

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Affordable Housing	Invest in community-driven affordable housing and mixed-use developments.	DCHS	High	Current biennium	KCHA, private developers and businesses, affordable housing CBOs	Yes
Affordable Housing	-Develop mixed-use housing for elderly with fixed incomes. -Develop affordable housing in Lakeridge and Bryn Mawr neighborhoods. -Develop a model mixed-use project combining affordable housing with associated services.	DCHS	High	TBD	State Department of Commerce, Washington State Housing Finance Commission, CBOs, KCHA, nonprofit housing developers	Yes
Affordable Housing	More affordable housing to address gentrification.	DCHS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, non-profit developers	Yes
Affordable Housing	Work with financial institutions and housing agencies to expand affordable housing options (i.e. artist live/work lofts).	DCHS	Medium	Ongoing	Non-profit developers, CBOs and public-funded partners	Yes
Affordable Housing	Support programs that help prevent homelessness, such as emergency rental assistance or referrals to social service networks, as well as assistance with landlord tenant disputes or fair rental contracts.	DCHS	Medium	Ongoing	KCRHA, CBOs, legal aide groups	Yes
Affordable Housing	Identify incentives and subsidy programs to preserve low-income housing.	DCHS	Medium	Ongoing	KCHA, State Department of Commerce, Washington State Housing Finance Commission, CBOs, affordable housing developers	Yes
Affordable Housing	Develop land trusts that provide affordable ownership opportunities.	DCHS	Medium	TBD	State Department of Commerce, CBOs, philanthropic organizations	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Strengthens vision
Affordable Housing	Surplus county property in Skyway-West Hill should be prioritized for housing development, and the county should consider providing land to public or non-profit housing developers and agencies at below market cost.	DCHS/FMD	High	Ongoing	KCHA, State Department of Commerce, Washington State Housing Finance Commission, affordable housing developers, CBOs	Yes
Affordable Housing	Require new developers to allocate over 50% of their units or structures to affordable housing opportunities for families in the area. Require them to make sure the property is maintained, safe, clean, and amenities are working properly. For example, many of the properties along 116th Place, Renton Avenue, and MLK/Sunset Blvd are unkept and unsafe for children and families.	DLS	High	TBD		Possibly
Animals	Enforce leash laws for dogs.	DES	Low	Ongoing	STORM	No
Animals	Enforce the proper containment of animals, such as chickens and other livestock.	DES	Low	Ongoing	STORM, PICC	No
Business District	Revitalize the Skyway Business District and other neighborhood business areas for local, BIPOC businesses.	DLS	High	TBD	CDC, consultant	Yes
Business District	Identify actions and steps to collaborate with business owners, and code enforcement to improve properties along Renton Avenue S.	DLS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, chamber of commerce, CDC	Yes
Business District Façade Improvement	Do a facelift of unattractive, old, and plain building facades in the Skyway Business District.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, foundation	Yes
Business District Façade Improvement	Improve façades of unattractive, old and plain building in Skyway Business District.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, CDC, Foundation	Yes
Code Enforcement	Hire a dedicated code enforcement officer for the Skyway-West Hill area.	DLS	Medium	TBD		No

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Community Activities	Host a yearly parade, carnival or festival.	DLS	Low	Ongoing	CBOs	Yes
Community Activities	Organize events that engage a broad range of community members (i.e. jazz fest, art walk, multi-cultural gathering, community gardens, art projects) throughout the year.	DLS	Low	Ongoing	CBOs	Yes
Community Center	-Establish West Hill Community Center. -Develop a second-run theater for a community space.	DLS	High	2023-2024 Biennium	CBOs, Partner City, foundation for funding, state	Yes
Community Design Standards	King County will establish community design standards for commercial, multifamily, and mixed-use development in CB, NB and R-48 zones, to establish a strong neighborhood identity.	DLS	Medium	TBD		Yes
Community Design Standards	Ensure that future development or redevelopment of commercial buildings within the Skyway Business district will be built directly along sidewalks.	DLS	Medium	TBD		Yes
Community Engagement	Create an action group dedicated to establishing at-risk youth and adult programs as alternatives to criminal and gang activity.	DCHS	Low	Ongoing	CBOs	Possibly
Community Engagement	Place kiosk or LED signs at critical intersections throughout West Hill to announce community events in multiple languages.	DLS	Low	TBD		No
Community Engagement	Create an action group dedicated to working with local governments and other community groups to establish a Local Improvement District.	DLS	Low	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, UAC	Possibly

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Community Engagement	Increase safety infrastructure in key public and commercial areas, including area lighting, police call boxes, and security cameras.	DLS	Low	TBD	KCLS, KCPW, Parks, local businesses	Possibly
Community Engagement	The sheriff's office needs to host a meet-and-greet and provide space for the community to get to know them. Many of the police assigned to specific areas don't live in those areas and have no connection to the community.	KCSO	High	Current biennium	Executive, CBOs, DLS	Yes
Community Policing	More community policing; greet fellow community members.	KCSO	Medium	Ongoing	Fire department	Yes
Community Portals/ Gateways	-Define S. end, east and west entry points to West Hill community and Skyway Business District. -Identify major entries to the Skyway-West Hill area and its neighborhoods with signs, pavement markings, and landscaping.	DLS	Low	TBD		Yes
COVID Testing and Education	COVID testing and education.	PHSKC	High	Ongoing	Fire District 20	No
Cultural Preservation	Develop a community amenity incentive program to support opportunities for voluntary preservation of cultural assets or provision of community amenities.	DLS	High	TBD		Yes
Development Cost	King County should pursue land-use policies and regulations that result in lower development cost (i.e. expedited plan reviews for projects providing permanent affordable housing).	DLS	Medium	TBD		Yes
Dog Parks	Designate an off-leash dog area in Skyway Park.	DNRP	Low	TBD	CBOs	No
Early-Childhood Education	Increase early education/preschool programs.	DCHS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, DSHS	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Economic Development	Develop a Skyway Business District economic and revitalization plan.	DLS	High	TBD	CDC, consultant	Yes
Economic Development	-Develop a process for attracting businesses to the neighborhood. -Pursue and persuade businesses to locate in the Skyway Business District, including those that provide health and professional services to residents.	DLS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, chamber of commerce, CDC	Yes
Economic Development	Develop a small-scale commercial-incentive program within the Skyway Business District to support opportunities for small-scale commercial development, locally owned and independent businesses, and adaptable business spaces such as incubators.	DLS	High	TBD	CBOs, foundations	Yes
Economic Development	Build kiosks and signage along Renton Avenue that promotes awareness of local businesses.	DLS	High		CBOs, technical college, private businesses	Yes
Economic Development	Develop a local ownership business incubation site.	DLS	High	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, foundations	Yes
Economic Development	Coordinate existing community association efforts and activities with each other.	DLS	Medium	Ongoing	CBOs, including CDAs, human services, etc.	Yes
Economic Development	- Redevelop the Skyway Business Center to reflect community culture and needs. - Redevelop the old grocery store for adaptive use, short-term business (i.e. popups) and collective maintenance by tenants. - Redevelop the business district to support key community services (post office, library, etc.).	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, CDCs, KCHA, private developer, DCHS	Yes
Economic Development	Support BIPOC businesses near key community services to increase traffic.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, CDC	Yes
Economic Development	Develop microenterprise clinics.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, foundations	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Economic Development	Launch a shop-local campaign and create a space for home-based businesses to visibly market their products or services.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, foundations	Possibly
Education	Increase access to college and college preparation opportunities.	DCHS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, CYYAD EER, school districts, CTCs	Yes
Education	Strategic tutoring programs that focus on bilingual students.		Medium	TBD	CBOs	Yes
Farmers Market	A designated space for a weekly Skyway farmers market.	DNRP	Medium	2023-2024 Biennium	KC Local Food Initiative, NFMA	Yes
Food Education	Work with the community to provide educational resources to grow food in their own lots.	DNRP	Low	Current biennium	CBOs	No
Food Education	Fund a community farm and learning lab.	DNRP	Medium	Current biennium	CBOs	Possibly
Green Housing	Provide educational and financial incentives to make individual houses greener through rainwater harvesting, solar, geothermal, etc.	DCHS	Low	TBD	King County Green Tools, state and federal government	No
Healthcare Access	Identify resources to operate a community mobile clinic.	PHSKC	High	Ongoing	Healthcare partners	No
Healthcare Access	Continue to expand health services especially for: - Youth - BIPOC - Non-English-speaking community	PHSKC	High	Ongoing		Yes
Healthcare Access	Provide community healthcare screenings (i.e. breast cancer, diabetes, blood pressure, etc.).	PHSKC	Medium	Ongoing	Mobile health care providers, community and women's health care events, fire district	Possibly
Healthcare Access	Develop partnerships to increase resident healthcare services.	PHSKC	Medium	Ongoing		Possibly
Healthcare Access	Provide clinics for low-incomes families.	PHSKC	Medium	2023-2024 Biennium		Possibly

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Healthcare Access	Hold public health sessions at the Skyway Library or elsewhere.	PHSKC	Medium	2023-2024 Biennium		Possibly
Healthy Food Access	Focus on increasing access to healthy foods.	PHSKC	Low	TBD	P-patches	Yes
Healthy Food Access	Access to healthy and affordable food choices and restaurants.	PHSKC	Medium	TBD		Yes
Heritage Trees	Unincorporated King County needs to have "tree maintenance" laws (i.e. City of Seattle and Renton) about not removing ancient trees.	DLS	Low	TBD		No
Housing Policies	Identify housing policies that help people with multiple housing barriers (such as evictions, criminal histories, large families) to secure safe, affordable housing.	DCHS	Medium	TBD	Tenant and landlord groups	Yes
Housing Repair	Identify funding that would provide financial assistance for housing rehabilitation to income-qualified home owners.	DCHS	Medium	Ongoing	CBOs	Yes
Illegal Dumping	Control illegal dumping of garbage and chemicals. For example, in the empty lot near fire station.	DNRP	Medium	Ongoing	DLS, UpliftNW	Yes
Illegal Dumping	Remove unlicensed, broken, and abandoned vehicles.	DNRP	Medium	Ongoing	KCRHA, KCSO	Yes
Law Enforcement	Sheriff needs to focus on violent crimes.	KCSO	Low	Ongoing	KCPAO	No
Law Enforcement	Removal of unlicensed, unregistered, broken, and abandoned vehicles.	KCSO	Medium	Ongoing	KCRHA	Yes
Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion	Fully implement Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) in Skyway-West Hill.	KCSO	High	Ongoing	CBOs, DLS	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Law Enforcement Recruitment	Recruit and hire from the community or provide mentorship and apprenticeship opportunities for enforcement to better reflect the communities they serve.	KCSO	Medium	Ongoing	King County Human Resources, school districts, CBOs	Yes
Law Enforcement Staffing	-Increase patrols before/during July 4th and New Years. -Increase police presence and patrol cars from the King County Sheriff's Department. -We need more police! We love our Sheriff! And her deputies!	KCSO	Low	Ongoing	Executive	Possibly
Neighborhood Watch Program	Create an action group dedicated to increasing/coordinating neighborhood watch programs.	KCSO	High	Ongoing	CBOs, DLS	Yes
Park Infrastructure	Skyway Park: -Complete park improvements to increase use of the park. -Complete Skyway Park activation and improvements. - Baseball fields are underutilized. Repurpose two fields out of the four. -Convert a baseball field into a volleyball court. -Convert a baseball field into a mini-soccer arena.	DNRP	High	Current biennium	Seattle Kraken	Yes
Park Infrastructure	Create better access to KC open space for Renton Ave.	DNRP	High	Ongoing	TBD	Yes
Park Infrastructure	Provide more parking for the parks and regulate the existing parking to prevent overnight camping in parking lots.	DNRP	Medium	2025+		No
Park Infrastructure	Add covered recreational space which can be used regardless of the weather, such as covered basketball courts, with a roof-top solar-power system or green rooftop.	DNRP	Medium	2025+		No

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Parking Enforcement	Enforce parking rules along all streets.	KCSO	Low	Ongoing	KCDPW	No
Parks	Expand existing parks and add parks in key areas. -Add pocket parks and playgrounds. -Add walking, playing destinations every 10 blocks. -Add landscaped parks.	DNRP	High	Ongoing	Land Conservation Initiative, Conservation Futures Tax Program, Open Space Equity Cabinet	Yes
Parks and Recreation Programming	-Support the establishment of sports leagues by CBOs for all ages. -Organize youth-led activities and specific events that would bring youth together.	DNRP	Medium	TBD	Youth and Amateur Sports Grants (i.e. Play Equity Coalition), targeted equity grant program, Play Equity Coalition, foundations	Yes
Parks and Recreation Programming	Focus on increasing walking opportunities and other exercise programs.	DNRP	Medium	TBD	Washington Trails Association, Community groups	Yes
Parks and Recreation Programming	Support efforts to establish cultural garden with tourism, education and youth activities representing the diversity of the community.	DNRP	Medium	TBD	Youth and Amateur Sports Grants (i.e Play Equity Coalition), Targeted Equity Grant Program Play Equity Coalition, CBOs	Yes
Pedestrian Crossings	Evaluate pedestrian crossing needs for the 12 intersections listed in the 1994 plan.	DLS	Medium	TBD		Yes
Public Engagement in Permit Review	Evaluate the permit-review public outreach processes and pilot new techniques for Skyway-West Hill that encourage greater public engagement in the permit review process by Skyway-West Hill residents.	DLS	High	Ongoing		Yes
Recreation Programming	Establish music and art programs for youth.	DCHS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, foundations	Yes
Reimagining Public Safety	More wide-spread information about who residents can call for services and assistance without calling police.	Executive's Office	High	Ongoing	CBOs	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Reimagining Public Safety	Reimagine safety in partnership with community.	Executive's Office	High	Ongoing	CBOs	Yes
Reimagining Public Safety	Sheriff Office/reimagining public safety requests: -Restructure the sheriff's office to work in conjunction with social service agencies. -Create an action group dedicated to working with King County Sheriff's Department and prosecuting office to pursue alternative community policing models. -Rethink public safety and not have King County sheriff police but a comprehensive group(s) that addresses issues in a safe, supportive, and knowledgeable manner. -Proper safety measures taken instead of removing funding to police and first responders after a certain time of the day. -Less patrol and policing on our streets and more wide-spread information about who residents can call for services and assistance without calling police.	Executive's Office	Medium	Current biennium	CBOs, KCLS	Yes
Right of Way Encroachments	Removal of shipping containers and other large items that block the roadways, like those on 116th Street.	DLS	Low	TBD	KCSO	No
Road Maintenance	More regular street cleaning.	DLS	Medium	TBD	Street cleaning is completed by road maintenance crews; no partnerships anticipated.	Yes
Road Pavement	Improve road surfaces: -Fix potholes on 68th. -Fix potholes on Meyers. (Note - Myers is in North Highline.) -The short street between 68th and MLK needs to be redone.	DLS	High	TBD	TBD pending location	Possibly

