



COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY

 King County

Best Starts for
KIDS



SEATTLE
FOUNDATION

the heart & science of philanthropy

GOVERNANCE GROUP

ONBOARDING MEETING #3

AUGUST 12, 9AM-11AM

Ten Canoe Rules

EVERY STROKE WE TAKE IS ONE LESS WE HAVE TO MAKE

THERE IS TO BE NO ABUSE OF SELF OR OTHERS

BE FLEXIBLE

THE GIFT OF EACH ENRICHES ALL

WE ALL PULL AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER

A HUNGRY PERSON HAS NO CHARITY

EXPERIENCES ARE NOT ENHANCED BY CRITICISM

THE JOURNEY IS WHAT WE ENJOY

A GOOD TEACHER ALLOWS THE STUDENT TO LEARN

WHEN GIVEN ANY CHOICE AT ALL, BE A WORKER BEE—MAKE HONEY!

Ten Canoe Rules

The very first introduction of the “10 Rules of the Tribal Journey,” was developed as part of a presentation by the Quileute people for the Northwest Experiential Education Conference at University of Puget Sound, [Tacoma, WA] in 1990.

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions & Language Access Reminders
- What Questions are you holding?
- COO roles & strategies revisited
- Systems & Policy Change (SPC) Strategy & RFP
- Place-Based & Cultural Community (PBCC) Strategy & RFP
- Upcoming / Next Steps
- Close / Share Outs

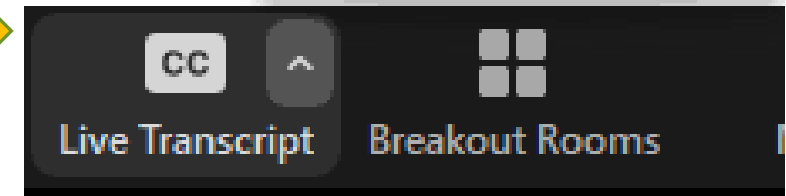
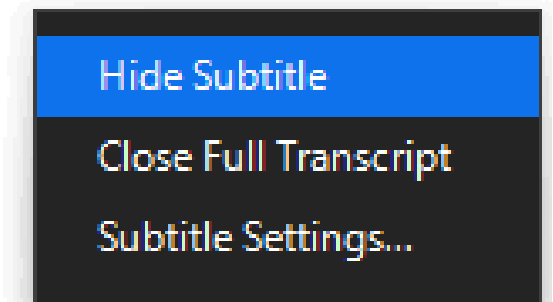
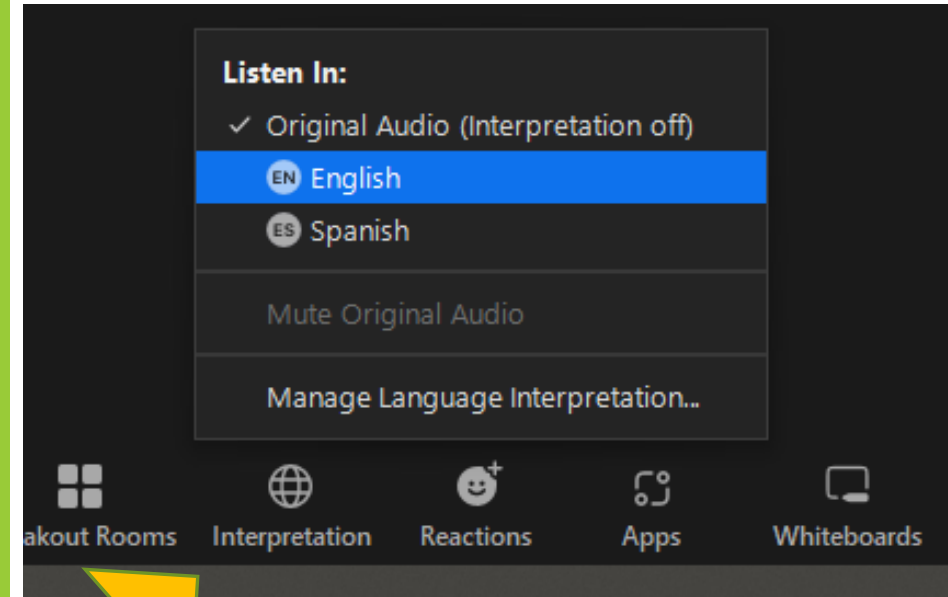
Interpretation & Closed Captions

Thank you to Martha for providing Spanish language interpretation!

