



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Agenda Committee of the Whole

Claudia Balducci, Chair;
Jorge Barón, Vice Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry,
Dave Upthegrove, Pete von Reichbauer, Girmay Zahilay

Lead Staff: Andy Micklow (206-263-3226)
Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)

9:30 AM

Monday, October 21, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Hybrid Meetings: Attend the King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or to provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: The Committee of the Whole values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. In person: You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. By email: You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to kcccomitt@kingcounty.gov. If your email is received before 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer: You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/join>, and entering the webinar ID number below.

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p>	
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You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea, at 206 477 9259 or email Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov by 8:00 a.m. three business days prior to the meeting.

CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:

Webinar Meeting ID: 853 1323 8538

If you do not have access to the ZOOM application, you can connect to the meeting by calling 1 253 215 8782 and using the Webinar ID. Connecting in this manner, however, may impact your ability to be unmuted to speak.

HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY: There are several ways to watch or listen in to the meeting:

- 1) Stream online via this link: www.kingcounty.gov/kctv, or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD), Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone – See “Connecting to the Webinar” above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. Call to Order



2. Roll Call

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

3. Approval of Minutes p. 5

October 7, 2024 meeting minutes

4. Public Comment

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Briefings

5. [Briefing No. 2024-B0121](#) p. 8
4Culture Annual Briefing and Budget
Gene Paul, Council staff
Brian Carter, CEO, 4Culture

Discussion and Possible Action

6. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0289](#) p. 63
A MOTION confirming the appointment of Jake Prendez to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture) board.
Sponsors: Mosqueda
Gene Paul, Council staff
7. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2024-0245](#) p. 70
AN ORDINANCE related to the for-hire transportation industry, authorizing background checks through the Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation when considering an application for an enhanced regional for-hire driver license; and amending Ordinance 19700, Section 13, and K.C.C. 6.65.110.
Sponsors: von Reichbauer
Sherrie Hsu, Council staff
8. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2024-0254](#) p. 86
AN ORDINANCE extending an existing moratorium by six months, prohibiting the acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or expansion of existing wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms, as primary or accessory uses or as home occupations or home industries; and prohibiting temporary use permits for wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms.
Sponsors: Balducci
Erin Auzins, Council staff



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9. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0287](#) p. 103

A MOTION establishing the King County 2025 State Legislative Priorities.

Sponsors: Upthegrove

Mac Nicholson, Director, Government Relations, King County Council

10. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2024-0236](#) p. 106

AN ORDINANCE approving the King County Doors Open Program implementation plan, required by Ordinance 19710, Section 9, to govern the expenditure of the cultural access sales and use tax from 2024 through 2031 to achieve outcomes related to public and educational benefits and economic support for arts, science, and heritage organizations.

Sponsors: Balducci and Zahilay

Leah Krekel-Zoppi, Council staff

Gene Paul, Council staff

Andy Micklow, Council staff

Other Business

Adjournment



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Meeting Minutes Committee of the Whole

Claudia Balducci, Chair;
Jorge Barón, Vice Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry,
Dave Upthegrove, Pete von Reichbauer, Girmay Zahilay

Lead Staff: Andy Micklow (206-263-3226)
Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)

9:30 AM

Monday, October 7, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Balducci called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dunn, Dembowski, Mosqueda, Perry, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Barón moved approval of the September 24, 2024 meeting minutes. There being no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. **Public Comment**

There were no people who provided public comment.

Consent

5. **[Proposed Ordinance No. 2024-0259](#)**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the withdrawal of approximately 25 acres of land from the Sammamish Plateau water and sewer district to the Ames Lake water association, known as the Ames Lake Road water de-annexation, for the purpose of water service.

This item was expedited to the October 15, 2024 meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jorge Barón that this Ordinance be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

6. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0290](#)

A MOTION approving the extension of the executive's appointment of Ed Carter as acting director of the community corrections division within the King County department of adult and juvenile detention.

This item was expedited to the October 15, 2024 meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jorge Barón that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Discussion and Possible Action**7. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0298](#)**

A MOTION appointing a qualified person to a vacant position on the Coal Creek utility district board of commissioners.

Sherrie Hsu, Council staff, provided an introductory overview. John Dulcich and Kim Lane, applicants to Position 3 on the Coal Creek utility district board of commissioners, provided comments on their backgrounds and interests on serving on the board and answered questions from the members.

The chair recessed the meeting into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(h) at 10:06 AM for 10 minutes for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. The meeting returned to regular session at 10:16 AM.

Councilmember Barón made an oral amendment to insert the name "Kim William Lane" into the empty space on line 19 of the proposed motion. There being no objections, the amendment was adopted.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barón that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Substitute Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dunn, Dembowski, Mosqueda, Perry, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

8. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0282](#)

A MOTION approving the 2025 budget and work program for ARCH, A Regional Coalition for Housing.

Olivia Brey, Council staff, Xochitl Maykovich, Deputy Division Director, Housing, Homelessness, and Community Development Division, DCHS, and Lindsay Masters, Executive Director, ARCH, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barón that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dunn, Dembowski, Mosqueda, Perry, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

9. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0283](#)

A MOTION approving the 2025 budget and 2025 work plan for SKHHP, South King Housing and Homelessness Partners.

Olivia Brey, Council staff, Xochitl Maykovich, Deputy Division Director, Housing, Homelessness, and Community Development Division, DCHS, and Claire Goodwin, Executive Director, SKHHP, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barón that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dunn, Dembowski, Mosqueda, Perry, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

Briefings

10. [Briefing No. 2024-B0116](#)

Preventing Gender-Based Violence in King County

Sarah Reyneveld, Chair, Women's Advisory Board, Tanya Mathews, Vice Chair, Women's Advisory Board, Kate Krug, Chief Executive Officer, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, and Amarinthia Torres, Co-Executive Director, Coalition Ending Gender-based Violence, briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.

This matter was Presented

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 AM.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	5	Name:	Gene Paul
Proposed No.:	2024-B0121	Date:	October 21, 2024

SUBJECT

A briefing to present 4Culture's 2025 budget and the 2023 annual report.

SUMMARY

King County’s arts and heritage programs are administered by 4Culture, which was established by the Council in 2002 as King County’s cultural public development authority.¹ Dedicated lodging tax revenues are allocated to 4Culture to administer and distribute to local cultural programs. 4Culture also administers the Doors Open cultural access program that is funded by the cultural access sales tax which began in 2024. Finally, 4Culture oversees King County’s 1% for Art program which is funded by County capital projects.

The King County Code requires 4Culture to submit an annual report and a budget to the Executive and the County Council. The Code also requires 4Culture to meet with the Committee of the Whole to brief the annual report and budget.²

BACKGROUND

4Culture’s History, Funding and Programs. The King County Council created 4Culture, King County’s cultural public development authority, in 2002 through Ordinance 14482 in order "to support, advocate for and preserve the cultural resources of the region in a manner that fosters excellence, vitality and diversity." 4Culture is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors, who are nominated by either the Executive or the Council and then confirmed by the Council.

4Culture’s name was derived from its four cultural programs:

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.

¹ Ordinance 14482, K.C.C. 2.49

² K.C.C. 2.49.160

- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.
- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County's 1% for Art program and manages King County's art collection.

When it was established, 4Culture was authorized to use a portion of the County's lodging (hotel/motel) tax.³ However, between 2012 and 2020, 4Culture did not receive any lodging tax revenues. Instead, the State of Washington allocated these revenues to retire the Kingdome debt (2013-2015) and to fund the football stadium and exhibition center (2016-2020). During these years, 4Culture was funded by an endowment that it was required to create during the early 2000s from its portion of the lodging tax. Beginning in 2021, 4Culture once again began receiving lodging taxes; state law allocates 37.5 percent of the County's lodging tax receipts to 4Culture.⁴

Lodging Tax Transfer and Reporting Requirements. Under King County Code (K.C.C.) 2.49.160, 4Culture must submit an annual report to the Executive and the Council by April 15th of each year that contains the following information:

- A summary of significant accomplishments;
- An updated estimate of expenditures for the current fiscal year;
- A summary of cultural programs, public art projects, and all other projects and activities to be undertaken during the current year; and
- Other information as may be required in the charter of the authority.

Under K.C.C. 2.49.170, the County is required to transfer to 4Culture lodging tax revenues collected in the County and designated for cultural purposes. In 2018, the Council passed Ordinance 18684, requiring that as a condition of the transfer of lodging tax revenues, 4Culture must transmit its budget for the following fiscal year to the Executive, who must then transmit it to the Council.

4Culture's transmitted budget must include:

- The budgeted operating and capital expenditures and full-time equivalent positions for the following year;
- A statement of assets and liabilities;

³ RCW 67.28

⁴ RCW 67.28.180

- A description of significant changes in the budget for the following fiscal year compared to the current fiscal year, and
- A financial plan that includes actual expenditures, revenues, and reserves for the current fiscal year and the following five years.

Unless the Council passes a motion rejecting 4Culture's budget at least thirty days prior to the end of the current fiscal year, the County is required to transfer the designated lodging taxes to 4Culture.⁵

Additionally, the County Code also requires 4Culture to meet with the Council's Committee of the Whole two times per year, once to discuss the annual report and once to discuss the plans and proposed expenditures for the following year. Because of multiple meetings to discuss the Doors Open implementation plan, the annual report and budget briefing are being consolidated into one meeting for 2024.

ANALYSIS

4Culture 2025-2029 Program of Work and Financial Plan. In response to Code requirements, 4Culture transmitted a 2025-2029 Program of Work, an Expenditure and Staffing Plan, a balance sheet listing assets and liabilities, and a 2023-2029 Financial Plan.⁶ The program of work describes how 4Culture will maintain the existing lodging tax and 1% for Art programs while adding eight new Doors Open programs. It states that the organization has entered an "era of growth which will allow 4Culture to lean into our mission, vision, and values and serve more King County residents than ever before." The program of work also provides details on how 4Culture plans to distribute over \$138 million in 2025 while maintaining their commitment to racial equity in the agency's programs and providing equitable investments to where it is needed most in the County.

The 2025-2029 Program of Work includes programs and services in the following areas:

- **Doors Open Programs**
 - One-Time Operating Support
 - One-Time Capital Facilities
 - Public School Cultural Access
 - Launch
 - Building For Equity
 - Public Free Access
 - Countywide Initiatives
 - Sustained Support
 - Expanding Capacity Outside Established Cultural Centers

⁵ K.C.C. 2.49.160

⁶ 2024-RPT0119

- Lodging Tax Programs
 - Sustained Support for Arts
 - Sustained Support for Heritage and Historic Preservation
 - Special Projects
 - Cultural Facilities
 - Cultural Education

- 1% for Art Program
 - Public Art

As shown in Table 1, 4Culture is planning increased expenditures in nearly all program areas in 2025.

Table 1. 4Culture's 2024 & 2025 Program Expenditures

Program	2024		2025		% Change in Expenditures
	Expenditures	FTEs	Planned Expenditures	FTEs	
2024 One-Time Operating Support ⁷	\$23,182,072	0.0	\$0	0	N/A
2024 One-Time Capital Facilities	\$23,182,072	0.0	\$0	0	N/A
Public School Cultural Access	\$0	0.0	\$13,231,306	3.3	N/A
Launch	\$0	0.0	\$2,646,261	0.7	N/A
Building For Equity	\$0	0.0	\$8,820,871	2.2	N/A
Public Free Access	\$0	0.0	\$13,231,306	3.3	N/A
Countywide Initiatives	\$0	0.0	\$6,174,610	1.5	N/A
Sustained Support	\$0	0.0	\$44,104,354	11.0	N/A
Expanding Capacity Outside	\$0	0.0	\$23,680,084	7.3	N/A

⁷ For the 2024 One-Time Operating Support and Capital programs, funding decisions will be determined by the end of 2024. Contracting will begin in January 2025 because funding cannot be distributed until the Doors Open Implementation Plan is approved by the Council and Regional Policy Committee.

Program	2024		2025		% Change in Expenditures
	Expenditures	FTEs	Planned Expenditures	FTEs	
Established Cultural Centers					
Sustained Support for Arts ⁸	\$3,495,155	4.3	\$5,388,938	3.0	54.2%
Sustained Support for Heritage and Historic Preservation	\$1,403,283	4.1	\$1,410,179	2.0	0.5%
Special Projects	\$1,498,318	1.2	\$7,223,577	1.6	382.1%
Cultural Facilities	\$2,388,497	2.7	\$6,065,645	1.8	154.0%
Cultural Education	\$250,000	0.3	\$500,000	0.3	100.0%
Public Art	\$5,626,894	8.4	\$5,653,951	8.4	0.5%
Total Program Expenditures	\$61,026,291	21	\$138,131,082	46.4	126.3%

In addition to the significant increase in expenditures with the beginning of 2025 Doors Open programs, there is also an increase in most lodging tax funded programs. Overall, lodging tax revenues in the Executive's proposed 2025 were expected to increase 8.5% in 2025 over 2024 based on the August 2024 forecast from the Office of Financial and Economic Analysis. Besides those forecasted increases in lodging tax revenues, technical adjustments in 4Culture's budget also account for increases in 2025. The 382% increase for Special Projects funding in 2025 is connected to 4Culture's decision to postpone 2024 Projects grants to focus on getting COVID relief funding out the door in 2024.⁹ The 2025 allocation for projects includes a rollover of the 2024 money. The 154% increase for Cultural Facilities also includes a rollover of 2024 money as that program was paused for 2024 while 4Culture focused on the one-time Doors Open capital facilities grants.¹⁰

While the program of work depicts the staff allocations to cultural programs, the entire picture of 4Culture staffing can be found in the 2025 Expenditure and Staffing Plan. This document, which includes administration staffing, shows the full impact of Doors Open programming as the total staff level of 41.2 FTEs in 2023-2024 is projected to increase to 53.6 FTEs to accommodate the increased work. According to 4Culture, the organization has strengthened its internal infrastructure and staffing to meet the volume of contracting anticipated for Doors Open grants and also efficiently distribute funding.

⁸ Because of the one-time use of an annual budget in 2025, the data provided in the Program of Work and other 4Culture budget materials compares existing programs' expenditures for the entire 2023-2024 biennium to only 2025. At the request of Council staff, 4Culture provided supplemental data that provided annualized data for 2024 to match the way the Executive's proposed 2025 budget presents data.

⁹ "Information on 2024 Project Grants, Doors Open, and COVID Relief Funds," 4Culture website ([Link](#))

¹⁰ "Building for Equity: Facilities," 4Culture website ([Link](#))

The 2025 Financial Plan shows that 4Culture has a relatively stable financial outlook. The agency originally anticipated ending 2024 with \$24 million in reserves. With the addition of 2024 Doors Open money, those reserves are projected to increase to \$63.4 million. Because of Doors Open programming beginning in 2025, the reserves are projected to be \$38.5 million by the end of 2025 and \$23.2 million at the end of the 2028-2029 biennium.

2023 Annual Report.¹¹ 4Culture's 2023 Annual Report, transmitted to the Council in April 2024, highlights the significant accomplishments from 2023 and provides an estimate of expenditures from that year as required by the Code. The highlights include the new Public Free Access grants and the first year of the Building for Equity program's Cultural Space partnership. The report also provides data on 4Culture's racial equity efforts and demonstrates the progress 4Culture has made in making funding for cultural organizations more equitable.

The report shows that 4Culture expended approximately \$16.1 million for programs and services and collected \$21.2 million in revenues in 2023. 4Culture's Fund Balances totaled \$41.8 million in 2023.

INVITED

- Brian Carter, Executive Director, 4Culture
- Claire Miccio, Government and Community Relations Manager, 4Culture

ATTACHMENTS

1. 4Culture Annual Report Presentation
2. 4Culture 2025 Budget Memorandum
3. 4Culture 2025-2029 Program of Work
4. 4Culture 2025 Financial Plan
5. 4Culture 2025 Expenditure and Staffing Plan
6. 4Culture Balance Sheet
7. 4Culture 2023 Annual Report

¹¹ 2024-RPT0053

4Culture 2023 Annual Report

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE | OCT 21, 2024



Gallery 4Culture June 2023 exhibit. Elisheba Johnson. *When she play Bingo, she wins*, 2023. Glass mosaic. 60 x 40 inches. Photo: joefreemanjunior.com

2023 Annual Report

- Financials
- Program Highlights
- Doors Open Program Development
- Looking Ahead

2023 FINANCIALS

FINANCIAL TOTALS	2021	2022	2023
Total Revenues	\$17,857,671	\$21,398,445	\$21,180,481
Total Expenditures	\$12,335,397	\$19,231,877	\$16,124,769
Total Fund Balances	\$34,554,690	\$36,721,258	\$41,776,970



Poetry in Public

Places of Landing

Poetry in Public (fka Poetry on Buses)

- Public art program in partnership with King County Metro
- Poems by King County residents in shared spaces
- Launched during National Poetry month, a call for poems on the theme "Places of Landing" embracing the poetry of our daily lives
- Workshops led by Community Liaisons and workshops organized for Communities of Focus, including African American, Chinese, Filipino, Indigenous, Spanish-Speaking, and Youth.



