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COMMISSION

AGENDA MEMORANDUM Item No. 10a

ACTION ITEM Date of Meeting September 13, 2022

DATE: August 23, 2022

TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

FROM: Bookda Gheisar, Senior Director – Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Pearse Edwards, Senior Director, External Relations

Andy Gregory, Sr. Program Manager, Environmental Engagement

Guadalupe Torres, Community Investments Project Manager

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SUBJECT: Request for Authorization for the Executive Director to Execute Contracts for the

2022/2023 South King County Community Impact Fund (SKCCIF) Not-to-Exceed

\$3.25 M.

Amount of this request: \$3,250,000.00

Total requested project cost: \$3,250,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED

Request Commission to authorize to the Executive Director to execute contracts for the 2022/2023 South King County Community Impact Fund (SKCCIF) not to exceed \$3.25 M.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018 the Port Commission authorized \$10 million over five years to be allocated to support building equity-based partnerships with near airport communities. In 2020, the Port launched the South King County Fund (now SKCCIF) to support three primary programs-Economic Recovery, Environmental Grants, and WMBE Small Business support through existing contracts and Inter-Local Agreements.

In 2021, staff received Commission authorization for funding not-to-exceed \$2.0 million to implement the SKCF program. However, due to the high quality of applicants for the last funding cycle, and due to the addition of multi-year funding, staff requested and received an additional \$2 Million to support multi-year funding requests bringing the total for Cycle II up to \$4 Million.

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[Link]

<https://www.silianaconsultingllc.com/>

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Additionally, in 2021 staff requested \$400,000 to support Community Capacity Building in South King County. This funding was approved, and staff are currently in the process of onboarding South King County-based firm Siliana Consulting (<https://www.silianaconsultingllc.com/>) to carry out this critical work. Siliana will continue the community liaison program, conduct workshops to support community-based organizations (CBOs), and support media and outreach opportunities for the SKCCIF.

In Cycle Three, set to kick off on September 15, 2022, and funding projects that will begin in 2023, staff are requesting a total of \$3.25 Million to be divided as follows:

- \$2.5 million for Economic Recovery
- \$500,000 for Environmental Grants
- \$250,000 for WMBE Support Programs

This request will support the third and final cycle of multi-year funding for these programs. Order no. 2021-12 authorized the Executive Director to conduct an evaluation and develop recommendations for the future re-authorization of the program before the end of the program. This evaluation will be completed by May 2023, nearly a year ahead of schedule. This reflects the program success of distributing financial support to communities in most need of economic recovery from COVID-19 and reflects the success of and demand for multi-year funding which increases the over-all sustainability of the Port's investments. Staff will be onboarding a consultant to conduct this evaluation in Q4 of 2022 with the goal of completing the evaluation by May of 2023. The scope of work for this contract will include the following tasks:

- Program profile and evaluation assessment
- Outreach and analysis
- Draft and final reports
- Implementation of recommendations

From this work the following deliverables will be produced:

- A theory of change for the Fund and qualitative and quantitative metrics to be tracked
- Collect objective data from surveys, interviews, and focus groups
- Draft and Final Report to include:
 - o Assessment of economic and community impacts
 - o Recommendations for how impacts can be shared broadly
 - o Recommendations for the next phase of funding
- Prioritized list of implementation recommendations
- Support SKCCIF team in implementing recommendations

Staff have tracked on several output metrics to date. These metrics, combined with a qualitative narrative paint an emerging picture of the impact the SKCCIF has had and continues to have on near-airport communities. It should be noted that many of the projects funded in Cycle II, including ALL of the Economic Recovery contracts are multi-year projects and while

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they are currently in process, the Port will likely not see final outputs and outcomes from these projects until 2025. This is compounded by the nature of the work which tracks placement and success especially in training and workforce development programs such as pre-apprenticeship programs for the long term.

For the Environmental Grants Program, 11 of the 14 funded projects from Cycle 1 have been managed to completion. Of the funded projects, six were BIPOC-Led organizations, 654 trees were planted, 2,935 volunteer hours logged, and 3,176 education and training hours catalogued. Additionally, for the current Cycle II projects and the remaining cycles moving forward, Port staff will closely coordinate key environmental metrics with Port environmental staff, including invasive species removal, number of trees planted, and number of acres restored. This will provide key community data to support the overall impacts of Port Land Stewardship activities in near-Port communities.

