

Item no. 11a_supp_2
Meeting date: May 25, 2021

Vision for an Equitable Recovery from COVID-19

Pamela Banks, Recovery Director

May 2021



City of Seattle

Recovery Vision

COVID-19 exacerbated inequities that were already present and disproportionately impacted small businesses and workers, particularly Black, Indigenous and people of color communities.

Our Equitable Recovery efforts aim to build a thriving City with an inclusive economy while also implementing intentional strategies that meet the varying needs of our neighborhoods and communities.



Recovery Timeframes

We are thinking about recovery across three broad timeframes:

- **Immediate strategies**

Initiatives to restore interest in our neighborhoods and business communities during initial reopening.

- **Near-term strategies**

Initiatives to coordinate returning to a new normal.

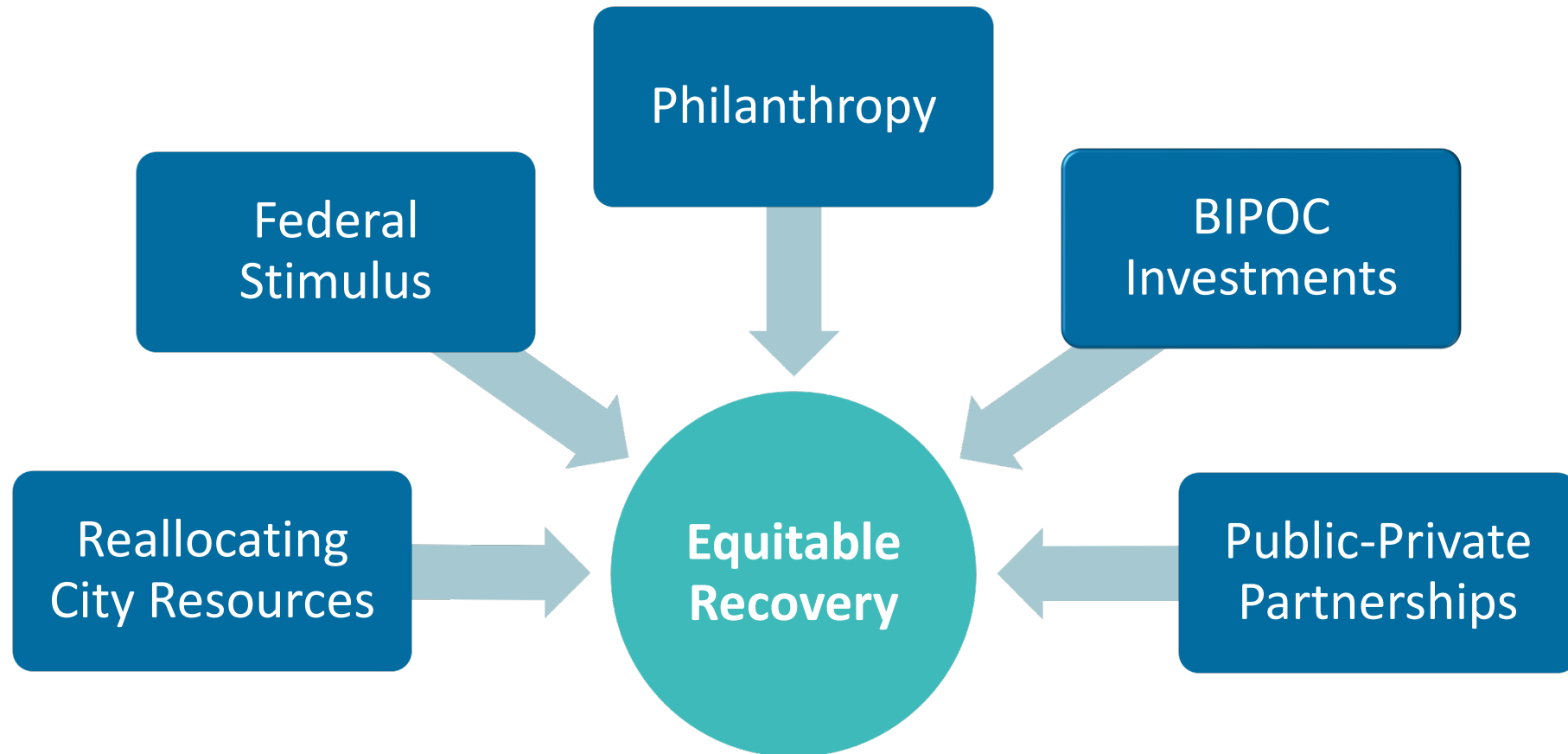
- **Long-term strategies**

Multi-year strategies to address the lasting impacts of COVID-19 on communities and the changing nature of office work.



Potential Resource Streams

An Equitable Recovery will require working with partners and community to leverage all available resources.