Poetry in Public Youth Community Poetry Workshop In Redmond, 2023. Photo: Timothy Aguero Photography



Public Free Access Pilot

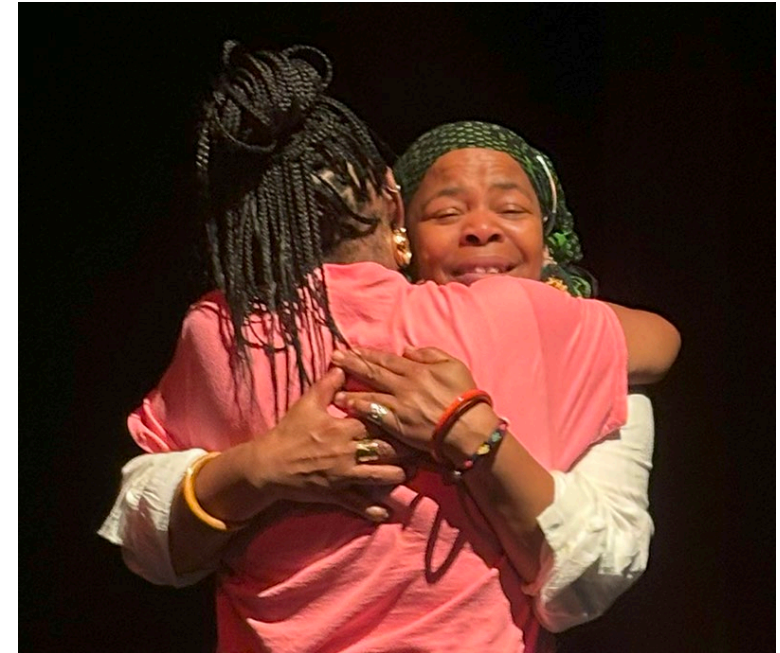
Public Free Access (pilot year)

Public Free Access aims to reduce the barrier that admission fees pose to many King County residents—particularly underserved communities—and visitors in accessing quality, relevant, cultural experiences.

Two programs from pilot year to highlight:

- **The Bulgarian Cultural and Heritage Center** received a grant to provide a reduced ticket fee for seniors over 65 and children under 12 to their Holiday Concert featuring the renown folk music group Banski Starcheta.
- **The African-American Writers' Alliance** offered free admission to Genius Conference; their annual writers workshop held at LANGSTON.

Pilot learnings informed the 2024 Public Free Access, and the broader program developed for Doors Open.



The Genius Conference at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, June 7-8 2023.



Building for Equity: Cultural Space Partnerships

Building for Equity: Cultural Space Partnerships

Building for Equity is 4Culture's cultural facilities grant program – grants provide funding, technical support, and strategic partnerships to foster equitable development throughout the county.

Organizations that receive grants of \$100,000 or more must provide free space and technical resources to smaller organizations that are BIPOC-led or serve BIPOC communities

A program highlight from The Sound of Northwest's partnership with Seattle JazzED:

- The Sound of the Northwest gained access to classrooms for choir rehearsals, board meetings, and retreats.
- Technical support helped them launch online registration and develop fundraising and marketing strategies.
- The partners worked collaboratively on two racial equity goals: to invite BIPOC members to join the Seattle JazzED board and to hire BIPOC vendors for both organizations.

Other partnerships:

- Wing Luke/Korean American Historical Society
- Seattle Opera/Tasveer
- Town Hall/Orquesta Northwest



Internal Capacity Building

Internal Capacity Building

Strengthened our capacity in preparation for potential new sources of revenue, in addition to the rebound and growth of Lodging Tax revenues after COVID-19:

New positions

- Controller, Finance department
- Racial Equity Coordinator, Admin department
- Human Resources Manager, Admin department

COVID 19 Response/Recovery: Strategic Plan Extension

- Board voted to extend Strategic Plan until end of 2024

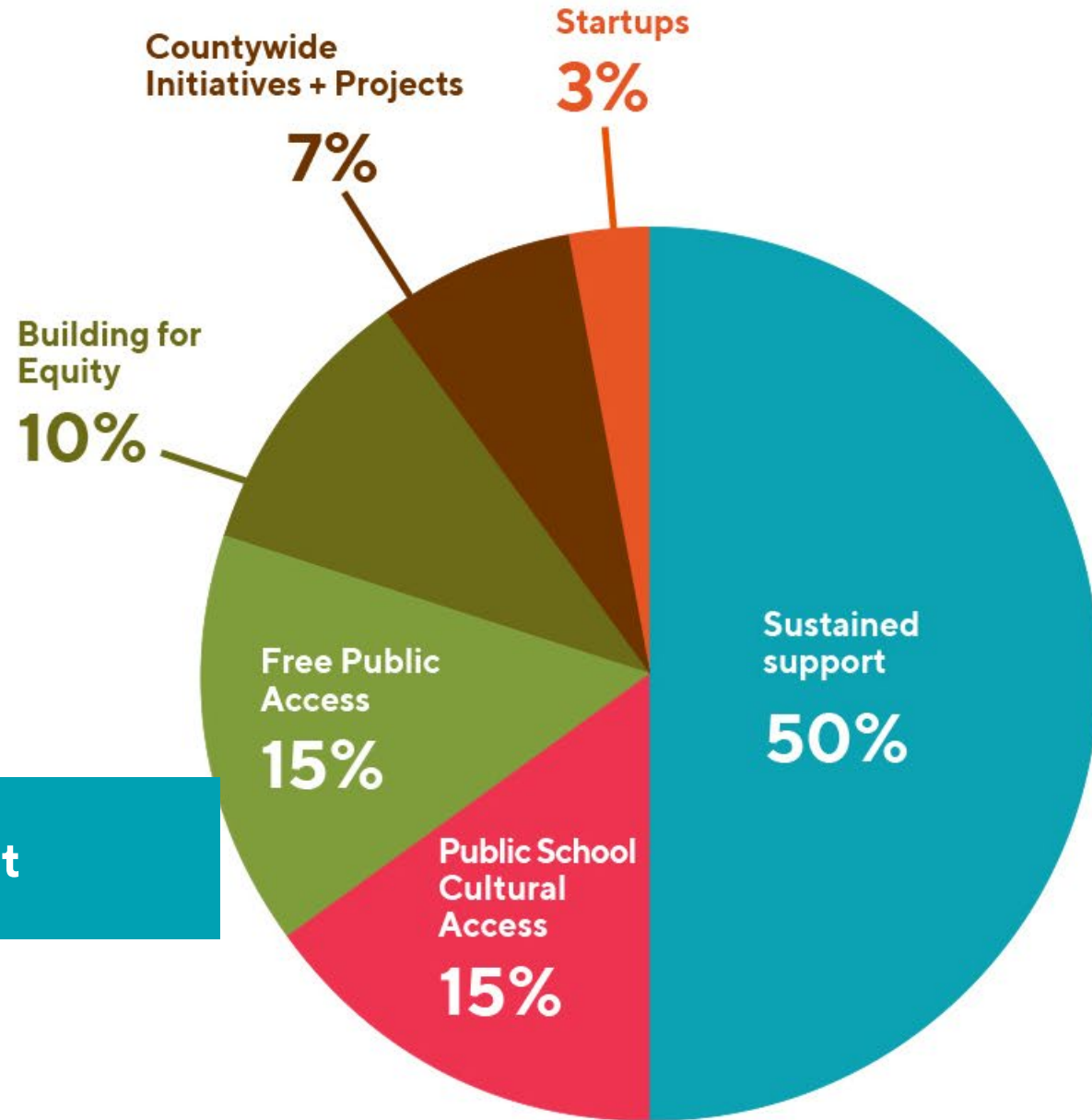


4Culture's Maya Santos and Casey Moser with Kathleen Allen, Gage Academy of Arts Executive Director, at the new facility in South Lake Union, 2024. Photo courtesy of Casey Moser.

Doors Open Programs

2025 AND BEYOND

Doors Open Program Development





Looking Ahead 2025

Looking Ahead

- Doors Open Implementation Plan approval
- Doors Open Facilities and Sustained Support award announcements
- Full Doors Open programs rollout
- 4Culture's Lodging Tax supported programs
- 1% for the Art supported projects
- 4Culture Strategic Bridge Plan
- Onboarding and integrating new staff
- Wellbeing at Work and Beyond

Previous image: Seiku's Homecoming December 22, 2021. Photo courtesy of The Seattle Aquarium.

Thank you for supporting our work!

Brian J Carter

brian.carter@4culture.org

(206) 296-7580

www.4culture.org



101 PREFONTAINE PL S
SEATTLE, WA 98104
4CULTURE.ORG

Memo

Date: August 28th, 2024
To: King County Council
Company: King County
From: Brian J. Carter, 4Culture Executive Director
Tel: 206-263-1586
Re: 2025 Annual Budget

Dear King County Councilmembers,

I write to you regarding our 2025 Budget. In this packet you will find the following:

- 2025-2029 Program of Work
- Expenditures and Staffing Plan
- Comprehensive Financial Plan
- Statement of Assets and Liabilities

We remain grateful for King County's approval of Doors Open and our team is working hard to develop all associated programming for the public. The Doors Open Implementation Plan, which has moved from the Executive's office to County Council, goes into significant detail about all Doors Open programs and we look forward to being in dialogue with you and answering any questions you have throughout that process.

This 2025 Budget submission includes information regarding all 4Culture programming which covers Doors Open, Lodging Tax, and 1% for Art, which we believe reflects fiscal responsibility amidst this time of expansion for our organization. Our 2025 Budget allows all of 4Culture's new and long-standing initiatives to be funded at a level which increases our support for King County's cultural sector greater than at any other point in our history.

Your continued support coupled with our long-term financial strategy means 4Culture will remain a dependable resource for King County's cultural sector for years to come. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Carter
Executive Director

4Culture 2025–2029

PROGRAM OF WORK

Introduction

The 2025–2029 4Culture Program of Work includes all Doors Open programming as approved by the King County Council. It also maintains all core Lodging Tax and 1% for Art programs and showcases the evolution of 4Culture’s ability to continue offering funding initiatives and strategic engagement that will help our cultural sector flourish countywide.

Program and Services

The 2025–2029 Program of Work includes programs and services in the following areas broken out by funding source:

- **DOORS OPEN**
 - One-Time Operating Support
 - One-Time Capital Facilities
 - Public School Cultural Access
 - Launch
 - Building For Equity
 - Public Free Access
 - Countywide Initiatives
 - Sustained Support
 - Expanding Capacity Outside Established Cultural Centers
- **LODGING TAX**
 - Sustained Support for Arts
 - Sustained Support for Heritage and Historic Preservation
 - Special Projects
 - Cultural Facilities
 - Cultural Education
- **1% FOR ART**
 - Public Art

Expansion

Since the passage of Doors Open, 4Culture has needed to expand strategically. We've entered an era of growth, agency-wide, which will allow 4Culture to lean into our mission, vision and values and serve more King County residents than ever before. We remain guided by a vision of a vibrant county where culture is essential and accessible to all residents and every person has what they need to explore, build and thrive. We've integrated Doors Open into 4Culture as a whole so that, in alignment with our mission, we are able to fund, support and advocate for culture to enhance the life of King County residents.

Since the passage of Doors Open, 4Culture—whose name is tied to our four main discipline areas of Arts, Heritage, Historic Preservation and Public Art—has now gained a new department: Science. Our agency name will not change but the program areas and disciplines which we can fund are expanding. Strategic hires are joining our team which better position 4Culture to administer all Doors Open programming at the high level it deserves. We're expanding our outreach and engagement efforts, re-launching Hello 4Culture, our monthly community outreach series, increasing our technical assistance offerings to grantseekers and expanding our ability to translate 4Culture material into different languages. With the addition of science and technology, we're expanding into new funding areas, growing our audiences, and building in-roads within that sector.

We'll spend 2025 administering Lodging Tax and 1% for Art-funded programs throughout the county while simultaneously overseeing new, large-scale Doors Open initiatives with a goal of distributing close to \$120 million dollars into the cultural eco-system. We'll do this while maintaining our commitment to racial equity and providing equitable investments to historically undercapitalized communities by using key

4Culture 2025-2029 Program of Work

indicators such as geographic location, income, operating budget, audiences served, and project focus.

This is a moment that 4Culture is well prepared for and we're excited to move into this next chapter of growth, not only for our institution, but for residents of King County as a whole. We're entrusted with public dollars, and we'll always maintain our commitment to distributing funding where it's needed most so that King County's cultural sector can continue relying upon us for the foreseeable future. Accountability is key. We deeply value our ongoing relationships with the King County Executive's Office and King County Council. You'll hear from us consistently on the progress of this work through our regular report-outs to Council, the Doors Open Assessment Report, ongoing briefings and our annual report.

Doors Open: One-Time Operating Support

Per the Doors Open ordinance, in 2024, 4Culture will administer two, large scale, one-time funding initiatives utilizing Doors Open tax revenue to drive investment in the specific areas of **Operating Support and Capital Facilities**. As a result, we've developed a new Year One team to administer both programs. In alignment with Section 8 of the Doors Open Ordinance, 67% of Year One funding is set aside for the One-Time Operating Support and Capital Facilities programs. Within that, 25% is set aside to support organizations outside of Seattle and 10% is allocated for cultural organizations supporting underserved populations and/or organizations located within Communities of Opportunity.

The One-Time Operating Support program is designed to provide designated operating and programmatic dollars to meet the day-to-day needs of cultural, science and technology organizations. Grants are provided as unrestricted operating funds, allowing organizations the ability to deploy resources where they will be most impactful for the delivery of the organization's mission. There are four funding disciplines: Heritage, Historic Preservation, Arts, and Science. Funding decisions will be determined by the end of 2024 and contracting with organizations will begin in January of 2025.

Doors Open: One-Time Operating Support Program	2023--2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	23,182,072	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A

Doors Open: One-Time Capital Facilities Program

Doors Open Facilities grants will provide funding for building, remodeling, and buying specialized space that houses and facilitates cultural work in King County. The fund prioritizes projects that can begin construction or acquisition within two years of being awarded funds (by December 31, 2026) for a variety of project size categories.

This grant builds from 4Culture and King County’s [Building for Equity Initiative](#) to support cultural building projects and create a pathway to racial equity in cultural facilities funding. To help us achieve this goal, applicants must show an ongoing commitment to racial equity and equitable development, and applicants with project budgets over \$10M will be required to meet a Cultural Space Contribution Requirement, where they provide space or technical assistance as part of their public benefit.

The funding available in the One-Time Capital Facilities grant will be awarded to organizations who are applying on a tiered basis based on different project sizes. Based on previous facility grant cycles, 4Culture anticipates between 175 to 225 total applications for the 2024 Cultural Facility funding and will aim to fund the top scoring 10–20% in each category.

One-Time Capital Facilities Program	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	23,182,072	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A

Doors Open: Public School Cultural Access Program

The Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program will provide King County public school students with greater and more equitable access to science, arts and heritage learning from our county’s rich array of cultural organizations.

Beginning in 2025, all public schools and tribal schools in King County’s 19 school districts will have access to an online roster of science, arts heritage and historic preservation cultural organizations that provide on-site and off-site cultural education programs in and out of the school day. Funding for programs will be provided directly to cultural organizations, and free field trip transportation will be provided to schools in districts with a 40% or higher free and reduced lunch rate. 4Culture is committed to implementing the Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program with a goal of improving outcomes for public school students in the county.

4Culture is rigorously planning toward the launch of this program including working with consultants, doing landscape analysis and building off our years of preparation for this moment.

Additionally, the 2025 launch of this program will include the development of a central database for educators to find no cost onsite opportunities to provide cultural education experiences to their students.

Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program	2023--2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	0	3.3	13,231,306	3.3	21,611,674	3.3	23,471,234
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		63.3%		8.6%

Doors Open: Launch

The Launch program is focused on new and emerging, Doors Open–eligible cultural or science organizations in King County, with a goal to ensure that all geographic areas of the county and all communities in the county have access to cultural experiences. Launch will provide grants for start–up costs and multi–year operating support to new and emerging organizations, paired with capacity building and technical assistance. New organizations will have a pathway to receiving Sustained Support, which is only available to organizations with a minimum two–year operating history for heritage and preservation and three–year operating history for arts. Organizations that have previously received Sustained Support but have had 501c3 status for less than three years and are hiring paid staff for the first time, can apply for a limited–time boost in operating support, along with capacity building services to enable their growth and stability.

An additional priority of this program is increasing access to cultural space, especially for organizations that have historically faced barriers. The Launch program will explore leveraging 4Culture’s existing capital programs, including Building for Equity Facilities and the Preservation Action Fund, to increase access to cultural space for new and emerging organizations. Launch will prioritize organizations based outside of Seattle, or in a [Community of Opportunity](#) (COO), or meeting other equity criteria, distributing funding as a much–needed launch pad for emerging organizations.

Launch	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	0	0.7	2,646,261	0.7	4,322,335	0.7	4,694,247
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		63.3%		8.6%

Doors Open: Building for Equity

The Doors Open allocation for Building for Equity encompasses 4Culture’s facilities, facility–focused capacity building, and other capital grant programs. 4Culture’s current Building for Equity initiative was built to center communities that have historically faced barriers to purchasing and stewarding cultural space, and provides a combination of funding, tailored support, and strategic partnerships. Doors Open will enable 4Culture’s existing Building for Equity programs, including Capacity Building and Facilities, to grow and deliver more impact. A new program will be initiated, focusing on facilities that serve Native communities with assistance from 4Culture’s Native Advisory Council which will advise on outreach and program design.

The Doors Open Building for Equity allocation will also bring additional resources and a renewed focus on equitable funding strategies in 4Culture’s Equipment, Landmarks Capital, and Emergency/Unforeseen Capital programs. It’s clear that the needs organizations have to acquire and steward cultural space remains high in this region given long–standing challenges around affordability. Utilizing Doors Open funding to address this specific need on a larger scale is an exciting opportunity as we aim to distribute resources throughout King County with an eye towards equity, geography and Communities of Opportunity. As this occurs, 4Culture will keep our commitment to our Lodging Tax version of this program for Doors Open ineligible organizations.

