Office of the Mayor
City of Seattle
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Executive Order: 05-08
Inclusive Outreach and Public Engagement

An Executive Order directing City departments to perform outreach and public engagement in a manner that reflects the racial and cultural diversity of Seattle. This Executive Order directs City departments to develop a common approach to outreach and public engagement and coordinate implementation Citywide.

WHEREAS, people of color, immigrant and refugee communities, and low-income people have faced barriers to resources and amenities, and to accessing information, or being included in public processes and public engagement; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of Seattle presents both opportunities and challenges in relation to outreach and public engagement, thus requiring consistent and coordinated strategies; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to ending institutionalized racism in City government; and

WHEREAS, the City strives to create a city that is enriched by its diverse cultures, with civic participation by all community members; and

WHEREAS, the City invests significant resources in outreach and public engagement strategies, and seeks to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of these methods; and

WHEREAS, a healthy democracy requires outreach and public engagement that takes into account our communities' racial, cultural, and socio-economic complexity; and

WHEREAS, the City aims to appropriately use community skills and expertise to enhance our outreach and public engagement efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREGORY J. NICKELS, Seattle Mayor, do order that all City departments use practices that are inclusive of all persons in the Seattle community and that engage the public through effective outreach.

FURTHERMORE, I direct the Seattle Office for Civil Rights and the Department of Neighborhoods to co-lead implementation of this policy.

Inquiries regarding this Executive Order should be directed to the Race and Social Justice Initiative Manager in the Seattle Office for Civil Rights at (206) 684-4500.

Dated this 4th day of April, 2008

Gregory J. Nickels
Mayor, City of Seattle