From:	Share The Cities Action Fund
To:	KCC - Committee Assistants (Email Group)
Subject:	Please support establishing an EDI
Date:	Tuesday, February 1, 2022 6:38:52 PM

Share The Cities Action Fund is speaking up in strong support for King County to establish an EDI. **Please vote NO on the 3 amendments and striker proposed by Councilmember Upthegrove**.

With the increasing price of land and the additional stress on our communities from Covid, the time is now for all of us across King County to work together to put land and opportunities in the hands of BIPOC communitie so we can keep our communities rooted in place.

EDI would invest much needed funds in community-led land stewardship projects at all stages of the development process, including affordable housing, space for small businesses, and cultural facilities. This is important for my community because we know that the market has failed to address the generational wealth gaps and pushed so many friends and family to leave their home communities & cultural centers, looking for somewhere more affordable to live.

We need an EDI that is community-designed and community-led because the **communities who are experiencing displacement are the ones who should be trusted with the solutions**. We believe our communities most impacted by displacement can help solve this problem if we have the resources we need to create our own solutions.

People who are most impacted by the housing emergency and the pandemic are struggling. We appreciate the ways that King County has taken action to address this, but you can do more to make lasting transformational change.

Please read Puget Sound Sage's Disaster Gentrification research, if you haven't already.

We have volunteers, many who are struggling renters, from across Seattle and King County who take action together to make equitable spaces online and in our cities. We work on land use, public broadband, digital equity and housing justice. Our twitter reaches at least 7K folks daily, regularly a million views in a month. Our newsletter reaches 1K folks and we have about 100 people in our slack group.

Many, many people won't have the time to send you a personal email or phone call or speak at council -- but there's an overwhelming enthusiasm for community centered solutions for equitable cities. Your leadership on this issue is urgent.

We strongly support the King County EDI motion (Proposed Motion 2021-046) proposed by Councilmembers Dembowski, Zahilay, and Kohl-Welles. And please vote NO on the 3 amendments and striker proposed by Councilmember Upthegrove.

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Laura Loe
she/her
Share The Cities Action Fund

www.sharethecitiesactionfund.org