Doors Open Building For Equity	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	0	2.2	8,820,871	2.2	14,407,782	2.2	15,647,490
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		63.3%		8.6%

Doors Open: Public Free Access

The Public Free Access program aims to reduce the significant barrier that admission fees pose to many King County residents and visitors, particularly underserved communities, in accessing quality, relevant cultural and science experiences. Reimbursements are provided to cultural organizations to help cover the costs of providing free and reduced cost programming throughout the year. Grants may be used to support free and reduced cost attendance at arts, heritage, preservation, or science experiences in King County.

This program comes together as we incorporate numerous learnings from running a smaller scale pilot program using Lodging Tax dollars. Through testing out this program in 2023 and 2024, 4Culture gained strong insight on the needs of the field and is well positioned to operate a Doors Open version of this with a goal of distributing funding to a wide variety of organizations, venues, festivals and cultural producers throughout the county. In addition, applicants located outside of Seattle, that are located within and primarily serving a King County Community of Opportunity, with the smallest operating budgets, and/or other indicators correlated with a limited access to funding will receive an equity investment increasing the grant amount over and above what would have been awarded otherwise.

Public Free Access	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0	0	3.3	13,231,306	3.3	21,611,674	3.3	23,471,234
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		63.3%		8.6%

Doors Open: Countywide Initiatives

Countywide Initiatives funding will support ‘field services’ organizations that improve career opportunities for King County’s cultural practitioners. Field services are investments in people, without whom the cultural sector would not exist. A healthy workforce will strengthen the arts and culture ecosystem and, in turn, improve the cultural experience available to the residents and visitors of King County. Countywide initiatives will use the framework of field services to support cultural practitioners. The term “field services” refers to the constellation of programs, resources, and networks that support capacity building for cultural organizations and cultural practitioners in King County. Like other Doors Open programming, Countywide Initiatives is a program that 4Culture has been exploring, testing and learning from in anticipation of this moment.

Through Doors Open, Countywide Initiatives will help 4Culture provide consistent funding to field services providers who support cultural workforce development for cultural practitioners in all disciplines throughout the county.

Countywide Initiatives	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.09	0	1.5	6,174,610	1.5	10,085,448	1.5	10,953,243
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		63.3%		8.6%

Doors Open: Sustained Support

Sustained Support provides multi-year grants for operating funds to cultural organizations throughout King County. These awards provide unrestricted funds to organizations that have a track record of delivering programs and services for the benefit of the public. Through a competitive grantmaking process, 4Culture will provide Sustained Support grants to Doors Open-eligible organizations working in the discipline areas of Arts, Heritage, Historic Preservation and Science and Technology.

As the largest ongoing Doors Open program offering, Sustained Support is modeled after our longstanding Lodging Tax version. The program’s main objective is providing reliable, multi-year funding assistance for operations, assistance with rent, utilities, payroll and other basic annual expenses. Given the deep experience 4Culture has in administering Sustained Support, we’re excited to expand this effort on a much larger scale utilizing Doors Open tax revenue to truly meet the needs of cultural organizations. The Lodging Tax version of this program, which has historically been 4Culture’s signature funding initiative, will remain in existence, and maintain a focus on supporting non-Doors Open eligible organizations in this region. Operating with a budget that’s smaller by comparison, but still sizeable enough to deliver strong impact.

Sustained Support	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	0	11.0	44,104,354	11.0	72,038,912	11.0	78,237,448
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		63.3%		8.6%

Doors Open: Expanding Capacity Outside Established Cultural Centers

Built into each of the Doors Open Programs is the requirement that the recipient organization provide Equity and/or Geographic Inclusion Benefits. Additionally, the ordinance stipulates that 25% of Doors Open funding supports organizations outside of established cultural centers and that of all Doors Open funding, a minimum of 10% goes towards organizations in Communities of Opportunity or serve vulnerable populations.

To that end, ensuring that Doors Open dollars reach community groups and organizations outside of Seattle and established cultural centers will be a priority for 4Culture. We’ve intentionally increased capacity on our Communications team, hired a Community Outreach and Engagement Specialist, we’re re-introducing Hello 4Culture, a strategy designed to bring our programming to cities and towns across King County, we’re providing language access and translation services along with ASL interpretation to ensure Doors Open opportunities reach high barrier communities. We recognize our role in helping organizations throughout all of King County overcome economic and geographic challenges that limit access to arts and culture funding. Per the ordinance, 4Culture will award additional funding to organizations based in parts of King County that are less served by other funding sources and to organizations that specifically support marginalized communities.

Special Projects	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.0	0	7.3	23,680,084	7.3	50,027,023	7.3	54,331,561
Inflation Rate		N/A		N/A		111.3%		8.6%

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LODGING TAX--Sustained Support for Arts

In recognition of a need to more deeply and equitably fund a growing arts applicant pool, 4Culture will increase Lodging Tax support to certain arts organizations deemed ineligible for funding through the Doors Open sales tax. Organizations that meet requirements for funding through Doors Open will see their Sustained Support awards increased significantly as well. This overall increase in funds to all recipients of Sustained Support from 4Culture is in alignment with continued efforts to sustain the arts sector and see it flourish. 4Culture awards multiyear grants to local arts agencies and nonprofit organizations that provide or facilitate quality arts experiences for residents of and visitors to King County. These monies support financial stability, artistic excellence, and encourages a commitment to provide ongoing cultural programs or events for the benefit of King County residents and visitors, especially those who face barriers in accessing cultural experiences or have been historically underserved. Over 400 organizations participate in the program and reflect a countywide geographic distribution, including organizations of all sizes and in all artistic disciplines.

Sustained Support	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	4.3	6,839,350	3.0	5,388,938	3.0	11,070,347	3.0	11,640,125
Inflation Rate		28.4%		(21.2%)		105.4%		5.1%

Sustained Support for Heritage and Historic Preservation

4Culture will increase general operating support to stabilize and bolster Heritage and Historic Preservation organizations and entities, with a focus on those not eligible to receive Doors Open funding. 4Culture provides multiyear grants to historical museums and heritage organizations that make exceptional contributions to the preservation, collection, exhibition, interpretation or protection of resources related to the history of the people and places of King County. These monies support financial stability, excellence, and encourages a commitment to provide ongoing cultural programs or events for the benefit of King County residents and visitors, especially those who face barriers in accessing cultural experiences or have been historically underserved. Roughly 100 organizations participate in the program annually and reflect a countywide geographic distribution, including organizations of all sizes and in all heritage disciplines and historic preservation.

Sustained Support	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	4.1	2,627,658	2.0	1,410,179	2.0	2,908,645	2.0	3,067,713
Inflation Rate		20.3%		(46.3%)		106.3%		5.5%

Special Projects

Expanding the role of local arts and heritage organizations and individuals as artistic and cultural educational resources that develop King County through arts and historic events and features is at the heart of 4Culture’s project-based funding programs. We will continue addressing the needs of either mid- and smaller-sized organizations or individual artists and heritage professionals with this dedicated funding. 4Culture will continue to partner with community-based organizations, cultural funders, other local arts agencies, and local and national cultural service organizations on innovative arts projects, heritage endeavors and collaborative programs that reflect the cultural and geographic diversity of King County and are not funded by other county programs.

Special Projects	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	1.2	4,360,004	1.6	7,223,577	1.6	11,537,585	1.6	11,696,982
Inflation Rate		(10.4%)		65.7%		59.7%		1.4%

Cultural Facilities

4Culture will continue to “build the cultural infrastructure throughout the region” by addressing one of the cultural sector’s most pressing issues which is the availability and affordability of appropriate space that meets the needs of King County’s diverse cultural organizations and practitioners. Utilizing Lodging Tax, 4Culture will continue addressing these needs through Building for Equity, a program that offers a unique combination of funding, technical support, and strategic partnerships, with priority given to communities that have historically faced barriers to purchasing and stewarding cultural space. 4Culture will also continue to “support the purchase of fixed assets that will benefit art, heritage and cultural organizations” through the Cultural Equipment Program. “Support for the preservation and restoration of historic properties” increases through the Landmarks Capital Program.

Building for Equity, as a program, will be funded by both Doors Open and Lodging Tax Funding with a goal of providing larger awards and more awards annually through Facilities grants, Project Development and Capacity Building grants, and Native Cultural Facilities grants. With slightly different eligibility requirements, Lodging Tax funding will support applicants that are not eligible for Doors Open funding, including Landmark owners that are not cultural organizations, municipalities, and organizations that provide space for cultural programs and services as part of a broader mission.

Cultural Facilities	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	2.7	5,502,351	1.8	6,065,645	1.8	10,005,651	1.8	5,302,842
Inflation Rate		21.6%		10.2%		65.0%		(47.0%)

4Culture 2025-2029 Program of Work

Cultural Education

4Culture strongly believes that the passage of Doors Open provides the perfect opportunity for us to go deeper with our cultural education work, providing an array of support to public school students, administrators and teaching artists.

Some of our past work has included producing and learning from the King County Cultural Education Study and developing the King County Arts Education data dashboard and internal working groups helping determine what scaling this work upwards entails to meet the needs of students and cultural educators countywide. As we continue to do a landscape analysis of Doors Open ineligible groups in the cultural education space, 4Culture will use Lodging Tax funding to support those organizations. For the most thorough understanding of our approach, reference the Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program section in the Program of Work.

Cultural Education	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.3	250,000	0.3	500,000	0.3	1,000,000	0.3	1,000,000
Inflation Rate		N/A		100.0%		100.0%		0.0%

1% FOR ART--Public Art

Public Art manages existing and new public art commissions funded by the King County 1% for Art Ordinance and maintains the King County Public Art Collection with collection stewardship funds. The goal of 4Culture public art is to integrate the work and thinking of artists into the planning, design and construction of county facilities, buildings, infrastructure and public spaces for our King County partners. 4Culture will continue to care for the King County Public Art Collection of over 1,805 portable artworks and over 365 permanent, integrated and temporary artworks available in publicly accessible sites, throughout King County. Currently there are 10 conservation and collections projects underway. Additionally, Gallery 4Culture and Storefront Media are 4Culture initiatives funded by Lodging Tax and managed by Public Art that provides ongoing opportunities for King County artists to exhibit their work with free access to King County’s diverse artist population. Storefront Media has rotating videos while Gallery 4Culture currently produces 10 exhibitions per year.

Public Art	2023-2024 Projected		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	8.4	7,985,757	8.4	5,653,951	8.4	9,590,088	8.4	8,988,997
Inflation Rate		210.3%		(29.2%)		69.6%		(6.3%)

Fund Sources

4Culture is primarily supported by **Doors Open tax revenue**, 37.5 percent of the proceeds from **King County Lodging Tax**, and the **1% for Art Program**, a portion of King County new capital construction projects. 4Culture also utilizes grants and other revenue sources to fund the programs.

Total Program		2023-2024 Projected (Amended)	2025 Projected	2026-2027 Projected	2028-2029 Projected
Lodging Tax Proceeds		\$29,018,125	\$15,377,549	\$ 32,566,586	\$ 34,954,120
Doors Open Sales Tax		69,200,216	94,720,336	200,108,090	217,326,245
1% for Art		5,623,749	5,581,786	3,000,000	3,000,000
King County Art Collection		598,000	307,970	625,179	643,934
Building For Equity Interfund Loan		3,399,195	0	0	0
Interest Income		3,667,741	2,536,923	2,710,266	1,991,311
Grants and Other		176,770	150,000	300,000	300,000
King County Relief ARPA		2,500,000	0	0	0

2025 Comprehensive Financial Plan
4Culture

DRAFT DATE: 8/26/24

Category	2023-2024 Projected (Original)	2023-2024 Projected (Amended) *	2025 Projected	2026-2027 Projected	2028-2029 Projected
Beginning Fund Balance	32,752,633	36,721,258	63,423,086	38,547,629	26,454,369
Revenues					
Doors Open Sales Tax	\$ -	\$ 69,200,216	\$ 94,720,336	\$ 200,108,090	\$ 217,326,245
Lodging Tax / Transient Rental	27,707,383	29,018,125	15,377,549	32,566,586	34,954,120
1% for Art	2,286,194	5,623,749	5,581,786	3,000,000	3,000,000
King County Collection Stewardship	578,200	598,000	307,970	625,179	643,934
King County Cultural Relief ARPA	2,200,000	2,500,000	-	-	-
Investment Income	120,016	3,667,741	2,536,923	2,710,266	1,991,311
Other	300,000	176,770	150,000	300,000	300,000
Contingency	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	33,191,793	110,784,601	118,674,564	239,310,121	258,215,610
Expenditures					
<u>Doors Open Program</u>					
One-Time Operating Support Program	\$ -	\$ 23,182,072	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
One-Time Capital Support Program	-	23,182,072	-	-	-
Public School Cultural Access	-	-	13,231,306	21,611,674	23,471,234
Launch	-	-	2,646,261	4,322,335	4,694,247
Building for Equity	-	-	8,820,871	14,407,782	15,647,490
Public Free Access	-	-	13,231,306	21,611,674	23,471,234
Countywide Initiatives	-	-	6,174,610	10,085,448	10,953,243
Sustained Support	-	-	44,104,354	72,038,912	78,237,448
Expanding Capacity Outside Established Cultural Centers	-	-	23,680,084	50,027,023	54,331,561
Administration	-	2,076,006	2,841,610	6,003,243	6,519,788
Start-up costs	-	750,000	-	-	-
Subtotal - Doors Open program	-	49,190,151	114,730,401	200,108,090	217,326,246
<u>Lodging Tax Program</u>					
Sustained Support for Arts	6,741,647	6,839,350	5,388,938	11,070,347	11,640,125
Sustained Support for Heritage & Preservation	2,553,158	2,627,658	1,410,179	2,908,645	3,067,713
Special Projects & Initiatives	8,301,541	4,360,004	7,223,577	11,537,585	11,696,982
Cultural Facilities	9,295,976	5,502,351	6,065,645	10,005,651	5,302,842
Cultural Education	442,109	250,000	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Subtotal - Lodging Tax	27,334,432	19,579,363	20,588,339	36,522,229	32,707,661
<u>Other expenditures</u>					
Public Art	8,620,609	7,985,757	5,653,951	9,590,088	8,988,997
Cultural Relief ARPA	2,200,000	2,500,000	-	-	-
Preservation Action Fund (PAF)	1,959,119	1,959,119	-	-	-
Administration and Overhead (excluding Doors Open)	2,141,852	1,317,578	277,330	582,974	622,884
Capital Expenditures	250,000	350,000	-	-	-
Contingency	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	42,506,012	82,881,968	141,250,021	246,803,381	259,645,788
Estimated Under expenditures					
Other Fund Transactions					
Building For Equity Advances from KC	5,602,250	3,399,195	-	-	-
B4C Debt Service	(600,000)	(600,000)	(300,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)
B4 Equity advances repayment to KC	(4,000,000)	(4,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(4,000,000)	(1,174,392)
Original bonds debt service	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Fund Transactions	1,002,250	(1,200,805)	(2,300,000)	(4,600,000)	(1,774,392)
Ending Fund Balance	24,440,664	63,423,086	38,547,629	26,454,369	23,249,799
Reserves/Fund Balance Components					
Cultural Special Account & other uncommitted reserves	8,346,316	17,693,498	12,882,215	5,740,669	5,506,057
Doors Open Fund - Uncommitted Reserves	-	20,010,065	-	-	-
Doors Open Fund - Contract/Award Commitments	-	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
1% for Art special revenue fund	9,826,581	17,528,678	19,027,664	15,629,045	12,659,086
Lodging Tax Program - Contract/Award Commitments	5,378,500	7,365,078	5,811,983	4,258,888	4,258,888
B4E commitments in excess of advances	-	-	-	-	-
Preservation Action Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Other program and accounting commitments	889,267	825,767	825,767	825,767	825,767
Total Reserves/Fund Balance	24,440,664	63,423,086	38,547,629	26,454,369	23,249,799
Reserve Shortfall	-	-	-	-	-
Ending Undesignated Fund Balance	0	-	-	(0)	(0)

* 4Culture board approval of the 2025 Comprehensive Financial Plan includes an amendment of the 2024 budget and the creation of a new special revenue fund to administer the new Doors Open program.

** Doors Open program expenditures are based on allocations per enabling legislation and do not reflect estimated cash flows. Unexpended commitments at year-end will be reflected as a separate fund balance component.

4Culture 2025 Expenditure and Staffing Plan

The following table shows total program expenditures and allocations of full-time staff employees (FTE's) for each program area.

