# Transportation Equity Program - Briefing September 2020 Update



9/10/2020 Seattle Department of Transportation

# **Quick history of TE in SDOT**

- Started in 2017 within Transit & Mobility
- Affordability programming
  - Low-income Access to Transit
- Strategy Work
  - Council Resolution 31773 passed in January 2018
  - Transportation Equity Workgroup
  - Transportation Equity Agenda
  - Intradepartmental Transportation Equity (IDT) Team
- January 2020 Transition of the Transportation Equity Workgroup & Agenda to Office of Equity & Economic Inclusion (OEEI)



## Transportation Equity Workgroup (TEW)

- 1+ year long process of building trust & relationship with communities of color
- 10 compensated community members with personal and professional affiliations with Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities
- Tasked to co-develop and provide community guided recommendations for SDOT's Transportation Equity Agenda (first-ever)



# Equity topics identified by TEW

- Community Engagement
- Transparency and Decision-Making
- Mobility and Transportation Options
- Infrastructure, Planning and Maintenance
- Land Use, Housing and Displacement
- Economic Development
- Safety
- Transit Access
- \* COVID-19 Intersection of Public Health & Transportation

### Transportation Equity Workgroup Members Equity Areas of Interests & Concerns in the Community

Below are transportation equity topics workgroup members indicated seeing in the community. Feel free to use your post-it notes to add any topics you think are missing.



# **Transportation Equity Workgroup Timeline & Process**



#### January – March 2019:

Application and recruitment of Transportation Equity Workgroup Members



#### April 5, 2019:

Transportation Equity Workgroup (TEW) Orientation at El Centro de La Raza.



#### April 29, 2019:

**Professional Development** Summit #1 for Transportation Equity Workgroup at Centilia Cultural Center.



#### May 13, 2019:

**Professional Development** Summit #2 for **Transportation Equity** Workgroup at Centilia Cultural Center.



**TEW** members reviewed the identified equity areas of concerns and voted on creating subcommittees.





July 8, 2019: **Community Engagement** and Participation/ Transparency & **Decision-Making** 

Subcommittee led discussion at TEW monthly meeting.

#### August 12, 2019:

Transit Access Subcommittee members led an activity to co-create equity recommendations and strategies with the TEW.



September 9, 2019: Mobility & Transportation Access, Infrastructure/ Planning & Maintenance Subcommittee led monthly workgroup discussion. congestion pricing and equitable access to parking was a big topic of discussion.



## October 14, 2019:

Land Use/Housing/ **Displacement and** Economic Development Subcommittee developed an activity for the TEW where members created their own equitable development.

#### November 4, 2019:

Safety Subcommittee members led a discussion on key topics related to safety including safe crossing, speeding and safety on transit.



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#### December 9, 2019:

TEW members workshop draft principal and value statements building from equity topics of discussion from the past six months.



#### February 10, 2020: TEW voted and passed value statements on equity topics

#### 2020:

**Transportation Equity** Agenda Development



## Transportation Equity - 2020 TE Agenda Workplan Timeline\*







Implementation

**Co-development** process with:

- **SDOT IDT**
- Division **Directors**
- **SDOT** staff
- **Change Team** (alignment on workplan)
- TEW
- **Other City +** County partners

# **Transportation Equity & Anti-Racist Work**

"I understand some of you are already doing this work; thank you for your labour. However, we need a more concerted and coordinated effort. With a collaborative approach and commitment to pushing past the discomfort of race-related conversations, I believe we can move beyond polite platitudes and guilt to boldly chart a course forward. I'm calling on all of us to help do this work, which is at once personal and systemic. I'm calling on all of us to embrace the spirit of humility and curiosity to learn more about the history of anti-Black racism and urbanism. I'm calling on all of us to not only speak out against anti-Black racism and all forms of urban inequities but also to have the courage to address these issues"

- Jay Pitter from A Call to Courage, Open Letter to Canadian Urbanists





# Opportunities

- Transportation equity is <u>everyone's</u> work in SDOT
  - Rooted in RSJI and anti-racist practices
- Division Directors stay engaged via Transportation Equity IDT group
- Aligning COVID-19 recovery and connection with TEW's recommendations
- Re-evaluating and re-imagining enforcement in right-of-way
- Continue to engage and build authentic, intentional relationship between SDOT and BIPOC communities
- Connecting TEW values and recommendations in Transportation Equity Agenda back to SDOT equity metrics and division's work





# **Q&A + Thank you!**

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  - To learn more about the Transportation Equity Workgroup: <u>http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-</u> programs/programs/transportation-equity-program/equity-workgroup