For anyone speaking – please be aware of pacing (*speak slowly, pause*).

To EVERYONE listening in English, please select the Globe symbol “Interpretation” and then “Listen in: English”. To listen to the Spanish interpretation, select “Spanish”.

To view Closed Captions, click on “CC / Live Transcript”




**What
Questions
are you
holding?**



What we heard you need

Anything else?

- a **snapshot of the investments** made in the last 6 years and what priorities they serve so we can make informed decision about future investments.
- an understanding of previous tensions/challenges and how the Governance Group handled them.
- **gathering in-person** to get to know each other as people; strengthened relationships help alleviate tension; opportunity for a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting.
- GG conflict resolution process
- **Retreat:** History and foundational motivations for strategies, RFPs, etc. Big picture discussion
- Shared (internet) folder with documents and process
- **Calendar of events** to show up to as GG members.
- More information of [public] disclosure rules
- BSK-COO leadership structure/roles/people



Communities of Opportunity's mission is to create greater health, social, economic, and racial equity in King County so that all people thrive and prosper, regardless of race or place.

COO is a unique community-public-private partnership that believes every community can be a healthy, thriving community—and that equity and racial justice are both necessary and achievable.

COO's Three Strategy Areas

Racial equity and partnership are both central to each of COO's three reinforcing strategies/investment areas:

- **Community Partnerships** that drive change locally.
- **Systems and Policy Changes** that create and sustain equity at all levels.
- A **Learning Community** that leverages the power of collective knowledge to accelerate change.

Reminders

- **Conflict of Interest:** We are keeping things high-level to ensure a level of fairness for the RFP processes and to preserve the eligibility of those around the GG table to apply.
- Please support staff in keeping boundaries that support a fair and equitable process for all community groups who may apply for COO funding.
- **COO Transitions:** Marguerite has transitioned to her new role Washington State Director of AARP.
- Dr. Nadine Chan is taking over Marguerite's role in public health as interim chief of APDE/CDIP.
- Nadine and Blishda Lacet (alternate) will now hold the role of representing the King County Executive (**KC sponsor**) at Governance Group.
- Blishda is in the midst of transition to a new role as Manager of the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP) section in Public Health!

Systems & Policy Change strategy

- Funding will support **community-led projects and campaigns** to transform systems and policies to decrease and prevent continued inequity in low-income communities and communities of color in King County.
- COO funded Systems and Policy Change projects should align with and complement COO place-based and cultural community partnership work.