Programs and Services	2023-2024 Projected (Amended)		2025 Projected		2026-2027 Projected		2028-2029 Projected	
	FTE's	\$	FTE's	\$	FTE's	\$	FTE's	\$
<u>Doors Open Program</u>								
One-Time Operating Support Program	*	23,182,072		-		-		-
One-Time Capital Support Program	*	23,182,072		-		-		-
Public School Cultural Access	0.0	-	3.3	13,231,306	3.3	21,611,674	3.3	23,471,234 **
Launch	0.0	-	0.7	2,646,261	0.7	4,322,335	0.7	4,694,247 **
Building for Equity	0.0	-	2.2	8,820,871	2.2	14,407,782	2.2	15,647,490 **
Public Free Access	0.0	-	3.3	13,231,306	3.3	21,611,674	3.3	23,471,234 **
Countywide Initiatives	0.0	-	1.5	6,174,610	1.5	10,085,448	1.5	10,953,243 **
Sustained Support	0.0	-	11.0	44,104,354	11.0	72,038,912	11.0	78,237,448 **
Expanding Capacity Outside Established Cultural Centers	0.0	-	7.3	23,680,084	7.3	50,027,023	7.3	54,331,561 **
Administration	12.7	2,076,006	5.6	2,841,610	5.6	6,003,243	5.6	6,519,788
Start-up costs	3.5	750,000		-		-		-
Subtotal - Doors Open program	16.2	49,190,151	35.0	114,730,401	35.0	200,108,090	35.0	217,326,246
<u>Lodging Tax Program</u>								
Sustained Support for Arts	4.3	6,839,350	3.0	5,388,938	3.0	11,070,347	3.0	11,640,125
Sustained Support for Heritage & Preservation	4.1	2,627,658	2.0	1,410,179	2.0	2,908,645	2.0	3,067,713
Special Projects & Initiatives	1.2	4,360,004	1.6	7,223,577	1.6	11,537,585	1.6	11,696,982
Cultural Facilities	2.7	5,502,351	1.8	6,065,645	1.8	10,005,651	1.8	5,302,842
Cultural Education	0.3	250,000	0.3	500,000	0.3	1,000,000	0.3	1,000,000
Subtotal - Lodging Tax	12.6	19,579,363	8.8	20,588,339	8.8	36,522,229	8.8	32,707,661
<u>Other expenditures</u>								
Public Art	8.4	7,985,757	8.4	5,653,951	8.4	9,590,088	8.4	8,988,997
Cultural Relief ARPA	0.0	2,500,000	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-
Preservation Action Fund (PAF)	0.0	1,959,119	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-
Administration and Overhead (excluding Doors Open)	4.0	1,317,578	1.4	277,330	1.4	582,974	1.4	622,884
Capital Expenditures	0.0	350,000	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-
Contingency		-		-		-		-
TOTALS - ALL PROGRAM AREAS	41.2	82,881,968	53.6	141,250,021	53.6	246,803,381	53.6	259,645,788

* Doors Open ordinance does not provide for salary allocations to 2024 Doors Open programs.

** Doors Open program expenditures are based on allocations per enabling legislation and do not reflect estimated cash flows.

Cultural Development Authority
 dba 4Culture
 Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds

	Actual 12/31/2023	Projected 12/31/2024
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	38,956,326	40,423,086 *
Due from a primary government	4,286,832	23,400,000 *
Other current assets	101,464	100,000
TOTAL ASSETS	43,344,622	63,923,086
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	1,138,983	100,000
Payroll and other accrued liabilities	404,406	400,000
Unearned Revenues	24,263	-
Total Liabilities	1,567,652	500,000
FUND BALANCES		
Nonspendable	101,464	100,000
Restricted	41,675,506	63,323,086 *
Committed	-	-
Assigned	-	-
Unassigned	-	-
Total Fund Balances	41,776,970	63,423,086
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	43,344,622	63,923,086

* Certain Doors Open balance sheet components are based on expenditure allocations per enabling legislation and do not represent estimated cash flows. Unexpended commitments at year-end will increase these amounts.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



A volunteer works with the Center for Wooden Boats on their Blanchard Junior Knockabout Restoration project, 2023. Photo: Sunita Martini

INTRODUCTION

Annual reports are a journey of reflection and celebration. As we embark on this particular one, we're grateful you're here with us and proud to share the strides we made in 2023. Over the past year, we've remained steadfast in our commitment to dismantling barriers and creating opportunities for King County communities to express and experience culture.

Intentional funding practices like our new Public Free Access grant and a more accessible Cultural Equipment program came to life. Highly collaborative partnerships like Poetry in Public—an expansion on its original iteration, Poetry on Buses—flourished. Community-driven initiatives brought successes: the first year of our Building for Equity program's Cultural Space partnerships have come to fruition. Our own internal capacity grew as we welcomed new staff in critical roles, including Controller, Deputy Director, Human Resources Manager, and Racial Equity Coordinator.

If you know 4Culture, you know big changes are coming in 2024—you'll read more about that at the end of this report. For now, we hope this document serves as a testament to our collective dedication to fostering a cultural ecosystem where every voice is heard, every story is valued, and every person has the opportunity to thrive.

RACIAL EQUITY

Since 2019, 4Culture has tracked and analyzed demographics for all applicants and awardees. This is one of several ways to work to meet our mission to fund, support, and advocate for culture with a focus on racial equity. Every year we review the outcomes of our funding to better understand our impact and strategize ways to improve.



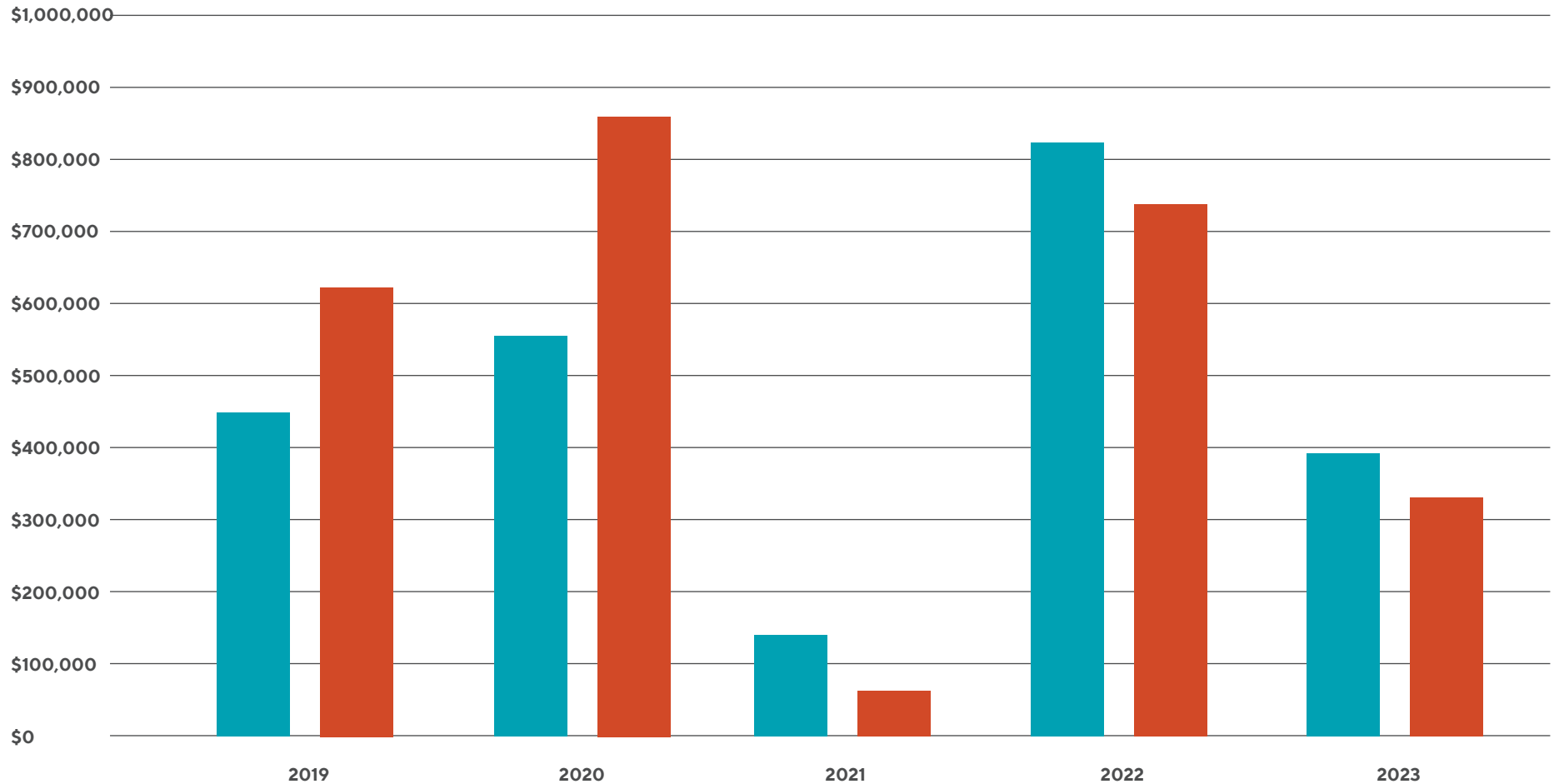
Dancers performing at Diwali: Lights of India, a cultural showcase organized by Northwest Share, 2023. Photo: San D Nath



Lorna Jordan (1954–2021) and Paul Sorey. *Justice Garden Path* (detail), 1997. Brick, flagstone, painted steel, and plantings. Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent. King County Public Art Collection. Photo: 4Culture

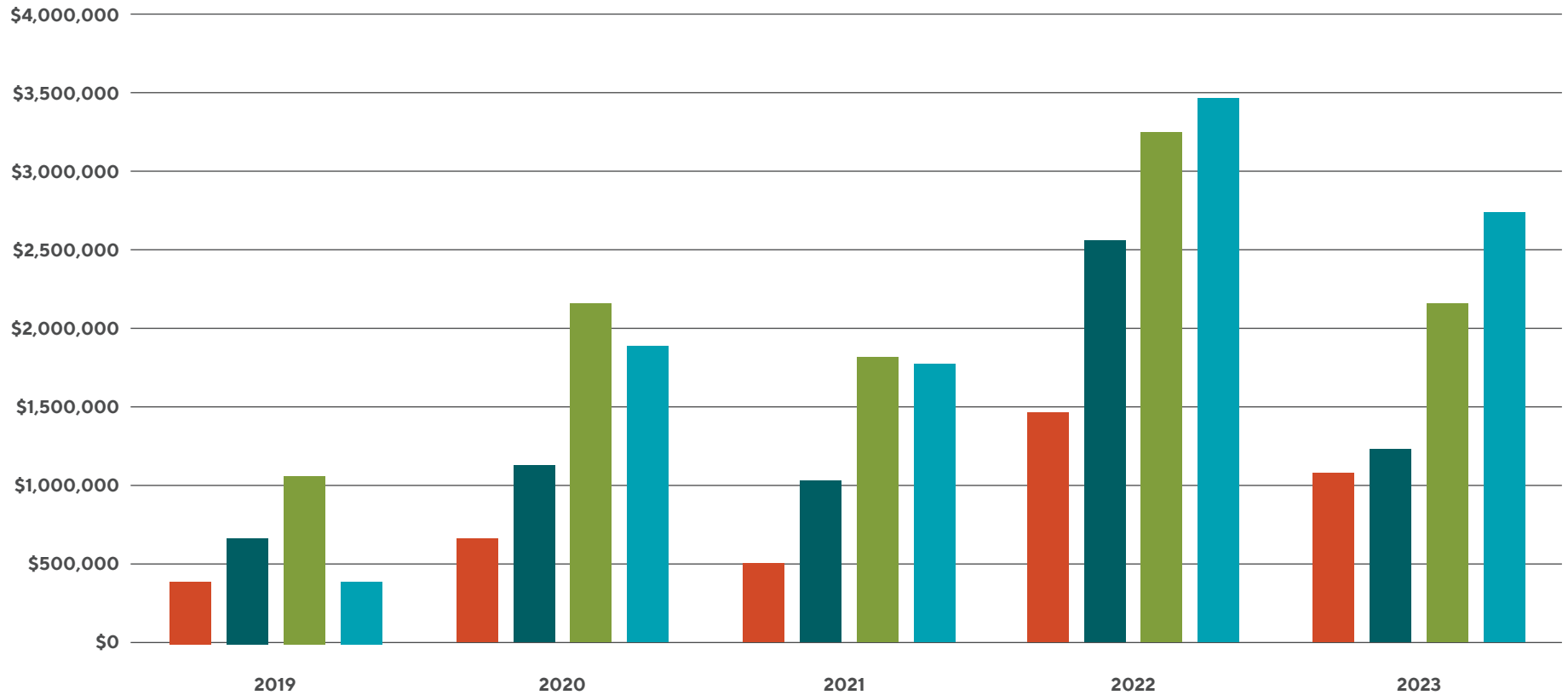
4Culture Grants for Individuals 2019-2023, Aggregated by Race

Key



2023 was the third year straight in which more funding went to BIPOC cultural practitioners than non BIPOC cultural practitioners.

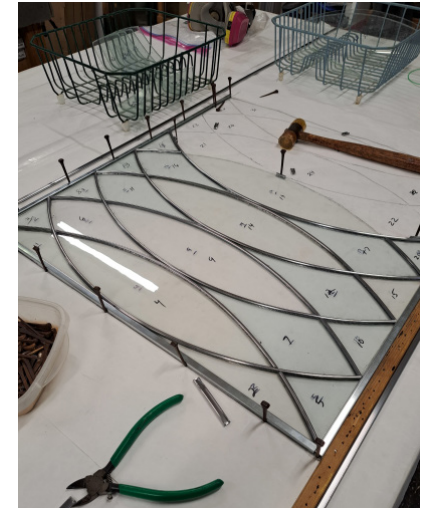
4Culture Organization Grants by Staff Percentage POC



4Culture continues to make progress in more equitable funding for cultural organizations. In 2019, around 15% of organizational funding went to organizations with more than 50% POC staff. In 2023, nearly 40% of award funding went to organizations with 50% or greater POC staff.



Andrea Wilbur-Sigo. *Grandfather's Wisdom*, 2012/2020. Carved and painted cedar. Located at Brightwater in Woodinville. King County Public Art Collection. Photo: joefreemanjunior.com



Window restoration work at the Bereiter House, home to the Greater Kent Historical Society and Kent Museum, 2023. Photo: Greater Kent Historical Society



Nobody Lives Here, exhibition at Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, 2023. Photo: Wing Luke Museum

ANNUAL FUNDING BY PROGRAMS

Arts

Arc Artist Fellowship

Applicants 37

Grants 7

Total funding amount \$84,000

Arts Projects – Groups

Applicants 69

Grants 47

Total funding amount \$319,050

Arts Projects – Individuals

Applicants 158

Grants 85

Total funding amount \$479,125

Arts Sustained Support

Applicants 474

Grants 466

Total funding amount \$2,862,400

Open 4Culture

Applicants 43

Grants 26

Total funding amount \$54,000

Emergency & Unforeseen

Applicants 5

Grants 5

Total funding amount \$86,109

Total \$3,884,684

Heritage

Projects

Applicants 75

Grants 41

Total funding amount \$268,345

Collections Care

Applicants 27

Grants 19

Total funding amount \$114,950

Heritage Sustained Support

Applicants 67

Grants 66

Total funding amount \$541,558

Heritage Professional Development Stipend

Applicants 14

Grants 10

Total funding amount \$9,649

Emergency & Unforeseen

Applicants 2

Grants 2

Total funding amount \$13,998

Total \$948,500

Preservation

Preservation Special Projects

Applicants 15

Grants 13

Total funding amount \$92,000

Landmarks Capital

Applicants 31

Grants 13

Total funding amount \$303,780

Preservation Sustained Support

Applicants 26

Grants 26

Total funding amount \$136,347

Emergency & Unforeseen

Applicants 2

Grants 2

Total funding amount \$13,406

Total \$545,533

Cultural Equipment

Cultural Equipment

Applicants 168

Grants 76

Total funding amount \$525,000

Total \$525,000

Building for Equity

Building for Equity Cultural Facilities

Applicants 66

Grants 19

Total funding amount \$1,099,155

Building for Equity Building Capacity

Applicants 53

Grants 32

Total funding amount \$750,000

Total \$1,849,155

Public Art

Curator's Choice, portable collection acquisition

Gallery 2023-2024 Season

Harborview Medical Center,

Ninth and Jefferson Building, art installation

King County Metro, Limited-edition artist designed **ORCA Cards**

King County Metro, *Poetry in Public*, poet planner and community liaisons selected

King County Metro, **South Annex Base**, artist team selected

King County Metro, **Third Ave S and S Main Street**, artist team selected

2023 BOARD MEMBERS

Staci Adman
Jeanne Burbidge
Kim Deriana
Catherine Nueva Espana
Khazm Kogita
Afua Kouyaté
Peter Kwon
Seth Margolis
Frank Martin
Patricia Moss
A C Petersen
Natasha Rivers
Latha Sambamurti
Steven Schindler
Eugenia Woo (Board President)

Ex Officio Board Members

Councilmember **Rod Dembowski**,
District 1
Councilmember **Joe McDermott**,
District 8
Councilmember **Sarah Perry**, District 3
Sarah Steen, King County Historic
Preservation Program

2023 STAFF

Riza Almanza
Anna Callahan
Bart J. Cannon, Ph.D.
Brian J. Carter
Jonathan Cunningham
Fiona Dang
Christina DePaolo
Elly Fetter
Bret Fetzer
Jordan Freeman
Willow Fox
Jon Graef
Selina Hunstiger
Phung Lam
Emily P. Lawsin
Andy Le
Erica Maniez
Guy Merrill
Claire Miccio
Lauren Miles
Jackie Mixon
Jordan Monez
Megumi Nagata
Melissa Newbill
Scott Oshima
Kelly Pajek

Dana Phelan
Chieko Phillips
Dalayna Sampton
Maya Santos
Lauren Semet
Anadelia Torres
Amber Trillo
Nina Yarbrough

Interns

Michelle Bacca, Community
Partnership Intern (with
University of Washington
College of Built Environments
and National Council for
Preservation Education)
Andrew Le, King County
Heritage Internship Program
Rosa Woolsey, Equity in
Historic Preservation
Undergraduate Intern
Jade Wahlgren, Equity
in Historic Preservation
Graduate Intern



Wa Na Wari's Seattle Black Spatial Histories Institute cohort with oral historian Alissa Rae and co-director Zola Mumford, 2023. Photo: Jill Freidberg



Art a Glow at the Highline Heritage Museum, 2023. Photo: Stephanie Dore

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arts

Amy Dukes
Gabriela Denise Frank
Patricia Moss
Jacob Prendez
Sudeshna Sen
Lauren Superville

Heritage

Leslie Anderson
Christina Arokiasamy
Teofila "Teya" Cruz-Uribe
Suzanne Greathouse
Jolene Haas
Seth Margolis
Temi Odumosu

