



Wednesday October 5, 2022

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Webex

Board Members Present: Cesar Garcia, Willard Brown, Sophia Benalfew, Jamie Madden, Kaleb Germinaro, Abdi Yussuf, Mark R. Jones, Quanlin Hu, Lindsay Goes Behind, Diana Paredes, and Quanlin Hu

Absent: Evelyn Allen, Maria-Jose “Cote” Soerens

Pub: Drew, Yordanos Teferi

OPCD Admin: Patrice Thomas, Michael Blumson, Andrew Tran, Michael Hubner, Rico Quirindongo, Abesha Shiferaw

Welcome & Public Comment

Approve Board Minutes:

Bana Abera, EDI AB Facilitator

Minutes revised as necessary and approved by Board Members

- Meeting minutes affirmed by Mark R. Jones and move to approve September minutes, Willard Brown seconds.

Call for additional edits/comments

Patrice moved to approve

- All in favor as is
- No - Nay or abstain 0
- Abstain 0

Comprehensive Plan Update

Michael Hubner: In September we had the first meetings for the ad hoc Comp Plan Committee meeting and they will report out during the later part of the agenda.

We're in transition phase right now, growth alternatives and the future of the City, and have asked for comments from the community and considering these alternatives. Got so many comments from community through online and through writing from organizations we've partnered. We'll be releasing a scoping report focusing how the City will grow, land use, analyzing impact on displacement, employment, etc. As we're releasing this report, we will also be focusing on a new phase of engagement. Five in person meetings/community conversations focusing on different topics—climate, transportation, employments, community conversations, housing and sustainability. I wanted to highlight this because we want your help in spreading the word. On Nov 10th will be in the Delridge area and we'll also have ones in Central, North, etc.

Board member: Will these meetings be at community centers or somewhere else?



Michael Hubner: We're one of the first departments in the City to do in-person meetings and we'll be having them at colleges, community centers, and other places. This information will be sent out to you all. We'll also have online/hybrid versions as well.

Board member: There are some, if not many, community members that will not go to community centers in some areas, but the library might be a better alternative and more accessible.

Board member: Is there opportunities for more grassroots approach that partners with smaller businesses and cultural spaces within the city to host neighborhood accessible spaces?

Michael Hubner: we're engaging community in many different phases and these are one way. Our bandwidth to do this is five per month. There are a lot of considerations—space, accessibility, community, etc. We welcome opportunity to partner with organizations and are putting effort into reaching out to those that have not engaged in the Comp Plan before.

Board member: I am talking about more meeting people where they're at. It's football season and tabling at games will go a long way or even going to The Station, which has people coming and going all day. I am talking more about these rather than big gatherings that take time and work.

Michael Hubner: We're engaging Community Liaisons to do light touch engagement. Our staff doesn't have capacity to be in all these spaces. We don't have the people to be in a lot of spaces to provide information. Online also seems more efficient for us. We're trying to balance our efforts with our staff and our partners.

Board member: Ethiopian Community in Seattle can host the discussion in Southeast Seattle if after May 2023.

Mayor's Budget Proposal & EDI Budget Letter

The Core of the budget is the funds for projects. EDI has two dedicated funding sources—Short Term Rental Tax and Payroll Expense Tax. The overall net budget has gone from \$19M to \$24M, this is because the Payroll Expense Tax brought in more than expected. The Payroll Expense Tax catch is that if the City falls under a certain amount then they can pull from the Payroll Expense Tax to meet the gap. This means for us, we're getting 9% for EDI each year from the smaller revenue amount.

For Short-Term Rental Tax, the authorizing ordinance allocates \$5 million for EDI, then funds debt service, permanent supportive housing, and then any extra goes to EDI. The proposed budget changes this order so that EDI comes last. Because of the estimated revenue, this means that EDI would only receive \$4 million from this funding source in 2023.