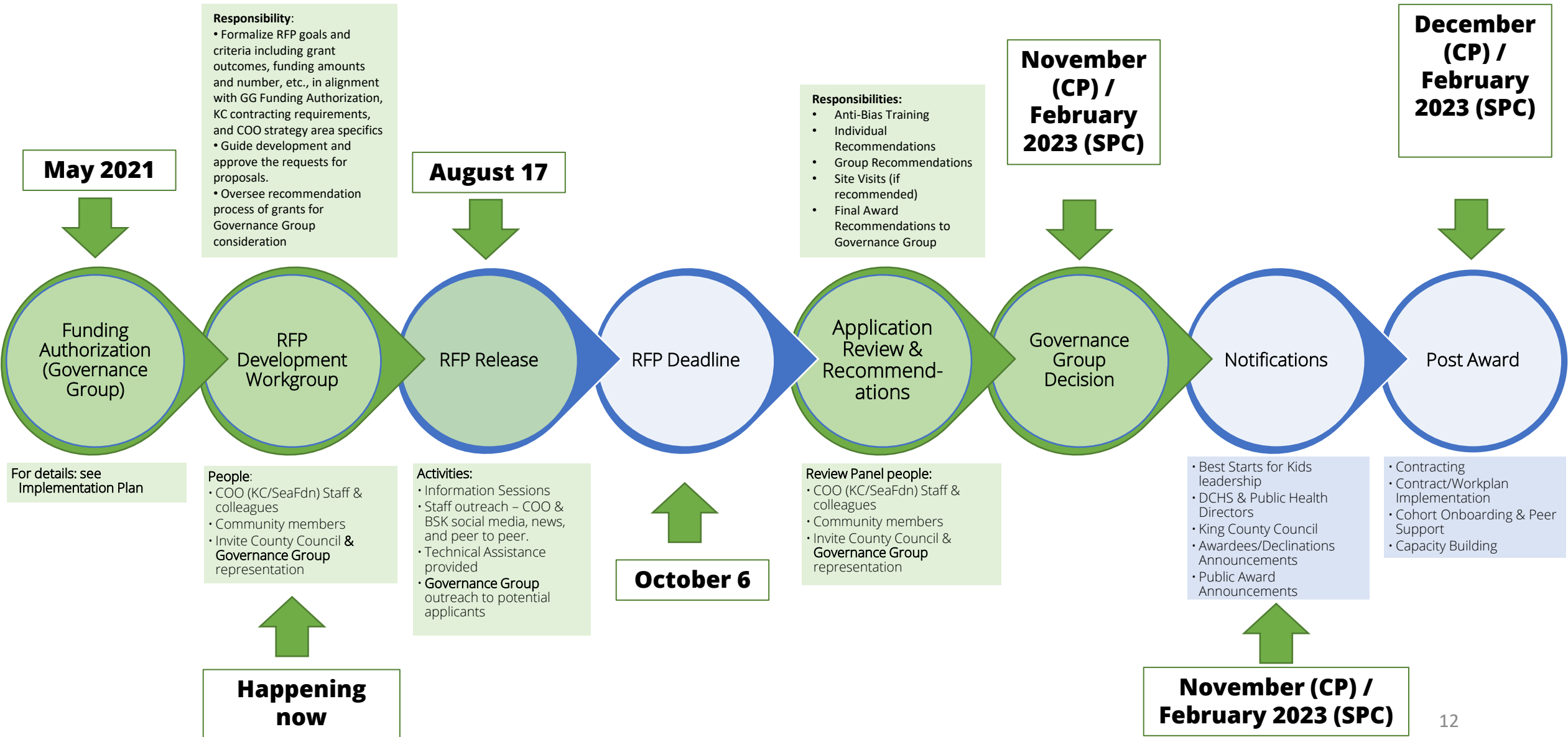
(Link: [2022-27 Best Starts for Kids Implementation Plan](#))

Place-Based & Cultural Community Partnerships strategy

- Funding will support **coalitions and collaborative partnerships** led by and for the communities they are representing.
- These partnerships will have a shared vision and implement projects that focus on the intersections of health, housing, economic opportunity & community connections [**COO's 4 Result Areas**]. The aim is to close gaps by race and by place.
- COO partnership work aligns with and complements COO's separately funded Systems and Policy Change projects.

(Link: [2022-27 Best Starts for Kids Implementation Plan](#))

COO RFP Timeline



Systems and Policy Change RFP Comparison update

Overview	COO 1.0	COO 2.0
Total Amount Available	\$2,000,000 available annually, from 2020-2021 \$2,200,000 available in 2022	Approximately \$2.2M to \$2.5 million/year
Purpose	COO supports community-engaged or community-led efforts to transform systems and policies for stronger community connections, economic opportunity, better health, and/or housing that will decrease and/or prevent continued inequity in low-income communities and communities of color in King County.	In service to transforming systems and policies that perpetuate inequities and racism, this strategy aims to support community-led policy work as a mechanism for systems change. In pursuit of this, the strategy will provide support for organizing activities that are focused on the long-term policy and/or systems change defined by the applicant tied to the results areas of Communities of Opportunity.
Investment/amount per award	An organization applying on its own behalf may receive up to \$100,000 per year. Applicants applying as a coalition with other organizations may receive up to \$200,000 per year.	An organization applying on its own behalf may receive up to \$125,000 per year. Applicants applying as a coalition with other organizations may receive up to \$200,000 per year.
Duration	2 years with a possibility of a one-year extension, pending funding availability and grant award performance	2 years with a possibility of a one-year extension, pending funding availability and grant award performance
Number of awards	2020-2021 Cohort: 16 grantees Black led Organizations: 8 grantees (incorporated into 2022 Cohort) COVID-19 Response*: 16 grantees 2022 Cohort: 22 Grantees *One time investment	Depending on the number of selected organizations, or coalitions, and based on historical records, between 15 and 18 awards.

