



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Development and Neighborhoods Committee
FROM: Mia Navarro, Community Engagement Manager
CC: Mayor Ekberg
DATE: August 21, 2017
SUBJECT: Update on Community Connectors

ISSUE

Tukwila's award-winning Community Connector program improves outreach to residents historically underrepresented in civic processes by contracting with people from various language, ethnic, and age groups to act as liaisons between their community and the City. The program began in 2013, and since then, has undergone several staff changes among the partner agencies. This is an update on the program to date, and ideas for the program going forward.

BACKGROUND

Please see attached presentation.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The annual budget for this program is \$32,500. It is in the 2017-2018 budget.

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Development and Neighborhoods Committee and Council are being updated on the Community Connector program to date, and ideas for the program going forward.

This presentation is scheduled to go before the Committee of the Whole on September 11, 2017.

ATTACHMENTS

-Tukwila Community Connector Program August 2017 Update

में आपका स्वागत है Ласкаво просимо
soo dhawaw *bienvenido* CHAO MÜNG
歡迎 𑂔𑂗𑂢𑂰
namaste
maligayang pagdating آپ کا استقبال ہے

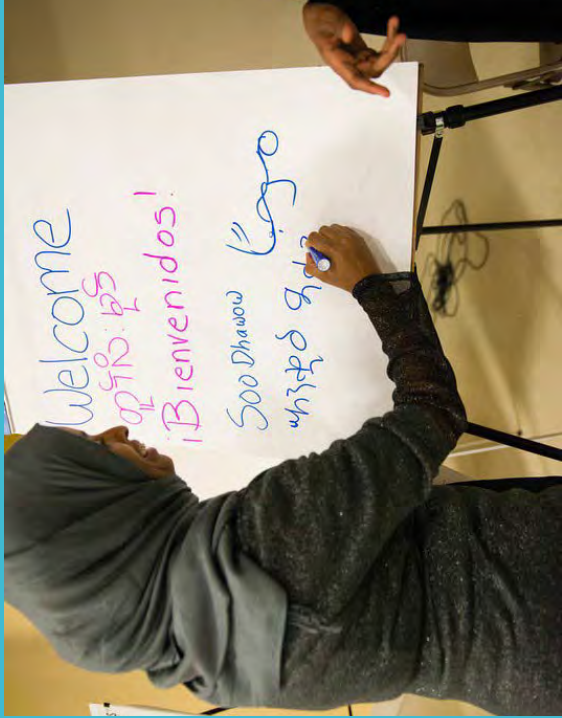
Tukwila Community Connector Program

Update – August 2017



Background and History

- Program began in 2013
- 2012 Strategic Plan Vision: “City of Opportunity, Community of Choice”
- Partners: Forterra and Global to Local
- Annual budget of \$32,500
- Up to ten Connectors
- Ethnic and language communities, seniors and youth.
- Two-fold:
 1. Get information TO their respective communities
 2. Get feedback FROM their respective communities
- Represented communities since 2014: Bhutanese, Burmese, Ethiopian, Eritrean, Latino, Nepali, Somali, Vietnamese, Senior, and Youth Communities.



Projects to Date



2014

- 194 Surveys regarding the Comprehensive Plan
- Three Community Conversations with 130 participants

2015

- Leadership Development for Connectors
- Built relationships with Police and Fire
- Community Event on Safety October, 2015
- Connectors spoke about the Comprehensive Plan, specifically housing affordability, at a Council meeting and wrote a letter to Council

2016

- Program Update to Tukwila City Council
- Foster Career Day
- Disaster Preparedness Training
- Each shared what they learned with their community
- Leadership Development

2017

- Public Safety Plan Training
- Public Safety Plan Open Houses
- See You in the Park (7/26)
- 46 surveys about parks



Current Program Configuration



- Two projects per year
- Contract supports up to 10 Connectors
- Each Connector reaches out to 5-10 people, and they in turn reach out to more people in their community...
- Connectors receive small stipends
- Most Connectors work full or part time
- Limited capacity
- Forterra provides training and event support
- Global to Local manages relationships with the Connectors and provides training and event support

Our Current Connectors

8 Connectors:

- 2 Hispanic
- 2 Somali
- 1 Burmese
- 1 Ethiopian/Eritrean
- 1 Senior
- 1 Youth



Considerations for the Community Connector Program in the Future

- Rethinking intermediary structure
- Redeploying resources to increase program capacity
- More leadership training for Connectors
- Broader reach
- More availability for department needs



Questions?

