MEMO

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| date | June 14, 2019 |
| TO | King County Council  |
| FROM | Brian J. Carter |
| TEL | 206.263.3725 |
| RE | Building 4Equity Program Design |



Dear King County Councilmembers,

I offer you the following memo to augment the Building 4Equity program description on pages 417-419 of the Staff Report from the BFM meeting on June 11, 2019 (agenda items 8-11). Please contact me if you have further questions or would like to meet to discuss.

Building 4Equity, a large-scale cultural facilities program developed by 4Culture in collaboration with the King County Council and the King County Executive, was designed to address the following priorities:

* Unanticipated construction costs preventing cultural organizations from closing out urgent projects.
* New opportunities to align cultural facilities with other countywide priorities, e.g. transit-oriented development, seismic reinforcement for public spaces, etc.
* Greater emphasis on equity in the funding of cultural facility creation, renovation, expansion, and preservation.

To carry out this work, 4Culture structured the program into two phases.

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| Program Phase | Description | Funding Allocation |
| Phase I | Responding to applicants with immediate needs to complete construction projects | $7 million |
| Preservation Action Fund Allocation | $1 million |
| Capital Projects Ramp-Up Initiative | $2 million |
| Phase II | Facilities Grant Program | $10 million |

Phase I includes applicants that 1) originally sought funding through the 2018 Cultural Facilities Program, or 2) received funding through the 2015 Building for Culture program to create new cultural space in King County and had unanticipated construction costs. Notably, this phase also establishes two equity-focused components of the program: a cultural space contribution requirement and a capital projects ramp-up initiative. For larger grant recipients ($250,000 and above), organizations will provide cultural space to groups and/or individuals serving marginalized communities. 4Culture can provide assistance to organizations who do not have existing relationships to meet this requirement. All award recipients will complete an MOU outlining the details of their arrangement with their community partner(s).

The Capital Projects Ramp-Up Initiative is an 18-month capacity-building program for cultural organizations and groups serving marginalized communities. A robust outreach, engagement, and marketing plan will precede the initiative with a goal to reach community groups new to 4Culture or underrepresented in 4Culture funding.

Phase II makes additional funds available for facilities grants and uses an updated, equity-focused application and review process to prioritize organizations that serve marginalized communities, including those who participated in the Capital Projects Ramp-Up Initiative.

By leveraging multiple equity strategies, both phases I and II are designed to build space and capacity in the entire cultural community, resulting in more equitable outcomes for historically marginalized individuals, groups, and institutions.