Community Partnerships RFP comparison update

Overview	COO 1.0	COO 2.0
Number of awards	9 partnerships	9 partnerships
Amount per award	Varies (\$330k-\$1.1 m per year)	\$285,000 (total of \$855,000)
Type of partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original Sites: 3 Geographic • PBCC: 3 Geographic 3 Cultural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established Partnership: Fund 7 to 8 (Geographic & Cultural) • Newly formed/forming Partnership: Fund 1-2 (geographic & cultural)
Rating Criteria	2015 & 2018 RFP criteria available if requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More focus on health of partnership • Evaluation activities emphasized • Separate rating for newly formed & established partnerships • Project must focus on root causes, base building, and community power building



FAQ and Messaging Discussion

Anticipated FAQs and Talking points

- ❑ What's the difference between the two RFPs: Systems and Policy Change and Community Partnerships
 - ❑ What distinguishes the two and how do we explain that clearly so that folks understand the differences
- ❑ Can we apply for both RFPs?
 - ❑ Yes – How do we convey that from the start so that folks understand that it's possible to apply to both but if they do, they will need to demonstrate clear and intentional approach that will distinguish the two applications from each other.
- ❑ Can we receive funding from both RFP's
 - ❑ Yes – Two different review committees will be reviewing applications using separate scoring criteria, Seattle Foundation will have a process of their own as well as King County, but there will be alignment across the two RFP's to support the goals and intentions of COO.
- ❑ Can you provide examples of the types of activities that are eligible for funding?
 - ❑ Yes, please click on link to view examples of types of projects that these two funding opportunities have funded in the past or would be seen as a strong application. *[Document of examples will be linked for applicants review]*

What's going to help, what info is relevant, how can our messaging be clear?

Upcoming / Next Steps

- ❑ COO Director:
 - ❑ Interviews started this week – Governance Group panel upcoming/To Be Scheduled
- ❑ Systems & Policy Change (SPC) & Place-Based & Cultural Community Partnerships (PBCC) RFPs released August 17
 - ❑ Governance Group review and approval of slate of recommended groups – Fall meeting
- ❑ Learning Community strategy deeper dive & 2023 plan
 - ❑ Governance Group Fall/Winter meeting

Share Outs?

- ❑ Currently open Best Starts' Funding Opportunities:
 - ❑ [Community Well-Being Youth Led Communications Project RFP](#) – deadline: September 16!
 - ❑ [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Supportive Coordination RFQ](#) – deadline: September 16!
 - ❑ [Youth Healing Project](#) – deadline: August 22!
 - ❑ [Community-Based Parenting Supports: Caregiver Peer Supports and Basic Needs Resource Brokers RFP](#) – deadline: August 31!
- ❑ Best Starts' is seeking community members to join the [Community-Based Parenting Supports RFP review panel!](#)
- ❑ KC Office of Equity and Social Justice [Community Compensation Project](#) info
- ❑ Other info/opportunities to share with the group?

Communities of Opportunity – Governance Group Onboarding Meeting notes

Friday, July 29, 9am-11am

Location: online/Zoom

Members Present: Bilan Aden, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Michael Brown, Carlos E. Jimenez, Cilia Jurdy, Blishda Lacet, Patience Malaba, Sandhya S Nakhasi, Gloria Ramirez, Marguerite Ro, Joy Y Sebe, Michael Seiwerath, Yordanos Teferi, Jackie N Vaughn, Joon-Ho Yu

Facilitators & Staff Support: Matthew (Matt) Echohawk-Hayashi (Headwater People), Crystal Grosshuesch (Headwater People), Martha Guerrero (Spanish language translator), Jill Strnad (COO), Cristina Gonzalez (COO)

Welcome

What is your favorite “good vibes” happy song?

