



Equity and Social Justice Credits

December 4, 2017

Equity and Social Justice Credit Guidelines

These credits identify and account for equity and social justice practices and outcomes throughout the capital project development lifecycle. They recognize project team efforts to advance process, distributional, and cross-generational equity. Initiatives and practices in this section support implementation of King County Equity and Social Justice Policy and Strategic Plan. This section describes the 9 Equity and Social Justice actions that are worth up to 26 credits.

ESJ Credit 1. Develop a project-specific ESJ plan (2 points)

- 1) Develop a project-specific ESJ plan** – based on assessment of ESJ conditions and info gathered on priorities of stakeholders and existing and/or potential users (*project-specific ESJ plan or substantive ESJ guidance is included in project charter– up to 2 pts*)

Intent

That each capital project team is guided by explicit, context-sensitive, transparent, and accountable objectives for equity and social justice characteristics and outcomes through the project development lifecycle.

Requirements

Publicly accessible documentation of equity and social justice objectives that are calibrated to the project scope, sensitive to project context, and clear about the process, distributional, and/or cross-generational equity intent.

- ESJ Credit 1.1 – Project-specific ESJ Plan includes strategies to address at least 3 ESJ determinants or at least 3 ESJ credits
- ESJ Credit 1.2 – Project-specific ESJ Plan includes strategies to address at least 6 ESJ determinants or at least 6 ESJ credits

Implementation Examples

- South Park Bridge
- Georgetown CSO
- Transit Battery Bus Route Operations
- Parks Maintenance Facility

Implementation Resources

- [Building Equity and Opportunity Infographic with Determinants of Equity](#)
- PSB ESJ Business Planning Guide
- Bay Area Water Sewer District San Francisco Water Utility

ESJ Credit 2. Stakeholder partnering and collaboration (2 points)

2) Stakeholder partnering and collaboration – Priority-population active participation in siting, design and/or programming, via community organization partnerships, multi-faceted outreach, and approaches to pro-equity involvement, and/or participatory budgeting. *(Substantive priority and/or non-traditional perspectives included – up to 2 pts)*

Intent

That the voices, perspectives, and interests that are considered, heard, attended to, and partnered with throughout the project life-cycle are beyond the norm, and include historically or currently marginalized stakeholders.

Requirements

Formal documentation or non-formal memorializing of partnering and collaborative activity that demonstrates the above and beyond efforts to enlist, engage, and collaborate with non-traditional stakeholders.

- ESJ credit 2.1 – Project practices and implements level of engagement at “County informs”, “County consults” and “County engages in dialogue” levels.
- ESJ credit 2.2 – Project practices and implements level of engagement at “County and Community work together” and “Community directs action” levels.

Implementation Examples

- Meridian Center for Health, Neighborcare Health, Public Health Seattle King County, Facilities Management Division, NBBJ, City of Seattle. Resulted in expanded services for under insured residents and lowered construction costs.
- South Park Bridge, Road Services Division, Environmental Coalition of South Seattle, Historic Preservation Program, 4Culture
- Bethaday Community Learning Center, Technical Access Foundation, Parks and Recreation Division, White Center CDA
- Riverbend Levee Setback and Floodplain Restoration Projects, WLRD, Muckleshoot Tribe, neighborhood residents, recreational users, City of Renton
- Northgate TOD RFP

Implementation Resources

- [Community Engagement Guide](#)

ESJ Credit 3. Assemble exemplary diversity in project and design teams (2 points)

- 3) Assemble exemplary diversity in project and design teams** that guide pro-equity development and build capacity among priority populations, consultants, and in-house staff (*non-traditional perspectives included –up to 2 pts*)

Intent

That the composition of the project and design teams account for economic justice intent and include diverse perspectives and life experiences to inform development approaches that are pro-equity in approach and affect.

Requirements

Document or demonstrate that consultants and in-house team members involved in the design and development processes transcend mainstream perspectives and experiences through gender, racial, and other diversities.