Preservation

Stefanie Barrera
Justin Ivy
Robyn Mah
Frank Martin
Dawn Moser
Huy Pham

Public Art

Sonia-Lynn Abenojar
Lesley Bain
Leo Berk
Kamari Bright
Kimberly Deriana
Kate Fernandez
Tommy Gregory
Philippe Hyojung Kim
Maria Lau Hui
Keith McPeters
Catherine Nueva España



Poetry in Public *Drop In Poetry Event* at the Roadhouse in Seatac, 2023. Photo: Timothy Aguero Photography



The Filipiniana Multicultural Dance Troupe performing at the Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival, Seattle Center Festál, 2023. Photo by Susan Fried

PANELISTS

Humaira Abid
 Yasiman Ahsani
 Roberto Ascalon
 Susan Bartlett
 Laura Becker
 Kim Becklund
 Jeremy Beliveau
 Erika Bell
 Stesha Brandon
 Taylor Brooks
 Pierce Canser
 Mary Anne Carter
 Marie Chant
 Lina Cholewinski
 Celeste Cooning
 Jackson Cooper
 Kristine Cramer
 BJ Cummings
 Curtis Dickie
 Theresa Do
 Rick DuPree
 Maureen Ewing
 Robert Frankel
 Wilmer Galindo
 Ashley Guardipee

Francisco Guerrero
 Dulce Gutierrez Vasquez
 Ashraf Hasham
 Donna Hogerhuis
 Heidi Jackson
 Emily Kelly
 Amelia Ketzell
 Marie Kidhe
 Nicole Kistler
 Rachael Kitagawa-
 Hoshide
 Zaara Kittenchops
 Linda Lee
 Kalei Matsui
 Salome MC
 Rachael McAlister
 Cynthia Mejia-Giudici
 Zia Mohajerjasbi
 Stephanie Mohr
 Dakota Murray
 Shankar Narayan
 Auxiliadora Newman
 Agnes Navarro
 Samuel Obrovac
 Tyna Ontko

Sara Marie Ortiz
 Megan Prince
 Shenise Ramirez
 Taelore Rhoden
 Susan Robb
 MaryKate Ryan
 Ekkarath Sisavatdy
 Yolanda Suarez
 Estrella Sung
 Momo Song Suzuki
 Roger Tang
 Emily Tanner-McLean
 Demarus Tevuk
 Arianne True
 Hallee Turner
 Va'eomatoka Valu
 Nathan Vass
 Meriça Whitehall
 Rosten Woo
 Ken Workman
 Dana Wu
 Kitty Wu
 Stephen Yamada-Heidner



Students, radio producers, and DJ Blast working on C89.5 podcast series *Artist Mental Health Stories, 2023*. Photo: Billy Thompson



Hugo Moro. *In the Current, 2023*. Installation view. Gallery 4Culture. Photo: joefreemanjunior.com

LOOK AHEAD

In December 2023, the King County Council unanimously passed Doors Open legislation to increase funding by an estimated \$100 million per year to the County’s arts, heritage, science, and historic preservation non-profit organizations through a 0.1 percent sales tax. Perhaps you even joined us for our first [Doors Open Shareout!](#)

Much is still taking shape, but as we quickly get to work creating an implementation plan for this landmark new revenue source, here’s some of what’s exciting us:

The six funding programs comprised in the Doors Open ordinance—Sustained Support, Public School Cultural Access, Public Free Access, Building for Equity, Countywide Initiatives, and Launch—will push us into exciting new territory.

A minimum of 25% of all Doors Open funding will go to organizations outside of the city of Seattle, bringing long-needed resources and visibility to other vibrant places in King County.

10% of all Doors Open funding will go to organizations serving historically underserved communities in King County.

In 2024, Doors Open revenue will fund two large scale initiatives: a One-Time Capital Facilities Program and a One-Time Operating Support Program that will disburse approximately \$48.24 million to organizations still rebuilding from the impact of COVID.

Doors Open promises to be transformative for our entire sector. While our organization may look very different by the time we publish our 2024 Annual Report, the work highlighted here and planned for the year ahead is true to the 4Culture you know: broad support for the cultural doers of King County, capacity-building initiatives, and always [working to make King County a more vibrant place.](#)



The Sound of the Northwest utilizing performance and rehearsal space at Seattle JazzED through Building for Equity’s Cultural Space Partnership program, 2023. Photo: Seattle JazzED



In the process of tearing off old shingles and installing new, cedar shingles, original skipjack boards were exposed on the east side of the Neely Mansion roof, 2023. Photo: Neely Mansion Association, Linda Van Nest

4Culture Financial Information for 2023 Annual Report

Revenues and Other Sources	2023	2022	2021
Lodging Tax Revenue	14,361,606	12,396,621	7,098,137
King County Public Art Revenue	4,874,364	1,962,757	6,094,290
King County Appropriations	-	6,494,899	550,494
Advances from King County	-	-	3,984,690
Public Art Consulting Revenue	26,770	6,900	23,725
Investment Earnings	1,917,741	537,268	31,111
Miscellaneous Other	-	-	75,224
Total Revenues*	21,180,481	21,398,445	17,857,671

*Total revenues differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of the various programs' financial resources.

Expenditures and Other Uses	2023	2022	2021
Arts, Heritage, and Preservation Grant Programs	8,729,291	7,273,372	7,499,491
Public Art Projects	2,367,177	1,723,130	1,131,737
COVID Relief Pass-Through	-	5,929,736	-
Building for Equity Facility Investment Program	1,806,505	1,320,856	1,073,400
Debt Service	300,000	300,000	465,550
Repayment of Advances from King County	2,000,000	1,859,493	1,500,000
Management and General Supporting Activities	921,796	825,290	665,219
Total Expenditures and Other Uses*	16,124,769	19,231,877	12,335,397

*Total expenditures differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of the various programs' financial resources.

Fund Balances	Dec. 31, 2023	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2021
General Fund	4,269,792	6,790,562	8,981,555
Lodging Tax Special Revenue Fund	4,922,679	4,060,370	5,017,451
1% for Art Special Revenue Fund	20,431,487	17,035,531	16,392,282
Cultural Special Account Fund	12,153,012	8,834,795	4,159,402
Total Fund Balances	41,776,970	36,721,258	34,554,690

NOTE: 2023 financial information is based on unaudited fund financial statements. Requests for the most recent complete audited financial report should be addressed to 4Culture's finance department at 4Culture, 101 Prefontaine Place S, Seattle, WA 98104.



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	6	Name:	Gene Paul
Proposed No.:	2024-0289	Date:	October 21, 2024

SUBJECT

A motion confirming Jake Prendez to the 4Culture Board of Directors.

SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2024-0289 would confirm the appointment of Jake Prendez as the District 8 appointment to the 4Culture Board Position 8 for the full three-year term expiring on December 31, 2027. This is Mr. Prendez's first appointment to the 4Culture Board. He is an active community member, artist, and the co-owner and co-director of the Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery.

Council staff analysis has determined that the appointment meets the board member criteria established in the 4Culture Charter. In addition, the appointment was nominated and appointed consistent with the process established in the 4Culture Charter and Bylaws.

BACKGROUND

4Culture. 4Culture, King County’s Cultural Public Development Authority (PDA), was established in 2002 to administer King County’s arts and heritage programs. 4Culture replaced the functions of the County’s former Office of Cultural Resources in order to exercise the powers vested in PDAs under state law and realize operating efficiencies through operating independently of county government.¹ 4Culture is currently supported by 37.5 percent of the proceeds from the King County lodging (hotel/motel) tax and the cultural access sales tax.

4Culture’s name was derived from its four cultural programs:

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.

¹ Ordinance 14482, enacted October 1, 2002. [\[LINK\]](#)

- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.
- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County's 1% for Art program and manages arts installations throughout the county for new capital construction projects.

4Culture Board. Per 4Culture Charter² and Bylaws³, 4Culture is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors. Directors are to have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources, be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns and have the ability to evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region as a whole.

Directors are to represent a range of talents, experience, backgrounds, and viewpoints and to be sought from a range of: professional artists; arts administrators; architects; landscape architects; administrators, professionals and specialists in heritage and historic preservation; administrators, professionals and specialists in cultural education; urban planners and designers; attorneys; community arts and heritage activists; business professionals; and the community at large. Directors must be residents of King County and are to be chosen to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the County.⁴

In March 2018⁵ and again in December 2019⁶, the appointment process for the 4Culture Board changed to the following:

- Position 1 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 1;
- Position 2 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 2;
- Position 3 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 3;
- Position 4 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 4;
- Position 5 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 5;
- Position 6 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 6;
- Position 7 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 7;
- Position 8 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 8;

² Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A. [\[LINK\]](#)

³ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁴ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.B. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁵ Ordinance 18684, enacted March 21, 2018. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁶ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019. [\[LINK\]](#)

- Position 9 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 9; and
- Positions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 are to be appointed by the County Executive.⁷

Appointments are subject to confirmation by the Council by motion.⁸ Board members may begin serving as voting members upon confirmation by the Council.⁹ Board members serve for terms of three years and may serve up to two consecutive full terms, where a partial term of two years or more shall be deemed one full term.¹⁰ Board members are allowed to continue to serve in the position for which the term has expired and a successor has not been duly appointed and confirmed by the Council.¹¹

In addition to the fifteen board members, 4Culture has five ex-officio board members which include one member of the Executive staff, three County Councilmembers, and the 4Culture Executive Director.¹²

Doors Open Program. In December 2023, the Council established the King County Doors Open Program to support cultural organizations. Doors Open is funded through a one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) sales and use tax imposed by the County for seven years beginning in April 2024 and ending in March 2031.¹³ The total revenues collected for the program are forecasted to be approximately \$716 million for all seven years (approximately \$100 million per year on average).

As required by Ordinance 19710, the 4Culture Board is responsible for the following:

- Reviewing and finalizing award decisions at a public meeting related to the 2024 one-time capital and one-time operating grant program¹⁴; and
- Advising, monitoring and providing oversight of the program for achieving the general public, equity inclusion and geographic inclusion public benefits, associated with the program. The ordinance does not establish any additional advisory body for the Doors Open Program, however, 4Culture Board may create one or more committees to advise on issues relevant to the program.¹⁵

As required by Ordinance 19710, the Executive transmitted the Doors Open Implementation Plan and an ordinance to approve the plan in July 2024. The

⁷ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.D. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁸ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.E. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁹ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B, Section 1.4. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁰ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.3. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹¹ Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B, Section 1.5. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹² Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.8. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹³ Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁴ Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023, Section 4.A.2.h. [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁵ Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023, Section 4.B.5. [\[LINK\]](#)

implementation plan is currently being discussed by the Committee of the Whole and the Regional Policy Committee.¹⁶

APPOINTEE INFORMATION

Mr. Prendez is the co-owner and co-director of the Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery that is located near the border of West Seattle and the White Center neighborhood. According to the gallery's website, the gallery is "a multi-use multi-cultural accessible arts gallery grounded in the Chicana/o Latinx arts traditions."¹⁷ The goal of the gallery is "to make art an accessible experience" which is done through monthly art exhibitions focused on marginalized communities and communities of color as well as providing space for arts related lectures, workshops, and community forums.¹⁸ In addition to co-owning and co-directing the gallery, Mr. Prendez is an artist whose work focuses on themes related to Chicana/o and Indigenous culture, social justice, pop culture, and satire. He has exhibited his art and lectured across the country. Mr. Prendez has a Bachelor of Arts in American Ethnic Studies from the University of Washington and a Master of Arts in Chicana/o Studies from California State University, Northridge.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Motion 2024-0289 would confirm the appointment of Jake Prendez as the District 8 appointment to the 4Culture Board Position 8 for the full three-year term expiring on December 31, 2027. This is Mr. Prendez's first appointment to the 4Culture Board.

Council staff analysis has determined that the appointment meets the board member criteria established in the 4Culture Charter. In addition, the appointment was nominated and appointed consistent with the process established in the 4Culture Charter and Bylaws.

INVITED

- Jake Prendez, District 8 Appointee to the 4Culture Board
- Claire Miccio, Government and Community Relations Manager, 4Culture

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2024-0289
2. Jake Prendez appointment letter
3. Jake Prendez resume (distributed separately)

¹⁶ File No. 2024-0236 [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁷ About Us, Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery Website [\[LINK\]](#)

¹⁸ About Us, Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery Website [\[LINK\]](#)



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2024-0289.1

Sponsors Mosqueda

1 A MOTION confirming the appointment of Jake Predez to
2 the King County cultural development authority (4Culture)
3 board.

4 WHEREAS, in accordance with the charter for the King County cultural
5 development authority (4Culture), councilmember Teresa Mosqueda, representing
6 council district eight, notified Jake Predez by a September 5, 2024, letter of the
7 appointment to the 4Culture board of directors;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

9 The King County district eight appointment of Jake Predez to Board Position

10 eight of the King County cultural development authority (4Culture) board, for a three-
11 year term, to expire on December 31, 2027, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None



King County

Teresa Mosqueda

Councilmember, District 8

Metropolitan King County Council

September 5, 2024

Jake Prendez, Owner/Co-Director
Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery
9414 Delridge Way SW
Seattle, WA 98106

Dear Jake,

I am pleased to recommend your appointment to the King County Cultural Development Authority (4Culture), for a new three-year term for Board Position 8. Under Ordinance 18684, the councilmember representing King County Council District 8 appoints the candidate for Board Position 8.

Your leadership experience and history of advocacy leave no question that King County's cultural organizations will benefit tremendously from your position on the 4Culture board. As the co-owner of Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery, you have created an invaluable space for the Latinx community in White Center and beyond to discover new Latinx artists, connect with other community members, and share their own art with a wider and supportive audience.

Serving on a board or commission can be a rewarding experience for community service-minded residents. As a new Director on the 4Culture Board, you will have an opportunity to help maintain and improve the quality of life in King County while providing expertise in an area of personal and professional interest. I sincerely appreciate your dedication and commitment to our residents.

Thank you for your interest in serving as a Director on the 4Culture Board.

Solidarity,

Teresa Mosqueda
King County Councilmember, District 8

cc: Brian Carter, 4Culture Executive Director
Tala Mahmoud, Boards and Commissions Liaison, King County Executive
King County Council Clerk
Gene Paul, Council Staff



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	7	Name:	Sherrie Hsu
Proposed No.:	2024-0245	Date:	October 21, 2024

SUBJECT

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0245 would update background check requirements for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license.

SUMMARY

In October 2023, the Council passed four ordinances that updated regulations for taxicabs, for-hire vehicles, and transportation network companies (TNC).¹ The Seattle City Council passed a similar legislative package to align city and county regulations.

One of the new policies passed in October 2023 through Ordinance 19700, pertaining to taxi and for-hire regulations, was the creation of the enhanced driver's license option. This was an option for applicants who, in addition to satisfying the criteria for a regional for-hire driver's license, also passed a fingerprint-based background check. However, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) and Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) determined that the authorizing language in Ordinance 19700 was not sufficient for them to authorize the County to conduct fingerprint-based background checks. With the county code as written, the County would only be able to conduct state-level, not national, fingerprint-based background checks. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0245 would update K.C.C. chapter 6.65 to authorize both state and national fingerprint-based background checks for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license.

BACKGROUND

Ride Service Types. Taxis, for-hire vehicles, and Transportation Network Companies (TNC) are different types of ride services. They are sometimes referred to together as the for-hire transportation industry. Taxis, for-hire vehicles, and TNCs are defined in King County Code (K.C.C.) 6.64.010 and are described in Table 1 below.

¹ Ordinances 19699, 19700, 19692, 19693

Table 1. Ride Service Types

Transportation Type	Description	Licensed Providers
Taxis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted one solid color and can be hailed from the street or dispatched from a phone call Fares calculated based on time and distance, measured by a taximeter Licensed with a licensed taxi association 	A1; E-Cab; Greencab; Orange; STITA; Cuddy's Taxi; Farwest; One Taxi and For Hire; Royal Cab; Yellow Cab
For-Hire Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted at least two colors Charges a fixed fare per trip based on pick up and drop off zip codes in a published rate book Licensed with a for-hire company 	Apple; One Taxi and For Hire; United; Flat Rate for Hire; Primo; Green For-Hire and Wheelchair Services
TNCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application-based ride services Fares set by the TNC 	CiRide; Lyft; Via; Zum; Hop, Skip, Drive; Uber; Wingz
Limousines, town cars, executive vehicles, luxury vehicles and classic cars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulated not by King County, but rather by the Washington State Department of Licensing 	N/A

Brief Historical Context. In 1979, King County, the City of Seattle, and the Port of Seattle began a program to regionalize taxicab regulations and licensing.² The program continued until 1988, when those entities formed the Regional Taxicab Commission, which recommended rates, entry restrictions, and other related revisions to the King County Code (K.C.C.) until December 1990.

In 1995, the County and the City of Seattle entered into a cooperative agreement whereby the County manages all taxi and for-hire driver licensing functions for both jurisdictions, and the City manages all taxi and for-hire vehicle licensing functions for both jurisdictions. The County's Department of Executive Services' Records and Licensing Services (RALS) also manages the for-hire driver permitting and vehicle endorsement functions for both jurisdictions.

² Motion 2362

In September 2014, Council passed Ordinance 17892,³ establishing a new regulatory system for TNCs and streamlining the regulatory system for taxis and for-hire vehicles. The ordinance also conformed the county's regulatory system to those of the City of Seattle and established licensing and other requirements for taxis, for-hire vehicles, and TNCs. Since 2014, the County has conducted licensing of TNC drivers and vehicles for both the County and the City. In 2017, the County and Seattle launched the Transportation Regulation Improvement Program (TRIP) to develop a consolidated system for handling for-hire licensing and regulations using an electronic, online system.

