Members

Dan said this was the first official meeting of GG 2.0 since the King County Executive appointed all members in March (more than 30 days ago). Though, members are still subject to confirmation by the full King County Council, which is expected to occur sometime in May. All GG meetings are now required to comply with the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), and GG members will need to complete required trainings, including WA State OPMA training [Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#). More information is at [Orientation and Requirements for Members of King County Boards](#) website. Dan previously emailed this information to members, and will follow up with members about completing the requirements.

The new COO interim director, Elsa Batres-Boni, will start on May 15, and will be attending the COO All Partner Convening on May 10. The Convening is with keynote speaker Robin Wall Kimmerer, please register or contact Matt to attend.

### Governance Group Nominating Committee Update

Nominating Committee member, Michael S. acknowledged remarks made at March GG meeting about recruiting of new members, and hopes to continue conversation about GG long-term strategy to help steer GG recruitment. To ensure compliance with the GG requirement of at least 20 members, the nominating committee is currently considering two GG applicants, and plans to share recommendations about these applicants at the May GG meeting for members to consider.

### Strategic Discussion

*Objective: Growing COO's influence and allies across multiple systems and sectors to more deeply and broadly impact the mission of creating greater health, social, economic, and racial equity in King County.*

Matt asked how do we (COO) increase capacity to affect big picture systems and policy change in the areas of housing, economic development, health. He spoke about developing our "Inside--->Out" strategy to elevate COO's internal partners, vision, community-led projects, and learnings to leverage more external partners to help increase our capacity to broadly impact County-level systems and policies.

The discussion shifted focus to COO funded partners and their shared knowledge capacities. GG recognized the importance of looping back to funded partners to build bridges and for GG to learn more about partners' on-the-ground learnings. Jackie brought up the COO Systems & Policy Change funded project through her organization, Surge Reproductive Justice. She said this project pursued policies to address reproductive health injustices for queer and trans people of color, and is an example of a project that could share its work and learnings with GG members and other COO partners. Sili commented that one purpose of the Learning Community strategy is to share out partners' work with COO partners and more broadly beyond COO. It was asked how do we more effectively transfer COO community learnings to more communities and to the levers of system power to more broadly impact systems change. Yordanos expressed interest in growing the Learning Community to help increase impact.

Michael B. said COO has done well in supporting community partnerships, community-led policy and systems work, and community capacity building, but we have not been as good at leveraging other systems that are required to meet communities where they're at for transformation. He added, we need to stay invested in community and elevate upwards. For example, leveling up our funded partners' work on affordable housing and land development challenges to facilitate collaboration with some larger organizations involved in this work, e.g. [LISC](#), [Enterprise Community Partners](#), Amazon philanthropic funding. Michael S. shared his agreement. Silli shared her agreement, and spoke to the need of leveraging COO to bring to the table other partners, allies, and funders, i.e. [HealthierHere](#), Kaiser Permanente.

Yordanos said she appreciated this strategic vision, though wanted to discuss more specificity on different ways to implement vision. More specificity to include:

- More focused, clearer vision
- More sharing out of COO wins
- More storytelling to help people better connect the dots
- More resources to highlight the work to make more connections
- How to transfer COO vision and work to rest of the system
- To do list with categories

Matt moved group to then focus remaining time to break down each COO result area and to consider how we can increase capacity inside-out for each area

## Housing

- Where are our needs? Issues of gentrification, affordability, homelessness, lack of resources for nonprofit organizations
- Partner with capital holders to create equitable housing development and land acquisition, ie. LISC, [Ballmer Group](#)
- Elevate and increase local and BIPOC leadership in housing development, [White Center Community HUB project](#) example.
- Leverage [Housing Development Consortium](#) (through Patience Malaba) and other housing connections to bring into Council work
- Equitable housing development is currently being considered in [KC Economic Development Initiative \(EDI\)](#), though revenue source(s) still needed for EDI.
- Seattle Foundation needed to help identify potential revenue sources
- Share EDI information with GG to help find potential connections
- More connection with [KC Office of Equity, Race, and Social Justice](#), which is in process of updating its strategic plan.
- Informational visits/presentations to about equitable housing development work, i.e Civic Commons' [Black Home Initiative](#).

