

## **ORDER No. 2025-09**

### **AN ORDER OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION**

... to rename the South King County Community Impact Fund as the South King and Port Communities Fund.

**ADOPTED  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2025**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In October 2024, the Commission authorized the Executive Director to Execute agreements for the continuation of the South King County Community Impact Fund (SKCCIF) Environmental and Economic Opportunities for Communities programs for the next five years 2025-2029. This delegation of authority directed the Port of Seattle to contract up to a total of \$14 million to community-based organizations, refocus the Economic Recovery to Economic Opportunities for Communities program, expand the geographic region of funding to areas in King County that are identified by the Equity Index as having the greatest needs, and identifying ways to continue funding programs in the six near-airport cities that have been prioritized as part of the first iteration of the SKCCIF.

This Order directs the Executive Director to rename the program to reflect the expanded geographic reach that includes both South King County and other areas of King County that are identified by the Equity Index as having the greatest need for economic development and environmental improvement funding.

In a separate Commission action, on July 27, 2021, Commission approved the execution of SKCCIF contracts contingent upon the provision of notification of recommended projects to Commissioners at least 14 days in advance of contract execution. Commission authorizes the Executive Director to change the notification of recommended projects to Commissioners from at least 14 days to 7 days in advance to contract execution. This change is proposed to improve and accelerate the contract execution timeline with community partners and to create efficiencies in our current standard operating procedures.

#### **TEXT OF THE ORDER**

The Port Commission hereby directs the Executive Director to rename the South King County Community Impact Fund. The South King County Community Impact Fund will be renamed the **“South King and Port Communities Fund.”**

#### **STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE ORDER**

Commission Order 2021-12 authorized the Executive Director to conduct an evaluation and develop recommendations for the future re-authorization of the program before the end of the initial five-year period. This evaluation highlights the impact of the SKCCIF, reflecting the positive economic and environmental outcomes of the Port's financial investments in communities in South King County.

From 2020-2024, the SKCCIF procured four funding cycles to contract with community-based non-profit organizations. A total of \$9.25 million has been committed to a total of 52 community-based organizations.

Given the success of the program and needs of the communities the Port serves, the Commission approved the reauthorization of the fund and:

- To contract with community-based organizations for a total of \$14 million during the next five years (2025-2029);
- To refocus the Economic Recovery Program to fund projects that advance economic opportunity instead of projects focused on recovering from the impact of the pandemic. Recovery from the pandemic is no longer applicable, and communities are in need of ways to expand and advance economic stability and opportunity. In refocusing this program, we would rebrand as "Economic Opportunities for Communities;"
- To expand the geographical region of where we fund to areas of King County that are identified by the Equity Index as having the greatest need; and,
- To continue funding programs in the six near-airport cities and to identify how applications focused on programs in those cities will receive priority status.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

#### **PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS**

- 1) October 22, 2024 – Commission Reauthorization Order for the South King County Community Impact Fund
- 2) October 8, 2024 – Commission Briefing on South King County Fund Assessment and Recommended Next Steps
- 3) October 10, 2023 – Commission briefing on South King County Fund
- 4) September 13, 2022 – Authorization of South King County Fund Cycle 3
- 5) July 27, 2021 – The Commission authorized \$2 million for the South King County Fund for 2021.
- 6) April 28, 2020 – The Commission approved Motion 2020-10 to add economic development to the permissible uses for the South King County Fund, in support of local recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 7) June 25, 2019 – The Commission approved Motion 2019-10, adopting principals to guide outreach and development of the South King County Fund policy.

- 8) November 27, 2018 – The Commission approved Motion 2018-14, establishing the South King County Fund.