In March 2019, the Council adopted Ordinance 18874,⁴ which allowed for-hire drivers to operate vehicles with TNC endorsements regardless of the vehicle's ownership (previously, TNC drivers were required to be the registered owner of the endorsed vehicle they drive). The ordinance also added a 10-year age limit for TNC renewals.

In addition to managing the regulatory process for TNCs in unincorporated King County, the County also has interlocal service agreements with 16 other King County cities⁵ and the Port of Seattle to provide transportation regulatory services for taxis, for-hire vehicles, and TNCs.

2023 King County For-Hire Transportation Annual Report⁶. K.C.C. 6.64.740 requires the director of RALS to submit an annual report to the Council by April 30 each year. According to the 2023 Annual Report, in 2023:⁷

- RALS issued 885 (new or renewed) for-hire driver licenses.
- There were 154 active for-hire vehicle medallions and 495 taxicab medallions (including County only, Seattle only, and dual medallions). New legislation passed in 2024 established reciprocity among city and county medallions.
- RALS received 129,373 applications (from 25,031 unique applicants) for TNC for-hire driver permits (new and renewed). RALS approved 21,011 unique driver TNC for-hire driver permits.

2022 State Legislation. In 2022, the Washington State Legislature adopted a new statewide framework for TNCs.⁸ The state bill went into effect June 9, 2022, with certain sections going into effect January 1, 2023, and March 1, 2023. The bill included the following changes:

- Established minimum per mile, per minute, and per trip rates for drivers of TNCs.
- Provided drivers of TNCs with paid sick leave and industrial insurance.
- Created uniform statewide regulation of TNCs.

³ [King County - File #: 2014-0187](#)

⁴ [King County - File #: 2018-0582](#)

⁵ Auburn, Bellevue, Burien, Covington, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kent, Kirkland, Maple Valley, Redmond, Renton, Sammamish, SeaTac, and Shoreline

⁶ [report \(kingcounty.gov\)](https://www.kingcounty.gov/transportation/annual-reports)

⁷ [2024-RPT0051](#)

⁸ Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2076

- Created a fund for a Driver Resource Center to support drivers in resolving disputes related to deactivations.
- Established statewide preemption with exceptions for certain local ordinances.⁹

Statewide Regulatory Requirements. New statewide TNC regulations included requirements to:

- Obtain an annual \$5,000 permit to operate from the Department of Licensing (DOL).
- Implement zero tolerance drug and alcohol policies.
- Implement nondiscrimination policies.
- Conduct local and national background checks on drivers.
- Prohibit drivers who have certain moving violations, certain criminal convictions, and who are under 20 years old.
- Regulate vehicle standards, including requiring vehicles to not be more than 12 years old.
- Maintain certain records and allow the DOL to randomly inspect records.
- Not charge fares that exceed two and one-half times ordinary fares during the first 30 days of a state of emergency.¹⁰

Preemption. Under the new law, the state preempts the field of regulating TNCs and drivers; no local government may impose any tax, fee, or other charge on TNCs or drivers. The preemption includes an exemption for cities with a population over 600,000 and counties with a population over two million (currently Seattle and King County).¹¹

2023 King County Regulatory Updates. In October 2023, the Council adopted several ordinances that updated county code related to taxicabs, for-hire vehicles, and TNCs.

- Ordinance 19699 (2023-0230) amended K.C.C. chapter 6.64 to update regulations for TNCs to partially align with new statewide regulations and to remove taxi and for-hire regulations (which were moved to a new chapter by Ordinance 19700).
- Ordinance 19700 (2023-0231) added a new chapter to K.C.C. Title 6 specific to taxi and for-hire vehicle owners, drivers, and companies.
- Ordinance 19692 (2023-0232) authorized the Executive to sign an updated interlocal agreement with public agencies to regulate for-hire transportation services.
- Ordinance 19693 (2023-0233) authorized the Executive to sign an updated interlocal agreement with the City of Seattle to regulate for-hire transportation services.

⁹ [House Bill Report](#)

¹⁰ [House Bill Report](#)

¹¹ [House Bill Report](#)

Ordinances 19699 and 19700 separated regulations pertaining to TNCs from those pertaining to taxicab and for-hire vehicles into two chapters of code. Following adoption of these ordinances, regulations for TNCs are in K.C.C. chapter 6.64, and regulations for taxicabs and for-hire vehicles are in K.C.C. chapter 6.65.

2023 changes to TNC regulations. Ordinance 19699 made several changes to K.C.C. chapter 6.64 to align county code more closely with state law. Those changes included:

- Raising maximum vehicle age from 10 to 15 years old.
- Lowering the minimum driver age from 21 to 20 years old.
- Amending the maximum number of hours a driver may be in control of a vehicle in a 24-hour period from 12 consecutive hours or more than 12 hours spread over a total of 15 hours to 14 consecutive hours.
- Prohibiting a TNC from imposing additional charges for serving persons with disabilities.

2023 changes to taxi and for-hire regulations. Ordinance 19700 created a new chapter (K.C.C. chapter 6.65) specific to taxi and for-hire vehicle owners, drivers, and companies. The ordinance established a regional for-hire system by enacting several regulatory changes. Those changes included:

- Issuing reciprocity endorsements to all taxicab and for-hire vehicle medallions issued by either the City of Seattle or King County, allowing an owner to operate using a Seattle medallion in King County and contract jurisdictions, and a King County medallion to operate in Seattle.
- Transitioning for-hire vehicle companies and taxicab associations to regional Dispatch Agencies
- Adopting smart taximeter systems and specifying regional taximeter rates.
- Implementing temporary deactivation and retirement provisions.
- Allowing the director to establish a rule to determine the viability of electric vehicles.
- Allowing the director to establish by rule the implementation of a discrete licensing program for emerging for-hire transportation models.
- Converting for-hire medallions to taxicab medallions on April 1, 2025.
- Aligning City and County codes regarding monetary penalties.
- Aligning vehicle and driver age limits with those proposed for TNC drivers.
- Allowing the director to establish by rule a minimum fare, or flat rate, from one location to another.
- Creating an enhanced driver's license option would be created for applicants who, in addition to satisfying the criteria for a regional for-hire driver's license, also pass a fingerprint-based background check.
- Adjusting insurance provisions to allow for more market flexibility by allowing the director to suspend or modify insurance requirements when no other viable insurance options are available to the industry.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0245 would update K.C.C. chapter 6.65 related to fingerprint-based background check requirements for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license.

Creation of enhanced regional for-hire driver's license in Ordinance 19700. One of the new policies under Ordinance 19700 in October 2023 was the creation of the enhanced driver's license option. This was an option for applicants who, in addition to satisfying the criteria for a regional for-hire driver's license, also passed a fingerprint-based background check.

According to Executive staff, the rationale for establishing the enhanced regional for-hire driver's license in King County included aligning the standard regional for-hire driver's license with the same type of background checks conducted for a for-hire driver permit that is issued to TNC drivers; according to Executive staff, this would create a more equitable licensing standard between taxi and TNC drivers and remove what some may consider a barrier to driving a taxi.

Executive staff stated that another reason for establishing an option for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license in King County was that it would provide a more thorough vetting of drivers via an enhanced license. Some federal and state agencies require fingerprint-based background checks for drivers before they are allowed to provide services, such as Medicare, Medicaid, and local school districts.

Under K.C.C. 6.65.110, starting September 1, 2024, an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license would be a type of regional for-hire driver's license that, in addition to meeting requirements of K.C.C. 6.65.090, requires a driver to consent to and successfully pass a fingerprint-based background check.

Rationale for this update. The enhanced regional for-hire driver's license option has not yet been made available, because according to Executive staff, the language in Ordinance 19700 was not sufficient for the WSP and FBI to authorize the County to conduct fingerprint-based background checks. According to Executive staff, after reviewing Ordinance 19700, the WSP indicated that, as written, the County would only be able to conduct fingerprint-based background checks for the state and would not be able to conduct national fingerprint-based background checks.

WSP indicated that the FBI would not be able to review draft ordinances and legislation, but that after the ordinance is codified, WSP would forward the language to FBI for their

review and approval.¹² WSP provided sample language that is consistent with the language in the proposed ordinance.

According to Executive staff, Proposed Ordinance 2024-0245 would provide necessary language authorizing the fingerprint-based background checks.

If and after this proposed ordinance is adopted, RALS intends to submit the ordinance and county code to the WSP, who will review and route the information to the FBI for approval. According to Executive staff, the option to apply for, or upgrade to, an enhanced regional for-hire driver license will not be available until RALS is authorized to process fingerprint-based background checks via the WSP and FBI.

Proposed changes. As written in Ordinance 19700, the requirements for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license are that a driver passes a fingerprint-based background check.

The proposed ordinance would update the code to state that an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license requires a driver to consent to and successfully pass a state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background check.

Additionally, an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license would be subject to the following new regulations:

- An applicant for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license shall submit fingerprints to the director, which shall be submitted to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), along with appropriate fees.
- An applicant may be directed by the county to a vendor authorized by WSP and FBI to collect the applicant's fingerprints in a digital format and transmit the fingerprints electronically on behalf of the county to WSP.
- Upon receipt of the fingerprints and appropriate fees, WSP will compare the fingerprints against its criminal database and submit the fingerprints to the FBI for comparison with nationwide records. The results of WSP and FBI checks will be returned to the county.
- The County shall render a fitness determination for an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license based on results of the criminal background check.
- The County shall decide whether the applicant successfully passed a criminal background check according to the criteria in K.C.C. 6.65.090.11.H
- An applicant may request and receive a copy of their criminal history record from the County. If the applicant would like to amend or correct their record, they must contact WSP for a state record or the FBI for records from other jurisdictions

¹² The County does not work directly with the FBI; instead, WSP is designated by the FBI to manage the background check process in Washington State and serves as the conduit to the FBI.

maintained in its file. The County shall not be responsible for correcting errors or otherwise amending criminal history record data it obtains from WSP or FBI for the purpose of making license fitness decisions.

Use of third-party vendors. According to Executive staff, certain private companies have been authorized to perform the same service of collecting and sending fingerprints on behalf of an FBI and/or WSP authorized entity. These private providers are located throughout King County and Washington State. According to Executive staff, allowing use of third-party vendors to collect fingerprints would offer greater convenience for those having their fingerprints taken, given the number and proximity of locations to where a driver may live or work.

City of Seattle. Based on consultation between RALS and the City of Seattle, the City of Seattle does not need to update their corresponding ordinance. King County issues regional for-hire driver's licenses on behalf of the County and the City of Seattle, which includes reviewing and processing driver applications, including background check reports and driving history reports.

AMENDMENT

A technical striking amendment S1 would make technical corrections and clarifications to the ordinance.

INVITED

- Sean Bouffiou, Administrative Services Manager, Records and Licensing Division

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0245
2. Striking Amendment S1
3. Transmittal Letter
4. Fiscal Note



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2024-0245.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

1 AN ORDINANCE related to the for-hire transportation
2 industry, authorizing background checks through the
3 Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of
4 Investigation when considering an application for an
5 enhanced regional for-hire driver license; and amending
6 Ordinance 19700, Section 13, and K.C.C. 6.65.110.

7 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

8 SECTION 1. Ordinance 19700, Section 13, and K.C.C. 6.65.110 are hereby
9 amended to read as follows:

10 Effective September 1, 2024, an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license is a type
11 of regional for-hire driver's license that, in addition to meeting the requirements in K.C.C.
12 6.65.090 for a regional for-hire driver's license, requires a driver to consent to and
13 successfully pass a state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background check, with
14 ongoing monitoring if available, (~~from an entity that is approved by the director,~~)
15 consistent with the criteria in K.C.C. 6.65.090.11.H., and subject to the following:

16 A. In accordance with chapter 36.01.300 RCW, an applicant for an enhanced
17 regional for-hire driver's license shall submit fingerprints to the director, which shall be
18 submitted to the Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, along
19 with appropriate fees. An applicant may be directed by King County to a vendor
20 authorized by the Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to

21 collect the applicant's fingerprints in a digital format and transmit the fingerprints
22 electronically on behalf of King County to the Washington State Patrol;

23 B. Upon receipt of the fingerprints and the appropriate fees, the Washington State
24 Patrol will compare the applicant's fingerprints against its criminal database and submit the
25 fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a comparison with nationwide
26 records. The results of the Washington State Patrol's and Federal Bureau of Investigation's
27 checks will be returned to King County;

28 C. King County shall render a fitness determination for an enhanced regional for-
29 hire driver's license based upon the results of the criminal background check;

30 D. In rendering a fitness determination, King County shall decide whether the
31 applicant successfully passes a criminal background check according to the criteria in
32 K.C.C. 6.65.090.11.H.; and

33 E. An applicant may request and receive a copy of the applicant's criminal history
34 record information from King County. Should the applicant seek to amend or correct the
35 applicant's record, the applicant must contact the Washington State Patrol for a Washington
36 state record or the Federal Bureau of Investigation for records from other jurisdictions
37 maintained in its file. King County shall not be responsible for correcting errors or
38 otherwise amending criminal history record data it obtains from the Washington State

- 39 Patrol or the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of making license fitness
40 decisions.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

<h1>S1</h1>

September 5, 2024
 For Hire Background Checks
 Technical Striker

[S. Hsu]

Sponsor: von Reichbauer

Proposed No.: 2024-0245

1 **STRIKING AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2024-0245, VERSION**

2 **1**

3 On page 1, beginning on line 7, strike everything through page 3, line 40, and insert:

4 "BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

5 SECTION 1. Ordinance 19700, Section 13, and K.C.C. 6.65.110 are hereby
 6 amended to read as follows:

7 Effective September 1((-)), 2024, an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license is a
 8 type of regional for-hire driver's license that, in addition to meeting the requirements in
 9 K.C.C. 6.65.090 for a regional for-hire driver's license, requires a driver to consent to and
 10 successfully pass a state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background check, with
 11 ongoing monitoring if available, (~~from an entity that is approved by the director,~~)
 12 consistent with the criteria in K.C.C. 6.65.090.H., and subject to the following:

13 A. In accordance with RCW 36.01.300, an applicant for an enhanced regional for-
 14 hire driver's license shall submit fingerprints to King County, which shall be submitted to
 15 the Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, along with
 16 appropriate fees. An applicant may be directed by King County to a vendor authorized by
 17 the Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to collect the

18 applicant's fingerprints in a digital format and transmit the fingerprints electronically on
19 behalf of King County to the Washington State Patrol;

20 B. Upon receipt of the fingerprints and the appropriate fees, the Washington State
21 Patrol will compare the applicant's fingerprints against its criminal database and submit the
22 fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a comparison with nationwide
23 records. The results of the Washington State Patrol's and Federal Bureau of Investigation's
24 criminal background checks will be returned to King County;

25 C. King County shall render a fitness determination for an enhanced regional for-
26 hire driver's license based upon the results of the criminal background check;

27 D. In rendering a fitness determination, King County shall decide whether the
28 applicant successfully passes a criminal background check according to the criteria in
29 K.C.C. 6.65.090.H.; and

30 E. An applicant may request and receive a copy of the applicant's criminal history
31 record information from King County. Should the applicant seek to amend or correct the
32 applicant's record, the applicant must contact the Washington State Patrol for a Washington
33 state record or contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation for records from other
34 jurisdictions maintained in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's file. King County shall
35 not be responsible for correcting errors or otherwise amending criminal history record data
36 it obtains from the Washington State Patrol or the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the
37 purpose of making license fitness decisions."

38

39 **EFFECT prepared by S. Hsu: Striking Amendment S1 would make technical**
40 **corrections and clarifications in the proposed ordinance.**



King County

Dow Constantine
 King County Executive
 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
 Seattle, WA 98104-1818
206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194
 TTY Relay: 711
www.kingcounty.gov

August 1, 2024

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove
 Chair, King County Council
 Room 1200
 C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would amend Ordinance 19700 to authorize background checks through the Washington State Patrol (WSP) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) when considering an application for an Enhanced Regional For-Hire Driver Licenses.

Ordinance 19700, adopted in November 2023, established the new Enhanced For-Hire Driver's License, effective September 1, 2024. However, Ordinance 19700 did not include sufficient authorization for fingerprint-based criminal background checks to be processed through the FBI. This proposed Ordinance is intended to provide the authority required by the FBI. If adopted, the regulation would be submitted to the WSP and FBI for their approval.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. If your staff have any questions, please contact Sean Bouffiou, Administrative Services Manager, Records and Licensing Services Division at 206-263-2875.

Sincerely,

for

Dow Constantine
 King County Executive

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

August 1, 2024

Page 2

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Lorraine Patterson-Harris, County Administrative Officer, Department of Executive Services (DES)

Norm Alberg, Director, Records and Licensing Services Division

Sean Bouffiou, Administrative Services Manager, RALS, DES

Eddie Cantu, Licensing Manager, RALS, DES



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	8	Name:	Erin Auzins
Proposed No.:	2024-0254	Date:	October 21, 2024

SUBJECT

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0254 would extend a moratorium on wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms, through June 2025.

SUMMARY

Following the Growth Management Hearings Board's May 2020 invalidation of the winery, brewery, distillery (WBD) regulations adopted by Ordinance 19030, the Council adopted Ordinance 19122 in June 2020, establishing a moratorium regarding WBDs and remote tasting rooms. The Council has subsequently adopted renewals or new moratoria as the litigation went through the court system.

The current moratorium, adopted by Ordinance 19721, expires on December 23, 2024. The Proposed Ordinance would extend that moratorium by six months.

BACKGROUND

In December 2019, the Council adopted Ordinance 19030, which established updated regulations for winery, brewery, distillery facilities and remote tasting rooms in unincorporated King County.