- ESJ credit 3.1 – Including ESJ expertise or partnership on project team
- ESJ credit 3.2 – Allowing ESJ stakeholder to have decision making role in project development

Implementation Examples

- Northgate TOD RFP
- ZE/LBC project RFPs
- Project examples with internal KC project staff diversity
- Hope VI projects – Seattle Yesler Redevelopment, Othello Station, Columbia City, Rainier Vista, High Point, KCHA White Center Greenbridge Seola Gardens

Implementation Resources

- RFP language

ESJ Credit 4. Conduct equity impact review processes (2 points)

- 4) Conduct equity impact review processes** – to inform likely equity and social justice effects of siting, design and/or construction alternatives (*EIR is public and accessible – up to 2 pts*)

Intent

That equity impacts of project siting, design, and development alternatives are rigorously and holistically considered and advanced throughout the project lifecycle, using a standard, replicable, comparable process established by the King County Equity Impact Review process.

Requirements

Document at least the first 3 steps of the EIR process –

- ESJ credit 4.1 – Scope to identify who will be affected, 2) assess equity and community context, 3) conduct equity analysis that feeds into the decision process (for siting, design, and/or construction approaches)
- ESJ credit 4.2 – Use information from EIR to make pro-equity project decisions

Implementation Examples

- Solid Waste Division South County Recycling and Transfer Station Siting EIR
- Parks Regional Trails Network Capital Budget EIR
- Battery Bus Infrastructure
- Lower Duwamish Clean Up Record EIR

Implementation Resources

- [Review the EIR process](#) and [view examples of using the EIR tool](#).
- [Building Equity and Opportunity Infographic with Determinants of Equity](#)

ESJ Credit 5. Site, design, and construct to counter known disparities in conditions (4 points)

5) Site, design, and construct to counter known disparities in

conditions – enhance access to determinants through project characteristics and development model (*demonstration of pro-equity effect – up to 4 pts*)

Intent

That siting, design and construction approaches are actively pro-equity in their affect, such that identified disparities, inequities, and gaps in determinants of equity are remediated/corrected by development approaches in siting, design, and construction.

Requirements

Document or demonstrate that project planning, siting, design, and/or construction occurred via an approach that countered, remediated, and/or corrected inequities in community conditions, health outcomes, or related determinants.

- ESJ Credit 5.1 – Document or demonstrate 2 efforts
- ESJ Credit 5.2 – Document or demonstrate 4 efforts
- ESJ Credit 5.3 – Document or demonstrate 6 efforts
- ESJ Credit 5.4 – Document or demonstrate 8 efforts

Implementation Examples

- South County Recycling and Transfer Station
- 98th Street Pedestrian Connection
- NE Novelty Hill Road
- Georgetown CSO
- South Kirkland Park and Ride
- Battery Bus Corridor Bus Selection

Implementation Resources

- [Building Equity and Opportunity Infographic with Determinants of Equity](#)

ESJ Credit 6. Realize priority elements of project's ESJ plan (4 points)

6) Realize priority elements of project's ESJ plan – including process equity innovations, partnerships, features driven by those with the greatest need (*validate plan accomplishments – up to 4 pts*)

Intent

That the project team is able to manifest and make real the objectives for equity and social justice outcomes that were identified in the project plan.

Requirements

Document or demonstrate that equity and social objectives outlined in the project plan have been accomplished in the how the project was planned, designed, and/or constructed.

