

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Equitable Development Initiative Seeks New Advisory Board Members**

*Community is invited to help shape a more inclusive Seattle*

Seattle, WA - In an effort to cultivate a more equitable and inclusive future for Seattle's diverse residents, the Equitable Development Initiative (EDI) is actively seeking committed community members to join its Advisory Board. Born out of the advocacy of community organizations fighting against displacement and inadequate investment in Seattle's communities of color, EDI projects aim to empower communities through fostering ownership, resilience, cultural expression, and overall wellbeing, with a special focus on marginalized groups.

### **Join the Equitable Development Initiative Community Advisory Board**

The Equitable Development Initiative is extending an invitation to individuals rooted in communities facing a high risk of displacement and who are dedicated to addressing deep and persisting inequities. Prospective members are encouraged to apply and become a crucial part of shaping a more thriving Seattle.

#### **Application and Compensation Information:**

- The priority deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2024.
- Applications received after the priority deadline will be considered until all positions are filled.
- Compensation includes a monthly stipend of \$60/hour, with a maximum of \$300.00 for full participation.
- To apply, please visit the City's [Boards and Commissions website](#).

The EDI Board are key advisors, guiding the allocation of millions of dollars in City funds to community-led projects. The Board focuses on reducing displacement pressures and improving outcomes in marginalized communities, including Indigenous, Black, people of color, immigrant communities, LGBTQ communities, and differently abled individuals. Investments recommended by the Board support capacity building and the acquisition, improvement, or development of community places and spaces that benefit the public and increase access to opportunity.

#### **Monthly EDI Board Member Duties Include:**

- Serve as community liaisons, fostering meaningful collaboration.

- Elevate and advocate for the voices and needs of marginalized communities.
- Participate in full board and subcommittee meetings.
- Craft EDI annual funding criteria and make recommendations for funding awards.
- Support the development and implementation of equitable development strategies and policies.
- Advance Racial Equity and Social Justice, challenging institutional and systemic racism.
- Convene stakeholders to build knowledge and capacity around equitable development goals.

**Highly Desired Applicants Will Have Experience Representing:**

- Seattle’s low-access to opportunity and high-risk for displacement areas.
- Neighborhoods that have experienced significant displacement and discriminatory policies or practices.
- Involuntary displacement from Seattle.
- Being targeted by racially discriminatory policies and practices.
- Experience with equitable development, real estate financing, transactions, or affordable housing.

To learn more, please visit the [EDI webpage](#) and explore the [EDI Framework and Implementation Plan](#). For inquiries or to submit your application and Statement of Interest via email, please contact Abesha Shiferaw at [Abesha.Shiferaw@seattle.gov](mailto:Abesha.Shiferaw@seattle.gov).

*Join EDI in shaping a future where equity and inclusion define Seattle's community development.*

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