The ask to increase our consultant budget was not approved. We'll still have our baseline budget so we'll have enough for review committees, facilitation, and Indigenous Seattle internship, but not much left for other items.

The ask for additional EDI project managers was not funded.



Board member: Regarding JumpStart or Payroll Expense Tax, is this a funding source going forward. In the Mayor's budget, he said EDI will be funded at \$24M.

Michael Blumson: The old budget gave us short of \$14M. The actual revenue ended up being significantly higher than budgeted so 2023 uses the revised estimate. So PET will fund about \$19.5M, STRT \$4M, and CDBG \$430k which is how you get to \$24M.

Board member: What didn't get funded?

Michael B: Budget letter asked for \$30M, that didn't get funded, additional two staffing didn't happen, the additional consulting dollars didn't get funded. The funding sources have been recalculated, but the budget is essentially the same as last year.

Board member: Are you saying there isn't enough funding to staff for the workload?

Michael B: the original Budget Letter asked for four project management staff. The 2022 budget included two project managers and one OPCD contract manager that will mostly work on EDI invoicing and compliance. The original ask was to ensure a consistent level of service to grantees given the rate we bring in new projects. By the time we get a little further down the line at the rate we're bringing on projects, we will need more staffing to meet the need of project workload and meeting grantee needs.

The other thing with the Payroll Expense Tax, we were planning to partner with the City's Attorney's office for additional legal support for projects with more complex legal needs and review of contracts and we're still exploring that as it's a clear bottleneck in processing complex contracts and we don't want to that to get worse.

Yordanos: When is the mayor proposing the change for short-term lodging prioritization? Is the hope that it takes shape with the budgeting process or is it being slated/contemplated in a separate legislation?

Michael: I think it's part of the overall budget process. Our understanding is that when Council adopts the budget these proposed legislative changes would be adopted at the same time.

Yordanos: It seems like it's been snuck in there considering the full budget wasn't funded.

Board member: On the staffing issue, going forward it will be good to look at how the staffing of EDI and the responsibilities of the EDI advisory board are connected. Meaning, if not fully staffed, the board will be more of a working board as opposed to 'advisory'".

Michael B: as we're restructuring the team to meet needs, staff may be picking between providing quality support to Committee or to projects/grantees. Separating the policy work from the project management work. We're almost half way to where we want to be.

Board member: This reminds me of our Willard mentioning if we could go outside the city to receive funding for EDI and what that process may be like.

Michael B: it's a good question and there are grants the City is eligible for. And we don't want to compete for the same pool as our grantees as well as navigating the legal parameters.



Facilitator: moving forward to subcommittees reporting back.

EDI 2.0 Strategy & Subcommittees Report Back

Executive Committee:

Met last minute but weren't able to select roles yet. Only one person was present. Work plan items for the committee or to assign include—EDI fund strategy, EDI projects, communication protocols, relations with other boards and commissions....Overlap with other committees were evaluation templates and the administrative tasks. Next steps are to select Board Chair. Budget letter updates were sent out.

The overlap issues are where we're have more discussions, and it will be helpful. Prioritizing of the Storytelling work because it overlaps with community engagement and policy. We'll have more definitions. In addition, all the chairs from the other committees will be joining the EC meetings moving forward.

Policy Committee:

Didn't meet in September. Chair met with staff to address items from previous meeting related to policy items. There is a gap between incoming board members and board members exiting and do some sharing and knowledge building. The goal for October meeting will be to start discussing storytelling activities from previous board members to the new board members to build knowledge and priorities. Focus of storytelling/onboarding is to understand how EDI has centered community interests and agenda and to learn about the EDI rubric, accountability, decision making, and funding streams—understanding capacity building vs capital—to have a more cohesive discussion around policy priorities.

Board member: our request for generational wealth and drivers, will the policy committee amend these drivers to align with the City's or otherwise? Will the policy committee be focusing on this?