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Road Vegetation	More thorough vegetation clearing in overgrown right-of-way areas.	DLS	Low	TBD	Roads vegetation maintenance is completed by road maintenance crews; no partnerships anticipated.	Yes
Roads Vegetation	Landscape the street and sidewalks.	DLS	Medium		WSDOT	Yes
Social Services	Provide social services in the neighborhood.	DLS	High	TBD	CBOs, social services providers	Yes
Solid Waste	Purchase and maintain litter bins in the business district.	DNRP	Medium	TBD	chamber of commerce, CBOs	Yes
Solid Waste Collection	Enforce required trash service in Skyway.	DNRP	TBD	TBD	Haulers	Possibly
Substance Abuse	Establish healthcare programs for youth with chemical dependency, mental health, and domestic violence and other health issues.	DCHS	Medium	TBD	Mental health providers, CBOs	Yes
Surface Water	Address inadequate stormwater management infrastructure; evaluate the drainage basin within the community for retention/detention facility needs, to correct existing and future stormwater run-off problems.	DNRP	Medium	Current biennium	Stormwater CIP, King County Road Services (if in roads right of way), and additional partners identified through the drainage study	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Traffic Calming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Address speeding and unsafe passing on Rainier Avenue; cars use the turn lane to pass. -Add signage about speed limit on main streets. -Address speeding at crest of the 128th St. S blind hill near the Skyway water tower (ex., install a "SLOW - HILL RESTRICTS VIEW" sign). -Improve speed limit signage on Renton Avenue South between 68th and 78th Avenue South. - Install speed cameras to address speeding near schools such as Campbell Hill Elementary School. -Improve safety of school routes for Lakeridge and Campbell Elementary, through semaphores, signage, sidewalks, lighting, roundabouts (ex., at 64th & 129th), etc. 	DLS	High	TBD	KCHA; TBD pending location	Yes
Traffic Congestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Decrease congestion on street at MLK (SR-900). - Stripe four lanes on Rainer Avenue from Seward Park to the City of Renton. - Address MLK-bound congestion from new neighborhood at Langston and Renton Ave. -Provide additional direct access to the library and post office area from I-5. Rainer Avenue is too congested. 	DLS	High	TBD	WSDOT	Yes
Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and/or expand walk/bike trails, including: -Connect to Chief Sealth Trail from Skyway Park. -Create path that runs through community. -Access to Bryn Mawr Park. 	DNRP	Medium	2025+	City of Seattle, CBOs	Yes
Trails	Add more walking trails to Skyway Park.	DNRP	High	2025+	CBOs	Yes
Transit Fares	Free ORCA cards for youth.	METRO	High	Current biennium	Renton School District	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Transit Service	Develop east-west public transportation options.	METRO	High	Current biennium	DLS, contract provider	Yes
Transit Service	Make adjustments to fixed-route stop locations and routing of Route 107.	METRO	Low	TBD		No
Workforce Development and Employment	Provide job-training programs in the neighborhood.	DLS	High	TBD	CBOs, community colleges, WDC	Yes
Workforce Development and Employment	Launch a local jobs campaign.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, chamber of commerce, WFDC	Yes
Youth Programs	Develop youth job-readiness and employment programs and opportunities (summer jobs, internships etc.).	DCHS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, school district	Yes
Youth Programs	Support area youth with recreation, education, and employment programs.	DLS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, school district	Yes
Youth Services	Develop partnerships with school district and local community organizations to ensure collaboration around youth social services.	DCHS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, school district	Yes
Youth Services	Maintain a defined budget for youth and BIPOC social services and supporting programs.	DCHS	High	Ongoing	CBOs, CYYAD EER	Possibly
Youth Services	Coordinate services to stabilize youth and their families impacted by loss of jobs or housing, or relocation from another state or country, to help them integrate into our community.	DCHS	Medium	TBD	CBOs, CYYAD EER	Yes
Zoning-Commercial and Mixed-Use	Housing needs to be more dense in the commercial business center near the Skyway Library in order for businesses to succeed.	DLS	Medium	TBD	DCHS	Yes

Request category	Request	Lead agency	Community priority	Anticipated impl. timeline	Potential partners	Stength-ens vision
Zoning-Commercial and Mixed-Use	Replace large churches in the Skyway commercial district with dense, multi-story apartments.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CDC, CBOs	Possibly
Zoning-Industrial	Abate and/or mitigate industrial uses that are not compatible with and are harmful to the surrounding residential uses.	DLS	Medium	TBD	KCHA or CDC	Possibly
Zoning-Residential	New redevelopment and in-fill in single-family neighborhoods should continue to be at the same size, scale, and density as the traditional existing development: five to seven homes per acre on 3,000-5,000 square foot lots.	DLS	Medium	TBD		Yes
Zoning-Residential	Continue to allow detached accessory dwelling units in residential zones on lots greater than 5,000 square feet.	DLS	Medium	TBD		Yes
Zoning-Residential	New multi-family residential development should be limited to 12 to 48 homes per acre, but a development should be allowed to exceed 48 homes per acre if the development provides public amenities and/or public infrastructure.	DLS	Medium	TBD	CBOs	Yes

Skyway-West Hill Community Needs List Engagement Summary

January 7, 2022

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II. Introduction

The County began community engagement for the Skyway-West Hill Community Needs List (CNL) in August of 2020, following adoption of the 2020 Skyway-West Hill Land Use Strategy: Phase 1 of the Skyway-West Hill Community Service Area Subarea Plan and the adoption of King County Ordinance 19146 in July of 2020. The Ordinance amended policy and code to expand the scope of the county’s subarea planning program and to initiate the CNL program. For community engagement, the ordinance amended county code identifying that each CNL:

“...be developed, reviewed, prioritized, amended, adopted and implemented using tools and resources developed by the office of equity and social justice, including, but not limited to, community engagement, language access and equity impact review tools. The county shall use, at minimum, the ‘County engages in dialogue’ and ‘County and community work together’ levels of engagement as outlined in the office of equity and social justice’s Community Engagement Guide for the development, review, amendment, adoption, and implementation of the community needs list. The county shall include as an appendix to the community needs list information detailing the community engagement completed during the development of the community needs list and how the community engagement meets these requirements...”¹

The Office of Equity and Social Justice’s Community Engagement Continuum² identifies a range of actions to use for engagement on both simple and complex initiatives. Components of the two levels of engagement identified for use in both subarea plan development and development of the CNLs for King County’s Community Service Areas – “County Engages in Dialogue” and “County and Community Work Together” – are identified in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Levels of engagement from Community Engagement Continuum used for North Highline CNL development

Levels of Engagement				
County Informs King County initiates an effort, coordinates with departments and uses a variety of channels to inform community to take action	County Consults King County gathers information from the community to inform county-led interventions	County engages in dialogue King County engages community members to shape county priorities and plans	County and community work together Community and King County share in decision-making to co-create solutions together	Community directs action Community initiates and directs strategy and action with participation and technical assistance from King County
Characteristics of Engagement				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily one-way channel of communication One interaction Term-limited to event Addresses immediate need of county and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily one-way channel of communication One to multiple interactions Short to medium-term Shapes and informs county programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems
Strategies				
Media releases, brochures, pamphlets, outreach to vulnerable populations, ethnic media contacts, translated information, staff outreach to residents, new and social media	Focus groups, interviews, community surveys	Forums, advisory boards, stakeholder involvement, coalitions, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony, workshops, community-wide events	Co-led community meetings, advisory boards, coalitions, and partnerships, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony	Community-led planning efforts, community-hosted forums, collaborative partnerships, coalitions, policy development and advocacy including legislative briefings and testimony

¹ [KCC Section 2.16.055](#)

² <https://kingcounty.gov/exec/equity/~media/5CCCBCFFBA8F405191A93BBD5F448CBE.ashx>

Working collaboratively with the community and using the Office of Equity and Social Justice's Equity Impact Review tool as a guide, community engagement goals for the expanded subarea plan and CNL development included ensuring that diverse and historically underrepresented voices of the community were amplified and reflected in the expanded plan. This included developing an updated engagement process to develop and refine a long-term vision and policies across multiple, community-identified topic areas for the plan. The community engagement related to the CNL was combined with engagement for both the second phase of the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan (Subarea Plan) and the Skyway-West Hill and North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategy Report and included virtual community meetings, attendance at existing community-based organization meetings, phone interviews, and successive online community engagement efforts. Prior to initiating the engagement, an updated community engagement plan was drafted with input from several community leaders, as well as the King County Office of Equity and Social Justice.

The CNL engagement started during the COVID-19 pandemic; therefore, in-person meetings and gatherings were restricted to protect public health. However, the CNL information was shared in-person with neighborhood residents at the Skyway Resource Center pop-up events, along with personal protective equipment. CNL information was also distributed through the mail with flyers sent to every mailing address in the Skyway-West Hill subarea. The flyers were translated into six of the most common languages spoken in Skyway-West Hill. Digital flyers were also distributed using the Renton School District's digital communication platform, Peachjar.

The Department of Local Services supported the Department of Community and Human Services on the Anti-Displacement Report for the communities of Skyway-West Hill and North Highline. This project involved a series of eight community workshops that were co-led and facilitated by community members. While the focus of the sessions were strategies and actions King County could take to address residential displacement, there was significant crossover in terms of topics related to the community's needs, priorities, and vision for the future.

In April 2021, a contract was signed with Urban Family, a locally based community organization to assist with deeper engagement on the CNL and Subarea Plan, especially with historically underrepresented residents. Urban Family was also asked to assist with engagement on local investments being planned by King County Metro, as well as additional engagement on the Anti-Displacement Report mentioned above. This contract with Urban Family is also referred to as the Skyway Community Voices contract.

Outreach efforts focused on trying to hear from a wide variety of residents and stakeholders, with a goal of including communities that experience marginalization and communities of color to align more closely with the demographics of the area. In most cases, demographic information about residents who participated in the process was not collected because doing so may have deterred participation, especially in virtual community meetings and online surveys. If demographic information was collected for a specific event or activity, the results are described along with that particular event or activity.

Community engagement related to the CNL and Subarea Plan were supported by communications staff from the Director's Office of the Department of Local Services and led by the subarea planning staff from the Permitting Division.

III. Community Engagement

Community engagement for the CNL consisted of virtual community meetings, attendance at existing community-based organization meetings, phone interviews, and online surveys. This engagement was done in concert with community engagement for the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan and for the Skyway West Hill and North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategy Report. Urban Families, a local community-based organization, supported King County with various outreach and engagement efforts.

A. Community Meetings

Fall Planning Kickoff – August 18, 2020:

To kick off the second phase of Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan and CNL process, a virtual community meeting was held to explain the changes to the subarea planning program and the CNL body of work. Separate language-specific virtual meetings were held for residents who speak Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali on August 25, 26, and 27 respectively. The number of participants for the August 18 meeting was about 25 residents. The language-specific meetings were not as well attended. The Somali language meeting had six participants and included an active discussion. The main themes that came out of the meetings were:

- Development of a community center
- Skyway Business District revitalization and economic development
- Job creation and priority hiring of local residents
- Sidewalks, especially in the residential areas to make walking safer
- Investment in and activation of parks
- Transit service and greater access to service
- Youth programs and services

Community members were also asked for ideas on community engagement, and they had several suggestions:

- Involve as many community members as possible
- Go to where folks are already meeting
- Make break-out rooms smaller to enable more neighbor-to-neighbor discussion
- Record the meetings and make them available on-demand for later viewing and commenting
- Ask immigrant community groups to help with meeting advertising to increase turnout
- Set up a phone bank and have people call someone they know
- Advertise on language radio stations where possible

Based on this feedback, the Department of Local Services decided to work with a local community-based organization to facilitate much of the community engagement.

Skyway Community Voices Community Conversation – July 8, 2021

This community conversation was facilitated by Urban Family Executive Director Paul Patu. There were approximately 43 participants at the meeting. The discussion focused on the top 10 priorities that had emerged from community conversations and surveys. These online community surveys are discussed further below.

Top Priorities

Based on the responses to the second survey the following community priorities emerged:

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1. Establish a Skyway-West Hill community center
2. Provide social and health services as well as job-training programs in the neighborhood
3. Improve transit services
4. Support area youth with recreation, education, and employment programs
5. Re-imagine public safety in partnership with the community
6. Improve safety and control speeds on local streets and Martin Luther King Jr. Way S (SR900)
7. Install sidewalks, crosswalks, and streetlights on neighborhood streets
8. Invest in community-driven affordable housing and mixed-use developments
9. Revitalize the Skyway Business District and other neighborhood business areas for local, BIPOC businesses
10. Complete improvements to Skyway Park and improve access and visibility to the park

Participants discussed whether they felt these top priorities reflect the true needs of the community. The general sentiment was that they created a good list, but that having to limit their options to only 10 priorities didn't account for the many other needs of the community.

Following the meeting, participants were asked to tag which of these 10 priorities were the most important. The three priorities that received the most support included:

- Revitalization of the Skyway Business District with local BIPOC businesses
- Sidewalks, crosswalks, and streetlights
- A community center

[Skyway Community Voices Subarea Plan and CNL Virtual Input Session – October 26, 2021](#)

The virtual community meeting was facilitated by Urban Family Executive Director Paul Patu. There were 22 participants at the meeting, including two urban planning specialists from the architecture and urban design firm Schemata Workshops. They walked participants through the public-review draft of the subarea plan and answered questions about how to submit comments. Several members of the public asked about particular action items that have been included in the catalog of community requests. They were also directed to the publicinput.com engagement hub to review the material that has been collected and to share additional thoughts. The meetings were publicized with flyers in English, Spanish, and Arabic. Although the top three non-English languages spoken at home in Skyway-West Hill are Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali, the organizers of the event were advised by other community partners that many Muslim residents feel more comfortable with Arabic. Thus, translating materials into Arabic could lead to greater participation by these traditionally underrepresented residents.

B. Online Community Surveys

King County developed an online engagement hub at: www.publicinput.com/skyway. The engagement hub was initially populated with a multi-page survey that asked community residents to learn about the services and programs offered by King County and to suggest programs, services, and capital improvements that they felt were most needed for the neighborhood. The website link was distributed at a series of community resource events, publicized in the Skyway Water and Sewer District Newsletter, and distributed through several email communications to area residents, including the Renton School District's e-flyer delivery system.

This first round of surveying and information gathering was open from August through mid-October 2020. The survey had 102 participants and collected 159 comments. The engagement hub was viewed

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2,535 times. The graph below shows which neighborhood survey participants call home. It shows that residents from across Skyway-West Hill participated.

The main themes that emerged were:

- Community center
- Transportation (sidewalks and transit/bus service)
- Parks, open spaces, and recreation
- Public safety
- Youth programs
- Economic development

A second survey was launched in October and ran through January 2021. This survey asked participants to indicate their support for the requests gathered during the first survey along with additional items from the 2015 Skyway-West Hill Action Plan (SWAP).³ The number of participants and responses for the five topic areas are included under the subheadings below. All the following surveys were also translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali.

