



MEMORANDUM

TO: Councilmember Jean Godden, Chair
Parks, Seattle Center, Libraries and Gender Pay Equity Committee

FROM: Robert Nellams, Director 

DATE: **November 24, 2014**

RE: Seattle Center RSJI Report

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a 2014 report of the Race and Social Justice Initiative's (RSJI) work at Seattle Center to your committee. In December, at Councilmember Harrell's request, we will be presenting a status report on our department's accomplishments to your committee.

The attached report reflects the current status of our 2014 RSJI Work Plan as documented in the new ROSA database. All of our strategies and actions are either on track or completed. While we continue our focus on these specific commitments, we have engaged in other activities that demonstrate the integration of the Initiative into our daily operations. Highlights include:

- Expanded the SC RSJI series of "Lunch and Learn" presentations to include a Speakers Forum component. We hosted a special presentation by Mr. Gerald Hankerson, president of the King County Seattle NAACP, which drew nearly 100 attendees from other city departments and our campus resident organizations.
- Worked with our capital project and communications sections to undertake several outreach sessions related to the soon to be constructed "Artists at Play" children's play area. Our efforts targeted outreach efforts focused on gaining input from less heard portions of the city, including southeast Seattle. Using creative strategies, we encouraged input from children of diverse backgrounds to ensure that this important project is a meaningful attraction to a wide array of users.
- Assisted with outreach and coordination for the highly successful Seattle/King County Clinic with Remote Area Medical held at KeyArena October, 23-26. This remarkable initiative partnered with more than 75 agencies and 1,400 volunteers to provide a range of free health, dental and vision services to 3,400 individuals over a four-day period. The innovative use of a City-owned sports arena to host direct health care services for the public demonstrated the City's commitment to social equity as a foundational value.
- For our workforce, our RSJI Change Team surveyed staff to better understand the effectiveness of the link between our internal Service Awards Ceremony and our annual Employee Diversity Celebration and Luncheon. The results of the survey were used to adjust our program and produce a new video presentation designed to deepen the connection between these two important employee recognition initiatives.

We look forward to sharing our work with the Committee and answering any questions about the Seattle Center 2014 RSJI Work Plan.

cc: Tom Israel, Seattle Center RSJI Change Team Executive Sponsor
Steve Sneed and Richard Pedowitz, Co-Chairs, Seattle Center RSJI Change Team
Seattle Center RSJI Change Team Members
SOCR – Patricia Lally, Darlene Flynn