Airport Community Ecology (ACE) Fund
Highline Forum Update

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Environmental Engagement
Airport Community Ecology Fund (ACE Fund)

- Commission-directed
- $1 million fund
- Supports park improvements and environmental projects
- Focus communities: Burien, Des Moines, SeaTac
## Two-pronged approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Matching Grants Program</th>
<th>Green Cities Partnership Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• $550,000</td>
<td>• $450,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Administered directly by Port</td>
<td>• Contract with Forterra</td>
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<td>• Small-scale, community-based projects</td>
<td>• Urban Forest Management through Green City Partnerships</td>
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<td>• Bi-annual disbursements</td>
<td>• Large-scale projects</td>
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<td>• Port and city representatives serve on grant application review panel to select projects</td>
<td>• Des Moines Memorial Drive historic Elm tree planting</td>
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FORTERRA Green City Partnerships

• 15 Green Cities/ 1 Green County
• Commitment to restore 13,000 acres
• 1.2 million trees and shrubs planted
• 284 forest stewards trained
• Over 1M volunteer hours since 2005
Green City Partnership Process in Burien, Des Moines and SeaTac

- Collect Baseline Data
- Create a Plan in response to data
- Implement the Plan
- Monitor and Adapt Actions
Land Cover Analysis
Canopy Cover Analysis - Burien

Citywide Land Cover Areal Percentages

- Tree Canopy
- Shrub or Small Tree Canopy
- Grass or Herbaceous Cover
- Dry Grass/Herbs or Bare Soil
- Buildings
- Pavement or Other Impervious
- Open Water

BURIEN 30%
Canopy Cover Analysis - Burien

Distributions of Land Use Categories by Land Cover Type

- Commercial Uses
- Industrial or Warehouse Uses
- Institutional Uses
- Public Park, Natural Area or Open Space
- Recreational Uses
- Residential Uses
- Transportation or Utility Uses
738 Acres of Forested Parklands
Forested Park Health Assessment
Implementation

Green City Days

• Angle Lake Park
  September 21, 9am-noon
• Burien Community Center
  October 12, 9am-noon
• Des Moines Kiddie/City Park
  October 19, 9am-noon
Accomplishing the Work: Kiddie City Park
Next Steps for Green City Partnerships

- Finalize 20-Year Plans
- Conduct planting and tree distribution events
- Elm tree planting on Des Moines Memorial Drive
- Continued event support through 2021
Small Matching Grants Program

- $240,000 distributed
- 20 organizations
- 28 unique projects
  - Urban forest restoration
  - Healthy food access
  - Parks improvements
  - Environmental education
  - Waste reduction and recycling
ACE Funding Awards by Jurisdiction

Grants per city

- Burien: 7
- Des Moines: 8
- SeaTac: 7
- Two or more cities: 6

Percent of $240,000 per city

- Burien: 29%
- Des Moines: 22%
- SeaTac: 28%
- Two or more cities: 21%
Small Matching Grants Program – SeaTac
Small Matching Grants Program – Des Moines
Challenges

• 3:1 match favors organizations with larger budgets and staff
• Port processes for application, selection, and reporting were not co-created with the community, and are difficult for small, diverse organizations to manage.
• “Ecological” messaging of the grant excludes groups that experience the environment differently.
Recommended Solutions

• Government Relations working reduce or remove required 3:1 match through 2020 state Legislative agenda.

• Collaborate with Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion to conduct equity evaluation and restructure program to serve historically under-represented communities.

• Utilize results of equity evaluation to co-create culturally relevant messaging to connect with community sense of place.
Thank you! Questions?