



Wednesday July 5, 2023

11:00 AM -1:00PM

Virtual Option: [Webex](#)

Attendees: Willard Brown, Jamie Madden, Jennell Lee Hicks, Kaleb Germinaro, Abdi Yussuf, and Diana Paredes

Absent: Quanlin Hu, Denise Perez Lally, John Rodriguez, Sophia Benalfew, Lindsay Goes Behind, and Mark R. Jones

Public: Yordanos Teferi

Public Comment

None

Welcome & Relationship Building

Bana Abera, EDI AB Facilitator

Relationship building and Confirm Attendance.

New Board Member Updates

- Aiming for July to confirm new people. Things have been delayed and are with Council right now. Updates will be given as soon as possible.
- No questions or comments from Advisory Board.

Approval of June Meeting Minutes

Bana Abera, EDI AB Facilitator

Will approve June and July meeting minutes at August AB Meeting

Updating Ordinance and Work Session

- Considering adding a charter to ensure some of the operational pieces and clarity are incorporated into that structure since it cannot be put into the ordinance.
- Portion of ordinance around term limit that needs to be edited.
 - The way term limits are set up and how long need to be set up as the way they are currently in the ordinance was for a transitional period.
- Willard – staff propose, and board approve it.
 - Diana and Jamie agree.
- Staff – confirming that the ask is for staff to draft a proposal and bring it back to the board.
- Willard – propose new language on board duties and what it would take to remove a board member, based on issues of non-attendance. Staff to propose a rotation schedule that the board signs off too.



- Kaleb agrees.
- Other thoughts or comments: none.

Everyone taking 5 minutes to look over and add comments to the Ordinance working document.

- No comments, moving on.

EDI Summer RFP

- Staff – update: applications are live. There is an RFP out for people to apply. Approved timeline is:
 - June 15th – July 23rd: RFP open
 - July 24th- August 14th: Staff review
 - August 15th – September 15th: Mayor Approval Process
 - September 21st Awards announced with MO comms
- Willard – Hopeful that the recommendations will follow the high priority preferences that were laid out by the advisory board.
- Staff will be making recommendations and those will follow the same evaluation framework.
- Jamie – is the timeline long enough for people to get applications in?
 - Staff – in order to get it out before the budget approval process, this is the best we are able to do.
- Jamie – the timeline isn't okay. The government having twice as long as the applicants is not right.
 - Jennell agrees.
 - Kaleb agrees.
- Willard – MO gets 30 days to review. That seems to be exceedingly long.
- Diana – given how much time the MO has to review, can we have an approach that prioritizes being frank about the challenges we are going to encounter in the RFP decision making process? Do we know if MO has anything they would like to see prioritized?
 - Staff – MO looks to us for priorities and guidance, not the other way around.
- Staff – this is one of the main reasons we are updating the ordinance.
- Willard – can you give a timeline of when you will propose a charter to the board?
 - Staff – hoping to bring it to AB in August. Drafting it now.

Committee Report Back

Youth and Community Engagement

- Willard – Only discussion points at last meeting were to do a little refining of what youth engagement would look like. Met with Katie and shared concerns. Gained clarity on how it would roll out. Staff to meet with SYEP and other departments who would be interested in having youth participate in a combined program. SYEP is essential because they will fund and pay stipends for youth.
- Kaleb – Katie is going to create a one-pager to share out about the program.



Policy

- Diana – past couple of months we have been talking about how to come up with an adequate interpretation of WA state public benefits policy and how to incorporate that into EDI contracts. The policy can be interpreted in many ways. One of the goals of the policy committee is to determine how to best interpret it for EDI purposes, to the best extent possible. The committee has been looking at similar contracts for other grantees who have received access to municipally owned lands and properties. For example, the Seattle Aquarium. Committee is gearing up to present this information to the board in August with examples of what this can look like in grantee contracts.
- Jamie – highlighting the tension present for EDI. One hand, we need documentation and data to satisfy requirements, but be careful with how much ends up in contracting. Balancing the needs with the protection of grantees through translating grantee defined measures of public benefit into data & dollars that satisfies the requirements.

Storytelling and Evaluation

- Willard – committee has paused for the month and did not meet.

Executive

- Willard – we met and discussed the RFP. Discussed the upcoming opportunities for our new board members, some onboarding issues, and how that process has been working. Committee was waiting to hear more definitive updates about the RFP. We received those in this meeting. Committee had a joint meeting with the Planning Commission. The commission was full of questions. They were pointed towards the ordinance and also communities that are most effected by displacement. Spent a long time discussing the new comprehensive plan update and how that effects communities of color and the lack of representation throughout the whole process.
- Staff – EDI manager hiring status update. Finalizing the job description and should be moving forward soon. Sticking with the hiring process that was used in the last round. We are trying to keep the board as involved as possible.
- Staff – there was a letter from community that Dr. Jones and Mr. Brown received. There was not enough time on the agenda to get to it but it will be brought back for the August updates.