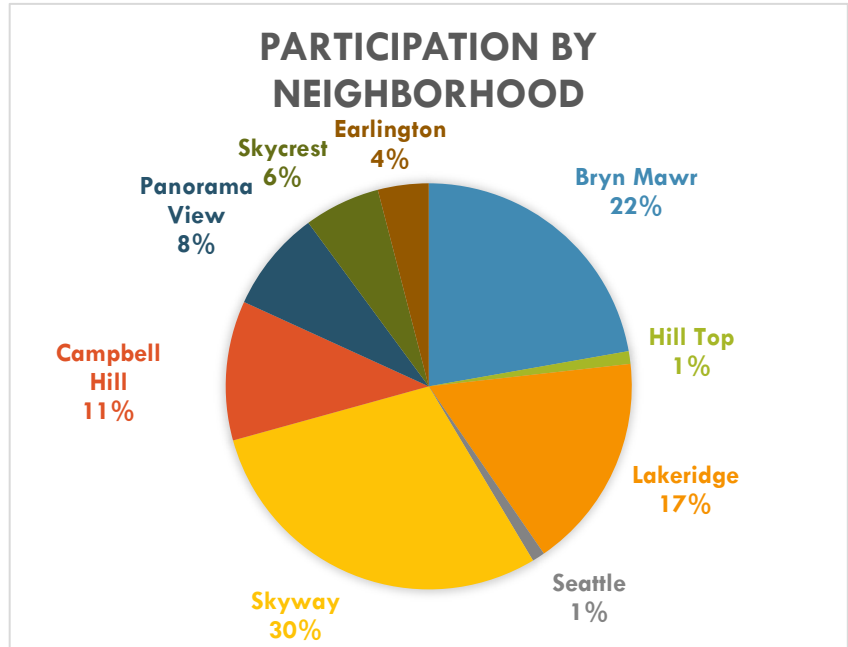


Figure 2. Participation by neighborhood in first survey

Under the heading **Healthy Connected Neighborhoods** (38 participants, 1,383 responses) the top priorities were:

- More walkable spaces or sidewalks in residential areas (no specified location)
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle routes in north/south corridors
- Improve safety for pedestrians on Martin Luther King Jr. Way S (SR 900)
- Add crosswalks and speed limit signs to high traffic streets
- Improve roadside vegetation maintenance
- Provide bus passes to youth and elderly residents
- Improve bus stop sitting areas with lighting, safety, and signage
- Create a farmers' market to stimulate health and the local economy
- Provide more options for health services
- Create an "action group" dedicated to establishing programs for at-risk youth and other individuals as alternatives to criminal and gang activity
- Create an "action group" dedicated to working with the King County Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney to pursue alternative community policing models

Under the heading **Smart Sustainable Growth** (21 participants, 514 responses) the top priorities were:

- New multifamily developments should be confined to areas currently designated for multifamily

³ [Skyway-West Hill Action Plan, 2015](#) Skyway Solutions led a community planning effort that resulted in the Skyway-West Hill Action Plan (SWAP).

- Mixed-use buildings that include both residential and commercial space should be allowed in the Skyway Business District
- Pursue businesses and other organizations that would be assets to the Skyway Business District
- Enhance the appearance of existing commercial buildings and properties
- Develop urban design standards and a community review process for the commercial, non-industrial areas of Skyway-West Hill
- Pursue improvements to transit (bus services/facilities) in the community to access locations more easily in surrounding cities
- Provide pedestrian/bicycle access along streets, parking lots, and between and through residential areas

Under the heading **Thriving, Educated Youth and Community** (43 participants, 1,396 responses) the top priorities were:

- More community parks and trails with safe, walkable access
- Community Center for youth and seniors as a place for multiple service providers to come together to serve the community
- Protect existing parks and add more where feasible
- Complete renovations of Skyway Park that have been planned for years
- Regulate overnight parking at Skyway Park
- Add new and improve access points to Skyway Park
- Create affordable recreational opportunities for youth (i.e., sports leagues, camps, etc.)
- Create a tutoring center for extended learning opportunities
- Establish a childcare center for working parents and as a youth employment opportunity
- Increase access to college and college preparation opportunities
- Work with the community and community-based organizations to support advancement of the school district and local schools

Under the heading **Economic Prosperity and Affordable Housing** (30 participants, 625 responses) the top priorities were:

- Expand property tax exemption for low-income seniors
- Increase homeownership with down-payment assistance programs
- Create redevelopment-assistance program
- Require relocation assistance for renters being involuntarily displaced
- More business activity in the neighborhood with more diverse and healthy dining and drinking options
- Develop the “empty space” areas between commercial buildings into mini-public plazas or green spaces
- Purchase and maintain litter bins for the business district

Under the heading **Culture Art and Innovation** (17 participants, 366 responses) the top priorities were:

- Create public spaces that help increase cross-cultural, social and community connections
- Establish artistic gateways at the entrances to the Skyway Business District
- Improve the overall appearance of the Skyway Business District to reflect the cultural diversity of this community

- Build kiosks and signage to promote neighborhood communications and awareness of local businesses

The second survey included an optional demographic questionnaire that participants could complete after answering the survey questions. The demographic questions asked about gender, age, race/ethnicity, housing tenure, language spoken at home, and household income. The response rate to the demographic questions was lower than for the survey itself, but there were some common themes that emerged. The gender of respondents was closely split between male and female, with some choosing not to answer. The ages of respondents were generally representative of the subarea as a whole. About a third said they were between 26 and 35 years old. Interestingly, on the Economic Prosperity survey, almost a third of the participants reported as being over the age of 56. In terms of race and ethnicity, the participants overwhelmingly (60 to 85%) reported as White. Black or African American and Asian participants represented about 15 to 20% of the respondents to the demographic questions. Most (75% or more) of the respondents reported as living in a single-family home that they own. English was the dominant language spoken at home (90 to 100%) of respondents. In terms of household income, between 20 and 33% of respondents said they preferred not to answer. Those that did respond tended to be mostly from households making more than the area median income.

At the very end of the second survey, a virtual comment box was left open for participants to share additional thoughts and to sign up for email updates on the subarea plan and CNL process. To date, 18 additional comments have been received and 76 people have signed up to receive updates.

The complete results of the second survey and comments received can be found at the end of this section.

C. Skyway West Hill and North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategy Study Engagement

In preparation for writing the Skyway-West Hill and North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategy Study report, a King County interdepartmental workgroup engaged with community members and residents to hear their ideas and understand their concerns regarding displacement. The overarching goal of the engagement was to collaboratively shape the anti-displacement recommendations to reflect the two communities' priorities.

Translation of written materials and interpretation were offered at the first three workshop sessions in Spanish, Somali, and Vietnamese, which are the most-spoken languages other than English in Skyway-West Hill and North Highline. Unfortunately, Zoom had limited capability to adequately accommodate and support language-access services for all languages in Zoom channels. In-language support was used by fewer than 10 community members per meeting. County staff is assessing outreach methods that would increase limited-English-proficient community participation.

The following methods were used to engage with community members from October 2020 through April 2021:

Community Facilitators

A community facilitator team consisted of seven community leaders representing six community-based organizations in Skyway-West Hill and North Highline, all rooted in communities most impacted by displacement. Community facilitators were paid for their time and played a critical role in the process, contributing approximately 30 to 45 hours of their time over six months to co-designing the curriculum

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for the Anti-Displacement Workshop Series, co-facilitating five out of the six community meetings, providing in-language facilitation in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali as needed, initiating a community work session to develop community-led recommendations, and providing feedback and strategic guidance on the draft recommendations to county staff members.

Anti-displacement Workshop Series

In the fall of 2020, King County staff and community facilitators designed and hosted three workshops to review the anti-displacement strategies identified in King County Motion 15539 and Action 19 of the Comprehensive Plan update. Over 40 community members participated in the fall workshop series.

Community Work Sessions & Discussions

In January of 2021, 35 community members came together with community facilitators to generate community-led recommendations and provide feedback to King County staff about the proposed anti-displacement strategies. Community members also identified other strategy ideas and areas of concern outside of the proposed anti-displacement strategies. In March of 2021, the interdepartmental workgroup hosted another workshop to further explore inclusionary zoning strategies. Community members reviewed and provided input on different options for an inclusionary zoning policy. In April of 2021, the county hosted a community meeting to review the draft anti-displacement recommendations, answer questions, and gather final input. The numerous discussions with the community shaped the recommendations of this report.

Skyway Youth Leadership Council & Youth Survey

From January to April of 2021, King County staff partnered with the Skyway Youth Leadership Council (SYLC), a youth leadership organization comprised of nine youths aged 13 to 24 years old who live in the Skyway area, with the goal of collecting input on anti-displacement strategies from young people living in Skyway-West Hill and North Highline. After learning about the potential anti-displacement strategies, the SYLC decided to focus on Community Preference, Priority Hire, and Community Land Trusts. The SYLC created and launched a survey to understand how youth are impacted by displacement and gather input on these three strategies. Forty youths from Skyway-West Hill and North Highline responded to the survey. Almost half of the respondents had experienced some form of displacement. Many youths shared concerns that housing is too expensive and that they need financial assistance with rent and bills.

Interviews with Immigrant and Refugee Community Organizations

The interdepartmental workgroup had in-depth dialogues with several organizations serving immigrant and refugee communities in the Skyway-West Hill and North Highline neighborhoods. Staff met with 35 Vietnamese elders who shared their challenges accessing housing, a desire for a community gathering space located near affordable housing and the need for accessible transportation options. Staff also met with the Khmer Community of Seattle/King County who shared the Khmer community's need for a community gathering space, culturally appropriate housing, deeply affordable housing, and homeownership options. Lastly, staff met with the Duwamish Valley Affordable Housing coalition who shared that Latinx immigrant communities in North Highline need accessible and affordable homeownership options specifically targeted towards immigrants. Immigrant communities are also seeking community-owned projects and zoning changes that will allow for community-owned affordable housing projects. While not all the community members participating were Skyway-West Hill residents, some were, and their willingness to share their lived experience was instrumental in informing the priorities contained within the subarea plan.

Online Surveys and Social Media

County staff administered an online public input survey from late September 2020 through mid-April 2021. Staff also sent surveys out after each workshop to gather more in-depth feedback from community members. Survey outreach was incorporated into the community engagement performed for the subarea planning work. Over 40 community members completed the surveys. The survey respondents reported that anti-displacement needs to be a top priority for King County, with a strong emphasis on developing affordable housing, creating homeownership opportunities, and exploring innovative strategies like investing in community land-trusts.

Anti-Displacement Strategies Toolkit and Online Resource Hub

In addition to online surveys, the county used the anti-displacement publicinput.com webpage to document the community process and create an online resource hub with links to materials, including a glossary of terms, important background documents, explanations of each strategy, workshop presentation slides, and workshop video recordings. All materials, including those translated into Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese, were also available on Google Drive in the form of an Anti-Displacement Strategies Toolkit to maximize the accessibility and shareability of the resources. The toolkit also included case studies of similar programs and policies in other cities.

Community Priorities from the Anti-Displacement Workshops

The following community priorities emerged from the community engagement process.

1. Increase public investment in affordable housing:
 - fund permanently affordable homeownership units for households at 50 to 80% of area median income (AMI);
 - build affordable rental units for households at or below 60% of AMI;
 - finance community-driven development projects;
 - provide funding for strategic land acquisition for community development;
 - create mixed-use developments with affordable housing, commercial and non-profit office space, and community gathering space;
 - preserve manufactured home communities in Skyway-West Hill; and,
 - increase housing options and types in Skyway-West Hill and North Highline, such as allowing and investing in accessory dwelling units, family size units, and culturally specific affordable housing for immigrant and refugee elders.
2. Enact policies and programs that prevent displacement, protect tenants, and prioritize neighborhood residents:
 - prioritize current and past residents for new affordable housing units;
 - connect eligible homeowners with home repair and property tax exemption programs;
 - provide eviction prevention and rental assistance for low-income renters and implement tenant protections;
 - provide down-payment assistance for low-income home buyers; and
 - reduce commercial displacement and support economic development opportunities for current residents.
3. Increase access to opportunities, amenities, and benefits to current residents when private development happens:
 - build more mixed-income developments;

- increase density or other developer incentives in exchange for affordable units, especially in the commercial core; and
- maintain building scale, adequate parking, and access for elders and people with disabilities as density increases.

D. Skyway Community Voices Project

At the beginning of 2021, King County sought a locally based community organization to assist with community engagement. The ultimate goal was to find innovative ways to connect with historically underserved and underrepresented community members as part of the subarea plan, community needs list, Metro service investments, and anti-displacement report development processes. In April of 2021, a contract was signed with Urban Family, a non-profit with deep connections in the Skyway community and especially with youth, non-English speaking families, renters, and immigrants. The initial strategy was to make residents aware of the upcoming planning process and its long-term implications for the development and well-being of the Skyway community. The project also emphasized the importance of the community's feedback and the power of the community's voice to create healthy and sustainable change.

At the outset of the Community Voices Project, staff from Urban Family performed direct outreach by phone, door-to-door conversations with business owners, and interactions with community members during food and resource distribution events at apartment complexes in Skyway. Staff were prepared with materials summarizing the top priorities.

The first engagement event under the Skyway Community Voices approach was held virtually on the evening of July 8, 2021. The community conversation was facilitated by Paul Patu, Urban Family's executive director. There were approximately 43 community members who participated in the meeting. The focus was the top 10 priorities that had emerged from the ongoing community conversations and the second online survey. At that meeting, it was confirmed that the top 10 were still relevant and were important goals for the community and King County to work together to achieve.

On September 30, 2021, the Community Voices Project hosted a second virtual community meeting to announce the release of the public review draft of the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan. The focus of the meeting was on the structure of the subarea plan and the ways that people could provide comments to King County. About 25 community members participated in the discussion. The discussion also included a review of the top 10 priorities to confirm that these were still accurate.

On October 26, 2021, a third Community Voices Project meeting was hosted online. At this meeting, Urban Family invited urban planning experts from Schemata Workshop to help the community discuss and understand the subarea plan and its potential implications on future development in the neighborhood. About 25 community members participated in the discussion.

In addition to hosting several meetings with the community, the Skyway Community Voices Project also pursued social media and email marketing campaigns to publicize the CNL and the subarea plan processes. Through these efforts, over 3,000 people were reached via social media and over 1,800 people were reached with email messages.

As mentioned earlier, the Skyway Community Voices project also engaged directly with 18 local businesses in Skyway-West Hill and participated in food and resource distribution events at 10 apartment communities in Skyway-West Hill.

IV. Online Engagement Hub Second Survey Results

Healthy, Connected Neighborhoods survey results:

Under the **Transportation-Sidewalks and Street Lights** category the following requests have been made.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Sidewalks along Renton Ave S from 68th Ave S to S 116th Place S	59%	26%	12%	3%	-
More walkable spaces or sidewalks in the residential areas (no specific location identified)	75%	12%	6%	6%	-
Install curb-gutter-sidewalk on neighborhood streets where people must walk in the street	50%	28%	12%	9%	-
Better arterial lighting (See Arterial Classification Map above)	53%	26%	12%	9%	-
Above ground, or elevated walkway, over Martin Luther King Jr. Way	45%	19%	6%	26%	3%
Above ground, or elevated walkway, over Martin Luther King Jr. Way	38%	24%	10%	24%	3%
Improve pedestrian and bicycle routes in north/south corridors	68%	23%	6%	3%	-

Under the **Transportation-Safety, Capacity and Maintenance** category the following requests have been made.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Roundabouts in the area, such as 64th Ave S/S 129th Street/S Langston Road	22%	26%	33%	19%	-
Consider making Rainier Ave four lanes	18%	14%	25%	11%	32%
Enforce speed limit on Rainier Ave S	47%	10%	27%	13%	3%
Improve safety for pedestrians on Martin Luther King Jr. Way S (SR 900)	67%	23%	7%	-	3%
Consider speed bumps near the schools	37%	27%	17%	20%	-
Consider speed bumps in residential areas where people speed	38%	21%	31%	7%	3%
Add crosswalks and speed limit signs on high traffic streets	67%	23%	7%	-	3%
Do "Safe Routes to Schools" planning for Lakeridge and Campbell Hill Elementary Schools with semaphores, signage, sidewalks, lighting, etc.	52%	28%	10%	7%	3%
Improve road maintenance, i.e. fixing potholes and more frequent street cleaning	53%	40%	3%	3%	-
Improve roadside vegetation maintenance	59%	24%	14%	3%	-
Add more bike lanes throughout Skyway-West Hill	30%	40%	27%	3%	-
Install speed cameras near the elementary schools	31%	21%	17%	14%	17%

Under the **Transportation-Transit** category the following requests have been made.

Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Expand public transportation with more service and park-and-rides	45%	31%	17%	7%	-
Connect Martin Luther King Jr. Way South with Skyway Business District with bus route or shuttle	32%	54%	11%	-	4%
Expand the VIA program	36%	25%	36%	4%	-
Expand shuttle services	19%	33%	33%	15%	-
Improve bus stop sitting areas, lighting, safety, and signage	50%	39%	7%	4%	-
Get light rail running down Rainier Avenue	41%	17%	14%	17%	10%
Get light rail running down Renton Avenue	36%	28%	12%	12%	12%
Provide bus passes to the youth and elderly	52%	31%	7%	10%	-
Re-route the 107 to make it more useful	36%	29%	29%	-	7%
Have more and faster bus service	46%	39%	14%	-	-
Provide north/south bus routes that connect to more than just Renton and Seattle	29%	43%	18%	11%	-

Under the **Health** category, the following requests and issues have been made.

Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
COVID testing site in Skyway	55%	24%	7%	7%	7%
Provide more options for health services	57%	32%	4%	4%	4%
Create a farmer's market to stimulate health and the local economy	74%	19%	3%	-	3%
Health clinics from low-income families	45%	41%	7%	3%	3%
Hold public health sessions at the library or elsewhere	41%	28%	21%	7%	3%

Under the **Public Safety** category, the following project, priorities, and policies were presented in the 2016 Skyway West Hill Action Plan.

Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Create and 'action group' dedicated to increasing/coordinating neighborhood watch programs.	29%	25%	42%	4%	-
Create an 'action group' dedicated to establishing programs for at-risk youth and individuals as alternatives to criminal and gang activity.	67%	21%	12%	-	-
Increase police presence and patrol cars from the King County Sheriff's Office	32%	29%	16%	13%	10%
Increase safety "infrastructure" in key public and commercial areas including area lighting, police call boxes and security cameras	41%	38%	14%	3%	3%
Create an 'action group' dedicated to working with the King County Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney to pursue alternative community policing models	52%	28%	14%	7%	-

Health, Connected Neighborhoods comments:

More programs to reduce the roots of inequity, less punitive policing
Please consider increasing traffic law enforcement. There are a number of individuals speeding and driving recklessly on Renton Avenue and other roads, which is concerning as I walk there with my family. I also encourage the respective transportation departments to remake the roads to encourage slower speeds. Thank you.
Good lighting and sidewalks are helpful safety measures, but I recommend separating them from other options like police call boxes and security cameras.
There needs to be increased lighting on neighborhood streets. It gets very dark at night and creates a hazard.
Please connect social workers to go into high-risk mental health situations first before police.
More lighting (downward lighting) on neighborhood streets that residents don't have to pay for. We had an additional one on 134th, but when the neighbor stopped paying, they took it out!
I object to your totally racist verbiage within the first question. I was in total agreement with the first sentence. That second sentence only served to inflame your readers and was absolutely unnecessary. It left one with the only option of responding in a racist way - either one way or another. What answer are you looking for, anyway? Do I believe the police are all racist? NO! And I don't believe most of us answering these surveys are either.
The racial verbiage in some of these questions needs to be rethought and removed. That kind of one-sided language does NOT serve our community or help us get past racial profiling; it works both ways!
I believe that connection to the Chief Sealth Trail from Skyway Park via the power line corridor is VERY IMPORTANT. Provides alternative to walking/riding along busy arterials! This really should be a priority to help create and connect open spaces in our area.
Provide regular cleaning services for public areas such as parks, business district, and bus stops.
there needs to be a sidewalk or other safe walking space on S 128th Street in Skyway, as well as S 127th Place. A large volume of people needs to walk these 2 roads to access either MLK or Renton Ave bus routes (it's the only access coming from the multiple apartment complexes around Skyway park) and it's quite dangerous in many stretches which have neither a sidewalk or even a clear shoulder. I regularly have to push my son's stroller in the middle of the street, where cars are doing 30-40 mph.

Unincorporated King County needs to have "tree maintenance" laws (like Seattle & Renton do) about not removing ancient trees just because you've bought a property. A developer recently bought a large tract in the Earlington area, and promptly denuded it of all of its trees. Research shows that low-income areas have less greenery than more affluent areas, and natural greenery in our environment contributes to the mental health of constituents, just as parks do. This is a climate change issue!

Smart, Sustainable Growth survey results:

Under the category of **Residential Land Use and Density**, the following priorities have been put forward.
Please rate the importance of each priority on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
New housing should be similar in size and density as the existing neighborhood.	35%	30%	20%	10%	5%
Development of new townhouses and apartments should be allowed in the single-family neighborhoods.	11%	21%	21%	16%	32%
Larger lots (1 acre or more) should be allowed to develop with lots as small as 3,200 square feet and with townhouses.	10%	10%	38%	19%	24%
New multifamily developments should be confined to areas currently designated for multifamily.	37%	21%	16%	11%	16%
New multifamily developments should be allowed to exceed the allowed size and density if the development provides public amenities and/or infrastructure, such as parks, plazas, artwork and sidewalks, for example.	25%	45%	5%	5%	20%
Mixed-use buildings, that include both residential and commercial space, should be allowed in the Skyway Business District	53%	42%	5%	-	-
An 'action group' should be convened to advise on way to keep housing prices in the community affordable to low and moderate-income families.	33%	28%	11%	17%	11%

Under the category of **Commercial, Industrial and Recreational Land Use and Density** the following priorities have been put forward.
Please rate the importance of each priority on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Pursue businesses and uses to locate in the Skyway Business District.	47%	47%	5%	-	-
Develop a model mixed-use project combining affordable housing with commercial services within the Skyway Business District.	35%	55%	-	10%	-
Promote the development of housing for the elderly near public transportation, recreation and medical facilities, and retail shopping services in Skyway-West Hill.	21%	63%	16%	-	-
Enhance the appearance of existing commercial buildings and properties.	47%	37%	11%	5%	-
Preserve existing industrial lands and uses as is, and only allow industrial uses that are compatible and not harmful to the surrounding residential areas.	37%	37%	16%	-	11%
Develop urban design standards and a community review process for the commercial, nonindustrial areas of Skyway-West Hill	47%	29%	12%	6%	6%

Under the category of **Infrastructure**, the following projects, priority and policies have been put forward.
Please rate the importance of each project, priority and request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Provide pedestrian/bicycle access along streets, parking lots and between and through commercial areas	50%	39%	11%	-	-
Provide pedestrian/bicycle access along streets, parking lots and between and through residential areas	58%	21%	16%	5%	-
Pursue improvements to transit (bus services/facilities) in the community to more easily access locations in surrounding cities	68%	21%	11%	-	-
Develop better vehicle and pedestrian circulation, safer driveway entrances and parking systems within the commercial properties located in the Skyway Business District	47%	32%	11%	5%	5%
Improve pedestrian circulation and the function and appearance of parking lots in the business areas, and reduce the need for public off-street parking requirements	30%	40%	5%	25%	-
Existing entrances to parking lots within the Skyway Business District should be delineated with landscaping, pavement markings or signs	33%	39%	17%	11%	-
Seek to have remaining septic systems in use to be transferred to public sewer	32%	32%	26%	11%	-
The drainage basin within the community should be evaluated for retention/detention facility needs to correct existing and future storm water runoff problems	47%	47%	5%	-	-
Create an 'action group' dedicated to working with local governments and other community groups to establish a Local Improvement District (LID). A LID is a local government financing tool for property owners to invest in building infrastructure improvements (such as sidewalks or sewer lines) that serve their immediate area	26%	53%	5%	16%	-

Smart, Sustainable Growth comments:

Seek to link the Chief Sealth Trail to Skyway Park to provide non-arterial corridor for walking/biking. This is VERY IMPORTANT to creating Smart and Sustainable growth in our area.

I would encourage an incremental development philosophy to allow the next stage of development rather than zoning changes which create few areas of massive change and most areas of no change. Specifically, I would propose allowing up to fourplexes throughout the community (similar to recent changes in Oregon and Minneapolis) and reducing business zoning restrictions to make it easier to start and own a small business. Thank you.

Please designate a team to evaluate, restore and regenerate our local creeks and streams, to day-light and protect the wetlands and waterways that feed into our watershed.

King county needs to maintain pockets such as alleys by clearing overgrowth of invasive blackberries, etc.

In Bryn Mar, adjacent on Dixon Dr. S. there have been problems with flooding, parking, and safe walkways. Numerous requests have been made for sidewalks, to no avail and at the detriment to the neighborhood.

Thriving, Educated Youth and Community survey results:

The following requests for a **community center, parks, open spaces, and trails** have been made.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Community Center for youth and seniors as a place for multiple service providers to come together to serve the community	69%	26%	3%	3%	-
More community parks and trails with safe walkable access	81%	19%	-	-	-
Build trails and access to Bryn Mawr Park	44%	38%	13%	5%	-
Add access to Lakeridge Park at the top of the hill (Lakeridge Park is a City of Seattle park)	46%	32%	20%	2%	-
More parks, even if small neighborhood or "pocket parks", within the residential area	47%	34%	16%	3%	-
Protect existing parks and add, where feasible	66%	29%	5%	-	-
Develop a trail connection between Skyway Park and the Chief Sealth Trail in Seattle	50%	34%	16%	-	-

The following requests have been made regarding **Skyway Park**.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Keep the two fields on the north end and repurpose the southern field	16%	39%	34%	8%	3%
Provide more parking at the park	16%	24%	29%	24%	8%
Regulate overnight parking at the park	62%	16%	16%	3%	3%
Regular brush cleaning under the power lines	34%	42%	24%	-	-
Complete the renovations of that have been planned for several years	68%	24%	8%	-	-
Add more walking trails trail to the park	44%	38%	13%	3%	3%
Add an off-leash dog area at the park	34%	22%	17%	17%	10%
Add new and improve the access points to the park	49%	38%	8%	3%	3%
Upgrade the tennis courts at the park	26%	26%	32%	13%	3%
Add a bike/skate ramps to the park	28%	28%	18%	15%	12%
Add more amenities to the park	36%	41%	15%	5%	3%

Under the category of **Activities for Youth** the following project and programs have been requested.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Create affordable recreational opportunities for youth. (i.e. Sports leagues, camp, etc.)	73%	27%	-	-	-
Establish an annual Skyway-West Hill community event in summer to celebrate the diversity of our youth and their families and showcase their activities	41%	46%	5%	5%	3%
Establish multigenerational activities such as community gardens	53%	36%	6%	3%	3%
Organize youth-led activities and specific events that bring youth together	58%	26%	13%	3%	-
Create a Skyway Youth Council to advocate for issues that impact youth	55%	34%	8%	3%	-
Create a tutoring center for extended learning opportunities	68%	30%	-	-	2%
Establish a child care center for working parents and as a youth employment opportunity	59%	32%	-	5%	3%

Under the category of **Education and Employment** the following priorities and projects have been requested.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Strategic tutoring programs that focus on Bilingual students	30%	51%	11%	5%	3%
Establish music and art programs for youth	54%	38%	8%	-	-
Increase early education/preschool programs	56%	28%	15%	-	-
Create and develop youth job readiness and employment opportunities (summer jobs, internships, etc.)	70%	24%	5%	-	-
Increase access to college and college preparation opportunities	82%	16%	3%	-	-
Work with the community and community based organizations to support advancement of the school district and local schools	75%	25%	-	-	-

Thriving, Educated Youth and Community comments:

- In regard to Skyway Park access, I feel it is VERY Important that a walking/biking trail connecting to the Chief Sealth Trail via the power line corridor be completed as soon as possible to provide safe, non-arterial travel through our neighborhoods.
- Make the park entrance on Renton by the apartments clear, paved and well lit.
- If repurposing existing park space, consider covered recreational space where people in the community can safely use regardless of the weather, such as covered basketball courts, with roof top solar power system or green rooftop.
- Skyway Park isn't well set up for most people and is underused. It needs an overhaul. Better spaces for play and hanging out outside (covered from the rain).
- We need some security at some of the parks. At least regular drive thru checking. So we can feel safe.

I'm an 8-month resident and would love more parks that were walkable and accessible.
Parental inclusion where needed
Preserve the county-owned Brooks Village property as a public nature park instead of subsidizing the construction of apartments by for-profit contractors.
Community Food Forest would be a great boost to bringing people together and serving those most vulnerable to food insecurity, as well as being good for the environment.
More support for mental health services and resources for disabled and houseless
It would be great to have an indoor/outdoor off leash dog park, or if it is 100% outdoor then the ground should be turf and not just dirt to make the park more accommodating for the rainy months.
I realize that this is too late, but the survey is set up in such a way that the participant is most likely to select every option as "very important". The results might not be as precise as they could be.
Mental health service support and completion of the Chief Sealth trail are my personal priorities.
Young people who grow up feeling pride for their neighborhood must also feel respected and heard by the adults, community leaders, law enforcement & peers.
Family resource, emergency care and development (mental health family practice emts., elder care, advocacy, self-reliance classes) (out-door theater))(space to show-case neighbors, who doing , or flying SKY-high!! Newspaper????

Economic Prosperity and Affordable Housing survey results:

The strategies being considered at this time are listed on the left. Tell the County how excited you are about each of the strategies. If you aren't sure or would need more information, mark the circle for "need more information."

	Very Excited About	Somewhat Excited About	Neutral	Somewhat Concerned About	Very Concerned About	I Need More Information
Community preference and right-to-return policies	12%	23%	27%	4%	4%	31%
Expand property tax exemption for low-income seniors	39%	39%	11%	7%	4%	-
Inclusionary zoning	4%	23%	23%	12%	4%	35%
Increase homeownership through rent-to-own programs	26%	26%	19%	7%	11%	11%
Increase homeownership through community land trusts	11%	22%	19%	15%	7%	26%
Increase homeownership with downpayment assistance programs	39%	36%	11%	4%	7%	4%
Preservation of manufactured housing communities	4%	19%	15%	27%	23%	12%
Develop no net loss of affordable housing policies	35%	12%	8%	12%	8%	27%
Create a redevelopment assistance program	35%	12%	15%	8%	8%	23%
Require relocation assistance for renters being involuntarily displaced	42%	23%	12%	8%	12%	4%

Under the category of **Improvements to the Skyway Business District** the following policies and projects have been requested.

Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Landscape the street and sidewalk; do a facelift of unattractive, old and plain building facades in Skyway Business District	50%	27%	19%	-	4%
Develop the "empty-space" areas between commercial buildings into mini-public plazas or green spaces	63%	22%	4%	7%	4%
Ensure that future development or redevelopment of commercial buildings within the Skyway Business District will be built directly along the sidewalks	36%	29%	14%	14%	7%
New development should include a mix of uses with retail or office space on the ground floor and residential units above	44%	26%	19%	11%	-
Purchase and maintain litter bins for the business district	56%	33%	11%	-	-
Re-imagine the Skyway Business District with space for modular food carts, popup retail establishments, and other portable spaces businesses can rent. Build some permanent infrastructure such as bathrooms and seating areas that tenants collectively maintain.	46%	32%	7%	14%	-
Support more BIPOC owned businesses and entrepreneurs	52%	22%	15%	11%	-
More business activity in the neighborhood, with more diverse and healthy dining and drinking options	70%	22%	4%	-	4%

Economic Prosperity and Affordable Housing comments:

<p>I feel it is important that the main business areas are redeveloped before any zoning changes are allowed in single-family lots, as it would ruin and change the character of the surrounding neighborhoods by allowing multiple homes on existing single home lots.</p>
<p>I believe the changes should focus on functionality with a secondary goal of aesthetics. The primary focus for the business district changes should be pedestrian accessibility/safety with sidewalks and traffic calming. This may result in some of the changes noted above, but not the main goal. I would contend it is more important for business that someone can walk from one side of Renton Avenue to the other safely rather than some shrubbery. Also, I mentioned this elsewhere, but easing the creation of small businesses and perhaps a small business incubator would be positive. Lastly, I believe small businesses should get the same (or more) tax breaks and government support that large institutions receive.</p>
<p>This effort MUST prioritize the voices of BIPOC residents. Rapid development of the area will hurt us the most. No new rental units. Create real, generational opportunities by creating affordable homes, assistance programs and rent to own. Ownership IS THE ONLY WAY TO EQUITY.</p>
<p>1. Develop a marketing plan to attract retail and office development on Renton Ave So. 2. Clean up Renton Ave So. This would include standards and guidelines for maintenance and upkeep.</p>
<p>Prevent churches from occupying the space where businesses and community spaces should be. Churches don't pay their share of taxes.</p>
<p>Be sure that these places are easily accessible via bus (i.e.-bus stops not spaced far apart).</p>
<p>Tenant improvement money should be available for existing businesses in the area so that they are not displaced when improvements are made. Also, very important for community ownership of land/property in the area for economic stability.</p>

Culture, Art & Innovation survey results:

Under the **Culture** category, the following projects have been requested.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Improve the overall appearance of the Skyway Business District to reflect the cultural diversity of this community	38%	31%	31%	-	-
Build kiosks and signage to promote neighborhood communications and awareness of local businesses	38%	31%	19%	12%	-
Establish artistic gateways at the entrances to the Skyway Business District	44%	12%	38%	6%	-
Create public spaces that help increase cross-cultural social and community connections	47%	47%	-	7%	-
Host a yearly parade, carnival or festival (after COVID)	35%	35%	12%	18%	-
Identify major entrances to Skyway-West Hill with signs, pavement markings and landscaping	24%	47%	24%	6%	-
A second-run theatre with affordable entertainment that could be used as a community space	18%	53%	24%	6%	-

Under the **Art** category, the following ideas have been requested.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Create a studio for musicians to record and perform	18%	18%	53%	12%	-
Form art, dance and theater groups	27%	33%	27%	13%	-
Develop neighborhood art lofts to attract additional creative people to the community	24%	53%	18%	6%	-
Fund multi-generational community art projects throughout the year	19%	56%	19%	6%	-
Honor the legacy and future of the community through murals, statues and mosaics	24%	53%	18%	6%	-

Under the **Innovation** category, the following projects or ideas have been requested.
Please rate the importance of each request on the scale provided.

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Turn an empty building into a business incubator where new entrepreneurs share expenses and support each other	29%	41%	24%	6%	-
Initiate a 'shop local' campaign and create a place for home-based businesses to visibly market their products or services	24%	65%	6%	6%	-
Establish Urban Farms and expand P-Patch gardens for use by local residents	41%	47%	12%	-	-
Establish a tool library, where residents can borrow tools and take classes to learn how to fix things	35%	35%	29%	-	-
Place kiosks or LED signs at critical intersections throughout West Hill to announce community events in multiple languages	19%	25%	31%	25%	-

Culture, Art & Innovation comments:

- Add artwork from local artists in the local parks.
- Get a regular Farmers Market going that includes inexpensive booths for art and craft people.

Additional CNL comments received after closure of second survey in January 2021:

- Rainer beach & skyway neighborhoods need sidewalks! We're tired of almost being hit by cars while trying to walk around.
- The West Hill Community should be served by the Trees For Neighborhoods program. Currently, unincorporated King County residents aren't eligible to apply for free trees. Granting us eligibility would be an easy step towards environmental justice in an under resourced community lacking in green spaces.
- As I follow the WA Legislature in their deliberations around HB1477, (Statewide Enhancement of Behavioral Health & Suicide Prevention CRISIS RESPONSE), I'm thinking Skyway (and Renton) need to have local crisis response people and locations where our folks with Serious Mental Illness can go for urgent treatment. This is an alternative to hospital ER's which are overloaded, and far away. Valley Medical does not have a Psych floor for treatment & recovery. There should be state money for places where those in serious need of treatment can go, manned by Doctors, no just peers.
- I would like feed back on how many of these suggestions become planned and scheduled to get done, and those that didn't explain why not.....
- Sidewalks and "dark skies" initiatives would be welcome additions. The sidewalks suggestion will make these areas more pedestrian friendly in general & increase accessibility for the differently abled, seniors, and parents with strollers.
"Dark skies" improvements include relatively low cost methods to shield and direct street lights and other lighting to improve night sky visibility (stars!) which has been tied to improved mental health in people and will also prevent glare/night lighting harm to migrating birds, neighborhood critters and insects that are beneficial to all.
- I would like to see more low-income housing buildings/units and a dedicated community center.
- Ensure support for BIPOC small businesses to gain access to storefronts and micro-enterprise that are connected to affordable housing that allows space and permits space use for Licensed Family Home Childcare and Child Care Centers.

Amazed at amount of work, effort and participation regarding this entire project. Thank you!
Regarding Skyway/West Hill: Close the ditches, install curbs, sidewalks and bike lanes. Regarding 'gentrification': without it folks there is NO WAY to finance our requests, so maybe it's time to get real and admit that without additional tax dollars there is no chance the County can float bonds to pay for all these requests. We need a healthy mix of high tax revenue producing properties mixed in with well-managed high density lower cost properties - and, of course, space for tax-producing business and services. If we want roads, bike paths, better lighting, etc., etc. we need a way to pay for it and we'll-managed 'gentrification' (NOT the kind that drives people away) is the only way to raise the funds needed for the improvements we seek. One of the greatest disservices to our community is the development of townhouses along Renton Ave at about 130th: EVERY ONE of those units sold for between \$450,000 and \$550,000, they installed a decent sidewalk and lighting, re-paved a good part of Renton Ave and installed a crosswalk and light - all good things- but what difference did it really make? There is no bike lane on that hill. The sidewalks both East and Westbound along that stretch of Renton Ave are not navigable by pedestrians OR bikes NOR is there adequate shoulder on the roadway for bike or pedestrians. And this is the primary connector between Renton and Skyway. I get it: the anticipated tax revenues from a \$10 million (that is a wild, un-researched guess) project isn't enough to rebuild the entire roadway on the hill. But I think it makes my point: we wouldn't have what little improvements we got without this bit of 'gentrification' in the neighborhood. So: if we can't get road shoulders, a bike lane and wide through sidewalks from this kind of development, where are we going to get the money for the improvements we all want? Maybe we need to update our thinking on this word 'gentrification' and realize that without a little of it, very little infrastructure in our community is going to change. Maybe not a popular opinion; just my observation to date.

It's scary to walk on the streets during the day without sidewalks and scarier at night with no lights. Cars go super-fast on the residential areas without a care, at least with sidewalks there's some protection.

Put in more roundabouts especially at 59th Ave S and Langston. And speed bumps long 59th Ave S. It is used as a speedway and very few stop at the stop sign.

Reduce taxes. Actually prosecute crime. Eliminate non-essential programs that can be done by the private sector or charities.

We need a community center in Skyway, preferably in the commercial district where the library is. We also need to lift the restriction on drive-through businesses. Presumably its intent was to keep Skyway business district focused on walk-in-only businesses, but in today's world, that just means fewer businesses.

This follows on to the observation made in existing comments that community members are paying directly for the streetlights in Skyway. This is because, except for few exceptions, King County's Roads Services policies specifies that King County will *not* provide this service. Secondly, community members who have taken on this expense are prone, naturally, to locate their light at their home which is rarely at an intersection. Lighting intersections at night is one of the best ways to take a step to improve the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists and auto drivers throughout the Skyway community. And there is demonstrably little individual interest now in Skyway for intersection streetlights to be provided directly by its citizens.

Regarding the Metro Transit portion of the King County Services provided page, and the service map therein, it is misinformation to include Route 143 (Black Diamond to downtown Seattle) as if it serves Skyway because it does not.

The last stop for the 143 line before it reaches downtown is at the Walgreens, Sunset Avenue and Rainier Avenue, Renton. In fact that route also does not stop at either Renton's Stevens Avenue nor Oaksdale stops on Sunset Avenue, nor the 68th Avenue S nor S 129th Street stops on Martin Luther King Jr. Way. These stops are also bypassed on the return trip, first stop being at the Fred Meyer Renton Center stop at Rainier Avenue South and Sunset Avenue.

The map should be revised so not to misinform.

Great suggestion!

Please consider protecting existing tall trees and increasing the tree cover in Skyway-West Hill. The data shows and you can look around and see it, neighborhoods with more people of color and people with lower incomes seem to be the most deprived those who get most deprived of the benefits of trees. Skyway-West Hill trees trap and slow rainwater, help conserve energy, and oh my gosh the heat-wave-heat-dome... trees reduce heat islands! They are beautiful and healthy for our communities.

We need a tool library, we are trying to get one up and running but we need a space to get members, and members to get a space.

There is so much BIPOC talent in Skyway—would love to see a community space dedicated to performing arts, community-building, youth programming, and our neighborhood's history.

Skyway-West Hill Community Needs List Equity Impact Review

January 7, 2022

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II. Introduction

The Skyway-West Hill Community Needs List (CNL) Equity Impact Review strives to rigorously and holistically summarize the process by which the CNL was developed and how it might affect the residents of Skyway-West Hill. It relies on King County's Equity Impact Review Process¹ by considering the following equity frameworks:

- **Distributional Equity:** Fair and just distribution of benefits and burdens to all parties
- **Process Equity:** Inclusive, open, and fair process with meaningful opportunities for input
- **Cross-generational Equity:** Consideration of effects of current actions on future generations

The King County Strategic Plan presents a vision for “King County where all people have equitable opportunities to thrive.” This vision is consistent with and furthered by the 2016-2022 Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) Strategic Plan that contains four strategies to advance equity and social justice that include investing:

- Upstream and where the needs are greatest
- In community partnerships
- In employees
- With accountable and transparent leadership

The equity and social justice shared values that guide and shape our work commit us to being:

- Inclusive and collaborative
- Diverse and people focused
- Responsive and adaptive
- Transparent and accountable
- Racially just
- Focused upstream and where the needs are greatest

King County declared racism as a public health crisis on June 11, 2020. All of King County government is committed to implementing a racially equitable response to this crisis, centering on community.

King County's racially equitable response is guided by the following values:

- Anti-racist
- Focus where the negative impacts have been most harmful
- Center on Black, Native and Brown experiences and voices
- Responsive, adaptive, transparent, and accountable
- Focus on addressing root causes

King County has committed to following four pro-equity anti-racism actions:

- Share power
- Interrupt business as usual
- Replace it with something better

¹ [Ordinance 16948](#)

- Get comfortable with discomfort

It is within this framework that the Skyway-West Hill CNL was developed and will be implemented. Furthermore, this analysis of equity impacts seeks to identify, evaluate, and communicate potential impacts – both positive and negative – associated with the development and implementation of the CNL.

Following the Equity Impact Review framework established by the King County Office of Equity and Social Justice, this review is organized into five phases of analysis, as follows:

- Phase 1: Scope. Identify who will be affected
- Phase 2: Assess equity and community context
- Phase 3: Analysis and decision process
- Phase 4: Implementation. Staying connected with the community
- Phase 5: Ongoing Learning. Listening, learning, and adjusting with the community

What is the Skyway-West Hill Community Needs List?

The CNL is a list of projects, programs, and investments that respond to community-identified needs and are consistent with and implement the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan. While developed at the same time as the subarea plan, the CNL is not an element of the King County Comprehensive Plan. Engagement with the community was naturally blended due to the coinciding timeframes and the linkage between community vision and policies in the subarea plan and the program, services, and investments in the CNL.

Community engagement focused on residents historically left out of the planning process and centers and amplifies the voices of residents who reflect the diversity of the area. The recommendations for updated subarea policies and amendments to land-use designations and zoning classifications are based on the feedback gathered from the community, as well as a thorough review of the historic, demographic, economic, and geographic characteristics of Skyway-West Hill and its context within King County and the region.

In 2020, the comprehensive plan² was amended to include policy guidance on the development and implementation of the subarea plan and CNL.

- CP-100** King County shall implement a Community Service Area subarea planning program. This program includes the following components for the development and implementation of each subarea plan:
- a. A subarea plan shall be adopted for each of the six rural Community Service Areas and five large urban Potential Annexation Areas consistent with the scheduled established in the Comprehensive Plan and King County Code Title 20. Each subarea plan shall be streamlined to be focused on locally-specific policies that address long-range community needs.
 - b. The County shall adopt and update on an ongoing basis, a list of services, programs, facilities, and capital improvements that are identified by the

² 2020 Update to the 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan

- community for each geography, known as a community needs list, to implement the vision and policies in the subarea plan and other County plans and to build on the strengths and assets of the community.
- c. Implementation of each subarea plan and community needs list shall be monitored on an ongoing basis via established performance metrics.
 - d. Community engagement for development, review, amendment, adoption, and implementation of each subarea plan shall use the Office of Equity and Social Justice’s equity toolkit.
 - e. The King County Council shall have an established role in the Community Service Area subarea planning process, including in the development, review, amendment, adoption, and monitoring the implementation of each subarea plan and community needs list.

Also, in 2020, King County Code 2.16.055, outlining the Department of Local Services’ duties, was amended to include requirements for development of the CNL. One key requirement is that the county shall use, at a minimum, the “County engages in dialogue” and “County and community work together” levels of engagement as outlined in the Office of Equity and Social Justice’s Community Engagement Guide.