- ESJ Credit 6.1 – Document or demonstrate 2 efforts
- ESJ Credit 6.2 – Document or demonstrate 4 efforts
- ESJ Credit 6.3 – Document or demonstrate 6 efforts
- ESJ Credit 6.4 – Document or demonstrate 8 efforts

Implementation Examples

- Sunset Heathfield Pump Stations
- 98th Street Pedestrian Connection
- Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station
- Metro Transit Zone Improvement Program

Implementation Resources

- [Building Equity and Opportunity Infographic with Determinants of Equity](#)

ESJ Credit 7. Advance economic justice (3 point)

7) **Advance economic justice** via Priority Hire, Project Labor Agreement, SCS, SOAW, apprenticeships, and selecting contracts to advance socially just enterprises, and partner with companies and community-based organizations that advance economic justice (*gradient based on % beyond requirements – up to 3 points*)

Intent

To ensure that spending throughout the capital development lifecycle (planning, design, and construction) advances economic justice by employing and building skills and readiness for those who needs for economic engagement are the greatest.

Requirements

Document or demonstrate that required economic justice activities and approaches are exceeded

- ESJ Credit 7.1 – achieves apprenticeship and SCS requirements for planning, design, and construction contracting through priority contracted hires and apprentices (by cost per phase)
- ESJ Credit 7.2 – for sourcing 1-3% above requirements for planning, design, and construction contracting through priority contracted hires and apprentices (by cost per phase)
- ESJ Credit 7.3 -- for sourcing 4-6% above requirements for planning, design, and construction contracting through priority contracted hires and apprentices (by cost per phase)

Implementation Examples

- Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station – Apprenticeship and SCS firms
- Sunset Healthfield Pump Stations – Priority Hire
- Georgetown Wet Weather Station – Priority Hire

Implementation Resources

- [King County Priority Hire Program](#)
- [King County Apprenticeship Program](#)
- [Small Contractors and Suppliers \(SCS\) Directory](#)

ESJ Credit 8. Pro-equity sourcing (3 points)

- 8) Pro-equity sourcing** – select site and building materials, equipment, and systems which have pro-equity upstream and supply chain effects (e.g. local suppliers). *(based on % beyond requirements – up to 3 points)*

Intent

To ensure that sourcing of material, equipment and systems that are integrated into capital projects help realize and advance the equity and social justice intent of King County capital development efforts. Use of Environmental Preferable Purchasing products, third party certified products, building products disclosure and optimization, environmental products declarations, and sourcing a materials.

Requirements

Document or demonstrate that sourcing decisions (for material, equipment, and/or systems) prioritize equity and social justice outcomes upstream through the supply chain.

- ESJ Credit 8.1 – for sourcing 10% of project materials or equip/systems (by cost) through exemplary pro-equity suppliers
- ESJ Credit 8.2 – for sourcing-11-20% of project materials or equip/systems (by cost), through exemplary pro-equity suppliers
- ESJ Credit 8.3 -- for sourcing more than 20% of project materials or equip/systems (by cost), through exemplary pro-equity suppliers

Implementation Examples

- Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station, more than 90% of wood is FSC certified
- Children and Family Justice Center, Red List Free materials in specifications

Implementation Resources

- [King County Environmental Purchasing Program](#)
- [Health Product Declaration® \(HPD\) Collaborative Public Repository database](#)
- [Declare materials and products database](#)
- [Ecomedes database](#)

ESJ Credit 9. Innovation credits (4 points)

9) Innovation credits (*exemplary practices, processes, or outcomes at any phase of the capital project lifecycle – up to 4 points*)

Intent

To advance best and exemplary practice in equitable development by innovating new approaches, techniques, and methods for achieving pro-equity planning, design, and construction.

Requirements

Document or demonstrate novel, innovative, and/or highly successful approach to pro-equity development, preferable in a case study format that fosters replication of proof of concept.

- ESJ Credit 9.1 – Document or demonstrate an innovative strategy that isn't identify in previous credits
- ESJ Credit 9.2 – Document or demonstrate an innovative strategy that isn't identify in previous credits
- ESJ Credit 9.3 – Document or demonstrate an innovative strategy that isn't identify in previous credits
- ESJ Credit 9.4 – Document or demonstrate an innovative strategy that isn't identify in previous credits

Implementation Examples

- Examples to be added in future

Implementation Resources

- Resources to be added in future from new innovative examples