Ordinance 19030 was challenged on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and Growth Management Act (GMA) grounds by Futurewise and a neighborhood group to the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board (Board). The petitioners filed a summary judgment motion with the Board, claiming the SEPA process undertaken by the County before adoption of the ordinance had been insufficient.

On May 26, 2020, the Board issued its Order on Dispositive Motions for Case No. 20-3-0004c (Order), which granted the petitioners' summary judgment motion and invalidated most of the substantive sections of the Ordinance. Ordinance 19030, Sections 12 through 29, Section 31, and map amendments 1 and 2, were invalidated by the Board. Sections 12 through 29 and Section 31 include definitions, zoning conditions, parking restrictions, temporary use permit clarifications, home occupation and home industry limitations and a demonstration project for remote tasting rooms.

On June 23, 2020, the Council adopted Ordinance 19122, declaring a six-month moratorium prohibiting the acceptance of applications for or establishment of new or expansion of existing wineries, breweries, distilleries and remote tasting rooms, as primary uses or as home occupations or home industries; and prohibiting temporary use permits for wineries, breweries, distilleries and remote tasting room uses under the King County Code. The same day, Motion 15649 was adopted, requesting that the Executive complete a new environmental checklist addressing the zoning changes contemplated by Ordinance 19030 and any likely alternatives and in compliance with state law and County Code, and to issue a new threshold determination based on that new checklist.

On November 5, 2020, Council staff signed and initiated the SEPA review procedures on an updated SEPA Checklist. The Permitting Division in the Department of Local Services issued a Determination of Nonsignificance based on this updated SEPA Checklist, on January 15, 2021.

The initial moratorium ordinance also required the Executive to evaluate the necessary steps to comply with the Board's May 2020 order regarding Ordinance 19030 and provide a report to the Council on the evaluation and status of compliance. The Executive transmitted a responsive report in October 2020.¹ As a result of the study and report completed by the Executive, and due to the ongoing litigation creating uncertainty for businesses, the Council adopted Ordinance 19217 in December 2020, which extended the original moratorium for six months; a second extension was adopted with Ordinance 19290.

As part of a partial litigation settlement associated with the Board's May 2020 order, the county agreed to a new one-year moratorium, adopted through Ordinance 19309. Ordinance 19550 adopted another one-year moratorium which expires on December 23, 2023.

The Court of Appeals published an opinion on February 27, 2023, reversing the Board's January 2022 order, and remanding it to the board with instructions to reinstate the SEPA DNS and enter a finding of GMA and SEPA compliance. On July 11 and 12, 2023, Futurewise and Friends of Sammamish Valley and affiliated groups, respectively, filed Petitions for Review with the Washington state Supreme Court.

September 2024 Supreme Court Opinion. Following oral arguments in May 2024, on September 19, 2024, the Washington State Supreme Court published an opinion reversing the Court of Appeals and reinstating the Board's January 2022 order.

Council Deliberations. The Council is considering how to respond to the Supreme Court's decision, and expects to introduce, deliberate, and adopt an Ordinance complying with the decision.

¹ 2020-RPT0150

ANALYSIS

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0254 would extend the moratorium adopted in Ordinance 19550 through June 23, 2025.

AMENDMENTS

An amendment, to update the Findings to reflect the Supreme Court's decision and the Council's intent to comply with the ruling, is included in the packet as Amendment 1.

INVITED

- Jim Chan, Division Director, Permitting, Department of Local Services
- Calli Knight, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships, Office of the Executive

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0254
2. Amendment 1
3. Transmittal letter
4. Fiscal Note
5. Executive's summary of the Proposed Ordinance



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2024-0254.1

Sponsors

1 AN ORDINANCE extending an existing moratorium by
2 six months, prohibiting the acceptance of applications for
3 the establishment of new or expansion of existing wineries,
4 breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms, as primary
5 or accessory uses or as home occupations or home
6 industries; and prohibiting temporary use permits for
7 wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms.

8 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

9 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

10 A. King County has authority, pursuant to constitutional police powers,
11 home rule authority, and the Washington state Growth Management Act, chapter
12 36.70A RCW ("GMA"), to establish and extend a moratorium to preclude the
13 acceptance of certain new development applications and preclude the
14 establishment of otherwise allowed uses while the litigation is ongoing.

15 B. Ordinance 19030 established updated regulations for winery, brewery,
16 distillery facilities and remote tasting rooms in unincorporated King County.

17 C. Ordinance 19030 was challenged on State Environmental Policy Act,
18 chapter 43.21C RCW ("SEPA") and GMA grounds by Friends of Sammamish
19 Valley, a Washington nonprofit corporation, A Farm in the Sammamish Valley,
20 LLC, Marshal Leroy d/b/a Alki Market Garden, Eunomia Farms LLC, Olympic

21 Nursery Inc., C-T Corp., Roots of Our Times Cooperative, Regeneration Farms
22 LLC, Hollywood Hill Association, Terry and David R. Orkiolla, Judith Allen, and
23 Futurewise to the Growth Management Hearings Board ("board") and designated
24 as case number 20-3-0004c. On May 26, 2020, the board, in its Order on
25 Dispositive Motions for Case No. 20-3-0004c ("the board's May 2020 order"),
26 invalidated most of the substantive sections of Ordinance 19030, including
27 Sections 12 through 29, Section 31, and Map Amendments 1 and 2. Ordinance
28 19030, Sections 12 through 29, and Section 31 include definitions, zoning
29 conditions, parking restrictions, temporary use permit clarifications, home
30 occupation and home industry limitations, and a demonstration project.

31 D. With the board's invalidation of parts of Ordinance 19030, the uses
32 that were defined and regulated as part of that ordinance, including winery,
33 brewery, distillery facilities and remote tasting rooms, do not have clear
34 regulations for residents and business owners to comply with, and the county does
35 not have clear regulations to enforce. That lack of clarity exists for: wineries,
36 breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms that seek to locate or be
37 established on a property as a primary or accessory use; wineries, breweries,
38 distilleries, and remote tasting room home occupation and home industry; and
39 wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms that seek to apply for
40 temporary use permits allowed by the King County Code.

41 E. In order to provide clarity to residents, business owners, and county
42 permit review and code enforcement staff, the county declared a moratorium that
43 prevents new or expansion of wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting

44 rooms as primary or accessory uses, as home occupations, and as home industries
45 from locating or being established in unincorporated King County, while the
46 council and executive determined and carried out the next steps in responding to
47 the board's May 2020 order. The moratorium was declared by Ordinance 19122,
48 and was extended twice, with Ordinances 19217 and 19290, as a result of ongoing
49 litigation related to the board's May 2020 order. Ordinance 19290 expired
50 December 23, 2021.

51 F. As part of a partial litigation settlement associated with the board's
52 May 2020 order, the county agreed to a new one-year moratorium. Ordinance
53 19309 adopted a one-year moratorium that commenced on December 23, 2021,
54 and expired on December 23, 2022.

55 G. After litigation related to the board's May 2020 order was remanded to
56 the board for additional review, the board issued its Final Decision and Order on
57 January 3, 2022, and again invalidated Ordinance 19030, Sections 12 through 29,
58 Section 31, and Map Amendments 1 and 2. The county appealed the board's
59 January 3, 2022 Final Decision and Order, and the board's January 27, 2022,
60 Order Nunc Pro Tunc Correcting Scrivener's Errors in Final Decision and Order,
61 to Division I of the Washington state Court of Appeals.

62 H. The county adopted a new one-year moratorium with Ordinance
63 19550, that commenced on December 23, 2022, and expired on December 23,
64 2023. Ordinance 19550 was adopted to prevent vesting of applications for
65 winery, brewery, distillery uses during the Court of Appeals review of the
66 litigation.

67 I. The Court of Appeals published an opinion on February 27, 2023,
68 reversing the board's January 2022 order, and remanding it to the board with
69 instructions to reinstate the SEPA determination of nonsignificance ("DNS") and
70 enter a finding of GMA and SEPA compliance. The Friends of Sammamish
71 Valley et al. and Futurewise filed a Motion for Reconsideration on March 20,
72 2023. The Court of Appeals published a new opinion on June 12, 2023,
73 responding to the Motion for Reconsideration, again reversing the board's January
74 2022 order, and remanding it to the board with instructions to reinstate the DNS
75 and enter a finding of GMA and SEPA compliance.

76 J. On September 8, 2022, following a compliance hearing, the board
77 issued its Order Finding Continuing Noncompliance and Denying Motion to
78 Rescind Invalidity. The September 8, 2022, order established a new compliance
79 deadline of March 6, 2023. The county filed an appeal of the board's September
80 8, 2022, order to superior court, which was certified for direct review by the Court
81 of Appeals in October 2022, and the Court of Appeals issued a stay on May 4,
82 2023, pending issuance of a mandate on the primary litigation. Until the Petitions
83 for Review are acted on by the Washington state Supreme Court, the May 2023
84 Court of Appeals stay on the follow up appeal will remain in place; on April 20,
85 2023, the board, as part of a Second Order Finding Continuing Noncompliance
86 and Order Granting Partial Stay, granted a stay holding the compliance calendar
87 in abeyance until such time as the pending appeals are resolved or the board
88 rescinds the board's April 2023 stay order.

89 K. On July 11 and 12, 2023, Futurewise and Friends of Sammamish
90 Valley and affiliated groups, respectively, filed Petitions for Review with the
91 Washington state Supreme Court. On December 5, 2023, the Washington state
92 Supreme Court accepted review and is considering the case. The timing for a
93 decision by the Washington state Supreme Court is unknown, but is likely to be
94 up to six months and possibly longer.

95 L. The county adopted another one-year moratorium with Ordinance
96 19721, which commenced on December 23, 2023 and expires on December 23,
97 2024.

98 M. Litigation before the Washington state Supreme Court is ongoing.

99 N. It is in the public interest, and is the intent of the county, to extend the
100 moratorium on acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or
101 expansion of existing wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms
102 for a six-month period in order to prevent unregulated development while
103 substantive issues before the board and the Washington state Supreme Court are
104 still unresolved.

105 SECTION 2. A. A six-month extension commencing on December 23,
106 2024 of the one-year moratorium that commenced on December 23, 2023 and will
107 expire on December 23, 2024 is declared on the acceptance of applications for the
108 establishment of those that are new, or expansion of those that are existing,
109 including applications increasing their size or scope, for the following in
110 unincorporated King County:

111 1. Wineries, breweries, distilleries;

112 2. Remote tasting rooms;

113 3. Winery, brewery, distillery, and remote tasting room home

114 occupations and home industries; and

115 4. Temporary use permits for wineries, breweries, distilleries, and

116 remote tasting room uses.

117 B. An application shall not be accepted and a building permit, occupancy

118 permit, department of public health approval, and other development permits or

119 approvals of any kind shall not be issued for any of the purposes or activities

120 prohibited by the moratorium. Any applications for land use approvals or other

121 permits that are accepted as a result of error or by use of vague or deceptive

122 descriptions during the moratorium are null and void and without legal force or

123 effect. All vested and otherwise lawfully established uses, structures, or other

124 developments may continue to be maintained, repaired, and redeveloped

125 consistent with K.C.C. 21A.32.020 through 21A.32.055, so long as the use is not

126 expanded, under the terms of the land use regulations in place at the time the use

127 was established.

128 SECTION 3. The definitions in this section apply throughout this ordinance

129 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

130 A. "Remote tasting room" means a facility that is required to be licensed by the

131 Washington state Liquor and Cannabis Board including, but not limited to, the following

132 non-retail liquor licenses: a craft distillery; a tasting room - additional location for a

133 winery licensed as a domestic winery; or a microbrewery, including, but not limited to, a

134 microbrewery operating in accordance with an off-site tavern license subject to the retail
135 sale limitations for a microbrewery in WAC 314-20-015(1).

136 B. "Temporary use permit" is as defined in K.C.C. 21A.06.1275.

137 C. "Winery, brewery, distillery" means:

138 1. "Winery" means an establishment primarily engaged in one or more of the
139 following:

140 a. growing grapes or fruit and manufacturing wine, cider, or brandies;

141 b. manufacturing wine, cider, or brandies from grapes and other fruits grown
142 elsewhere; and

143 c. blending wines, cider, or brandies;

144 2. "Brewery" is as defined by SIC Industry No. 2082; and

145 3. "Distillery" is as defined by SIC Industry No. 2085.

146 D. "Winery, brewery, distillery, and remote tasting room home occupation and
147 home industry" means a winery, brewery, distillery, or remote tasting room, or
148 combination thereof, that is located in a dwelling unit or residential accessory building
149 and meets the definition of home occupation in K.C.C. 21A.06.610 or the definition of
150 home industry in K.C.C. 21A.06.605.

151 **SECTION 4. Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application to

152 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the
153 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

1

10/21/24
Findings

[E. Auzins]

Sponsor: Balducci

Proposed No.: 2024-0254

1 **AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2024-0254, VERSION 1**

2 On page 4, strike lines 76 through 94 and insert:

3 "J. On September 8, 2022, following a compliance hearing, the board
4 issued its Order Finding Continuing Noncompliance and Denying Motion to
5 Rescind Invalidity. The September 8, 2022, order established a new compliance
6 deadline of March 6, 2023. The county filed an appeal of the board's September
7 8, 2022, order to superior court, which was certified for direct review by the Court
8 of Appeals in October 2022, and the Court of Appeals issued a stay on May 4,
9 2023.

10 K. On July 11 and 12, 2023, Futurewise and Friends of Sammamish
11 Valley and affiliated groups, respectively, filed Petitions for Review with the
12 Washington state Supreme Court."

13

14 On page 5, strike lines 98 through 104 insert:

15 "M. On September 19, 2024, the Washington state Supreme Court, in a 5-4
16 decision, published an opinion reversing the Court of Appeals and reinstating the board's
17 January 2022 order.

18 N. The council intends to comply with the decision of the Washington state
19 Supreme Court. A proposed ordinance that would comply with the Supreme Court's
20 decision is expected to be introduced in October 2024, and then procedural requirements
21 will take a minimum of three months to complete.

22 O. It is in the public interest, and is the intent of the county, to extend the
23 moratorium on acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or expansion of
24 existing wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms for a six-month period
25 in order to allow the council enough time to deliberate on a proposed ordinance
26 complying with the Supreme Court's decision and for any ordinance to become effective
27 before the end of the moratorium's extension to June 23, 2025."

28

29 **EFFECT prepared by E. Auzins: Adds findings to reflect the decision by the**
30 **Washington State Supreme Court and the Council's intent to take legislative action to**
31 **comply with the decision.**



King County

Dow Constantine
 King County Executive
 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
 Seattle, WA 98104-1818
206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194
 TTY Relay: 711
www.kingcounty.gov

August 14, 2024

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove
 Chair, King County Council
 Room 1200
 C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance, that if adopted, would extend an existing moratorium on the acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or expansion of existing wineries, breweries, and distilleries (WBDs) by six-months. This proposed Ordinance accompanies the recommendation of the work plan required by Ordinance 19721, Section 4.

Updated WBD regulations were adopted by the County in 2019 via Ordinance 19030. Litigation regarding the Ordinance and associated SEPA review ensued and is ongoing. A series of moratoria on the acceptance of applications for the establishment of new or expansion of existing WBDs have been adopted beginning in 2020 to allow legal proceedings to resolve, during which time the code standards applicable to WBDs have been uncertain. As legal proceedings are ongoing as of the writing of this letter, the work plan recommends continuing the moratorium.

Please note that a work plan regarding WBD regulations, as called for by Ordinance 19721, Section 4 was transmitted separately to the Council on August 1, 2024.

Thank you for your consideration for this proposed Ordinance. If your staff have questions, please contact Danielle de Clercq, Acting Director, Department of Local Services, 206-263-3286.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

August 14, 2024

Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Rodda". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular flourish at the end.

for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Danielle de Clercq, Acting Director, Department of Local Services

2023-2024 FISCAL NOTE

Ordinance/Motion: 2024-XXXX
 Title: Winery, Brewery, and Distillery Moratorium 2024
 Affected Agency and/or Agencies: None
 Note Prepared By: Robin Proebsting, DLS
 Date Prepared: 6/24/24
 Note Reviewed By: Danielle de Clercq, DLS
 Date Reviewed: 6/28/2024

Description of request:

Proposed ordinance to establish a six-month moratorium on applications for: 1) the establishment of new or expansion of existing wineries, breweries, distilleries; 2) remote tasting rooms; 3) wineries, breweries, distilleries and remote tasting rooms, as primary uses or as home occupations or home industries; and 4) temporary use permits for wineries, breweries, distilleries and remote tasting rooms. The following is a summary of the draft proposed ordinance.

Revenue to:						
Agency	Fund Code	Revenue Source	2023-2024	2025-2026	2027-2028	
TOTAL			0	0	0	

Expenditures from:

Agency	Fund Code	Department	2023-2024	2025-2026	2027-2028
TOTAL			0	0	0

Expenditures by Categories

	2023-2024	2025-2026	2027-2028
TOTAL	0	0	0

Does this legislation require a budget supplemental? No

Notes and Assumptions:

August 1, 2024

Summary of Proposed Ordinance relating to A moratorium on applications for wineries, breweries, distilleries 2024

This summary fulfills Washington State Growth Management Act and King County Code (K.C.C.) 20.18.100 requirements for a “plain language summary.”

King County is proposing to extend an existing moratorium on applications for: 1) the establishment of new or expansion of existing wineries, breweries, distilleries; 2) remote tasting rooms; 3) wineries, breweries, distilleries and remote tasting rooms, as primary uses or as home occupations or home industries; and 4) temporary use permits for wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms by six-months. The following is a summary of the draft proposed ordinance.

