

Office of Emergency Management

**2021 Race and Social
Justice
Accomplishments**

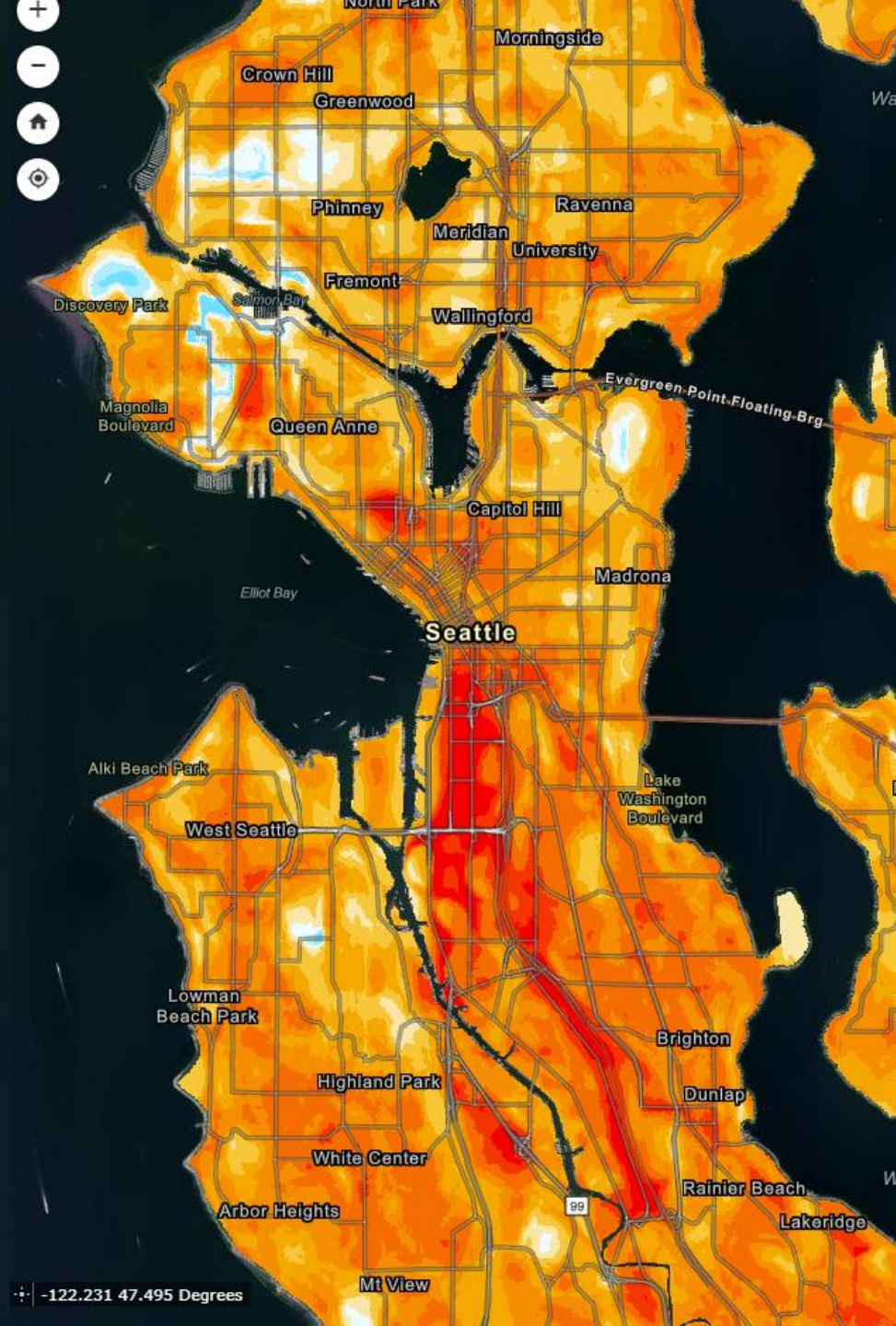


City of Seattle

OEM Race and Social Justice Strategy

- Align our activities and programs with racial and social justice principles, so we can help all communities in Seattle build resilience, with intentional focus on those most impacted by structural racism.
- Assist communities with resilience building by listening to their perspectives and seeking to understand what their critical needs are and what preparedness and mitigation actions will be most meaningful for them.





