

1st SEOC Community Meeting Synopsis

Education & Early Learning:

- Demand of Early Learning classroom and workshop space
 - A large Early Learning professionals in Southeast Seattle (100 programs)
 - Certifications and credits - Currently the closest classes are at Seattle Central Community College
 - And Highline College is the only one that offers language and culturally component classes in Spanish and Somali. Language support is also needed in Southeast Seattle
- Technology
 - Exposure is important at a young age.
 - Tech companies and jobs are already here so we know there is a demand.
 - Offering trainings and certifications for entry level tech jobs, web and program design
- Healthcare
 - Nursing and healthcare related classes. Important to know what the colleges are willing to offer
- Tradesman Classes
 - An introductory course to a trade classes at SEOC and if student wants to continue, they will be referred to the main campus of the college that offers it.
 - Renton Tech and technical classes at the SEOC
 - Culinary classes from Seattle Central
- Charter School
 - Who runs the charter school? To be aware that charter schools take funding away from public schools. Very selective in what they offer.
 - If the charter school serves the needs of the community and offers transparency, an option to consider.
 - If the community is interested in an alternative to SPS then it deserves serious consideration.
- Post-secondary Classes
 - Diversity in classes offered - Tech jobs are in high demand and there should be classes to
 - The influence of the classes offered at the SEOC on the future financial growth.
 - Should include English-proficiency classes
- Running-Start (a program that allows high school students to take college classes)
 - Some college classes should be offered at the SEOC for SE high school students in running start programs. It will help with the constant commuting and closer access to classes.
- Consistency in classes offered is important, the community should have access to options that they see value in.
- The classes offered should lead to higher education and should tie education to employment and internships
 - Year-Up (an intensive IT and business training program for 18-24 that has job contracts with companies and gets their students employed at graduation)

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Small Business & Entrepreneurship

- Resources needed
 - Readily available in all languages to make things sustainable and accessible
- Family-owned businesses
 - Being competitive in the market (development increasing density) - How does that change customer base?
 - Financial support for marketing and expansion (marketing support in difference languages)
 - With ethnic business translation, it is important to remain competitive
- How does a business keep up with changing market around them? – Lending Reserves
- When new customers are coming into the neighborhood, how do businesses keep up with demands?
- What does the city or OED offer?
 - Find you the connections
 - Mobile resources, project consulting
 - OED going to neighborhoods to consult
 - Looking for consultants that know cultural and digital
- Lending (micro-loans)
 - Sentiments about financial institution at SEOC, besides CDF.
 - Seattle metropolitan => re-investing in communities
 - How plugged into banking are ethnic businesses?
 - Most through private loans
 - What about depositing services? Are there cultural issues with banks?
- Training/marketing plans
 - Any lender will ask for a B-plan, understanding marketing research, and having things in one place
 - Why has it been difficult for people to come up with a plan?
 - The cost of time of a business owner
 - Copy existing successful businesses => how do you duplicate it?
 - Resources that cater to not only new business, but those also who are at maturity and those just starting to grow.
 - Resources like SCORE. If you don't qualify for SCORE, what other secondary information and resources are available.
 - Can you get plugged in to community organizations/influences to get to the businesses?
 - How do we help the businesses that are made out to be an opposition to certain policy but at the heart, it is due to costs/resources/vendors?
- Resource diversification
 - Recruit and retain
 - Retail study done in Othello and get the word out

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- Bringing in an institution to do a new study
- Parking
 - What is the consideration?
- What does it take to get tech CO's to come down?
- Vibrant communities =>food/cafes
- Amenities for employees – co-working space, public transit.

Housing

- About 200 units – housing shouldn't be more than 30% of income
 - It is important to have as many bedrooms as possible, multigenerational homes are preferred. Combinations are ideal
 - Lease to own (at least 1/3 of 200)
 - Large family, seniors, students (LIHI) – integrate spaces
 - Amenities
 - Kids area (share space)
 - Open integration to get people interacting
 - Underground parking is necessary
 - More connections between tenants and commercial space discounts
 - Shared indoor/outdoor
 - Open pathways through the site to draw in neighbors – gardens, covered outdoor space
 - Physical arrangements are important

- Size of buildings and bedrooms should allow for opportunities of personalization
 - Incorporate art

MCC & Government Services

- A Capital campaign is currently underway to expand/strengthen current spaces.
- There is an opportunity at the SEOC (a 3.5-acre lot) that could include parking, a major barrier that initially took the event space out of the MCC's plan, but could now be revisited.
- Currently the Eritrean community hosts weddings and events at a police station south of the City. Rainier Valley is leaking money because there isn't adequate event space.
- The space created could have a shared general fun to support the cultural community and nonprofits
- We are still visioning. At present, programming is geared more towards social services and a shared space to conduct those. It will be front facing, more welcoming, culturally competent, and connect the community to DSHS.
- DSHS has expressed interest for onsite services.
 - BY having MCC as the front facing entity, referring clients to DSHS, cultural nonprofits can retain more money from the process than the standard inequitable practice currently offered by government services.
- Those who need space, organizations that are losing their leases, but all are welcome to shared programming opportunities.

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- Shared programming also unites organizations for increased funding, allows organizations to focus on their strengths, and presents a united force in tackling similar hardships faced across cultures, i.e. police profiling.
- Topics that require more thought – shouldn't be overlooked
 - How do we reach all types of users?
 - How do we create a beacon in the community?
 - How do we create programming to strengthen individuals/families and not just subsistence programming?
 - Wealth management
 - Homeownership
 - Safe space and follow through
 - Enriching programming beyond shared space to include basketball courts, a stage
 - Something healthier and enriching beyond that standard voucher and services
 - Investment
 - Beyond survivalist, to help people get to a higher level, self-actualization
 - Maybe we need to include added art and entertainment, beyond basic human needs
 - Pop up gallery
 - United Nations forum
 - Rotating events
 - Host cohorts
 - Cross-cultural understanding
 - Youth cluster (discuss programming)

- Previous youth cluster, now mostly discontinued, should be contacted for lessons learned
 - Cross-cultural food stands
 - Eat and teach

Commercial Space

- Contracting out management can allow easier access to more affordable services like waste management
 - Easier to manage than administer
 - If we do it, it has to be local
 - Definitely, better to use it as a fallback option
 - Efficiency is important
 - Covenants of sublease must be considered
 - Negotiate build out
- Shared office space
 - For small organizations
 - Offers more opportunity for social/environmental organizations to collaborate
- Can't location % of market rate and affordable space until we know what the market will be like in 2020
- Prioritize entities that represent SEOC components
 - Economically viable and harmony
- Hotel
 - Boeing and other local companies may have easy access to host executive. Extended stay.