

2019 - 2020 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

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29	4	A	1

Budget Action Title: Request OPCD, DON, and OCR report on a Racial Equity Toolkit for the City's Growth Strategy

Ongoing: Yes

Primary Sponsor: Mosqueda, Teresa

Councilmembers: Johnson; Juarez

Staff Analyst: Lish Whitson

Date	Total	BC	SB	TM	LG	BH	LH	RJ	DJ	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent would request that the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD), the Department of Neighborhoods (DON), and the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) prepare a racial equity toolkit (RET) on Seattle's strategy for accommodating growth. Two reports are requested, a report on the proposed scope of work and a report on the status of the RET, as of December 2019. The scope of work should assume beginning the RET in early 2019 and concluding prior to early stage planning for the next major update to Seattle's Comprehensive Plan. The Departments should report to the Planning, Land Use and Zoning Committee (PLUZ) and the Central Staff Director on the scope of work by June 7, 2019. The Departments should report to the Planning, Land Use and Zoning Committee and the Central Staff Director on progress toward the RET by December 1, 2019.

A RET is a tool that supports the evaluation of policy through the lens of those traditionally most impacted by government policy. The Racial Equity Toolkit process is a collaboration between City and community and the scope of work will involve both internal and external collaboration. The RET should center on community and lead with race.

Scope of Work

The RET process overall will be facilitated by OPCD's Equitable Development Initiative (EDI) and comprehensive planning teams with support from OCR and DON, working in coordination with other City departments with expertise and interest in the growth of the city. The Council expects that development of the scope of work and longer-term work of the RET will be undertaken in close consultation with the EDI advisory board, community-based organizations and the community-at-large. The proposed scope of work should include an outreach and analysis plan for the RET, including core questions to best understand the race and social justice implications of the City's current growth strategy and questions to develop models of what an equitable growth strategy would look like. The scope should identify additional resources needed to

complete the RET and to prepare public-facing materials that distill the findings of the RET into material that is easily digestible by the public and has been translated in languages used by communities being targeted for engagement. By June 7, 2019, the departments should send their scope of work to the City Council.

Department Responsibilities

Policy Analysis and Reporting. OPCD comprehensive planning and EDI teams will be responsible for leading in the identification of key policy questions, conducting data and policy analysis, and reporting. OPCD will work in partnership with RET community engagement efforts to elevate racial equity outcomes in the scope and all aspects of the project. This work will be undertaken in close partnership and involvement with OCR, DON, representatives from the City Council and other City departments.

The RET process will guide policy-making through the life of the next major update to the City's Comprehensive Plan. OPCD, working with DON, OCR and other City departments with subject matter expertise, will take the lead on policy. OPCD should use data collection and quantitative research as a baseline for further analysis of the distribution of the benefits and burdens of growth among Seattle residents of different races and ethnicities, including impacts of demographic shifts in Seattle and impacts on communities at heightened risk of displacement and/or that have seen historical disinvestment and/or institutional processes that have led to a historical lack of equitable access to community assets. This should include previous analysis done through other relevant RET processes and planning efforts.

Project Advisors. OPCD, in partnership with OCR and DON, will be responsible for engaging with the Mayor's Office and City Council. The OPCD EDI team will lead, in partnership with DON and OCR, in undertaking engagement with the EDI advisory group, representatives of community-based organizations who are working on issues of equity, and City departments.

Focused Community Engagement. DON, working with the EDI team, will be responsible for leading community engagement, including working with community liaisons, throughout the RET process. The outreach will make a special effort to engage communities currently at heightened risk of displacement, and/or that have seen historical displacement or disinvestment compared to other Seattle communities. The scope will include community engagement criteria and goals for all phases of work.

Policy Questions

Issues to consider as part of the RET include, but are not limited to:

- Potential impacts of growth and development on displacement risk;
- Relationship of the urban village strategy to housing supply, including affordability, homeownership, and diversity of housing types to meet current and future needs;
- Access to opportunity through targeted place-based investments and expanded housing choices citywide;
- Benefits and impacts to small local businesses and community cultural assets;
- Distribution of City capital facilities investments and programs inside and outside centers and villages;
- Relationship between existing and planned city infrastructure and equity;
- Equity and accessibility of neighborhoods both inside and outside urban centers and villages;
- Potential impacts on the ability to meet needs equitably outside of existing centers and villages; and

- Whether a growth strategy should include a definition of “single-family zoning” that allows for attached-family housing, including duplex, triplex, and quad-plex homes with new homeownership and land trust models.

By December 1, 2019 the Departments should report to Council on their progress toward answering these questions and any other key policy questions identified as part of the scope of work.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Planning, Land Use and Zoning Committee

Date Due to Council: June 7, 2019

December 1, 2019