Economic Recovery

Equitable Recovery efforts will bring government, community, businesses, philanthropy and nonprofits together to revitalize the economic engine of the City and foster innovation in creative industries, culture and retail.

Neighborhoods and
Downtown

Small Businesses

Public Space
Activation

Commercial
Space
Activation

Direct Funding

Technical
Assistance

Community Resilience

Equitable Recovery efforts will ensure the City and our partners are investing in our communities so that all Seattleites have access to opportunity.

Access to
Opportunity

Community
Investments

Continued
Response

Downtown Revitalization

Working group of external partners meet biweekly with the goal of: Bringing Downtown back to life.

The group will focus on:

- Improving safety.
- Ensuring key infrastructure projects move forward.
- Bringing workers, visitors, residents and customers back Downtown.
- Creating room for innovation and creativity in arts, culture and retail.



Images: Downtown Seattle Association

Downtown Revitalization Strategies

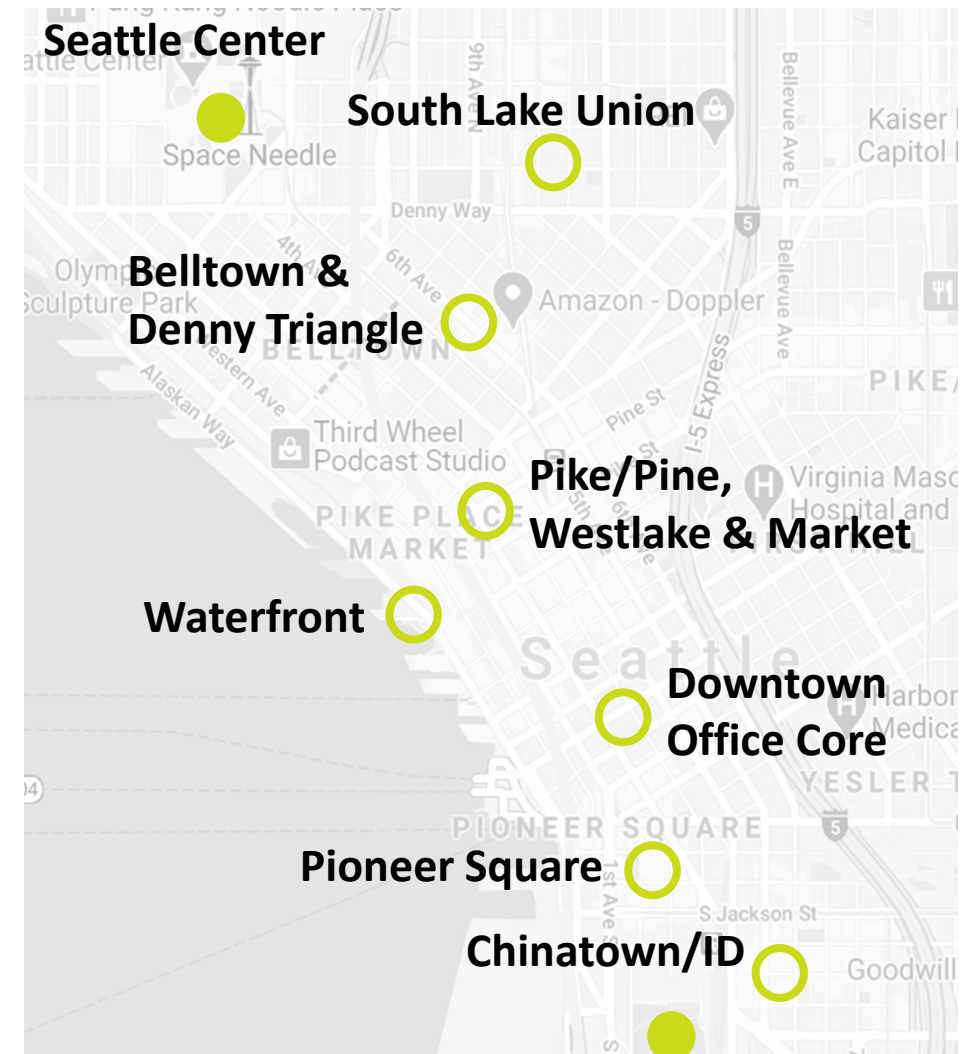
Guiding Principles

Downtown is the economic engine of Seattle.
Our ability to effectively recover citywide depends in large part on our ability to revitalize economic and cultural activity Downtown.

Task — Location-specific strategies addressing:

- Activation (**programming, etc.**)
- Marketing
- Beautification
- Workforce development
- Empty commercial/office space

(Some strategies will depend on funding and wide-scale vaccination)



Neighborhood-Specific Strategies

Starts with better understanding neighborhood-specific challenges and needs and developing strategies for revitalization.

Key external stakeholders:

- Small Business Advisory Council
- Equity district neighborhoods and BIPOC business owners
- Business Improvement Areas
- Neighborhood and community groups



Questions?