## Economic Development

- Consider connecting with financial institution representation within our communities (CDFIs, local banks, lending within the community). How to change lending in communities?
- Focus on more BIPOC ownership and control, more abundance in wealth building for communities, and investing in BIPOC owners small businesses.
- Looking at models already in place, i.e [City of Seattle Economic Development Initiative](#), and how to partner with them to transform how COO implements its work.
- Other potential connections: LISC, [Craft3](#), [City of Seattle Generational Wealth Initiative](#), [Crescent Collaborative](#)

## Community Connection

- Recognizing that as COO expands, its benchmarks need to expand as well
- Metric of civic engagement has historically just been be voter participation, but that's only one moment in time. How do we measure ongoing civic engagement, cultural connections, youth engagement and perspectives?
- Healing within a community, especially after shared COVID trauma
- Emphasis on the importance of storytelling and healing work

## Health

- Ethnic specific health boards recognize the importance of cultural affirmation within communities. How do we promote this need as leaders?
- Elevating mental health focused funding projects
- Elevate alternative models of health care to traditional western models
- Fentanyl crisis: community health boards' knowledge on how they address this issue
- Potential partners: Kaiser Permanente, Fred Hutch, [Tubman Center for Health](#), HealthierHere

**Next Steps:** The team will continue to discuss the strategic objectives, recruitment efforts, and bringing in more connections to move strategy forward.

Session adjourned at 10:45 am

# Welcome New COO Interim Director



**Elsa Batres-Boni**

Elsa Batres-Boni is an engaged and community-oriented mom of a pre-tween child. She has more than 15 years of Community Organizing experience in Seattle, King County and Washington State. She has worked and shared missions with organizations such as OneAmerica, Casa Latina, Social Justice Fund, Washington Census Alliance, and most recently with the City of Seattle at the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, and the Department of Neighborhoods, leading the Civic Engagement team.

Elsa grew up in Mexico City where she studied Social Anthropology. Early in her career, she was formally trained with principles of Popular Education. Elsa has supported her formal training and lived experience with certifications and training from the University of Washington as well as other institutions and among community leaders. Elsa deeply believes that it is possible and necessary to undo the systems we have created that continue to unjustly divide resources and create the many inequities experienced by our communities. Elsa believes that every person and community needs to be involved in the process of their own growth and development if we want the solutions to be genuine and successful. Elsa loves cooking, sharing, and eating food! She is also an enthusiastic gardener and between spring and fall, you can find her daydreaming of a perfect seasonal garden or digging and moving plants and dirt in her home in Rainier Valley. As a good warm-weather-inborn, in the winter months, most likely you'll find her Netflixing.

# King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan Refresh

Intro to the Project & Engagement



King County

Office of Equity, Racial & Social Justice





# What is the ESJ Strategic Plan Refresh?

An expansion and update of the 2016 plan



The Refresh will build on the foundation of the original 2016 ESJ Strategic Plan to advance equity, racial, and social justice for all people.



OERSJ, King County departments, and community groups and members will work to expand and refresh the current plan for 2024.



A critical component of the ESJ Plan Refresh is deeper community and employee engagement.

A photograph of a woman wearing a light blue hijab and a dark blue top, sitting at a desk with a laptop. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The desk is cluttered with papers, a laptop, and a smartphone. In the background, there is a window with a potted plant.

**COMMUNITY &  
EMPLOYEES FOCUS**



## **SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES TO THRIVE**

How can King County Improve operational and services equity?



## **BEING PRO-EQUITY AND ANTI-RACIST**

How can King County instill these ideals in all the work that we do?



## **UNDO HARMFUL SYSTEMS OF RACISM**

How can we undo policies, practices, and systems that breed inequity and injustice?

