

Seattle's Equitable Development Initiative

What is Equitable Development?

Equitable development is an approach to creating healthy, vibrant communities and includes the investments, programs, and policies that meet the needs of marginalized populations and reduce disparities.

The EDI framework embraces two broad goals with the dual purpose of both preventing displacement and increasing access to opportunity: (1) **strong communities and strong people**, and (2) **great places with equitable access**.

Our vision for an equitable Seattle

Seattle will become a city with people of diverse cultures, races, and incomes. All people will thrive and achieve their full potential regardless of race or means. Seattle's neighborhoods will be diverse and will include the community anchors, supports, goods, and services people need to lead healthy lives and flourish.

Goal 1: Strong Communities and People. Stability and resilience for marginalized people and communities in the face of displacement pressures is an imperative. An intact community in which people are able to have high quality jobs and financial security, culturally appropriate goods, services and support; a strong social network and the acceptance to express their cultures; and transportation system that works for them is critical.



Advance economic mobility and opportunity

Promote economic opportunities for marginalized populations and enhance community anchors. Provide access to quality education, training, and living-wage jobs.



Prevent residential, commercial, and cultural displacement

Enact policies and programs that allow marginalized populations, businesses, and community organizations the ability to stay in their community.



Build on local cultural assets

Respect local community character, cultural diversity, and values. Preserve and strengthen cultural communities.

Goal 2: Great Places with Equitable Access. To achieve a city in which all people thrive and with full equity requires that all neighborhoods are healthy, safe with access to key determinants of well being, and that there is equitable access to all neighborhoods throughout the city.



Promote transportation mobility and connectivity

Prioritize investment in effective and affordable transportation that supports transit-dependent communities.



Develop healthy and safe neighborhoods

Create neighborhoods that enhance community health through access to public amenities, healthy food, and safe environments, for everyone.



Provide equitable access to all neighborhoods

Leverage private development to fill gaps in amenities and expand the supply and variety of housing and employment choices.

How will we achieve our vision?

In partnership with impacted communities and the Seattle Planning Commission, we will establish equity indicators:

1. Short-term measures to provide early warning signs of displacement.
2. Long-term goals to gauge achievement of equitable outcomes.

Interdepartmental collaboration and deep community partnership are necessary to advance systemic change.



How will the Equitable Development Fund help create a more equitable city?

Investment in targeted equity strategies. Includes \$16 Million from City Plaza sale and \$430,000 CDBG for capacity-building. City goal is to leverage these funds to raise matching dollars for an expanded equitable development fund.

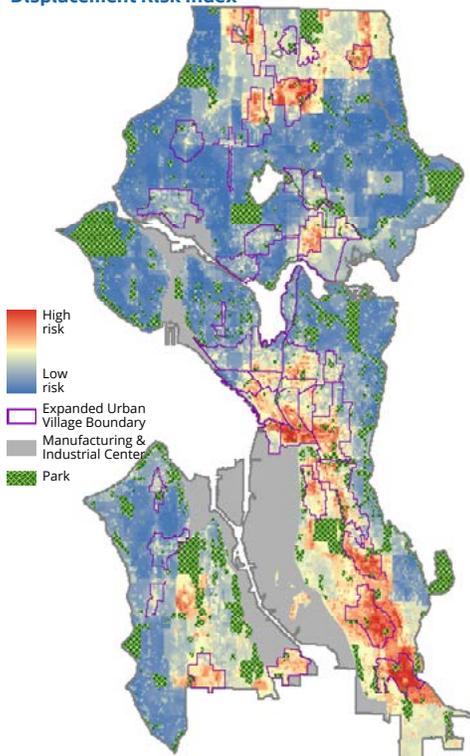
WHY: Investment Thesis – Address historic and market inequities through investing in projects and programs that increase access to opportunity and mitigate displacement.

WHAT: Community-led projects that implement equity strategies, particularly 1 – Advance economic mobility and opportunity; 2 – Prevent residential, commercial, and cultural displacement; 3 – Build on local cultural assets; and 5 – Develop healthy and safe neighborhoods.

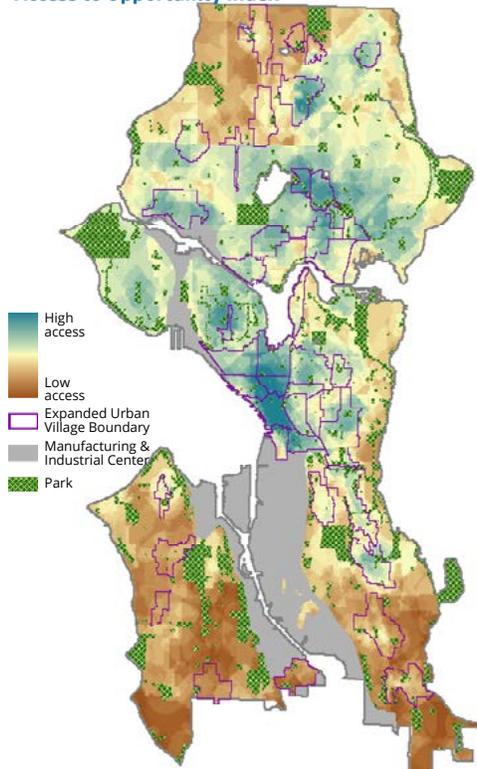
HOW: Equitable Development Fund categories, criteria, and outcomes

- Community Capacity Development – organizational development and neighborhood capacity.
- Project Development – project feasibility, acquisition, tenant/ façade improvements, real estate development.
- Entrepreneurship and Talent Development – Community wealth creation

Displacement Risk Index



Access to Opportunity Index



Areas to focus strategies, programs, policies, and resources

The fund will focus on areas that fall into two categories based on their displacement risk and access to opportunity.

High displacement risk, low access to opportunity

- Displacement risk is high and requires mitigation to ensure new growth benefits marginalized populations.
- Growth can bring new services and amenities and increase access to opportunity.

Representative Areas: Bitter Lake, Othello, Rainier Beach, South Park, Westwood-Highland Park.

Potential Strategies:



High displacement risk, high access to opportunity

- New development could cause displacement if not coupled with public sector investment to stabilize existing communities.
- High demand areas with available amenities and opportunities.

Representative Areas: Chinatown/ International District, Columbia City, First Hill-Capitol Hill, Lake City, North Beacon Hill, Northgate, North Rainier, University District, 23rd & Union-Jackson

Potential Strategies:



For more information contact