Reminder of the Ten Canoe Rules

What questions are you holding?

- Are there conversations related to representation in rural King County? How much of the funding goes to more rural parts of King County?
- Are there considerations to have Fund for Inclusive Recovery to also serve under COO?

Leadership Structure, Governance Group (GG) Roles & Responsibilities

COO's Mission Statement: Communities of Opportunity's mission is to create greater health, social, economic, and racial equity in King County so that all people thrive and prosper, regardless of race or place. COO is a unique community-public-private partnership that believes every community can be a healthy, thriving community—and that equity and racial justice are both necessary and achievable.

- **Matt:** All of us on this call have done this work. A generation ago, this would not have been possible for people to gather around this space and do this work. What a thing it is to be invited to this place. It's important that we don't the practice of pausing and remembering just what a cool thing this is and what we've brought ourselves to.

COO's Three Strategy Areas

Leadership Structure

- **Matt:** It's not about who gets the biggest chair at dinner; there's a dance between 3 roles:
 - GG, Staff, and Sponsors are all represented in this meeting
 - Governance Group
 - Approves Requests for Proposals (RFP) funding recommendations
 - Monitors progress of the initiative
 - Recommends the allocation of the COO portion of the BSK levy proceeds
 - Recommends GG member appointment recommendations to the Executive
 - **Matt:** The GG is the gateway through how these funds reach the community as well.
 - Staff:
 - Daily operations (including operational decisions)
 - Holds primary relationships with community partners
 - Develops strategies and supports community partners with implementation

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- Generates recommendations related to strategies and programs for GG and sponsors
 - **Matt:** The staff has leadership as well. They have connection to the community. This staff is uniquely positioned to work in the community.
 - **Question** about the mix between COO, Seattle Foundation (SF), and King County (KC). Why are certain staff holding roles that they do?
 - **Cristina:** COO's Policy and Systems Change grants include both KC and SF staff because Seattle Foundation administers the System and Policy Change strategy grants.
 - **Blishda:** There is a strategic reason SF has Policy and Systems Change, because SF funding can be more flexible.
 - **Michael Brown:** To add one final point, right from the start, it was clear that this was an integrated approach. There are different roles that both SF and KC play under the broad umbrella of COO. Externally, it's seen as a seamless integration
- **Question:** As GG, will we be collaborating with staff directly?
 - **Matt:** This is a new group, and you think about your role and what you need to serve, and for staff to think about their role, it's a great opportunity to think about how things have been done before. But how will we make the COO do the best work possible?
 - **Blishda:** In the past, staff has worked closely with GG members, and GG have been involved in review panels of RFPs, etc., and they're on task forces, etc. GG has asked COO to come to meetings to present on work. It's a 2-way communication, been a strong pattern as we move forward with our work.
 - **Matt:** You are here because of your role in the community, but staff feel the same way. Working together is a cool space. Staff thinks about strategy and work in collaboration with community partners.
- Sponsors (King County & Seattle Foundation):
 - Manages partnership w/each other and between funders
 - Champions COO within their organizations
 - Along with the COO Director, holds the relationship with the Governance Group
 - Oversee the COO Director
 - **Matt:** you should feel connected to the sponsors as the GG. They manage the COO Director
- **Question:** Is it easy to champion COO in your org? This bullet wouldn't be there if it weren't needed in some way.
 - **Marguerite:** KC is a big entity, we cover so many things, and this is just one. We are working in a political system. KC Council will also have a role in deciding use of BSK levy funds. It is important that as we do this work that as sponsors, we make sure

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that we champion COO, so people understand that COO is a worthy investment and that we stay true to our purpose. *COO is often modeling a new way of doing things.* One of the aims and goals in COO is for the way that COO does things [in working with community; uplifting community expertise & decision-making; focus on racial equity; etc.] to be adopted more throughout KC. It shouldn't be the way that everything is done, but there is room for adoption of the values and principles that we hold dear, with community, for community.