**WE ARE  
INVESTING  
IN THE  
COMMUNITY**



# Refresh Overview: Phase 1



## INITIATING: FEB — APR 2022

- Create the charter and project scope
- Form the initial planning teams

## PLANNING: APR — DEC 2022

- Create work planning and scheduling
- Strategize communications and change management
- Assess risk planning and resourcing

## UPDATE: SEP 2022 — DEC 2023

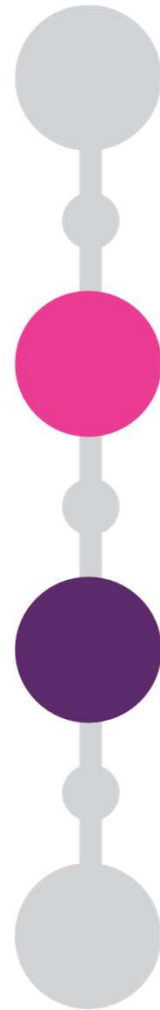
- Current context development
- **Internal and external engagement**
- Co-create vision, goals, and objectives
- Identify issues, strategies, and priorities

## TRANSITION: DEC 2023 — MAR 2024

- Create final plan documents and deliverables
- Implement the new ESJ Strategic Plan



# Refresh Overview: Phase 2



## **IMPLEMENTATION: 2024 — FUTURE**

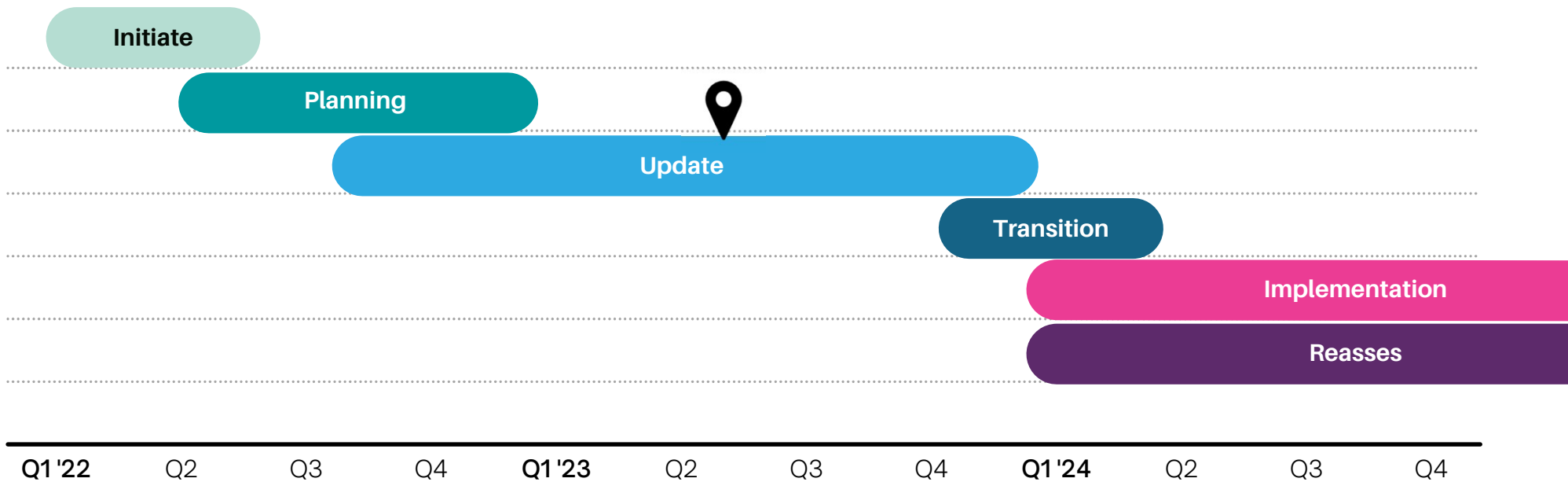
- Implementation activities planning
- Strategic Management System development
- Strategic Management System implementation

## **REASSESS: 2024 — FUTURE**

- Monitor
- Check and adjust

# Refresh Roadmap

Expected delivery of each phase.





# Engagement Plan

## **COLLABORATE (~ 8-12 hours)**

- Deep engagement with community advisory groups on a broad range of topics and plan elements over the course of 2023
- Collaborate through meetings and retreats

## **INVOLVE (up to ~6 hours)**

- Meaningful focused engagement with community advisory groups over the course of 2023
- Focused on specific topic areas
- Discussions with BIPOC businesses and community-based organizations

## **CONSULT (short-term engagements)**

- Community meetings and surveys
- Focus on elevating perspectives or priority populations
- Focus on draft issues, strategies, priorities