Facilitator: as the committee chairs attend the EC meetings, this can be an opportunity to discuss and focus on this? In addition, does this body want to align its goals and priorities with the larger City goals rather with community?

Staff: I think the generational wealth building is one of the initiatives the policy committee has listed to discuss and look at, but no deeper discussions have been had yet.

Data/Evaluation Committee:

We met and discussed what steps we need to collect stories. We also understood there are a number of questions we need to ask to separate the story questions from the project update questions and what is the best way to get to these. We also want to be considerate of grantees time and ask relevant questions instead of a long list questions that take a lot of time. There is also the EDI Stakeholder survey staff is working on in relation to the EDI RFP process. It might be good to map out the storytelling questions/survey vs the bigger program related questions/needs.



Additional important note is—there are a lot of different layers of questions between the success and challenges of individual projects and how projects have defined as success and the threshold of the program outcomes and goals. And differentiating these and building a tool to address both. Will be working on this and launching it next year.

Youth & Community Engagement Committee:

This committee met a couple of times now. We talked about how we would firm up the work we want to achieve this year and the details. How we can deliberately connect with youth in our communities and specific programs and nexus to connect with EDI—internships, workshops youth would come and learn, shadowing activities for youth to learn. We talked about how we want to see engagement and outreach elements of engagement are a lot—organizations, people in community, philanthropy, government, etc. to support what we're trying to do.

We will send out notes in the follow up.

The committee selected a chair.

Ad hoc Comprehensive Plan:

Working on the Racial Equity Toolkit and building an action plan with this. The facilitator and BDS facilitating was helpful. Also went through the current plan for the RET and planning to provide feedback at the next meeting.

2022 EDI Fund Revamp

Two documents were sent out referencing the previous discussions regarding timeline and preferred approach for 2023 funding and addressing substantive policy questions for longer terms RFP revamp.

We will look at existing RFP pool and not have applicants do another application.

We need the Board's help to refine and identify what priorities of analysis are needed. Potential Data Requests list document. Which one of these are important to you. We can't collect everything, but which ones are important to help you make decisions to get to you by next month. These are the list of things the review panels have discussed and priorities. The hope is staff is able to develop data for you, what lens do you want staff to use, in November staff will develop the process based on the criteria and get your feedback. Ideally, move forward with the decision making early 2023 and respond to projects that are holding on by the skin of their teeth.

Analysis that staff can't do in the timeframe: project status, relative historical performance, We can't do justice to these data and analysis in the timeframe we have.

Yordanos: I would propose the following: how long projects in the pipeline; the status/progress of project's capital campaign (and perhaps mix of funding support - institutional/philanthropic as this may be a leveraging point for other projects); projects designated as EDI demonstration projects



Board member: I would like to see a question related to the goals of EDI in the areas of anti-displacement, RSJI and if it furthers this, and generational wealth building. It would be good to connect EDI's goals to this process.

Board member: Are we using this data to select projects?

Michael B: using this data to help prioritize the interim criteria—ex: prioritizing generational wealth building projects, etc. In addition, we're hoping to gather and provide you the data you need to layout the criteria and refine it and see what it looks like in practice, before fully committing to it and staff is moving forward with the goals and priorities of the Board.

Board member: I would put project status as one of the top because it will inform other priorities and will help us have a deeper discussion.

Michael B: that can be covered by questions like average acquisition ask, etc.

Board member: Can we also get information on why some projects were not selected and this will help us understand better.

Board member: it might have already been embedded somewhere, otherwise would like to see how the project will help/support the underserved communities specifically

Board member: how about categories of strong, medium, need work?

Board members: I don't know if this can be added to the list, but do you think the Seattle 2035 Equity Analysis should be updated?

Board members: I would love to know how long projects can consistently receive funding for? is there a limit on number of grants?

Board members: seems like three different data streams 1. perspective of recipients 2. internal EDI audit 3. project snapshot of status

Announcements & Adjourn