- **Michael Brown:** The word champion is a good one. We [SF] bring on new board members, more donors into the work, but we want them to understand the foundational base for the strategic and programmatic work.
- **Matt:** Headwater People has done work with COO too, not just facilitation, the sponsors represent the community also. There are different kinds but deep and meaningful connections to the community. There's no level of disconnect here. The SF brings a lot of strength as a private group, and KC serves a public group, and there is continually a growing process of how we strengthen everything as we go. There are some generative tensions in this group that the sponsors are helping to steward that tension in such a way to keep it going. There are so many dynamics to keep this happening. This is innovative. COO created something new. Are there any questions related to any of this? Your understanding of these fears will be different in six months than they are now, but what can we do not to allay them?
- **Sandhya:** As I understand it, staff come up with recommendations for RFP, and we approve the RFP. Can you speak to how funding is allocated? What is the decision-making process for the groups that receive funding?
- **Blishda:** The process includes a RFP review panel and a RFP development work group (which addresses things like how much money should we allocate for each grantee, and then based on money available, we say, "You can apply to that amount."). The review panel in reviewing RFP applications may sometimes decide different funding amounts for applications (within the RFP parameters). When we bring the slate to the GG, it includes the groups who the review panel recommended and the amount they are recommended at.
 - **Sandhya:** Who are on the review panels?
 - **Blishda:** COO staff, KC staff, community members, GG members, subject matter experts.
 - **Matt:** There is room for a GG person?
 - **Blishda:** Yes, as long as there's not a conflict of interest.
 - **Cristina:** With King County/Best Starts for Kids allocated funding, we also must check in with Best Starts for Kids leadership, including Leo Flor (DCHS) on funding decisions.

Roles and Responsibilities of Governance Group (GG)

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- **Matt:** I cannot overstate enough how important it is to hear each other's insights and think about how you can learn from each other. Together, you're more than the sum of the parts. Being thought partners means we're trying to do big things here. Sponsors have significant role between their organizations and COO. There's give and take in these partnerships. Community can be complex, too. How do we move this network forward? *At the end of the day, this is your role.* How do we navigate that? Want to highlight collaborators, ambassadors, and stewards together with this group. We have to grow the community -- that is the role of the GG. How can we spread the word of these strategies and to build more partnerships? This is a big opportunity that we'll keep focusing on and we'll bring your networks to this. We'll build your dream network by bringing new partners to the table and by bringing more resources, more insight, and more connection. It's the GG that is the main engine for that.
- **Question** about Governance Group compensation for members and how the inability to provide stipends impacts representation from small groups that don't have resources for staff/volunteers that may want to participate in GG.
 - **Marguerite:** Because this is a formal advisory board for KC government, it is in ordinance that we can't reimburse [not just Governance Group but for *all* formal King County Advisory Boards]. For us to change that, there would be a need to have something in legislation that would allow us to provide reimbursement.
 - **Blishda:** FYI, COO does compensate community partners participating in other groups (i.e., workgroup, RFP panel, Strategy lab, etc.)
 - The issue is that some cannot afford to invest the time without compensation which is not equitable.
 - **Marguerite:** COO and BSK have all wanted to address this. As this Governance Group goes forward, as GG decides what your highest policy priorities are, you need to consider where KC Council members are at, and figure out when to take up this fight. Is COO/GG the right place and right time for that? *This is an issue that goes far beyond COO. There are many advisory groups.*
 - Some people need to ask permission from their supervisors/directors to spend more time, so they and we can staff committees and panels.
 - King County recently launched a [Community Compensation Project](https://publicinput.com/CommunityCompensation) for which they are seeking input. [More info here: <https://publicinput.com/CommunityCompensation>]

Request for Proposals (RFP) process & timeline

COO is currently in the RFP development phase. The timeline is as follows:

- The COO RFP development workgroup has had 2 meetings; The 3rd meeting is on August 3, where more drafting will be done.
- The final draft will be sent to BSK leadership, COO Sponsors, and the King County procurement office where it will be reviewed.
- The RFPs (for Place-Based & Cultural Communities (PBCC) & Systems & Policy Change (SPC)) will be released August 17.
 - For the first time, we'll be releasing the RFP through ZoomGrants.

