GREEN NEW
DEAL
OVERSIGHT
BOARD PUBLIC
MEETING

MAY 20, 2024

# FREE RACIAL EQUITY TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

As part of the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative, we are bringing together community members who serve on boards and commissions for a free training on racial equity principles and practices. This is a pilot project being offered to board and commission members within the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) and the Office of Sustainability & Environment (OSE).

- Training 1: May 21 (Tues) and 22 (Wed), 9:00AM 1:30PM
- Training 2: June 25 (Tues) and 27 (Thu) 9:00AM 1:30PM
- Training 3: September 10 (Tues) and September 24 (Tues) 12PM 4:30PM
- Training 4 (virtual): December 3 (Tues) and December 16 (Mon) 2:00PM 6:30PM

\*Please plan to attend both days of training.

Questions? To register contact Danielle Friedman <u>Danielle.friedman@seattle.gov</u>.

### **COMMUNITY OPPURTUNITIES FOR FUNDING AND INVOLVEMENT**

- OSE staff are periodically sending out information about funding and community involvement opportunities.
- Let Elise know if you'd like to be on the listserv for those announcements

### PROCESS FOR 2024 BOARD STIPENDS



### **Important Notes:**

- Send paperwork to Elise.
- Stipends are meant for Board members who are not otherwise paid for the time and expertise they are contributing to the Board.
- Invoices are processed on a rolling basis in the months of June and December.
- Board members can opt to get a mailed check in lieu of a direct deposit option.

# OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK PRIOR TO 6/4:

- SURVEY
- ATTENDING PPP COMMITTEE MEETING
- I:I WITH BOARD MEMBER OR STAFF

# JUNE 4, 5-6:30PM SPECIAL SESSION TO VOTE ON BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

### WE'RE ON A BREAK

**RETURNING AT 6:16** 

### TIMELINE FOR BUDGET RECOMMENDATION DEVELOPMENT

**A**pril

• PPP Committee Recommendation refinement

May 8

• Complete list of recommendations

May 8-23 Solicit feedback from City Depts, Board members, & community partners

Late May

- PPP Committee to refine recommendations
- PPP Committee may request additional guidance from SMEs

Early June

- Board vote on recommendations on June 4
- Transmit recommendations by June 7

### Pillar:

Craft a problem statement, tell your story, make a case for the GND pillars

### **GND Pillars**

- •Eliminate pollution
- ·Low-carbon, equitable economy
- •Healthy, resilient communities

### **Budget Recommendation** Framework

The What

### Theme:

Workforce development: jobs

decarbonization

• Economic development: creating a new market sector

·Climate resilience: protecting our city from heat, smoke, etc. • Environmental Justice: pollution elimination & redressing harm

•Leveraging federal & state dollars for green/clean infrastructure: green power &

State a clear investment

•These are the recommendations you're in the process of brainstorming now

solve the problem?

Provide a broad solution

Get more specific...

The Where, Who, When & more of the What

### **Important Notes:**

- This isn't a linear process. For example, you may jump from a specific recommendation, to a pillar, and down to an intervention.
- You may find that you only need to state your pillars/tell your story once or at select points in your recommendations.
- Not every rec needs to align directly to one pillar; many recs may align with multiple pillars.
- The PPP Comm may use the Criteria for GNDOB budget recommendations later in the process to refine promising recs.

### **Specific** recommendation:

Get even more specific...

The How

### Intervention or mechanism:

Current DRAFT themes/priorities (PPP Comm/Board to continue to refine)

Identify best path(s) to achieve the solution.

- Capital project
- Maintain funding
- Study
- •Etc...

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# Green New Deal Oversight Board Budget Proposal Survey - 2025-2026

The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback regarding the draft GND Oversight Board Budget recommendations for the 2025-2026 City of Seattle Budget.

### **SURVEY CLOSES ON COB 5/23**

### **DRAFT THEMES**

- Workforce Development
- Economic Development
- Climate Resilience
- Environmental Justice
- Leveraging Federal & State Dollars For Clean/Green Infrastructure
- Residential Building Decarbonization & Anti-displacement

### DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: BEPS FOR SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

**Theme**: climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy

**Recommendation:** Focus a section of the existing Clean Building Accelerator program on Seattle Housing Authority. Transition SHA properties off fossil fuels and upgrade for climate resilience by installing heat pumps for every unit, which in addition to running on City Light's clean electricity also provide cooling during heat waves, clean air during wildfire smoke and year-round more affordable energy bills. Do this work under the City's existing Community Workforce Agreement to create good green union jobs that benefit local communities.

**Intervention:** Create and fund a plan to do this work at all SHA properties in the next 6 years (by 2030 - the target set in Seattle's 2019 Green New Deal resolution). Include culturally relevant outreach to SHA tenants.

