

In the course of numerous community conversations, four key “themes” kept coming up:

Communities asked us to recognize and work with them to understand and address the intersection of socio-economic conditions and exposure to multiple environmental hazards in exacerbating people’s access to opportunity.

Leadership Actions:

- **Announce a new Duwamish Valley program** to be coordinated by OSE and OPCD to specifically improve environmental and socio-economic conditions in partnership with the community.
 - **Address issues of food insecurity by extending low cost bags of fresh fruits and vegetables to all families below 300% of the federal poverty level enrolled in the Seattle Preschool Program** in a one year pilot to see if this improves health and learning for kids enrolled in the program.
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Communities expressed a need for green career opportunities for people of color, especially young people.

Leadership Actions:

- **Add an environmental cohort to the Youth Employment Initiative** so that young people are given the opportunity to work for environmental employers through the program.
 - **Announce recent changes in the city internship program** that makes paid city internships available to part-time students and those enrolled in the certificate programs. The city will be working to encourage more students of color to apply to these positions.
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Communities are frustrated by “city-wide” environmental programs that do not consider the experiences or cultural practices of people of color, immigrants and refugees. Communities want to partner with government to work at the beginning phases of creating programs/policies to ensure direct and real benefits in communities of color. Communities expressed a strong desire for structures to ensure deeper community ownership of our environmental programs and to support the City in advancing environmental justice.

Leadership Action:

- **Establish an Environmental Justice Steering Committee** in partnership with Department of Neighborhoods to build on DON leadership programs and support communities of color owning and shaping environmental issues. Community members with expertise in policy/program design would work with City staff to provide guidance on environmental programs in development or expansion (e.g. Drive Clean Seattle, or Trees for Seattle) to ensure we are creating solutions with (not for) communities and that all our work advances environmental equity and the goals of the Agenda.
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Communities asked for a framework for advancing environmental justice that community members can reference and connect to when working in their communities.

Leadership Action:

- **Submit a resolution to Council** adopting the four goals of the Agenda as priorities for all departments and core beliefs of Seattle’s approach to sustainability and the environment.