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- Once that RFP is released, applicants will have a chance to receive technical assistance from TA consultant providers on their applications
 - Applications will be due Oct. 6 at 2:00 pm, per King County's regulations.
- The RFP review panels will convene (review process is ~2 weeks)
 - PBCC strategy had 46 applications the previous open RFP.
 - Panel reviewers get 10-15 applications to review and to discuss their ratings and make recommendations to full RFP review panel conversation and decisions for the final list of recommended applications.
 - Applicant site visits may be requested.
- COO staff will present the list of recommendations from the review panel to the Governance Group – where GG may ask questions and we explain our why and then from there the GG will approve (or not) the slate of RFP applications to then go to Best Starts for Kids leadership and to King County Council.
 - The Council has 24 hours to review and ask questions.
- All applicants are contacted, regardless of whether they were awarded money or not.
 - Across Best Starts for Kids & COO, staff provide applicants who are not selected for funding the opportunity to discuss why.
- PBCC contract awards start January 1, 2023. It's a 3-year award.
 - Systems and Policy Change contract awards will start in February 2023.
- **Cristina:** We are releasing 2 RFPs: Systems and Policy Change, and Community Partnership. We're trying to avoid any confusion that people might have because there are differences. As we share to GG and the community, we will have the process separate so you can participate in Systems and Policy Change or Community Partnership panel. We are being conscious to share resources as much as possible.
- **Questions and comments During the RFP discussion:**
 - Will the entire GG be reviewing the RFPs prior to when it is released on Aug 17?
 - GG representatives in the RFP development workgroup are reviewing the RFP
- **Blishda:** Governance Group members can read as many RFP applications (during review panel process) as they want if there is *no conflict of interest*.
 - Every GG member will have to sign a conflict-of-interest doc.

Breakout Discussion: What will be helpful to you to be the best GG member(s)?

- What types of conversations are you most interested in? Would be interested in hearing from you all about how you want to expand opportunities to leverage the work that is happening at the community level.
- There will be tension in the group. What has happened in the past? How did GG handle it? What is the history of this?
 - Honest communication is helpful. We have a lot of concepts and big picture things out there, but I do agree that some more concrete, more tangible things will be helpful. Where have things gone and where are they going? Your comments about in community context, being able to highlight and uplift innovations, it helps to bridge things together, the outward facing is always

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- very positive, and things are going well, but doing our best is being able to know where the challenges have been and what has been a struggle and what are the critical issues so we can wrap our heads around it.
- This is the first time I'm part of this GG, and I am not quite sure about all the challenges I will face in this road, but what's important to me is that our voices are heard and one of the fears that we could face is the fact that the road is opening up for our voices and community to be heard and that the changes aren't being effective.
 - Agree with what everyone has shared, and it would be nice to see a snapshot of the investments made in the last 6 years and what priorities they serve so we can make informed decision about future investments. Maybe that will help us understand the community and make connections.
 - **Marguerite:** I will repeat what I said at my first informal group, I want you to trust in the staff. COO staff come from the communities that are also impacted, and they wear two hats. They are trying to do their best and do have huge amounts of expertise and deep commitment to the work and lead and champion work with community. My one request to the GG is that although you all will not be doing the review of every RFP and you won't do every proposal that comes in, trust that COO staff have done their due diligence and that they've done the work and it's driven by community and conforms to [RFP requirements]. COO is so much more than just the funding; it is about a movement. We have a larger goal around equity around culture and how we do partnership. That's what I would ask for.
 - The other thing that would help would be gathering in person to alleviate the tension. We need to get to know each other as people. That happens better in person.
 - **Cristina:** staff wants to be as supportive of GG as can be. GG needs info to help guide us, we appreciate the time you're taking and your passion and values. Together we can move the work forward to advance the communities we love and serve.

Upcoming/Next steps

- New COO Director hire - have received applications and the hiring/HR process is moving forward.

Meeting closes at 12pm