# "Collaborate" Engagement

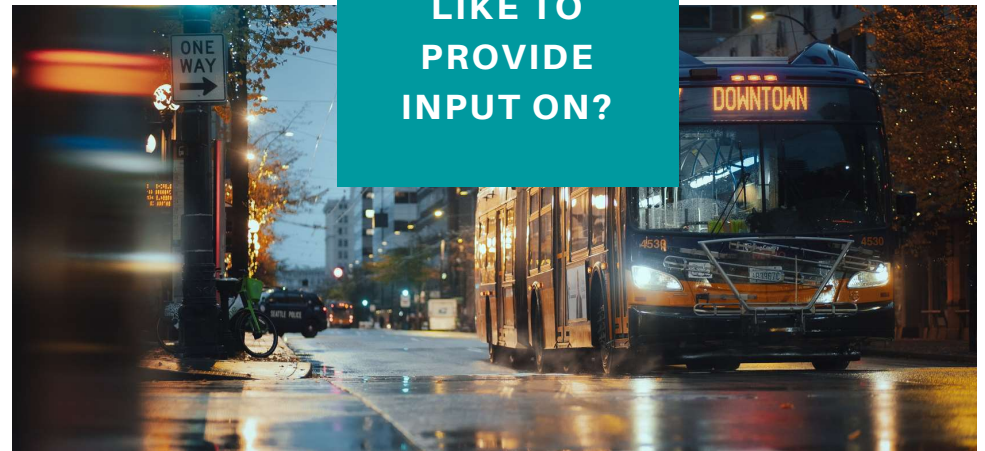
<b>Internal Partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identity-Based Cohorts</li></ul>
<b>External Partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• King County Equity Cabinet, Gathering Collaborative</li><li>• Immigrant &amp; Refugee Committee</li><li>• Pandemic &amp; Racism Community Advisory Group</li><li>• Open Doors for Multicultural Families + disability CBOs</li><li>• Coalition Against Hate and Bias</li></ul>
<b>Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deep engagement where needs are the greatest</li><li>• Learn about lived experiences to enhance workplace/workforce and service equity</li><li>• Input on a broad range of plan elements</li></ul>
<b>General Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two-way co-learning, dialogue, and deliberation</li><li>• Up to 10-15 hours with each group over 8-9 months</li><li>• Meetings, retreats</li></ul>
<b>Potential Meeting Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lived experiences</li><li>• King County Operations &amp; 2016-2022 Performance to Plan</li><li>• Visioning, goals, objectives, and targets</li><li>• Gaps, problems, issues, strategies, priorities</li></ul>

## Policy Agenda Areas

- Child and Youth Development
- Economic Development and Jobs
- Environment and Climate
- Health and Human Services
- Housing and Homelessness
- Information Technology
- Legal System
- Transportation, Land Use, Mobility