The Determinants of Equity

King County Code 2.10.210 defines the Determinants of Equity³ as the social, economic, geographic, political, and physical environment conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age that lead to the creation of a fair and just society. The determinants of equity include:

- Early Childhood Development
- Education
- Jobs and Job Training
- Health and Human Services
- Food Systems
- Parks and Natural Resources
- Built and Natural Environment
- Transportation
- Community Economic Development
- Neighborhoods
- Housing
- Community and Public Safety
- Law and Justice

Access to the determinants of equity creates a baseline of equitable outcomes for people regardless of race, class, gender, or language spoken. Inequities are created when systemic barriers exist that prevent individuals and communities from accessing these conditions and reaching their full potential. These factors, while invisible to some, have profound and tangible impacts on all.

Each of the determinants of equity are likely to be either directly or indirectly influenced by the implementation of the CNL. The extent to which access to each determinant is realized depends on several factors, such as: available funding resources, timelines for implementation, the scope and location of specific programs and investments, and the community members affected.

³ [King County’s Determinants of Equity Report \(2016\)](#)

III. Equity Impact Review Phase 1 – Who will be affected by the Skyway-West Hill Community Needs List?

A Demographic and Socioeconomic Overview of Skyway-West Hill

The Skyway-West Hill Subarea covers an area of almost three-square miles and is home to approximately 18,000 people. It is the county’s fourth most populous urban unincorporated area, after Fairwood, East Federal Way, and North Highline. Skyway-West Hill includes the neighborhoods of Bryn Mawr, Campbell Hill, Earlington, Hill Top, Lakeridge, Panorama View, Skycrest, and Skyway.

Skyway-West Hill is rich in cultural diversity. Skyway-West Hill is one of three communities in King County where Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) constitute a majority of the population, along with the cities of SeaTac and Tukwila. Skyway-West Hill has the highest proportion of Black and African American residents of any community in Washington at 28%. It also has fourth-highest percentage of Asian residents with 31% (most of whom are Vietnamese) of any community in Washington. White residents represent 27% of the community (the lowest percentage of any community in King County), and Hispanic/Latino residents represent 8%.

Skyway-West Hill has the highest percentage of people who speak more than one language at home (45%), and some of the highest rates of limited English proficiency of any community in the state. The predominant non-English languages spoken in Skyway-West Hill today are Vietnamese, Spanish, Somali, Tagalog, Chinese, and Russian.

The median household income in Skyway-West Hill is about \$71,000, which is 25% lower than the countywide median of \$95,000. An estimated 2,200 individuals (12%) in Skyway-West Hill lived below the poverty line in 2019. With children and youth under 18 living below the poverty level, this statistic increases to 21%, which is double the county percentage.

These figures only tell a small part of the picture, however. The socioeconomic data selected and analyzed in this review is in consideration of four “factors” in King County’s Equity and Social Justice Ordinance 16948⁴ that were identified as impacting access to the determinants of equity: race, class (referring to varying degrees of income), gender, or language spoken.⁵

Table 1: Skyway-West Hill demographics

YEAR	2000	2019
Total Population	14,000	18,000
Change from 2000		32%
Age Characteristics		
Under 18 years	23%	23%
65 years and over	14%	13%
Median Age	38	39
Race and Ethnicity		
Black or African American	25%	28%
American Indian / Alaska Native	0.8%	0.6%
Asian	22%	31%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.5%	0.5%
White	44%	27%
Other race	2%	7%
Two or more races	5%	6%
Hispanic or Latinx (of any race)	5%	8%
Foreign Born Population and Language		
English Only	78%	56%
Other than English	23%	45%
Percent Foreign Born	18%	34%
Median Monthly Housing Costs		
Gross Rent	\$750	\$1,400
Owner with Mortgage	\$1,250	\$2,200
Household Income		
Median Household	\$47,400	\$71,000
% of King County Median Household	89%	75%

Sources: 2000 Census and 2019 ACS survey 5-year estimate for the Bryn Mawr-Skyway CDP. Figures rounded to an appropriate significant digit.

⁴ Ordinance 16948

⁵ King County Code 2.10.210.B

The needs and vulnerabilities of residents can vary significantly based on factors such as household income, homeownership status, access to networks of support, English language proficiency, immigration status, civic engagement, and many others.⁶ This draws on the demographic profile in the subarea plan to identify notable differences and disparities that are related to residents' needs and vulnerabilities.⁷ Additionally, it highlights where there are significant differences in demographic and socioeconomic data for Skyway-West Hill.

Impacted Communities and Populations of Concern

Compared to King County as a whole, Skyway-West Hill has a high proportion of lower-income residents, residents of color, residents who speak a language other than English at home, and foreign-born residents – all groups that have not historically been or felt included in community planning at any level.

The county prioritized outreach to ensure that the perspectives of the following groups were included in the development of the CNL:

- Limited-English-Proficiency Communities, specifically Vietnamese, Spanish, and Somali speakers
- Racial and Ethnic Groups
- Youth
- Seniors and Elderly
- Persons with Disabilities
- Neighborhoods
- Renters and Low-Income Households
- Businesses
- Community Service Providers

The following sections discuss impacted communities, including populations of concern, in the context of how the CNL development process may impact each group.

Limited English Proficiency Communities

Residents who do not speak English as their primary language face significant challenges in engaging in civic life, including the community planning processes. In 2019, approximately 7,700 people, or 45% of the community, spoke a language other than English at home. Approximately 3,900 people, or 23% of the community, have limited English proficiency.

Most outreach and engagement activities are conducted in English and lack sufficient accessibility provisions. Since 45% of the people in the study area speak a language other than English at home, and nearly a quarter of the population does not have strong English-proficiency, it is important to communicate with people in the languages in which they feel most comfortable.

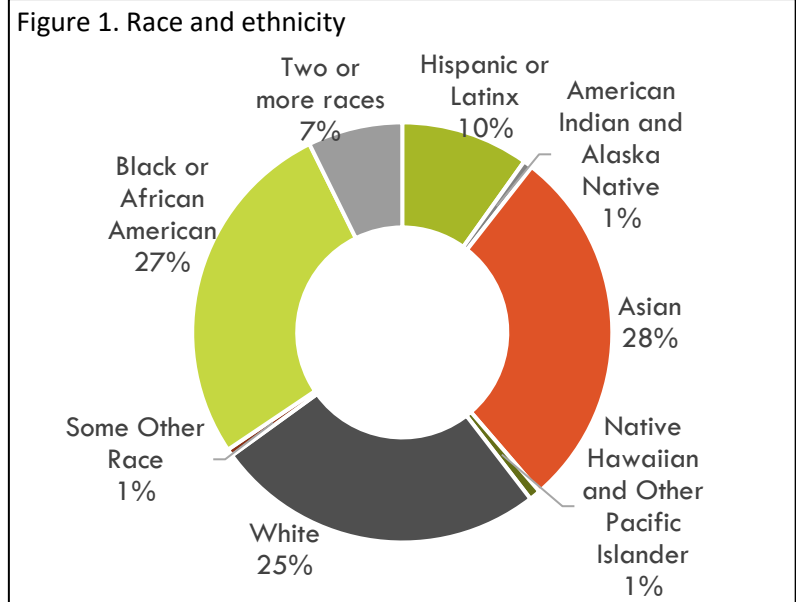
⁶ Skyway-West Hill Land Use Strategy Equity Impact Analysis, Section III

⁷ All statistics in this section are based on the 2015-2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, unless otherwise noted.

Racial and Ethnic Communities

Skyway-West Hill is a diverse community where over 70% of the residents are BIPOC. Nearly a third of residents identify as Asian, over a quarter of residents identify as Black or African American, and about 10% of residents identify as Latino.

There are significant racial disparities within Skyway-West Hill that impact vulnerability to land use changes. For instance, those identifying as White represent about 47% of homeowners, while Black or African Americans represent about 13% of the homeowners. The reverse is true with renters, with Black and African Americans representing about 44% of the renters, and Whites representing about 20% of renters. These figures highlight why engaging with people from a variety of racial, ethnic, and cultural groups is one way to better understand community disparities, including those related to institutionalized racism, racial privilege, and systemic inequities.



Youth

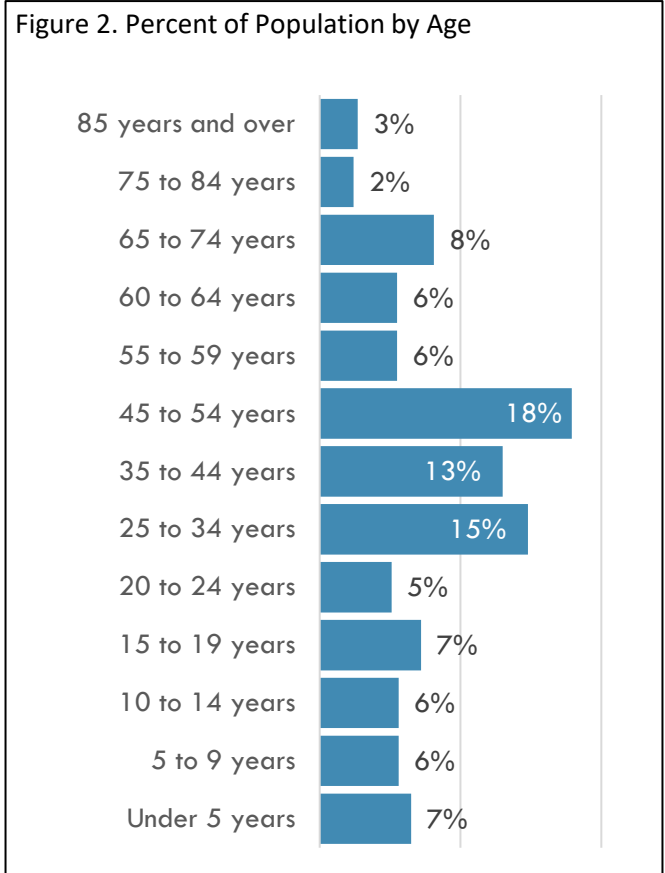
Youth (under 18 years old) comprise about 22% of the population of Skyway-West Hill, higher than King County as a whole (21%). Programs and investments that are safe, healthy, and accessible to youth are often an indicator that they are beneficial for people of all ages.

Seniors and Elderly Residents

About 13% of the population in Skyway-West Hill is over 65 years of age. This same percentage as the whole of King County (13%). Decisions made today can impact the ability seniors to age-in-place or find suitable housing that meets their changing needs. Similarly, providing for the mobility of seniors requires special consideration for the pedestrian environment and accessibility of new development.

Persons with Disabilities

About 13% of the population in Skyway-West Hill identify as having a disability that could include challenges with mobility, sensory, or cognitive difficulties. This is higher than King County as a whole (9.5%). Those with disabilities are much more likely to be over the age of 65, and the needs of disabled residents often overlaps with the needs of elderly residents.

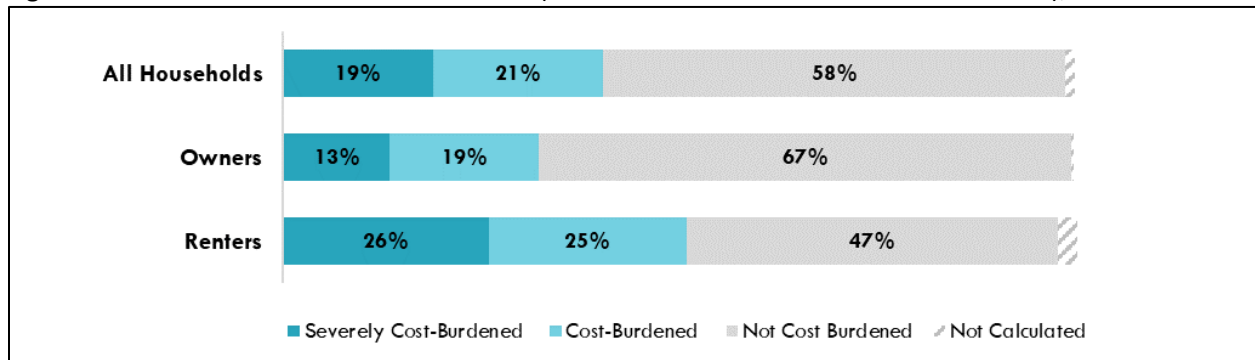


Renters and Low-Income Households

Most households in Skyway-West Hill own their home residence. However, 42% of households rent, and those households are more likely to be BIPOC. They are also more likely to have lower incomes and to experience a housing cost burden; both factors potentially increase susceptibility to economic and physical displacement in areas of neighborhood change.

There are significant racial and ethnic disparities between owner and renter households. 78% of all white non-Hispanic householders own their homes, compared to 47% for householders of color and only 29% for black householders. At all levels of income, White households own more homes than populations of color combined.

Figure 3. Cost burden of owners and renters (HUD CHAS from 2015 ACS 5-Year Estimate); BERK 2019



Neighborhoods

Skyway-West Hill is mostly composed of two census tracts which roughly split the subarea in half. Comparing demographic and socioeconomic data for these two census tracts reveals significant differences between the residents of Campbell Hill and Skyway in the southwestern portion of the study area and Bryn Mawr and Lakeridge in the northeastern portion closer to Lake Washington. This makes it important to engage with people from both areas to collect input on priorities and concerns.

Where someone lives within the subarea can have a large influence on the types of programs, services, and investments they need and take advantage of. Understanding the diversity of perspectives throughout a given neighborhood can help to ensure that resources are targeted to where the needs are greatest and where investments will make the greatest impact.

Businesses

Skyway-West Hill has three commercial areas and one industrial business area. A neighborhood's business community provides not only needed goods and services, but also a sense of cultural connection to a neighborhood and opportunities for employment. As growth and development occur, it is natural that some businesses will come and go, but it is important that business districts remain vital and relatively stable for the sake of the business owners and their employees, along with the surrounding community.

Skyway-West Hill’s business community and its residents are seeking opportunities to strengthen and revitalize the neighborhood’s business districts, increase the diversity of goods and services available, and ensure that businesses are culturally consistent with the neighborhood diversity.

Business owners and operators have a unique perspective on neighborhoods because of their physical location in activity centers and their interactions with a broad cross section of community members.

Community Service Providers

All communities have gaps in social and health indicators that community service providers seek to address. The gaps in service are more likely to be greater and of more significance in areas where the population experiences social and economic disparities. Different communities in Skyway-West Hill will likely have different service partners they work with. The service partners used by each community are well placed to understand and identify whether and how distributional, process, and cross-generational equity is experienced by residents, and how planning decisions may positively or negatively impact access to the determinants of equity.

In Skyway-West Hill, social, health, and human services are provided by community institutions such as the Renton School District and the Renton Innovation Zone Partnership, government agencies like the Seattle-King County Public Health Department, and non-profit organizations such as Childhaven, Healthpoint, King County Housing Authority, Supporting Parents in Education and Beyond, Skyway Coalition, Urban Family, West Hill Community Association, as well as many others.

IV. Equity Impact Review Phase 2 – Assess Equity and Community Context

This section of the Equity Impact Review identifies how, and at what stage, the county reached out to those impacted in the community, focusing on populations of concern, to learn about their priorities and concerns and receive feedback and direction on the CNL. This section considers whether and how each of the determinants of equity may be impacted, and also includes a review of how the projects, programs, and investments relate to the community’s expressed priorities and concerns.

Overview of Community Engagement

Community engagement provides an opportunity for community members to shape the development of their CNL. The community’s influence began even before the county started the process in late 2020.

