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The City of Seattle is widely recognized as among the nation’s most sustainable cities. Yet Seattle has struggled to advance a shared vision for environmental justice across diverse communities. Towards that end, the Mayor’s proposed budget includes \$80,000 to create an Equity and Environment Initiative. The goals of this initiative are to ensure all people and communities benefit (and none are disproportionately impacted) from the City’s environmental programs and policies; to engage underrepresented communities in setting environmental priorities, designing strategies, and tracking progress; and to create opportunities for underrepresented communities and individuals to be part of the environmental movement in Seattle. The proposed \$80,000 will provide initial resources for organizational capacity, facilitation services, and a stipend to members of a Community Partners Steering Committee for their time and expertise in advising the City on the Initiative.

This green sheet would add significant staff capacity to lead the Initiative and implement the recommendations of the Steering Committee. The person occupying Strategic Advisor 2 position, the Equity and Environment Initiative Director, would manage engagement activities directed toward communities of color, low income communities, immigrant and refugee communities and limited English communities who otherwise would be under-represented in the environmental decision-making. The Director would direct City resources to support the work of the Steering Committee composed of leaders from these communities.

One outcome from the work of the Steering Committee would be an action agenda to advance environmental equity. By the end of 2015, OSE will report on the findings and recommendations in the action agenda to the City Council. The Equity & Environment Initiative Director would also serve as OSE’s RSJI lead and represent OSE on broader City equity efforts and interdepartmental teams.

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### Budget Action Transactions

**Budget Action Title:** Add ongoing Strategic Advisor 2 position in OSE, funded with \$137,000 GSF in 2015 and 2016, to lead the development and implementation of the new Equity and Environment Initiative (EEI).

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Add Strategic Advisor 2 position to OSE to lead the Equity and Environment Initiative (EEI)	StratAdvsr2,General Govt - FT	1	1	OSE	Office of Sustainability and Environment	X1000	00100	2015		\$137,000
2	Increase appropriation to fund Strategic Advisor 2 position to OSE to lead the Equity and Environment Initiative (EEI).				OSE	Office of Sustainability and Environment	X1000	00100	2016		\$137,000