## Equity Goal Areas

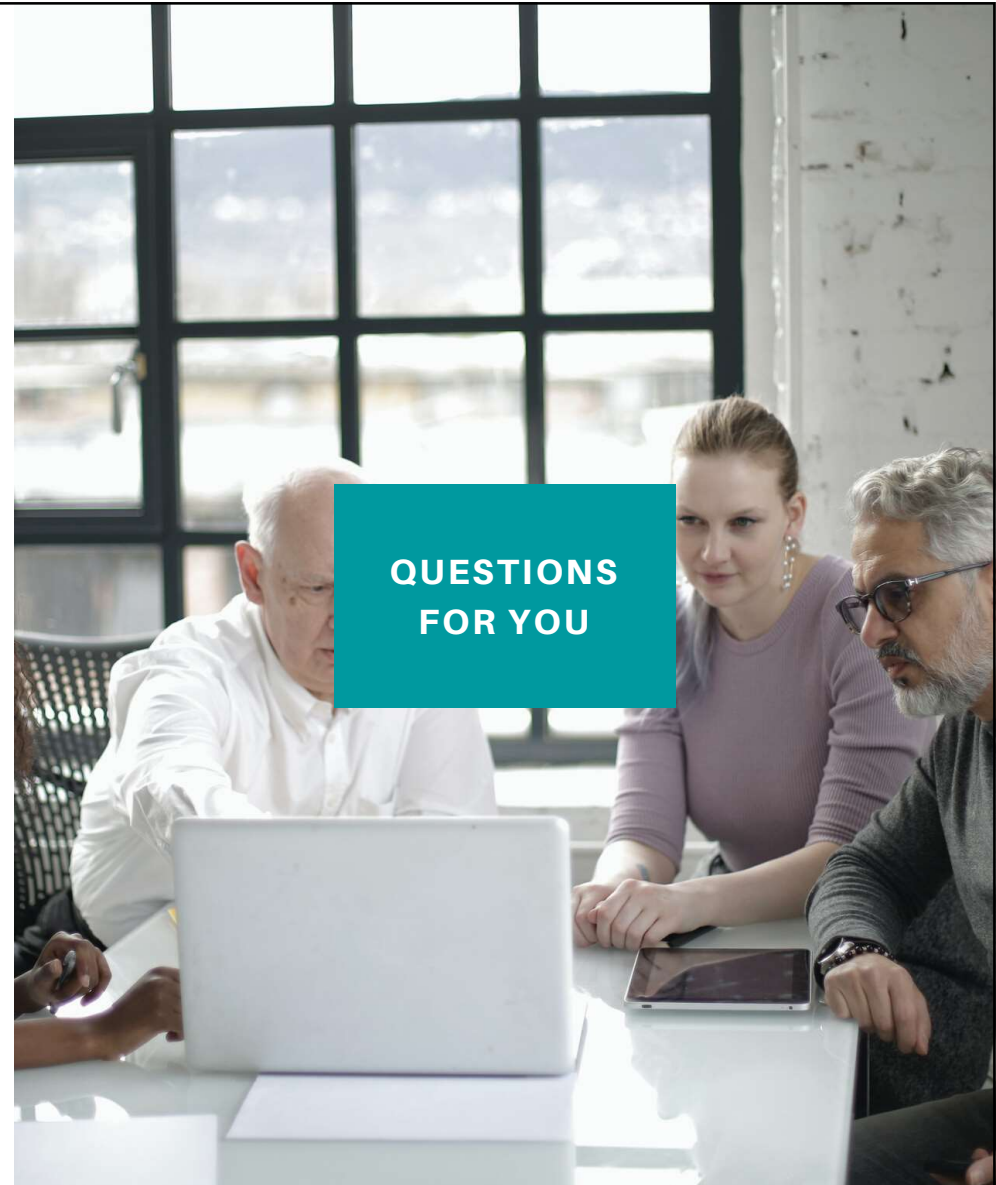
- Leadership, Operations, and Services
- Plans, Policies, and Budget
- Workplace and Workforce
- Community Partnerships
- Communication and Education
- Facility and Systems Improvement



**WHAT  
TOPICS  
WOULD YOU  
LIKE TO  
PROVIDE  
INPUT ON?**



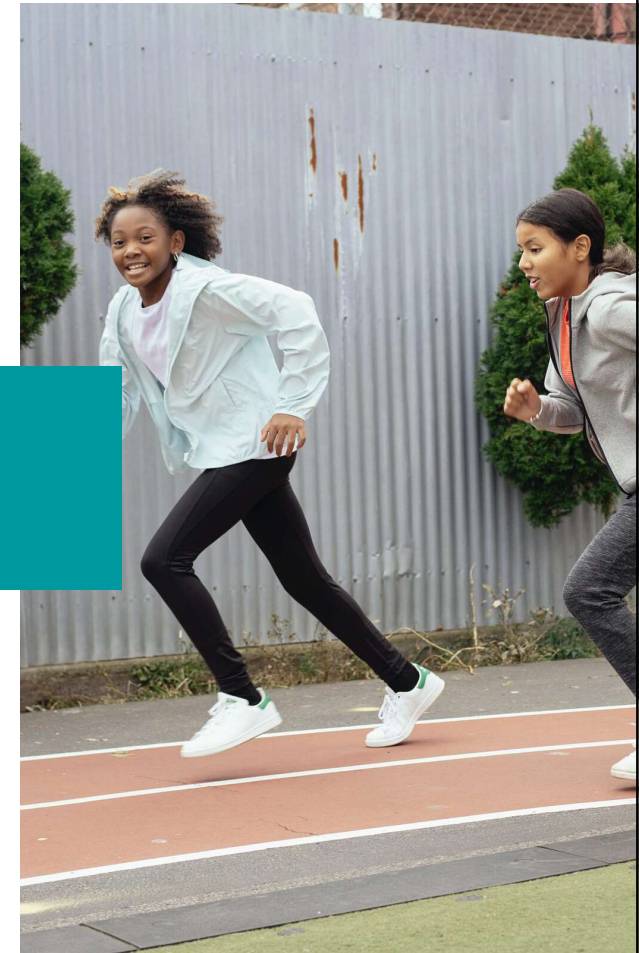
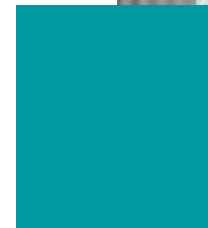
- What level of engagement do you think meets your needs?
- Can we use your regularly scheduled meetings to engage with you?
- What are you interested in learning through this engagement?
- What plan elements most interest you?
  - Group-specific ones
  - Visioning
  - Gaps, problems, issues
  - Strategies and priorities
  - Goals, objectives, targets