In 2014 and 2015, the county was providing technical assistance to a community planning effort led by Skyway Solutions that resulted in the development of a local action plan called the Skyway West Hill Action Plan (SWAP). The SWAP was initially proposed to be included as an addendum to the 1994 West Hill Community Plan, but the county did not adopt the SWAP. Instead, the Comprehensive Plan directed the county to work with the community to review the SWAP and to update the community plan within the context of the new subarea planning program. The SWAPs action items formed the foundation for what would become the CNL.

Between 2018 and 2020, the county worked with the community to create the Skyway-West Hill Land Use Strategy - Phase 1 of the Skyway-West Hill Community Service Area Subarea Plan (Land Use Strategy) that included a community vision statement, guiding principles, and a series of neighborhood-specific policies related to the use of land. The Land Use Strategy was adopted in late 2020. The initial executive recommended version of the Land Use Strategy, sent to the King County Council in 2019, included several action items the county was committing to deliver over the coming years. When the CNL process was created, the action items were removed from the Land Use Strategy and included in the CNL for further community engagement.

Community engagement on the CNL included several phases, beginning in August of 2020 and continuing through the end of 2021. The first phase was the development of a subarea plan and CNL Engagement Plan. The engagement plan was developed using the tools and resources from the county's Office of Equity and Social Justice. This plan was based upon dialogue with community leaders regarding specific audiences and innovative methods for reaching them. The engagement plan also stated that it was the county's goal to utilize the "County engages in dialogue" and "County and community work together" levels of engagement described in the King County Office of Equity and Social Justice's Community Engagement Guide.

The second phase included publishing an online survey that explained the range of services and programs the county delivers and asking community members to provide their suggestions and requests for the types of programs, services, and investments that the community needs. The online survey tool was chosen because it allows users to automatically translate the content of the survey into multiple languages. The survey was then publicized through emails to community members, at community meetings kicking off the planning process (additional meetings for native Spanish, Somali, and Vietnamese speakers were also held), flyers distributed by the Renton School District, and short articles in the Skyway Water and Sewer District newsletter. In addition, a direct-mail postcard was sent to every mailing address within the subarea to ensure that all residents were made aware of the effort and to ask for ideas. The postcard, shown above, was translated into the five most common non-English languages used in the subarea.

As these two phases proceeded, the county continued to learn and grow in its understanding of ways to connect with the community. At the outset of the planning process, there was a strong reliance on traditional county-led community engagement methods. The approach then shifted to more community-centered smaller focus group forums and one-on-one interviews. As the county matured in its understanding of the community and their needs, the approach again shifted toward attending other

Figure 4. Postcard



community groups’ meetings to couple listening and learning while providing service delivery when possible. The county also acknowledges the community’s time limitations and tried to be sensitive to making additional demands of peoples’ time. In accordance, information was gathered from past community planning efforts, such as the SWAP, to inform the planning process. In this way, engagement efforts could be focused on confirming existing direction from the community, rather than starting from scratch.

Early in 2021, the county’s approach evolved further, and a contract was signed with a community-based organization with existing contacts and connections in the community to help improve engagement with historically underrepresented residents and groups. This effort was referred to at the Skyway Community Voices Project. The contracted organization then led several online community meetings, conducted individual outreach to community members at their events, and convened other impacted groups within their network

The following table summarizes outreach with specific key impacted groups and populations of concern identified earlier in the report. All meetings listed were held in person unless otherwise noted. The third column in the table notes additional opportunities the county could take to improve equity outcomes in its engagement process.

Table 2. Outreach activities for key impacted groups and populations of concern

Population	Engagement Details	Equity Opportunity
<p>Limited English Proficiency Communities</p>	<p>In addition to one meeting in English, three separate language specific meetings were held in August of 2020 to kick off the second phase of the planning process. The languages were Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Flyers in the same languages were produced and disseminated to participants at the Skyway Resource Center events in the summer and fall of 2020. Use of the interpreters was relatively small. Only the Somali community took part in measurable numbers, with about six residents participating. The Spanish-language meeting only had one attendee. No Vietnamese community members joined that meeting.</p> <p>The County used an online engagement tool for seeking input into the CNL that allowed for translation into all of the most common language spoken at home Skyway-West Hill. Additionally, the online tool was “pre-translated” into the top four languages, so participants would be immediately offered an “in-language” option when visiting the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with trusted community-based organizations in connecting with underrepresented limited English proficiency populations. • Make connections with faith-based communities and other trusted community organizations that serve immigrant and non-English speakers. • Compensate participants for their engagement, respecting their time, involvement, and expertise. • Go to where residents meet to be respectful of their time and engagement. • Strive to gather demographic data to ensure participants reflect community demographics.

	<p>website. Finally, a postcard was sent to all addresses in Skyway-West Hill, directing resident to submit their ideas for the CNL. In addition to English, the message was translated in to the top five non-English languages.</p> <p>A direct mail post card was sent to the roughly 7,000 mailing addresses in Skyway-West Hill with a call to action to submit ideas for the needs list. The message on the postcard was translated into the five most common non-English languages spoken at home, in addition to English.</p>	
<p>Racial and Ethnic Groups</p>	<p>The County used several methods to increase engagement with the racial and ethnic groups as part of the CNL development process. The first was the creation of an online engagement hub that allowed participants to join in the conversation without having to come to formal community meetings. Second, the County attended existing community-based organizations’ meetings to reach people in spaces they trusted and where they already felt comfortable. Finally, a locally based non-profits was hired to help connect with residents who have traditionally not been included in these types of community planning exercises.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When holding community meetings, document the number of participants, and if possible, their race and ethnicity to ensure they represent the demographics of the community. • Compensate participants for their engagement, time, involvement, and expertise.
<p>Youth</p>	<p>A group of youths from Creston Point participated in the focus group discussing the Martin Luther King Junior corridor. Records do not indicate whether additional engagement was targeted at youth.</p> <p>During the anti-displacement collaboration with the Department of Community and Human Services, staff worked with the Skyway Youth Leadership Council. The young people who participated in this effort chose several anti-displacement strategies to focus on and then developed a survey of their peers to solicit input.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with local schools to connect with youth allows the plan to reflect their unique perspectives and attitudes. Area youth have traditionally been ignored in the planning process, therefore plans often miss the mark when identifying policies that support their success. • Consider other places where youth gather to seek input. For example, teen groups.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensate youth for their engagement, involvement, and expertise. • Consider a range of ways to connect with youth, including in-person meetings and virtual, online forums. • When working with youth, try to collect information about race, ethnicity to ensure they represent the demographics of the community.
Seniors and Elderly	<p>There is no documented targeted outreach to older adults in the community. Some older adults are likely to have participated in community forums or other general engagements.</p> <p>It was thought that by using more traditional means of communication, such as the information in the Skyway-Water and Sewer District Newsletter and the direct-mail postcards, that more senior and elderly residents would be made aware and participate in the process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyway-West Hill has one senior living community, on Rainier Ave S. There is an opportunity to engage with those residents to learn from their lived experiences.
Persons with Disabilities	<p>There is no documented outreach that was targeted towards persons with disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with disability service providers to learn what challenges and priorities their customers have.
Neighborhoods	<p>The online surveys that were conducted did not focus on specific neighborhoods, but participants were asked to identify which area of Skyway-West Hill they call home. Of the 102 participants, approximately 59% identified with Skyway, Campbell Hill, Skycrest, Earlington, or Panaroma View; and 39% identified with Bryn Mawr, Lakeridge, or Hilltop This distribution shows a good cross-section of the subarea was represented in the community requests and prioritization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with neighborhood groups to further define community priorities and allow resources to be targeted where the needs are the greatest.
Renters and Low-Income Households	<p>Outreach and engagement to address the perspectives of renters or owners was not well documented because participants were not asked to provide their housing status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renters and low-income households are at the highest risk of involuntary displacement. When housing

	<p>The county participated in multiple in-person community events, such as the Skyway Resource Center. Participants at these events were attending these events to access social and health services.</p> <p>One objective of the Skyway Community Voices Project was to focus on connecting with renters, but again housing status was not well documented by meeting or survey participants.</p>	<p>prices or the cost-of-living increases, they are often left with no choice but to relocate to other neighborhoods or areas. Understanding the strategies that can help alleviate some of these risks is vitally important.</p>
Businesses	<p>The Skyway Community Voices Consultant spoke with business owners and employees to learn about their priorities for the community and what would help them be more successful.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tailor seeking input from businesses on their needs recognizing that, due to their hours of service, they may not be able to readily participate in meetings at times that suit agencies or other participants. • Compensate business members for their engagement and respect their time, involvement, expertise and lived experience. • If possible, collect demographic information about business leaders to ensure they represent the demographics of the community.
Community Service Providers	<p>The county attended numerous community service provider meetings to share updates on the development of the plan and seek input on what should be included in the subarea plan.</p> <p>By attending existing community service provider meetings, the county was able to work with community leaders and members in a setting where they already felt comfortable and had budgeted their time to be. This allowed staff to hear from individuals and organizations with deeper ties and experience in the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize our faith-based organization engagement strategies to determine how we can better connect with this community.

King County advertised engagement opportunities using the following channels:

- Department of Local Services/King County website
- GovDelivery e-mail List
- PublicInput.com
- Next Door
- Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
- King County Local Services Unincorporated Area News
- Postcards sent to all Skyway-West Hill addresses in December of 2020

Groups external to the county also provided a mechanism for sharing information about the project and opportunities for attending meetings and providing input. This included:

- Renton Innovation Zone Partnership
- Renton School District
- Skyway Water & Sewer District
- Skyway Coalition
- West Hill Community Association

The Office of Equity and Social Justice “Community Engagement Continuum”⁸ identifies a range of actions to use for engagement on both simple and complex initiatives. Components of the two levels of engagement identified for use in both subarea plan development and development of the Community Needs Lists for King County’s Community Service Areas – “County Engages in Dialogue” and “County and Community Work Together” – are identified in the following table:

Table 3: Levels of engagement from Community Engagement Continuum used for Skyway-West Hill CNL development

Levels of Engagement				
County Informs	County Consults	County engages in dialogue	County and community work together	Community directs action
King County initiates an effort, coordinates with departments and uses a variety of channels to inform community to take action.	King County gathers information from the community to inform county-led interventions	King County engages community members to shape county priorities and plans	Community and King County share in decision-making to co-create solutions together	Community initiates and directs strategy and action with participation and technical assistance from King County
Characteristics of Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily one-way channel of communication • One interaction • Term-limited to event • Addresses immediate need of county and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily one-way channel of communication • One to multiple interactions • Short to medium-term • Shapes and informs county programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-way channel of communication • Multiple interactions • Medium to long-term • Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-way channel of communication • Multiple interactions • Medium to long-term • Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-way channel of communication • Multiple interactions • Medium to long-term • Advancement of solutions to complex problems
Strategies <p>Media releases, brochures, pamphlets, outreach to vulnerable populations, ethnic media contacts, translated information, staff outreach to residents, new and social media</p>	<p>Focus groups, interviews, community surveys</p>	<p>Forums, advisory boards, stakeholder involvement, coalitions, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony, workshops, community-wide events</p>	<p>Co-led community meetings, advisory boards, coalitions, and partnerships, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony</p>	<p>Community-led planning efforts, community-hosted forums, collaborative partnerships, coalitions, policy development and advocacy including legislative briefings and testimony</p>

Working collaboratively with the community and using the Office of Equity and Social Justice’s Equity Impact Review tool as a guide, the community engagement around the CNL development included ensuring that diverse and historically underrepresented voices of the community were amplified and

⁸ [King County Office of Equity and Social Justice Community Engagement Guide](#)

reflected in the CNL. Local Services prepared an engagement pledge⁹ for the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan and CNL, committing to have a bi-directional conversation with the community, working together, and lifting up the voices of historically underrepresented residents and groups.

King County has learned many things during this process and will apply them in future community engagement strategies to increase Skyway-West Hill community involvement. For example:

- Work closely with trusted community service providers to get more community resident to know about and participate in the process.
- Engage with community service providers as cultural cornerstones in the community to learn what types of issues residents are dealing with and how the county may work to address them.
- Partner with schools and the school district to connect with parents and their families and to learn what policies and programs are most needed.

V. Equity Impact Review Phase 3 – Analysis and Decision Process

What is the relationship between the Community Needs List and the determinants of equity?

The CNL is a list of projects, programs, and investments that respond to community-identified needs. Items included on CNL should be consistent with the policies in the subarea plan and help the community realize its vision for the future.

For example, the community has, for many years, expressed a need for a public, indoor gathering space for events, adult education, after-school programs, and recreation programming. The Skyway-West Hill Community Center has been included on the CNL and is marked and indicated as a high priority for the community.

By using the determinants of equity as a framework, some general observations can be made about what types of impacts the development of a community center may have. Access to the determinants of equity creates a baseline of equitable outcomes for people regardless of race, class, gender, or language spoken. Inequities are created when barriers exist that prevent individuals and communities from accessing these conditions and reaching their full potential. These factors, while invisible to some, have profound and tangible impacts on all.

Summary of Decision-Making Process and Community Needs List Items

Guided by ongoing engagement with the impacted communities, including the Skyway West Hill Action Plan and with populations of concern, a catalog of community requests was developed at the end of 2020. This list was then shared with the community into the beginning of 2021, so they could indicate which requests were the highest priorities for their community.

In reviewing the requests and priorities outlined here, county staff began by reviewing the overall catalog of requests and determining if the request was within the scope of the county's work programs. In the cases where the request was outside of the county's scope, an effort was made to indicate if a community service organization or other nongovernmental organization may be able to fulfill the request.

⁹ [Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan and Community Needs List Engagement Pledge](#)

Next, for the items within the county's scope, the various executive departments attempted to identify if the request was something that fell within their existing work programs and if there was a strategic or operational plan in place that would support implementation of the request. Next, the departments tried to identify what level of financial resources the request would entail and if there were resources to pursue implementation.

At the same time, each of the requests was compared against the community vision statement and guiding principles in the subarea plan to ensure the requests were consistent with and would help fulfil the community's vision.

Equity Analysis of Community Needs List

The following table considers how the CNL may directly or indirectly impact access to each of the determinants of equity.