### **DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: TREE CANOPY & GREEN JOBS**

**Theme:** climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development

**Recommendation:** Trees have a huge role to play in Seattle's Green New Deal future: they provide clean air, sequester climate pollution and help protect our communities from climate chaos. But Seattle's tree canopy is disappearing, disproportionately so in BIPOC and low-income communities which have less tree coverage to begin with. Investing in Seattle's tree canopy is an opportunity for environmental justice, climate action and to create green jobs pathways.

**Intervention:** A study that investigates the potential for long-term job creation, climate mitigation and climate resilience by expanding and maintaining Seattle's tree canopy.

### **DRAFT RECOMMENDATION:** HEAT WAVES & HEAT PUMPS

**Theme:** climate resilience, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy, environmental justice, workforce development

**Recommendation:** Extreme heat events can be deadly; the 2021 heat dome <u>killed over 400 Washingtonians</u> and <u>sent thousands more to emergency rooms</u>. Yet heat-related illnesses and deaths are largely preventable: ensuring people have access to cooling is a critical and cost-saving intervention where local governments can lead. The City should get cooling and clean air capacity into residents' homes before the next heat dome so that no one ends up in the emergency room or loses their life because we weren't prepared.

**Intervention:** A study which investigates how the City can install electric, energy efficient heating & cooling systems into every Seattle household as a critical and urgent public health intervention

# DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: HEALTHY SUSTAINABLE HOMES PROGRAM

**Theme:** Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Anti-Displacement, leveraging fed and state dollars

**Recommendation:** Partner with CBOs on a community-based intervention with community sustainability ambassadors that reaches diverse low-income communities through community engagement and provides navigation services coordinating home related services – weatherization, electrification, water conservation, public health, tree planting, emergency preparedness, etc. Program aims engage residents by addressing immediate health and maintenance concerns in their homes while delivering other environmental programs. Seattle needs a plan to reach ALL low-income residents with these services.

Intervention: Create a pilot and support a few implementations in diverse communities.

### **DRAFT RECOMMENDATION:** ELECTRIFY SEATTLE

Theme: Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Pollution Reduction

**Recommendation:** Begin a public information, coordination, and incentive program to put all single-family homes in Seattle on a time-bound path to convert all heating, water heating and cooking from fossil fuels to electric.

**Intervention:** Support the creation and roll out of an expanded heat pump program (Clean Heat) and add a heat pump hot water program to it. Request a comprehensive plan from OSE for complete residential electrification with a timeline.

### **DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: WMBE SUPPORT PROGRAM**

Theme: Workforce, Minority Contracting

**Recommendation:** Provide training, support and leases or grants for equipment for women and minority owned businesses to prepare them to serve the residents of Seattle with weatherization, heat pumps, and other decarbonization services utilizing state, federal and utility funding.

**Intervention:** Fund a pilot program to provide these services.

# DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: CONTINUED FUNDING FOR EXISTING GND INITIATIVES

**Theme:** Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Anti-Displacement, leveraging fed and state dollars, Economic Development

**Recommendation:** Climate justice is a cross-cutting issue that advances community safety and racial, environmental, housing, and economic justice for the people of Seattle. Seattle is a climate leader because of the investments made in community-oriented climate solutions. As such, maintain all funding for the Office of Sustainability and Environment's budget and staffing as well as existing Green New Deal initiatives.

**Intervention:** Continue funding and staffing for:

- Clean Heat
- Clean Buildings Accelerator
- Resilience Hubs
- Environmental Justice Fund
- Etc.

### DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: RESTRICT USE OF PAYROLL EXPENSE TAX DOLLARS FOR ITS CURRENTLY LEGISLATED ALLOCATIONS

**Theme:** Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Anti-Displacement, leveraging fed and state dollars, Economic Development

Recommendation: Payroll Expense Tax (PET) dollars fund initiatives that support public safety, economic development, affordable housing, climate justice, and anti-displacement measures. PET is the first revenue source that funds community-led solutions that advance equity, reduce pollution, and take steps toward ensuring community resiliency in the face of climate change. Furthermore, PET revenue provides mechanisms for various City Departments to work collaboratively with one another and community partners to tackle root causes of the issues matter most to Seattle's communities and voters. Maintaining this funding for its intended purposes, even amid a budget shortfall, supports reaching our City's climate goals through investing in frontline communities. The GND Board will continue to advocate for the City staying focused on the climate crisis, which if not prioritized, will exacerbate other racial, economic, housing, health, and environmental crises.

Intervention: Refrain from covering budget deficits by re-allocating Payroll Expense Tax dollars. Continue to invest in Payroll Expense Tax initiatives. Maintain the intended allocations for the PET Revenue, including the 9% allocation for Green New Deal implementation. The GND Board also supports the other legislated allocations for the PET revenue which include 62% for housing, 15% for small businesses, and 9% for the Equitable Development Initiative. While the GND has access to 9% of the revenue, the other allocations also support reaching our City's climate goals through investing in frontline communities.

# DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: UPGRADE LIBRARIES & COMMUNITY CENTERS TO BE CLIMATE RESILIENCE HUBS

**Theme:** climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy

**Recommendation:** With heat waves and wildfire smoke becoming our new summer normal, Seattle residents need safe, accessible public places where they can go to stay healthy through heat and smoke. The good news is, when we transition our buildings off fossil fuels - switching from gas furnaces and boilers to heat pumps, and upgrading building HVAC - we also get clean air and cooling capacity. It's a win for the planet, for healthy communities and for good green jobs.

With the 2022 Parks Levy's commitment to upgrade half of Seattle's community centers for clean energy and climate resilience, and two upgraded libraries reopening this year, Seattle is already on the way. But our communities need clean air and cooling this summer, not a decade from now. The City should fund clean energy and climate resilience upgrades for all remaining community centers and libraries, to be completed in the next X years. This would also help us meet the BEPS legislation mandate for transitioning all municipal buildings off fossil fuels by 2035.

**Intervention:** Upgrade Seattle's libraries and community centers for clean energy and climate resilience: 1) transition gas boilers to heat pumps, which provide cooling as well as heating and 2) upgrade the HVAC systems for air filtration.

# DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND LAND RESTORATION

Themes: climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development

**Recommendation:** Seattle's Thornton Creek restoration is a climate resilience success story. Thornton Creek and its 11.6sq mi urban watershed are on the ancestral lands of the Muckleshoot and Duwamish peoples, and ceded Muckleshoot territory. Today, the Muckleshoot Tribe co-manages fisheries throughout the watershed.

Once a heavily polluted waterway that dangerously flooded at least once a year, Thornton Creek is now a thriving local ecosystem. Daylighting the creek has restored the health of the waterway, reduced stormwater runoff, helped mitigate heat waves and provided much-loved greenspace for the local community. Notably, the creek hasn't flooded since restoration in 2015, despite multiple major storms; and in 2018, endangered Chinook salmon returned to spawn for the first time in twenty years. Local community members are now working with the Muckleshoot and Duwamish Tribes to re-name the natural area with a Lushootseed name, recognizing its historical, cultural and ecological significance, and the Indigenous peoples past and present who have cared for the land we all call home.

Seattle should build on the Thornton Creek model and scope citywide restoration projects that can help us manage the impacts of climate change while building healthy environments, community resilience and good green jobs. This work should be done in partnership with local Tribes, so that ecosystem repair is interwoven with cultural preservation, Traditional Ecological Knowledge and healing from Seattle's colonial history.

**Intervention:** A Seattle Public Utilities study which identifies paved-over streams, wetlands, sacred sites and traditional harvesting areas in Seattle which could be daylighted and restored for Indigenous cultural preservation, and to mitigate heat waves, manage urban flooding, reduce water pollution and support salmon recovery.

### DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: REVOLVING LOAN TO LEVERAGE IRA DIRECT PAY – CLEAN ENERGY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

**Theme:** climate resilience, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy, environmental justice, workforce development

**Recommendation:** The 2022 federal Inflation Reduction Act includes Direct Pay tax credits that have the potential to bring nearly unlimited funding for clean energy projects into the communities who need them most. The City of Seattle is uniquely positioned to help non-profit affordable housing providers leverage these funds by setting up a revolving loan fund for green energy projects that qualify for direct pay. This upfront financing can be covered after project completion by direct pay, replenishing the loan fund for future projects. This will help affordable housing providers comply with the BEPS policy and specific requirement to transition off fossil fuels by 2045, while equitably ensuring that these low-income households aren't waiting 20 years to stay healthy through heat and smoke.

**Intervention:** Set up a municipal Revolving Loan Fund to provide grants to non-profit affordable housing providers to comply with the BEPS policy on an accelerated timeline.

# DRAFT RECOMMENDATION: CITYWIDE ROOFTOP SOLAR FOR ALL

Theme: climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy

**Recommendation:** Possible ways to frame:

- City Light already planning for VPP
- Lots of federal/state money for solar
- Regular droughts putting pressure on hydro, and at the same time energy needs are anticipated to go up as we electrify everything.
   Way to generate more clean energy while increasing resilience of our energy system.
- Disaster preparedness, i.e. wildfires knock out transmission lines but we have local capacity to generate energy all over the city
- Upfront costs for solar can be prohibitive and if it's only up to residents to opt-in, we will see slow adoption. This is a way to get more solar on more rooftops this decade.

**Intervention:** Scope a policy that would enable City Light to rent rooftop space for solar panel arrays from municipal governments, commercial property owners and residents. In this policy, the installation, operation and maintenance work would be done by City Light.

### DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

- Workforce Development
- BEPS Implementation Accelerator
- Community building/programming/events centered around healthy foods, relationships with the land, and cross-cultural communications