# QUESTIONS?



King County



# Systems and Policy Change RFP Purpose

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This RFP invited proposals from community-led and community-engaged efforts to transform systems and policies that will decrease and/or prevent continued racism and inequities related to economic opportunity, health, housing, and community connections in communities of color in King County

We seek to fund organizations and coalitions advancing **policy work** as a mechanism for systems change.

We will prioritize investments in **organizing activities** focused on long-term policy change and concrete policy outcomes that can clearly articulate how such policy evolution fits into the larger picture of systems change.

Organization or Coalition Recommended by the Review Committee	2020-2022 SPC Grantee	KC District	COO Result Areas			
			Health	Housing	Economic Opportunity	Community Connections
1. Casa Latina	X	1,2,4,8			X	
2. Chief Seattle Club	X	All	X	X	X	X
3. Crescent Collaborative*	X	2,8	X	X	X	X
4. Disability Rights Washington		1,2,4,8	X	X	X	X
5. Fair Work Center		All	X		X	
6. FEEST	X	All	X		X	X
7. Horn of Africa Services*		2	X		X	X
8. Indian American Community Services, formerly India Association of Western Washington*		3,6,9		X		
9. Look2Justice		All				X

Organization or Coalition Recommended by the Review Committee	2020-2022 SPC Grantee	KC District	COO Result Areas			
			Health	Housing	Economic Opportunity	Community Connections
10. New Americans Alliance for Policy and Research*		5,7,8,9	X	X	X	X
11. Open Doors for Multicultural Families	X	All				X
12. Seattle Indian Health Board	X	All	X			X
13. Statewide Poverty Action Network		All			X	X
14. Surge for Reproductive Justice	X	All	X		X	X
15. The Mockingbird Society		All	X	X	X	X
16. Tubman Center for Health and Freedom		All	X		X	X
17. Voices of Tomorrow		5,7,8,9			X	
18. Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network		All	X		X	
19. White Center Community Development Association*		8	X	X	X	X

Applicant Organization/Coalition	Issue Area
Casa Latina	Domestic Workers' Rights
Chief Seattle Club	Homelessness
Crescent Collaborative*	Anti-Displacement
Disability Rights Washington	Accessible Infrastructure and Transit
Fair Work Center	Food Service and Restaurant Workers' Rights
FEEST	Youth - Mental Health
Horn of Africa Services*	Youth - Gun Violence
Indian American Community Services, formerly India Association of Western Washington*	Housing (focus on the Eastside)
Look2Justice	Restorative Justice
New Americans Alliance for Policy and Research*	Immigrants' Rights
Open Doors for Multicultural Families	Language Access in Public Schools
Seattle Indian Health Board	Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
Statewide Poverty Action Network	Cash Assistance
Surge Reproductive Justice	Reproductive Justice
The Mockingbird Society	Youth Homelessness
Tubman Center for Health and Freedom	BIPOC Workforce in Healthcare
Voices of Tomorrow	Childcare Providers' Rights
Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network	Immigrants' Rights
White Center Community Development Association*	Housing

## Issue Areas Addressed by Organizations and Coalitions Recommended by the Review Committee for Funding

\*Coalition



Vote

Request: Approval to fund Open Doors for Multicultural Communities as part of the Communities of Opportunity Systems and Policy Change Strategy.