Table 4. CNL impact on determinants of equity

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Early Childhood Development	Early-childhood development that supports nurturing relationships, high quality, affordable childcare, and early learning opportunities that promote optimal early-childhood development and school readiness for all children	<p>Children have unique needs and circumstances, and programs and services that provide safe, healthy, and accessible environments for youth are often an indicator that they are beneficial for people of all ages.</p> <p>There are disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and between households in Skyway-West Hill and households across King County. This affects equity in access to early childhood development opportunities.</p> <p>The CNL has the potential to directly impact whether childcare resources are more available to children and families in Skyway-West Hill. The CNL includes direction to increase early education and preschool program. These have been identified as a high priority for the community and are in alignment with King County’s priorities. Implementation of this request could be accomplished through early intervention programs carried out by community-based organizations and supported by the county and the state.</p> <p>The subarea plan includes policies directing King County to work with and support the Renton School District and local service agencies in providing services to the community.</p> <p>The CNL also includes a request to develop a Skyway-West Hill Community Center, which has the potential to provide a safe and stable location for the provision youth programming and educational programs for children and families. This item has the potential to directly impact early-childhood development in Skyway-West Hill, provided the community center is accessible to the entire community and contains programs and services that are closely matched to the needs of the community.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Education	Education that is high quality and culturally appropriate and allows each student to reach his or her full learning and career potential	<p>There are disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and in income between households in Skyway-West Hill and households across King County.</p> <p>This is expected to affect equity in access a range of school choices and opportunities. English-speaking ability may also be expected to impact access to education. Skyway-West Hill has double the limited English-speaking population compared to the King County as a whole.</p> <p>Public schools are primarily funded through property tax revenue – the higher the property value, the greater the tax revenue which directly correlates with the resources needed to provide a quality education. An increase in housing value in this area would lead to higher property taxes which would lead to displacement of the current residents. King County is committed to anti-displacement and will have to work with our state on restructuring our school funding methods so that they are more equitable.</p> <p>The CNL has a limited potential to directly influence equity in access to education. The county does not have a direct role in providing educational programs to school-aged students. Rather, the Renton School District is the primary provider of educational programs to students in Skyway West Hill. The county supports community-based organizations in the provision of educational programs through the Best Starts for Kids program, among others. This is a high priority for the community and will need to be implemented by supporting existing organizations or looking for new organizations that can address this community priority.</p> <p>The subarea plan has a policy that encourages the county to work with the Renton School District and other community organizations on better educational outcomes, which could have a direct influence on access to quality education and support of educational networks in the community.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Jobs and Job Training	Jobs and job training that provide all residents with the knowledge and skills to compete in a diverse workforce and with the ability to make sufficient income for the purchase of necessities to support themselves and their families	<p>Creation of jobs is mostly determined by market forces. However, the CNL could help lead to increased access to jobs for both new and current residents by providing increased access to workforce development and job training programs in the neighborhood. The county does not currently have a workforce development programs, so any direct provision of this service would need to be carried out by a community partner with possible support from the county.</p> <p>The CNL also has the potentially to indirectly improve access to jobs and job training in Skyway-West Hill through investments in the number and types of employment opportunities in the neighborhood, as well as creation of job training facilities and programs in the commercial and mixed-use zones in the neighborhood.</p> <p>The CNL has the potential to indirectly influence creation of jobs if business district revitalization efforts successfully result in more vibrant local business districts that create opportunities for new businesses and jobs, as well as jobs tied to developing and redeveloping land and structures in Skyway-West Hill. However, residents must still compete for those jobs and business opportunities.</p> <p>It should be noted that jobs and job training are not generally within the scope of the county's services and programs, so any direct influence on this determinant would be through support of other organizations.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Health and Human Services	Health and human services that are high quality, affordable, and culturally appropriate, and that support the optimal well-being of all people	<p>All communities have gaps in social and health indicators that are addressed by community service providers. The gaps in service are more likely to be greater and of more significant in areas where the population experiences social and economic disparities.</p> <p>The disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and between households in Skyway-West Hill are likely affecting equity in access to healthcare providers and human services. It has been noted that Skyway-West Hill is a relative health-care desert with very little in terms of access to health and human services in the neighborhood.</p> <p>The CNL includes numerous requests for programs and services that would directly improve access to this determinant. Two of the highest priorities identified by the community are the provision of a community clinic and expanding health services, especially for youth, BIPOC community members, and those who do not speak English as their primary language. The county is currently working with community-based organizations to provide needed services at the future Skyway Resource Center.</p>
Food Systems	Food systems that support local food production and provide access to affordable, healthy, and culturally appropriate foods for all people	<p>There are disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and in income between households in Skyway-West Hill. This may be anticipated to affect equity in access to a range of affordable, healthy food sources and choices. Skyway-West Hill lacks a range of affordable, healthy, and culturally appropriate food providers. While provision of places supplying food on a commercial basis is determined by market forces, the CNL has the potential to influence access to food systems for both new and existing residents.</p> <p>The CNL includes increasing access to affordable, healthy foods as well as potentially initiating a Skyway farmers market. These items are within the county’s scope of services, are in alignment with county priorities and have been identified as a medium priority relative to the other items on the needs list.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Parks and Natural Resources	Parks and natural resources that provide access for all people to safe, clean, and quality outdoor spaces, facilities and activities that appeal to the interest of all communities	<p>Many Skyway-West Hill residential neighborhoods lack access to parks and natural resources in the community, as well as trails and sidewalks to allow them to access parks that do exist.</p> <p>The CNL has the potential to directly influence this determinant by expanding existing parks and adding parks in key areas in the neighborhood. This work is within the scope of the county’s services and programs and is in alignment with the county priorities. It has also been identified as a high priority by the community.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Built and Natural Environment	Healthy built and natural environments for all people that include mixes of land use that support jobs, housing, amenities, and services; trees and forest canopy; and clean air, water, soil, and sediment	<p>There are disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and in income between households in Skyway-West Hill and households across King County. This disparity affects equity in access to choices in renting or owning homes, choices and location of housing, and the ability to access jobs and amenities.</p> <p>The CNL has a high potential to influence equity in access to buildings and natural environments that support health. The CNL includes land-use and zoning elements that encourage development of more housing, a range of housing options, including additional, affordable residential development opportunities on transit corridors. Commercial, mixed-use, and pedestrian-friendly development is encouraged by the CNL by supporting existing policies and supporting new policies, zoning, and other regulations and actions included in the subarea plan. The CNL also includes support for investments in the active transportation network of sidewalks, bike lanes and streetlights, as well as water and sewer infrastructure.</p> <p>Many of these items from the CNL are within the scope of the county’s programs and services and are in alignment with the county’s priorities. The community has identified these items as a medium priority relative to the other items in the CNL.</p> <p>Potential incentives for additional amenities to enhance walkability and community vitality will improve the quality of the built environment. The CNL includes requests for increasing tree and forest canopy coverage, clean air, water, soil, and sediment. All of which are in alignment with and supported by county programs and services. The community has identified these types of investments as a medium priority relative to other items in the CNL.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Transportation	Transportation that provides everyone with safe, efficient, affordable, convenient, and reliable mobility options, including public transit, walking, carpooling, and biking	<p>There are disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and in income between households in Skyway-West Hill and households across King County. This affects equity in access to different modes of transportation.</p> <p>The CNL has the potential to influence equity in access to transportation and transit for existing and new residents. The community has identified improving access to transit services as a high priority. This is in alignment with county priorities and programs. Work has already begun to improve transit access by providing ORCA cards to youth, expanding the VIA program, and initiation of a community van program.</p> <p>The CNL could influence equity in access to active transportation infrastructure that would enable more people to live within easy walking distance of frequent transit service with provision of sidewalks and street lighting that can improve walkability and perceptions of safety. Such changes will likely lead to increased access to transit for both new and existing residents. This item is a high priority for the community, and it is in the county’s scope and in alignment with county priorities.</p> <p>The CNL also includes support for working with the Washington State Department of Transportation to realize implementation of corridor improvements on Martin Luther King Jr. Way South (SR 900). When complete, this project would result in significant improvements in access to a safe transportation system.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Community Economic Development	Community economic development that supports local ownership of assets, including homes and businesses, and assures fair access for all to business development and business retention opportunities	<p>There are disparities in Skyway-West Hill based on household incomes, whether households are cost-burdened, and in terms of on race and ethnicity. In addition, median income across Skyway-West Hill is almost half that of King County as a whole. This has the potential to limit access to homeownership and business ownership.</p> <p>The CNL has the potential to directly influence this determinant by improving services related to economic development for the community. The community has repeatedly identified economic development and revitalization of the Skyway Business District as a high priority. This is within the scope of county services and in alignment with county priorities.</p> <p>There have been multiple requests from the community for strategies protect existing affordable housing and create new affordable housing opportunities. This is one of the highest priorities for the community and is aligned with county priorities and programs. Implementation of these measures will take longer than some of the other requests on the list, but their impact will support the economic fabric of the community for years to come.</p>
Neighborhoods	Neighborhoods that support all communities and individuals through strong social networks, trust among neighbors, and the ability to work together to achieve common goals that improve the quality of life for everyone in the neighborhood.	<p>Neighborhood identity and character give a community its sense of place. Skyway-West Hill has a strong sense of neighborhood identity, and its residents feel strongly about maintaining that character while being actively engaged in potential changes.</p> <p>The ability of a neighborhood to thrive can be based on many factors. CNL requests that have the potential to improve the other determinants of equity discussed in this table are likely to have the potential to impact whether Skyway-West Hill’s neighborhoods thrive.</p> <p>Several requests speak to the preservation of residential zoning and densities within much of the neighborhood. Other requests call for creating design standards in commercial, mixed-use, and high-density residential areas. These requests are intended to promote thriving neighborhoods. These requests are largely identified as a medium priority by the community.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Housing	Housing for all people that is safe, affordable, high quality, and healthy	<p>Households that rent are more likely to have lower incomes and to experience a housing cost burden. These are both factors that potentially increase susceptibility to economic and physical displacement as a neighborhood changes and develops over time.</p> <p>There are disparities in income between people of different races and ethnicities within Skyway-West Hill, and in income between households in Skyway-West Hill and households across King County. This affects equity in access to choices in renting or owning homes. The elderly and disabled are populations that can be impacted if housing options that allow aging-in-place and access to services are limited.</p> <p>While it will largely be the market that determines housing development, the CNL calls for increase investment in affordable housing that is community-driven and responsive to the community’s needs. This request has a high potential to influence equity in access to housing for all people that is safe, affordable, high quality, and healthy.</p> <p>The community has identified the support of affordable housing as a high priority, especially where the community is deeply involved in the development process. The county does not directly develop properties, but rather supports other organizations and the community with financial and technical resources. This type of support aligns with county priorities as well.</p> <p>The subarea plan also supports low-income households and other populations of concern in benefiting from new development and redevelopment in Skyway-West Hill, with the objective of reducing displacement. That includes the following: a requirement to provide affordable housing in new developments in the Skyway Unincorporated Activity Center adjacent to transit (adding to existing voluntary incentives for affordable housing); and increasing the ability to develop “missing middle” homes (cottage housing, duplexes, and townhouses) in the activity center and near transit.</p>

Determinant of Equity	Brief Description from King County Office of Equity and Social Justice	Potential of the Skyway-West Hill CNL to influence the Determinants of Equity
Community and Public Safety	Community and public safety that includes services such as fire, police, emergency medical services, and code enforcement that are responsive to all residents so that everyone feels safe to live, work, and play in any neighborhood of King County	<p>The CNL has the potential to influence equity in access to community and public safety facilities and services. Reimagining public safety in partnership with the community is a top priority for the residents in Skyway-West Hill. Reimagining public safety is also a priority for King County and aligns with its programs and services.</p> <p>Additionally, as discussed above, some other CNL outcomes have the potential to influence perceptions of neighborhood safety, such as a revitalized Skyway Business District, increases in sidewalks and streetlights, and expanded opportunities for commercial and mixed-use development that could result in more businesses and activity in commercial districts.</p>
Law and Justice	A law and justice system that provides equitable access and fair treatment for all	The CNL has limited potential to influence this determinant of equity because no requests were made by the community to address this determinant and it was not identified as a high or medium priority by the community. Law and justice are within the scope of county services and is in alignment with county priorities, so it could potentially be included in future versions of the CNL.

This is not a complete analysis of all the potential outcomes associated with each determinant, but rather an illustration of how the CNL relates with the realization of these determinants in a community. This phase of the Equity Impact Review, “Analysis and Decision,” considers how the intended outcomes of the CNL – guided by community input and expressed through implementation of programs, services, and capital investments – may affect the three frameworks of equity: Distributional equity, process equity, and cross-generational equity.

VI. Equity Impact Review Phase 4 – Implementation. Staying Connected with the Community

At this stage in the development of the Skyway-West Hill CNL, King County must continue its community engagement efforts to share information with community members in ways that reach those in the community who have historically been left out of its development or may not understand how the community needs list may affect their daily lives. This means continuing to look for opportunities to share information in an accessible way, using plain language that is easy to understand in multiple languages whenever possible. This will not guarantee active engagement or participation, but rather foster a sense of belonging in the process and knowledge among community members that their voices and expertise are valued.

The next step in implementation of the CNL is for the Executive to transmit a copy of the community needs list, along with the associated priorities, to the King County Council for its consideration. The executive departments will also be using the needs list as a guide as they prepare their budget requests for the next two years.

VII. Equity Impact Review Phase 5 – Ongoing Learning

Involve community in determining whether county actions appropriately respond to community priorities and concerns.

The CNL process will continue to include working with community, the King County Council, county departments, and other agencies to prioritize and implement the actions within the CNL. It will be important that the process of implementing the community needs list items be open and transparent, that the communities or neighborhoods that are directly affected be included in the decision making and implementation, and that resources are directed where needs are the greatest.

There are many ways to go about this, and many are mentioned in the “equity opportunities” column of the table under Phase 2 of this review. Some of the key steps may include:

- Partnering with existing community organizations who already work with and represent underrepresented community members. Residents who have historically been excluded from community planning processes are less likely to participate, unless they are encouraged by groups they trust and to which they belong.
- Engage with residents in places where they are already meeting. This type of action respects and values peoples’ time and acknowledges that they only have so much time to participate.
- Simplify program or project materials so they can be translated into multiple languages and be understood without needing a comprehensive knowledge of the topic materials.
- Work with and in schools to engage students and their families. School-aged children represent the future of Skyway-West Hill and connecting with them early will build future civic responsibility. Families with students in school have less capacity to engage on non-education-related topics in their neighborhood, so working in schools affords an opportunity to get students and their caregivers a chance to be active in their community.
- For implementation of actions that will require more in-depth and long-term engagement, the county should consider compensating participants. This would signal that their time and expertise is valued and important.

Learn with the community to adjust county action as priorities and concerns shift.

CNLs are snapshots in time. Local Services listens to community needs on an ongoing basis. It will ask community members to evaluate and reaffirm their priorities through various methods of engagement so that any shifts over time are included in the subsequent community needs list. Local Services will need to update and modify the CNL regularly to be responsive to community. And agencies will also need to update their responses as the lists change. If the priorities have shifted over time, agencies will need to reassess whether the implementation timelines should change, whether budgeting is available or needs to be requested, etc.

Ordinance 19146 requires that implementation of the Skyway-West Hill CNL be reviewed and reported on annually. Local Services will gather the updates from agencies and share these reports on the King County website and on publicinput.com (or other survey location) where community can leave comments. In addition, the updates will be shared in community meetings and annual Local Services town hall meetings, with requests for comment. These comments will inform further CNL development and reporting.

The CNL is intended to assist with the development of budget proposals transmitted by the executive to the council. This means that, in advance of transmitting biennial budgets, there will be on-going work with the community to prioritize the CNL so that executive departments can be responsive to changes in priorities and concerns.

Communicate progress to all who are impacted. Plan to include community feedback into future planning.

Throughout development of the CNL, Local Services has provided updates on the project on its websites as well as using social media, mailings, and other approaches to communicate about the project. With the pandemic, some usual communication methods were curtailed, and engagement largely became virtual. However, tools and approaches for disseminating information need to be broader than those employed, particularly as not all Skyway-West Hill residents have ready access to computers and the Internet.

Local Services received valuable input from the community on the process for developing the CNL. Future processes for engagement, particularly engagement with priority populations, will apply lessons learned during this process. This will improve the product by improving process equity.