# Strategic Business Plan 2021-2026

Customer Research + Outreach Approach



**Seattle Public Utilities** 

#### Principled Approach

- 1. Start with what we know, we/others have asked.
- 2. Demonstrate listening and connection to action/follow-up.
- Fill critical knowledge gaps in thoughtful, value-added way with attention to equity.

#### **Major Elements, Timeline, Action**

Research and Outreach Element	Timeline	Action
1. Customer Review Panel Engagement	Oct-June 2020	<ul><li>Shape plan</li><li>Letter</li></ul>
<ul> <li>2. "Voice of the Customer" (VOC) Inventories</li> <li>Residential</li> <li>Business</li> <li>Employee</li> </ul>	Oct-Nov 2019	<ul> <li>Establish consolidated baseline</li> <li>Identify critical knowledge gaps to address</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>2a. VOC Gap #1 – Businesses (include small, equity)</li> <li>Part 1 - Influencer Interviews (25)</li> <li>Part 2 - TBD, possible focus groups</li> </ul>	Phase 1: Oct-Nov 2019 Phase 2: Dec-Mar 2019	<ul> <li>Identify values, concerns, partnering</li> <li>Shape plan</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>2b. VOC Gap #2 – Employees</li> <li>Work Culture Listening Sessions (include pre-survey)</li> </ul>	Nov-Mar 2020	<ul><li>Identify values, concerns</li><li>Shape plans and actions</li></ul>
<b>2c. Other VOC Gaps – TBD,</b> Grass Top Community Advocates	Thru Mar 2020	<ul><li>Identify values, concerns</li><li>Shape plans and actions</li></ul>
3. SPU Refresh - Identity + Messaging	Phase 1: Dec-June 2020	<ul> <li>Refresh SPU vision, mission, values, goals, look and feel</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>SBP Community Outreach (include equity)</li> <li>Field where people already are</li> <li>Language appropriate</li> <li>5 Key Questions</li> </ul>	Design: Oct-Dec 2019 Outreach: Jan-Mar 2020	<ul> <li>Identify values, concerns, partnering</li> <li>Shape plan</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>5. Draft SBP Plan Comment Period (online survey)</li> <li>Community</li> <li>Employees</li> </ul>	May 2020	Incorporate into plan/actions
6. Public Hearing Notification (online/mailer)	Fall 2020	Awareness
7. Elected Review	<u>Mayor:</u> June 2020 <u>Council:</u> Fall 2020	Recommend and adopt plan

### **Detail: VOC Gap #1 - Businesses**

#### Phase 1: (Nov 2019)

- 25 Influencer Interviews
- Example questions
  - What's most important to you about services SPU provides?
  - Areas for service improvement?
  - Seattle's biggest water and waste challenges?
  - Ways to work together/partner to address challenges?
- Assessment

<u>Phase 2:</u> (Nov-Mar 2020)

TBD, possible Focus Groups

**Apartment Building Owner Business Association/Group Business Associations/Group, South Seattle Business Improvement Area (BIA) Business Owners and Management** Developer, large **Developer**, low income **Developer**, small **Development**, green **Ethnic Chamber of Commerce Coalition** Food Industry **Hospital/Medical Facility** Hotel, Tourism Innovation Advisory Council Member (IAC) International Business Landscaping/environmental business Low Income Shelter **Major Institution** Manufacturing/Industry Council **Restaurant**, chain **Restaurant. small** Retail **Small Business Advisory Council Member Small Business, MBE Transportation Unions, Trades** 



### **Detail: SBP Community Outreach**

#### Design: (Oct-Dec 2019)

- Visual Service Awareness Do you know that SPU...?
- Five Key Questions\*\* (\*\*= CRP input)
- Translation
- Track and code responses for follow-up action
- Evaluate continued presence possibilities

#### Outreach: (Jan-Mar 2020)

- Go to places where people already are fairs, markets, grocery, community centers, meetings, DON activities...
- Use DON community liaisons, community groups
- Focus on general and target communities, *attention* to customer voice and service satisfaction gaps
- Invite responses online too and post where we will be/when





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### **Outreach Comparison**

2018-2023 Plan	2021-2026 Plan
1. <u>Customer Review Panel</u>	1. <u><b>Customer Review Panel</b></u>
(Sept 2016 to May 2017)	(ongoing, SBP Oct 2019 to June 2020)
2. <u>Customer Focus Groups</u>	2. Voice of Customer (VOC) Inventories/Gap Research
(6 in June 2016)	(Oct 2019 – March 2020)
N/A	3. <u>SPU Refresh – Identity and Messaging</u> (Dec 2019 – June 2020)
3. <u>Community Partner Outreach Meetings</u>	4. <u>SBP Community Outreach</u>
(7 in hard to reach communities, Jan-Feb 2017)	(in community, target hard to reach, Jan-March 2020)
4. <u>Employee + Customer Survey</u>	5. <u>SBP Draft Plan Comment Period Employee + Customer</u>
(online, Jan-Feb 2017)	(online, May)
5. Public Hearing Notification	6. Public Hearing Notification
(online, mailer, Fall 2017)	(online, mailer, Fall 2020)



## Your Thoughts?



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