

Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board Meeting Notes

MEETING SUMMARY	<p>Date: Wednesday, July 18, 2018</p> <p>Time: 11:00AM – 1:00PM</p> <p>Location: Seattle Municipal Tower, 40 Floor, Room 4096 700 Fifth Ave, Seattle 98104</p>
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Christina Wong, Dila Perera, Jen Hey, Jim Krieger, Leika Suzumura, Mackenzie Chase, Yolanda Matthews
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Ahmed Ali, Laura Cantrell Flores, Lisa Chen, Seat 8 – Vacant (Public Health Representative)
GUESTS:	Human Services Department: Tara James Office of Sustainability & Environment: Bridget Igoe, Robyn Kumar

DECISIONS MADE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For its supplemental recommendations, the Board unanimously decided to endorse the following activities related to schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For 2018 SBT funds: Provide fresh fruit and vegetable snacks program at schools, including summer and afterschool programs. For 2019 SBT funds: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide fresh fruit and vegetable snacks program at schools, including summer and afterschool programs. b. Provide a per-meal incentive to increase local procurement and/or increase the variety and/or quantity of fruits and vegetables in meals. Explore opportunities to target the incentive by working with schools with high participation in FRLP Title 1 schools/schools with high participation in free or reduced-price school lunch and focusing on breakfast. 2. For its supplemental recommendations, the Board unanimously decided to endorse expanding Fresh Bucks programming to additional neighborhood grocers or year-round produce stands, health clinics and community centers, and supermarkets.
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FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS			
#	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TARGET DATE
1	Write final draft of supplemental recommendations on process for granting SBT funds to CBOs and the role of the Board	RFP Work Group	8/15/2018
2	Write final draft of supplemental recommendations on healthy food incentives and schools	Executive Committee	8/15/2018

Meeting Notes

Jim Krieger, Co-Chair, facilitated the meeting

Welcome and Introductions

Board members introduced themselves by sharing their names and organizations. City staff introduced themselves by sharing their names and departments.

Public Comment

None

Updates

- PA – State’s Supreme Court upheld the Philadelphia sugary drinks tax; though there is still a threat of preemption
- CA – In a last minute backdoor deal with industry, CA state legislature passed a preemption bill banning sugary drink taxes for the next 12 years.
- WA/OR – There will be preemption initiatives on the states’ ballots in the fall. In WA, the opposition is being organized by Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition, but with very limited resources. COPC is working on the Cons statement for the voter for the pamphlet. The campaign in favor of statewide preemption has launched in WA and features a video of a Spokane resident talking about how food is expensive/should not be taxed.
- WA Department of Health (DOH) is pursuing a decision package (DP) that would propose \$1.7M in state funds to sustain healthy food incentive programs currently supported by USDA FINI grant, which expires in 2020. The DP would also restore cuts to the Farmers Market Nutrition Program for WIC recipients. Another DOH DP would propose \$1.8M for breastfeeding peer support. DPs are due to the Governor on Sept 12.
- L. Suzumura is planning to follow-up with stakeholders in the community to share results from the Board’s community input survey and they were used to develop the Board’s budget recommendations.

RFP Work Group Report and Discussion

The RFP Work Group provided a document outlining key topics for the Board to consider as it develops additional recommendations on the process for granting Sweetened Beverage Tax funds to community-based organizations.

Responding to the document provided, these were the key points from the discussion:

- Size, scope and duration of grants:
 - Agreement to recommend using a mix of grant sizes to attract a range of applicants
 - Recommend using two pools or tiers of grant sizes (for example small grants might be \$25k-\$50k, larger grants might be \$50k-\$100k)
 - Specific funding amounts for the grant pools TBD, after the Board can collect additional feedback from CBOs
 - Funding should be for two years
- Contracts, method of payment:
 - Due to cash flow, small organizations may need funding upfront to do the work (rather than reimbursement as method of payment)