RSJ Challenges in Emergency Management

- Equitable engagement requires dedicated funding
- Disasters amplify existing inequity
- BIPOC communities impacted by natural disasters at a higher rate than their white counterparts.
 - Less individual/family wealth for "just-in-case" preparedness
 - Higher concentration of BIPOC communities in areas of elevated vulnerability
- Emergency management = consequence management
 - Root causes need to be addressed for substantive change to occur.
- Mitigating risk in the physical environment expensive & grant requirements complex
- Unequal access into communities due to lack of trust, culture, resources



Highlight on 2021 Projects

- Emergency Management Planning Policy
- Workforce Rallying Points
- Stop the Bleed
- Community Safety Ambassadors



Planning Policy

***Racial Equity Outcome:** Emergency planning that centers community input so that the City provides socio-economically and culturally informed services during disaster response.*

- Previous over-reliance on predominantly white volunteer groups for community input
 - Results in underused services and unaddressed needs
- Planning Policy approved in early 2021
- Now defines engagement practices for developing both internal and external plans, policies and procedures
- Aligns with equitable engagement practices in OEM's Outreach Plan

Planning Policy—RSJ Benefits

- Increases transparency into process and codifies community engagement into emergency planning
- Pilot Focus Groups for Evacuation Annex to identify expectations, needs and barriers
- Currently planning focus groups for extreme heat
- Workforce Rallying Points
- Importance of reimbursing community partners for their time
- Have not previously budgeted/used UASI/one time funding



Workforce Rallying Points

- **Racial Equity Outcome:** Community-based empowerment and impact reporting to ensure culturally relevant community response
- Part of City's *catastrophic* earthquake planning
- Support decentralized city response
- Focuses on empowering and supporting community-based response.



Stop the Bleed

- Outcome: BIPOC and underserved community members are prepared to respond to mass-casualty event/incident
- Prepares the public to save lives
- Provides hands on training in bleeding control
- Partnering with nonprofit organizations
- Taught 621 people from 10/2018 to 2/2022
- Due to COVID, 54 taught in 2021
- 85 kits purchased to distribute to organization



Stop the Bleed

Outcome: BIPOC and underserved community members are prepared to respond to mass-casualty event/incident

- Prepares the public to save lives
- Provides hands on training in bleeding control
- Partnering with nonprofit organizations
- Taught 621 people from 10/2018 to 2/2022
- Due to COVID, 54 taught in 2021
- 85 kits purchased to distribute to organizations



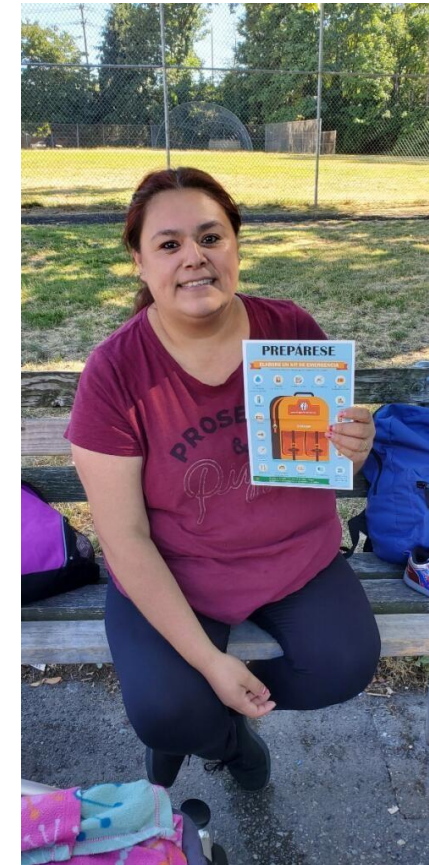
Community Safety Ambassadors

Outcome: LEP and underserved BIPOC populations are equipped and empowered with critical with critical life-saving preparedness skills

- Community Safety Ambassadors are multilingual ambassadors trained in disaster preparedness, providing outreach and engagement to their language community,
- CSAs provide outreach and engagement in 12 languages .



CSAs in Action



Community Safety Ambassadors—additional detail

- Topics: Disaster Preparedness, Heat and Winter Preparedness, AlertSeattle Education, CPR Education, 9-1-1 Education, Disaster Skills Classes
- Communities: Limited English Proficiency Communities, BIPOC Communities, Elderly Communities, Low Income Communities
- Partnerships with Villa Comunitaria, International Rescue Committee, Pacific Islander Community of WA
- CSA and outreach activities are funded by the UASI grant



A map of Seattle, Washington, with various areas highlighted in yellow and red. The map shows the city's layout, including Lake Washington to the north and Boeing Field to the south. The word "Seattle" is written in the center of the map. The red areas are scattered throughout the city, while the yellow areas cover most of the city's footprint.

RSJ Accomplishments in 2021

- Realigning staffing for equitable engagement
- Planning Policy codified engagement practices
- Pilot focus groups
- Equity analysis of earthquake impacts
- Afghani community outreach
- Low barrier application process for partner organizations
- Seismic retrofit of Bremer apartments



QUESTIONS?



[This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA](#)



Seattle
Office of Emergency
Management



Thank You

