



TRANSPORTATION EQUITY WORKGROUP

Application Guide

OCTOBER 2026



Seattle
Department of
Transportation

Overview

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), Transportation Equity Program provides department-wide policy and strategic advisement on equitable, safe, environmentally sustainable, accessible, and affordable transportation systems that support Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, low-income populations, people living with disabilities, and other communities historically and currently underinvested in by government.

In April 2019, SDOT created the Transportation Equity Workgroup (TEW), a group of compensated community members with personal and professional affiliations with BIPOC communities and communities underinvested by government.

Goals for the TEW include the following:

- Build community trust and partnerships through transparency and accountability between SDOT and communities underinvested by government.
- Develop leadership capacity and a deeper understanding of SDOT and transportation systems.
- Learn and share understanding of transportation equity values and priorities.

From 2019-2021, the TEW worked collaboratively to create community-guided equity recommendations to include in SDOT's first-ever Transportation Equity Framework (TEF). The TEF is a roadmap for SDOT decision-makers, employees, stakeholders, partners, and the greater community to collaboratively create an equitable transportation system. Building from the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI), the TEF addresses the disparities that exist in our transportation systems due to institutional racism.



The TEW serve as community stewards of the Transportation Equity Framework (TEF), and collaborate with SDOT staff to deliver key tactics from the TEF implementation plan.

SDOT Transportation Equity Workgroup (TEW) currently has open seats for the 2027 - 2029 term and is seeking community members to apply. We invite community members affiliated with community organizations, non-profits, coalitions or networks serving Seattle-King County BIPOC and vulnerable communities to apply.

Benefits of Workgroup Participation

- Learn more about SDOT's structure, operations, programs, and projects
- Leadership development and civic engagement opportunity
- Gain first-hand experience in co-creating and collaborating with government staff

Term Commitments & Onboarding Period

All TEW terms start at 3 years with the option of renewing for an additional 2 years at the conclusion of the first term. If selected, members will first join the TEW as non-voting members and participate in a 3-month onboarding period from January to March 2027. Expect to dedicate an average of 9-10 hrs./month during the onboarding period. After the 3-month onboarding period, non-voting members will be formally voted into the TEW in April 2027.





Compensation for Workgroup Members

Non-voting members will be paid \$50/hour during their 3-month onboarding period. Once members are voted in as TEW members in April 2027, compensation for the 2027 - 2029 term will be \$75/hour. All TEW member will sign a Memorandum of Agreement with SDOT prior to the start of their term.

Desired Qualifications of TEW members

- Community members must be affiliated with Seattle-King County based community-based organizations, coalitions or networks interested in serving on the TEW and submit a letter of support from their organization to participate.
- Currently work, worship, play, learn or live in Seattle
- Have lived experiences and/or professional knowledge on transportation related challenges experienced by populations identified in Resolution 31773 (see below).
- Experience with and/or understanding of challenges, barriers to trust in government, and transportation inequities.
- Interest in working collaboratively in a team setting and with various community and government stakeholders.
- Have deep understanding on the impacts of institutionalized racism and race-based disparities experienced by BIPOC communities
- Community members do not need to have previous experience participating in workgroup; members who have not served on city-level workgroups before are encouraged to apply!

Populations of Interest

Under Resolution 31773¹, City Council identified populations who should benefit equitably from the City's transportation investments, mobility innovation and progress to create safe, environmentally sustainable, accessible, and affordable transportation options.

The TEW members will be from the following identified communities, leading with BIPOC communities. Recognizing intersectionality, the multiple identities in which a person can simultaneously experience privilege and oppression², the workgroup will bring together a diverse group of individuals and there are opportunities for co-chair roles with additional compensation. Workgroup members will have personal and/or professional expertise, and be affiliated with agencies, coalitions and networks from/or serving the following communities:

- Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities
- Low-income communities
- Immigrant and refugee populations
- People living with disabilities
- LGBTQIA+ people
- People experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity
- Women and female-identifying populations
- Youth
- Aging adults
- Individuals who were formerly incarcerated
- Displaced and/or high-risk displacement neighborhoods

If you are a youth or young adult interested in engaging with the TEW, please email transportationequity@seattle.gov for more information.

¹More information on Resolution 31773 available [here](#)

²Definition from the [Racial Equity Tools Glossary](#)

Application & Selection Process

Applications will be accepted online, and we also request a letter of support from your affiliated organization to be included as part of your application.

Community organizations, non-profits and coalitions providing a letter of support for an applicant are expected to provide ongoing support of the TEW members' participation in the group for the duration of their term. Organizational support includes ensuring the candidate can regularly attend and engage in TEW-related activities as part of their regular tasks and supporting candidate's professional development growth on the TEW.

If a written application in English or otherwise provides a barrier for the applicant, all efforts will be made by SDOT to arrange alternative methods to submitting an applicant's information. Please email transportationequity@seattle.gov if you or someone you know needs accommodations to submit an application.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of current TEW members and SDOT staff. **Applications are due by Wednesday, October 21, 11:59 PM.**

TEW Member Participation Commitments

- Three-year commitment in the first term (with the option of renewing for two additional years in the second term)
- Engage and participate in tasks related to the 3-month onboarding period
- Regularly attend TEW monthly meetings
- Participate in an average of **2-4 virtual meetings** per month, depending on TEW work load
- Participate in an average of **9-10 hours/month** for TEW roles, with an estimated total of 100 hours for the year
- Expect to participate in some combined meetings with TEW and SDOT staff
- To ensure we have fair and equal participation across the TEW, members cannot miss more than **3** TEW meetings annually
- Review materials between meetings and provide comments via email, one-on-one meetings and tele-conferences as needed
- Collaborate alongside TEW members, SDOT and City of Seattle staff to steward the Transportation Equity Framework (TEF)

If an applicant requires language or special needs assistance to serve on the workgroup, accommodations will be available upon request. Please email transportation.equity@seattle.gov or call (206) 530-3260.