- Foundational principles should be very specific about prioritizing communities most impacted by health disparities and inequities (see if repeating the Board’s budget principles sufficiently addresses this)
- Application process
 - Budget templates should be simple, or let organizations use their own
 - Application should be maximum 3 pages
- Grantee workshops should be maximum 1-2 times per year and should be responsive to grantees’ interests
- Racial equity training should be required for all grantees
- Selection panel
 - Use language from ordinance in the description of eligible community members (i.e. people who live, work, provide services in City of Seattle)
- Total dollar amount for RFP
 - Cut this section – Board doesn’t have enough information at this point to develop a recommendation
 - One Board member stated strong preference that the maximum dollar amount go out through an RFP, rather than through direct allocation to institutions that run some of the high priority activities (e.g. Office of Sustainability & Environment and Seattle Public Schools).
- Eligible/priority applicants
 - Organizations led by people of color and serving communities of color and/or low-income communities should be given higher priority
 - Organizations that include youth in program design, delivery and leadership should be given higher priority
- Board will revisit the topic of whether organizations that have never benefitted from a City grant should be given higher priority (what might be the unintentional consequences of implementing this recommendation?)
- Recommendations should spell out that investments/grant decisions should balance projects that can produce quick wins and projects that need capacity building

The RFP Work Group will aim to draft final recommendations for Board review by August 15.

Supplemental recommendations for healthy food incentives and schools

The Board reviewed and discussed two cost memos provided on June 6, 2018, one from the Office of Sustainability & Environment (OSE) and the other from OSE in collaboration with Seattle Public Schools (SPS). The purpose of the discussion was to identify which of the Fresh Bucks and Farm to School activities featured in the documents the Board would recommend.

Schools

Key points from the discussion on the schools memo:

- Concerns that scratch cooking in SPS would not be feasible with SBT funds since this would require major infrastructure changes and there may be labor restrictions.
- School garden/nutrition education mini-grant program:
 - Support for this, if the program was low barrier
 - Recognition that this activity was not in perfect alignment with the Board’s recommendations under healthy food and beverage access focus area. A school

garden/nutrition education mini-grant program would align with the Board's community-based activities focus area.

- Fresh fruit and vegetable snacks program at schools:
 - Support for this—and may be easier to bring to scale than other activities
 - Include elementary and secondary schools
 - Include summer and afterschool programs
- Per-meal incentive to increase local procurement and/or increase the variety and/or quantity of fruits and vegetables in meals:
 - Support for this—benefits the farmers and may be most feasible since it the intervention is on the procurement side
 - Opportunity to target this by (1) working with low-income schools/Title 1 schools/schools with high participation in free or reduced-price school lunch, (2) focusing on breakfast, rather than lunch
 - Include summer and afterschool programs

Using fist to five to test for agreement, the Board unanimously endorsed the following activities from the Farm to School memo:

For 2018 SBT funds: Provide fresh fruit and vegetable snacks program at schools, including summer and afterschool programs.

For 2019 SBT funds:

- a. Provide fresh fruit and vegetable snacks program at schools, including summer and afterschool programs.
- b. Provide a per-meal incentive to increase local procurement and/or increase the variety and/or quantity of fruits and vegetables in meals. Explore opportunities to target the incentive by working with schools with high participation in FRLP Title 1 schools/schools with high participation in free or reduced-price school lunch and focusing on breakfast.

Healthy food incentives

Robyn Kumar, Fresh Bucks Program Manager, answered clarifying questions about the activities featured in the memo.

Key points from the discussion on the Fresh Bucks memo:

- Expanding Fresh Bucks to additional neighborhood grocers or year-round produce stands
 - Support for this activity
 - Interest in a scaled-down version of this activity in 2018 (when set-aside funds are limited, and to focus on capacity building for new retailers) and full scale in 2019
- Expanding Fresh Bucks into supermarkets
 - Support for this activity
 - Interest in providing a direct subsidize instead of an incentive based on a minimum purchase
 - Interest in a scaled-down version of this activity in 2018 (when set-aside funds are limited) and full scale in 2019
- Expanding Fresh Bucks Rx to additional health clinics or community centers
 - Support for this activity
 - Interest in endorsing the activity under the Board's support for people with obesity and diabetes focus area. R. Kumar mentioned that doing so might exclude Rx programming offered in partnership with community centers (i.e. "lay prescribers")

Using fist to five to test for agreement, the Board unanimously endorsed all three activities from the Fresh Bucks memo, i.e., expanding Fresh Bucks to additional neighborhood grocers or year-round produce stands; expanding Fresh Bucks to additional health clinics and community centers; and expanding Fresh Bucks into supermarkets.

The Executive Committee will aim to draft final recommendations for Board review by August 15.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.