Comp Plan Updates

Michael Hubner and Aja Hazelhoff

- Comp plan document plans for 20 years of growth in a way that keeps the city affordable, livable, equitable. It is a required update.
- What to look forward to in terms of release of documents for draft and public comment.
 - Draft plan
 - EIS
 - Neighborhood Residential Designs Concept Study
 - Change to state law regarding changes to single family residential housing zoning.



- Housing appendix
 - Data report
 - Housing has and continues to interact with racial equity
- Racial Equity Toolkit
- More information about community engagement
- Release date was originally June, now will be released in September.
 - Plan will be finalized by mid-2024, council will adopt by end of 2024.
 - BDS Report:
 - Importance of connecting RET outcomes with the plan in a systematic way. Ahead of August meeting, staff will provide memo along with report to show how we connect the RET with the draft plan as well as posing a general question of how does EDI want to continue to be involved in the plan.
- Aja – Using the additional time that we have this summer to seek input from communities who have experienced displacement, displacement pressures, or are working actively on anti-displacement. Anti-Displacement work that EDI is a part of and represents collectively for the city plays an integral role in this engagement work. The anti-displacement strategy will be drafted from summer engagement and that will inform the draft plan and framework. There will be reconvening of those that have previously been spoken to and other that didn't get the chance in order to get feedback. Want to return in August with a more substantial update on who we've been talking to and also to get EDI's perspective.
- Kaleb – There is no transparency on long range planning and who is making decisions and how. There needs to be something on the website this summer to show who is the long range planning team and who is making final decisions on the comprehensive plan so that everyone in community is able to see. This is something that has been a concern since April.
 - Michael – We have been at the board a number of times and tried to forge relationships. The comp plan is really complex and it's an all hands on deck situation. I can take it back to the comms team and see what the best way forward for this is. There are other departments contributing, we need to do better on that. We can be more transparent.
 - Rico – The community open houses that have been done has been an attempt to get the whole team into community so people can see face to face who is working on the plan. We intend to do more of that in the Summer, Fall, and next Spring. We continue to work on communication and find a balance of coming to the board regularly but not overdoing the board.
 - Kaleb (comment in chat) - we can't see anything online though which I think is the issue, there's a need for an accessible format where communities (the auntie or uncle who can't make an in person meeting) can see the ethics of the people making final decisions.
 - Jamie seconds this.



- Michael – we will include online and in our website.
 - Kaleb – Very white supremacist type of format to have communities of color on the website but no the staff that have contributed to erasure and displacement.
- Jamie – following up on what Kaleb is saying but specifically within Downtown core. Furious about Downtown Activation Plan. Reach out to residential within downtown. As a resident, it was much nicer during quarantine. Government is actively trying to make my neighborhood work. The displacement that Kaleb highlighted is actively happening. Remove barbed wired.
- Jennell – When we talk about anti-displacement and affordability, it effects current residents when new development is going on in neighborhoods. Is there any incentive that we can give for current residents being affected by issues such as taxes. For example, the Central District. Is there compensation for additional costs, levys, etc. that are weighing on current residents and leading to displacement. Thinking about how to keep people in neighborhoods. People need more money to stay in the place they are living.
 - Aja – We have heard similar stories like the ones you’ve shared many times. We are hearing from community that compensation to offset impacts of gentrification and anti-displacement pressures. We are in the gathering input phase and are considering things like this. Quick answer is yes but through a series of conversations with community to flesh out what is working and what is not currently working in community. We are basing our framework on those lived experiences.
 - Kaleb (comment in chat) - Jennell's comments make wonder about what a 'grandfather' ordinance that supports those already in neighborhoods that could absolve for these various things that happen during displacement and gentrification.
- Willard – concerned about how the plan and IES will incorporate the new Tree Equity Initiative that has been adopted as well as the struggles around the Tree Ordinance. How are the recommendations going to show up in the plan, EIS, etc?
 - Jennell (comment in chat) - I hate the tree ordinance the City of Seattle does not take care of the roots of the trees that is why my house flooded.
 - Michael – The EIS will discuss potential impacts from growth. The plan will include policies that are supportive of the implementation of the tree ordinance and other tools going forward. The Comp Plan will not go into detail on codes but is the guiding document that can help shape future codes. Will be doing a zoning implementation that can have impacts and will be able to share a preview of that in the future.
- Diana – Would like to speak on agreements for engagement if we do decide to do that. Need for accountability and updates, such as when and how feedback will be incorporated into the plan.

Future meetings

- Are people interested and available to join meetings in person?
 - Willard – absolutely yes.



- Kaleb – could join in person at times.

Announcements & Adjourn

- Kaleb – Estelita's Library has Salsa & Sangria coming back. Saturday the 8th at 5pm.
- No other comments.

Adjourn

- Willard moves that the meeting be adjourned.