



CIVIC
COMMONS

POWERED BY SEATTLE FOUNDATION

**INNOVATING AND IMPROVING THE WAY OUR
REGION TAKES ACTION ON CRITICAL ISSUES**

Civic Commons is a new way of taking action together on our region’s biggest economic and social challenges. We believe that in order to close the gaps that divide our community and improve the lives of everyone from Shoreline to SeaTac, we must take action together in fundamentally different ways than we have in the past. By elevating community voices and uniting different sectors around mutually agreed goals, Civic Commons aims to build the infrastructure needed to address the root causes of inequity in Greater Seattle.

ABOUT US:

Our region’s rapid growth has left many people behind, and too often, we’ve seen our decision-making infrastructure struggle to make progress on economic and social challenges. We know our most intractable problems are rooted in policies and practices that exclude people, so Civic Commons seeks solutions that emerge from the inclusion of local community members and institutions working together. We focus on changing the way we take action together by emphasizing the co-creation of solutions and the elevation of more community voices into leadership roles.

OUR WORK:

Scorecard for Shared Prosperity: *The Scorecard for Shared Prosperity* is a new tool for our region to measure and consider the idea of prosperity, built upon research from Brookings Institution and the Urban Institute. Founded on the principle that a balanced



view of shared prosperity is critical to informed decision making and collaboration, the Scorecard presents data on how individuals, households, and communities are thriving – or not – based on five dimensions of economic, democratic and community

DIMENSIONS OF PROSPERITY

We measure our region's shared prosperity by tracking the total well-being of its residents. Prosperity is truly shared when everyone's basic needs are met and everyone has access to economic opportunity.

Arrows show you whether a trend is increasing or decreasing.

■ Good news! Our region is headed in the right direction.

■ Watch out! This trend means something is wrong.



INDIVIDUALS

Individuals thrive when their health outcomes improve, and when occurrence of chronic disease and exposure to violence decreases over time.

[See more data on individuals >](#)



HOUSEHOLDS

Household thrive when families can build wealth over time with long term assets like personal savings and home ownership, and through entrepreneurship.

[See more data on households >](#)



COMMUNITIES

Communities thrive when residents are stable, food secure, and not forced to move due to affordability, development, or access. Environmental sustainability also plays a critical role.

[See more data on communities >](#)



performance and participation. All dimensions of this framework are required to work in sync to truly achieve the vision of shared prosperity.

Network Weaving: Communities are built on connections. Better connections usually provide better opportunities. But, what are better connections, and how do they lead to more effective and productive communities? How do we build connected communities that work for everyone and involve everyone in decision-making and planning? Civic Commons seeks to build connection between existing regional leadership networks to more effectively develop and execute cross-sector approaches.



We Belong Here: *We Belong Here* bridges the growing divides in our region by changing the way we

work together to address our greatest challenges. The program develops relationships between people and institutions from all sectors, creating bonds that fuse existing power with the expertise of lived experience. We aim to build relationships that are sustainable, helping communities adapt beyond addressing a single issue and expand their reach to reduce inequities region-wide.

OUR TEAM:



Michael Brown
Civic Architect
m.brown@seattlefoundation.org
206.515.2132



Frank Nam
We Belong Here
Project Director
f.nam@seattlefoundation.org
206.957.7703



Kelsey Liu
Civic Coordinator
k.liu@seattlefoundation.org
206.388.1723 ext. 143