JUSTIFICATION

This request is for already budgeted funds and requires no additional funding allocation. South King County is one of the most diverse areas in King County, with over 95 languages spoken by families in the Highline school district alone. These communities are vulnerable because of a myriad of existing structural and social inequities that disproportionately impact many populations across this area: people of color, women, immigrants, and people with low incomes. These community members have long dealt with issues that challenge their wellbeing, from poorer health outcomes to lack of access to educational attainment and, consequently, higher-paying jobs.

The projects that are funded through the SKCCIF support Port Century Agenda Goals:

- Goal 3: Responsibly Invest in the Economic Growth of the Region and all its Communities.
 - o Objective 6: Increase career and business opportunities for local communities in all port-related industries.
 - o Objective 7: Advance maritime industries through innovation, strategic investment and capable management of Port facilities
- Goal 4: Be the greenest and most energy-efficient port in North America.
 - o Objective 11: Reduce air pollutants and carbon emissions
 - o Objective 12: Restore, create, and enhance 40 additional acres of habitat in the Green/Duwamish habitat
- Goal 5: Become a Model for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
 - o Objective 13: Increase utilization of WMBE and DBE firms and eliminate disparity of access to opportunities
 - o Objective 14: Ensure that all internal and external programs, structures and practices provide equitable opportunities for all

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o Objective 15: Advance regional workforce development in port-related industries to provide equitable access to quality careers

This request supports the Port's vision of a diverse and inclusive workforce now and in the future, with representatives from nearby airport communities participating in the economic development of the region.

- Supports continued investment in near-airport cities by increasing the quantity and quality of green spaces, building key political partnerships with city staff and elected officials
- If authorized, the procurement will launch September 15, 2022. Contracts should be signed and executed by Q3 of 2023.

Diversity in Contracting

This procurement directly targets WMBE Small Businesses, and culturally diverse organizations through all three programs. Economic Development Division contracts support the Highline Small Business Development Center, Advanced PortGen, and the Business accelerator program all of which specifically develop capacity among WMBE firms to partner with the Port. Economic Recovery contracts support primarily Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)-led non-profits who provide workforce development in the Port related industries of Aviation, Construction, Green Jobs, and Maritime. Finally, the Environmental Improvement Projects support BIPOC-led community groups and non-profits in the six cities closest to the Airport to conduct public improvement projects. These projects support community development, green jobs training, and providing match funds and volunteer support to local city parks staff.

DETAILS

The project will allow for the Port to continue the South King County Community Impact Fund that reaches near airport communities impacted by COVID 19 with financial investment in programs creating jobs for Port and Port related industries. The \$3,250,000.00 investment will include funding for three programs: 1.) Economic Recovery (\$2.5M), Environmental (\$500K), and Economic Development (\$250K).

Schedule

Economic Recovery Schedule

Executive Director and Commission authorization September 13, 2022

Release of request for qualifications September 15, 2022

Step 1 of 2 – Eligibility application due October 20, 2022

Step 2 of 2 – Full RFP submissions due December 2022

Signing of service agreements Q2 - Q3, 2023

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Environmental Grants Schedule

Executive Director and Commission authorization September 13, 2022

Applications open September 15, 2022

Applications close October 28, 2022

Signing of service agreements Q2 2023

Cost Breakdown This Request Total Project

Economic Recovery \$2,500,000 \$2,500,000

Environmental \$500,000 \$500,000

Economic Development \$250,000 \$250,000

Total \$3,250,000 \$3,250,000

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Port of Seattle South King County Fund program funding source is tax levy. The program is still anticipated for five years for \$10 million in resources for near-airport communities, and this increased authorization does not increase the total budget for the program; rather, it simply allows staff to commit multi-year resources to deserving applicants.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REQUEST

(1) Presentation slides

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

- 1) November 16, 2021- Order 2021-12 to rename the South King County fund and to direct the Executive Director to review the Port's South King County Fund grant program prior to the end of the program to assess the programs impacts; to develop recommendations on the future of the program and possible extension.
- 2) November 9, 2021- Multi-year program authorization increase request for the South King County Fund
- 3) July 27, 2021 – The Commission authorized \$2 million for the South King County Fund for 2021.
- 4) April 28, 2020 – The Commission approved Motion 2020-10 to add economic development to the permissible uses for the South King County Fund, in support of local recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5) June 25, 2019 – The Commission approved Motion 2019-10, adopting principals to guide outreach and development of the South King County policy.

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- 6) November 27, 2018 – The Commission approved Motion 2018-14, establishing the South King County Fund.

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