Ordinance Section	King County Code Section	Current Code	Proposed Change	Intent/Rationale
1	n/a	n/a	States findings, which are the reasons behind needing the moratorium extension.	The findings explain the relevant background and history of winery, brewery, and distillery legislation.
2	n/a	n/a	Declares a six-month extension on the existing moratorium.	The moratorium would prohibit for six months the acceptance of applications for: 1) New or expanding wineries, breweries, and distilleries; 2) Remote tasting rooms; 3) Winery, brewery, distillery and remote tasting room home occupations and home industries; and 4) Temporary use permits for wineries, breweries, distilleries, and remote tasting rooms.
3	n/a	n/a	States the definitions of specific terms used in the ordinance, such as "temporary use permit", "winery", "brewery", "distillery", and "Winery, brewery, distillery and remote tasting room home occupation and home industry".	The definitions make clear to which uses the moratorium applies.
4	n/a	n/a	Provides for severability	Standard part of ordinances; it means that if one part of the ordinance is later found to be invalid, the rest of the ordinance is still valid.



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	9	Name:	Mac Nicholson
Proposed No.:	2024-0287	Date:	Oct 21, 2024

SUBJECT

Proposed Motion (PM) 2024-0287 would establish the King County 2025 State Legislative Priorities.

SUMMARY

PM 2024-0287 would establish the King County 2025 State Legislative Priorities. Currently, the PM does not have the State Legislative Priorities document attached, which will be inserted via amendment as Attachment A prior to final adoption.

BACKGROUND

The Council and the Executive work together through their respective government relations staff to develop policy positions that direct the state legislative advocacy program. These policies are formalized in the King County State Legislative Priorities.

The 2025 Regular Legislative Session is a 105-day session that begins on Monday, January 13, 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2024-0287



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2024-0287.1

Sponsors Upthegrove

1 A MOTION establishing the King County 2025 State
2 Legislative Priorities.

3 WHEREAS, counties have been recognized by the Legislature as partners with
4 the state in the delivery of such critical services as public health, transportation, public
5 safety, behavioral health, affordable housing, and water quality, and

6 WHEREAS, King County's ability to deliver critical services is directly impacted
7 by budget and policy decisions made by the Legislature, and

8 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive have
9 identified priority issues that will help the county provide essential services and desire to
10 bring these issues to the attention of the 2025 Washington state Legislature, and

11 WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will
12 continue to review legislative developments for possible revisions of King County's 2025
13 state legislative program;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

15 The King County council adopts the King County 2025 State Legislative

- 16 Priorities, Attachment A to this motion, as King County's highest priorities for action in
17 the 2025 legislative session of the Washington state Legislature.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	10	Name:	Leah Krekel-Zoppi, Andy Micklow, Gene Paul, and Miranda Leskinen
Proposed No.:	2024-0236	Date:	October 21, 2024

SUBJECT

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0236 would approve the implementation plan for the King County Doors Open cultural access program.

SUMMARY

In December 2023, King County enacted a cultural access program for King County, known as “Doors Open.” The legislation implementing Doors Open¹ required transmittal of an implementation plan to the King County Council by July 2024, and that the plan be referred to the Regional Policy Committee (RPC). The Doors Open ordinance requires an implementation plan to be approved by the Council before program funding for 2025 and beyond can be distributed.

The Doors Open program is to be administered by 4Culture and is intended to provide grant funding to arts, heritage, science, and historical preservation non-profit organizations to increase the public benefits cultural organizations provide throughout King County. The programs it will fund are:

- **Sustained support** to provide operating support for cultural organizations.
- **Public School Access** to increase cultural access for public school children.
- **Free Cultural Access** to provide free and reduced cost cultural experiences.
- **Building for Equity** to build and maintain cultural facilities and equipment.
- **Launch** to help launch new cultural organizations.
- **Countywide initiatives and projects** to support cultural capacity building.

The Doors Open Implementation Plan includes program descriptions, guidelines for eligible expenditures, criteria for awarding proceeds, a public benefit reporting framework, a description of the grant award process, a description of the contract and payment process, an outreach and technical assistance plan, and a timeframe for releasing a required Doors Open program assessment report.

¹ Ordinance 19710

BACKGROUND

King County's Cultural Programs. The King County Council created 4Culture, King County's Cultural Public Development Authority (PDA), in 2002 in order "to support, advocate for and preserve the cultural resources of the region in a manner that fosters excellence, vitality, and diversity."² 4Culture replaced the functions of King County's former Office of Cultural Resources in order to exercise the powers vested in PDAs under state law and to realize operating efficiencies by operating independently of county government.

4Culture's name was derived from the agency's four cultural programs:

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.
- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.
- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County's 1% for Art program and manages arts installations throughout the county.

These cultural programs are established in King County Code (K.C.C.) Chapter 2.48, which also states that 4Culture is responsible for administering grants to cultural organizations, groups, public agencies, and individuals in King County. Those grant programs are categorized into the areas of support for projects, buildings and equipment, and operations. They are to be administered according to code provisions, guidelines, and procedures adopted by 4Culture.

4Culture Governance and Accountability. 4Culture is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors. Directors are to have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources, be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns, and have the ability to evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region as a whole. Additionally, they must be residents of King County and are to be chosen to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the county.³ Directors are appointed by King County councilmembers and the Executive and confirmed by the Council.⁴

As required by county code,⁵ advisory committees made up of community volunteers with cultural expertise advise the 4Culture Board on policies and programs in the areas of arts, heritage, and historic preservation.

² Ordinance 14482

³ Ordinance 19036, Attachment A, Section 5.2.B

⁴ Ordinance 19036, Attachment A, Section 5.2.D and 5.2.E

⁵ K.C.C. 2.48.065, 2.48.075, and 2.48.085

4Culture operates according to a charter and bylaws adopted by the county.⁶ County code requires 4Culture to submit an annual report to the county and to meet with the King County Council's Committee of the Whole two times per year, once to discuss the annual report and once to discuss the plans and proposed expenditures for the following year.⁷

Cultural Funding in King County. Historically, under state law, a portion of the lodging tax collected in King County has been dedicated to arts and culture.⁸ The availability of lodging tax funding in King County has varied over time based on the provisions of state law:

- From 2001 through 2012, 70 percent of the relevant portion of the lodging tax was to be dedicated to “art museums, cultural museums, heritage museums, the arts, and the performing arts,” with the remaining 30 percent dedicated to stadium purposes, acquisition of open space, youth sports activities, and tourism promotion.⁹
- From 2013 through 2015, all of the relevant portion of the lodging tax was to be used to retire the debt on the Kingdome.¹⁰ If the Kingdome debt was retired prior to December 31, 2015, all additional revenues collected through the end of 2015 were to be dedicated to arts and cultural purposes.¹¹
- From 2016 through 2020, all of the relevant portion of the lodging tax was to be used for the football stadium and exhibition center.¹²
- After January 1, 2021, the relevant portion of the lodging tax is to be allocated as follows:
 - 37.5 percent to arts and cultural purposes;
 - 37.5 percent to affordable workforce housing near transit stations or for services for homeless youth;¹³ and
 - 25 percent for capital or operating programs that promote tourism and attract tourists to the county, including arts, heritage, and cultural events.^{14,15}

Between 2001 and 2012, state law required that 40 percent of the lodging tax dedicated to arts and culture be set aside into a special account¹⁶ that was to be used to fund cultural programs from 2012 through 2020 when no lodging taxes would be available for cultural programs.

⁶ Ordinance 14482

⁷ K.C.C. 2.49

⁸ RCW 67.28.180

⁹ RCW 67.28.180(3)(a)

¹⁰ Although the Kingdome was demolished in 2000, the County held approximately \$80 million in debt on it at the time, most of that for roof repairs after a ceiling tile collapse in 1994.

¹¹ RCW 67.28.180(3)(b)

¹² RCW 67.28.180(3)(c)

¹³ Motion 14687 authorized a Transit-Oriented Development housing program to be funded through the issuance of \$87 million in bonds to be repaid from this portion of the lodging tax beginning in 2021.

¹⁴ RCW 67.28.180(3)(d), RCW 67.28.180(3)(h)(ii)

¹⁵ Ordinance 18788, authorizing a new funding agreement and amendment to the existing financing agreement with the Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities District, also established policy intent on the allocation of lodging tax that would be received after January 1, 2021.

¹⁶ SESSB 6049

Building 4Culture Program. In 2015, King County and 4Culture partnered to establish an arts, cultural, heritage, and preservation capital funding program known as the “Building for Culture” program.¹⁷ The program provided \$28.5 million in bond-financed grants funded by using the portion of the lodging tax that became available for cultural funding because the Kingdome bonds were repaid early.

The Building 4Culture Program included three components:

- grants to non-profit arts, heritage, and cultural organizations and eligible public agencies to fund capital costs related to acquisition, construction, or remodeling;
- grants to owners of national-, state-, or local-designated or eligible landmark properties to fund costs related to acquisition, stabilization, rehabilitation, or restoration; and
- a Preservation Action Fund to provide direct funding for the acquisition, stabilization, or redevelopment of significant but endangered historic properties.

In concert with passage of the Building 4Culture legislation, the King County Council passed Motion 14474, which committed to collaboration between King County and 4Culture on an arts, preservation, and cultural equity program to promote "one county" and equity and social justice goals. The motion asked 4Culture to identify \$1 million in funding to support historically underserved local arts, preservation, and cultural organizations throughout King County. In response, 4Culture developed the ongoing Community 4Culture grant program, which focuses on individuals and small organizations that have not received past 4Culture funding and serve marginalized communities. 4Culture defines “marginalized communities” as people with disabilities, people with low incomes, the population in geographic areas or representative of cultures within county zip codes experiencing the most significant social inequities, residents in rural King County, or residents of Seattle neighborhoods traditionally under-represented in 4Culture funding.

Building 4Equity. In 2019, in response to interest in addressing historical inequities in cultural funding as well as requests from cultural organizations for capital facilities funding, including from organizations experiencing difficulty closing out projects due to unanticipated construction costs,¹⁸ King County authorized 4Culture to establish the Building 4Equity program.¹⁹

The Building 4Equity Program allowed 4Culture to partner with King County to use an advance on future lodging tax proceeds to fund a \$20 million equity-based cultural facilities program. The components of Building 4Equity include:

- \$7 million in funding for organizations that received recent 4Culture capital project funding and have remaining unanticipated construction costs;

¹⁷ Motion 14406, Ordinances 18179, 18180, and 18181

¹⁸ Construction costs in major US cities increased an average of approximately 30% between 2012 and 2018, according to *Quarterly Construction Cost Report for North America* released by Rider Levett Bucknall in November 2018

¹⁹ Ordinances 18938, 18939, 18940, and 18941

- \$1 million in additional funds for the Preservation Action Fund;
- \$2 million for a mentoring program for organizations serving marginalized communities; and
- \$10 million for Cultural Facilities grants awarded through a process that prioritizes organizations serving marginalized communities.

COVID-19 Impacts on Cultural Programs. The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the cultural sector. The Washington arts advocacy non-profit ArtsFund published a [COVID Cultural Impact Study](#) in 2021 on the state of Washington's cultural non-profits and found that 121 cultural organizations across Washington reported a total annual revenue loss of \$95.9 million. Earned revenue (ticket sales, memberships, admissions) was down a total of \$131.6 million but was partially offset by an increase in contributed revenue, such as pandemic relief grants and donations. ArtsFund's study found that household cultural participation declined from 76 percent to 28 percent due to the pandemic. Additionally, 41 percent of cultural organizations reported furloughing or reducing hours for staff.

An Arts Survey conducted by *The Seattle Times*²⁰ in Fall 2023 found that for cultural organizations in King County, ticket sales are still 23 percent lower and subscription revenue remains 38 percent below pre-pandemic levels. At the same time, surveyed organizations report their operating costs are up between 15 and 50 percent.

4Culture's Lodging Tax Proceeds. As noted above, 2021 was the first year under state law that 4Culture began receiving Lodging Tax proceeds in almost a decade. Due to the pandemic, lodging tax proceeds that year were more than 50 percent below the pre-COVID Office of Economic and Financial Analysis forecast. Between 2021 and 2028, 4Culture's lodging tax proceeds are projected to be 11 percent below the pre-pandemic projection, a loss comparable to approximately one year of 4Culture's lodging tax proceeds. A significant portion of that was offset by COVID relief funding, revenue that will no longer be available after the 2023-2024 biennium.

Cultural Access Program State Law. In 2015, the Washington State Legislature passed ESHB 2263, which provides for the creation of local cultural access programs.²¹ The law allows Washington counties to create cultural access programs that provide funding for public school access to arts, science, and heritage organizations and for cultural organizations to provide increased public benefits.

According to 4Culture, Washington's cultural access law was modeled after the Denver Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (DSCF), which was created in 1989 and is funded through a 0.1 percent sales tax collected in the seven-county Denver, Colorado, metropolitan area.²²

²⁰ [Seattle's arts scene: Why fall 2023 starts a season that will be crucial | The Seattle Times](#)

²¹ RCW Chapter 36.160

²² <https://scfd.org/>

In King County, the program can be funded by up to 0.1 percent of sales tax for seven years, after which it may be renewed. The funds must be used for public benefits and may not supplant county and state funds customarily provided to cultural organizations.

The original state law required that funding for cultural access programs be enacted by a vote of the people. Additionally, for King County, the original state law required that, after startup and administrative costs, tax proceeds were to be allocated: 1) 10 percent for public school cultural access, 2) 70 percent for regional cultural organizations distributed proportionally according to organizations' annual revenues, and 3) 20 percent to community-based cultural organizations.

The Washington State Legislature changed the cultural access program statute in 2020 to remove the allocation requirements for King County and provide the county with the authority to determine the funding allocations for startup costs, administration, public school cultural access, and cultural organizations.²³

In April 2023, the state passed HB1575, which changed state law²⁴ to allow county legislative authorities to impose a cultural access program sales tax of up to 0.1 percent by ordinance. Additionally, if a county has not imposed a cultural access program sales tax by December 31, 2024, a city within that county may do so. The statute does not allow a county and city within that county to impose a cultural access program sales tax concurrently.

Access for All. In 2017, prior to the cultural access program state law changes, King County enacted Access for All,²⁵ which created a cultural access program for King County and asked voters to impose a 0.1 percent sales tax to fund the program. Voters turned the measure down at a special election in August 2017.

Cultural Access Planning and Community Outreach. Development of Access for All amplified discussions about strategies for fostering cultural organizations that serve traditionally underrepresented communities or are located outside of existing cultural centers in Downtown Seattle. 4Culture moved forward with some of the strategies and initiatives contained in Access for All within the agency's existing revenue streams. Those included:

- creating new grant opportunities to build capacity for smaller cultural organizations located in and providing services to marginalized communities;
- including an applicant's contributions toward serving marginalized communities as part of the evaluation criteria for all grant programs; and
- tracking and reporting on demographic information on the board and staff of grant applicants and awardees.

4Culture also moved forward with a strategic planning process similar to what was contemplated in Access for All, adopting the [King County Cultural Plan](#) in 2020, and

²³ SB 5792

²⁴ RCW 82.14.525

²⁵ Ordinance 18513

undertaking a [King County Cultural Health Study in 2020](#), and a King County Cultural Education Study in 2021.

In developing the cultural strategic plan and conducting the cultural health and cultural education studies, 4Culture held 43 listening sessions throughout King County. 4Culture states that the findings of these studies and listening sessions led to the development of the Doors Open program proposal.

Doors Open. In December 2023, King County enacted the Doors Open cultural access program. The Doors Open program was based on community input gathered by 4Culture and was created to provide grant funding to arts, heritage, science, and historical preservation non-profit organizations to increase the public benefits cultural organizations provide throughout King County. The program includes funding to:

- provide grants for capital and one-time operating support in 2024;
- provide operating support to cultural organizations;
- increase access to cultural programming for public school children;
- provide free public access to cultural experiences;
- build and maintain cultural facilities and equipment;
- help launch new cultural organizations; and
- expand the reach of cultural organizations serving vulnerable populations and located in geographical areas that need additional cultural capacity.

The Doors Open program is administered by 4Culture²⁶, King County's Cultural Development Authority, with oversight by the 4Culture Board of Directors and the King County Council.

The Doors Open program is funded through a 0.1 percent sales tax for seven years beginning in April 2024. Revenues for the program are forecasted to be approximately \$100 million annually. Table 1 identifies estimated annual revenues based on current (August 2024) projections.²⁷

Table 1. 2024-2031 Current Estimated Revenues (Based on August 2024 Forecast)

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total
\$69.2M	\$94.7M	\$98.3M	\$101.8M	\$106.2M	\$111.2M	\$116.1M	\$18.8M	\$716.3M

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS FOR OCTOBER 21ST COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DISCUSSION

During the September 24, 2024, Committee of the Whole and September 30 Regional Policy Committee meetings, committee members raised several topics for further discussion. This section provides additional analysis on those topics. Previously

²⁶ The 2024 capital and operating support grants program would be jointly administered by 4Culture and King County.

²⁷ Please note that 2024 and 2031 reflect a partial-year collection period – April through December and January through March, respectively.

provided analysis for Proposed Ordinance 2024-0236 begins in the following "analysis" section of this staff report.

Cultural Investments and Representation for People with Disabilities. Committee members have expressed interest in understanding how the Doors Open program will impact cultural access for people with disabilities, and how people with disabilities are represented on grant review panels.

4Culture proposes to apply the agency's current disability-related equity practices and policies to the Doors Open program. This includes the following:

- **Data collection and analysis:** 4Culture collects and analyzes aggregated disability data for organizations and individuals they fund, 4Culture staff, 4Culture Board members, grant review panelists, and onsite reviewers. 4Culture uses the data to understand funding disparities and inform grantmaking practices and processes and outreach and engagement strategies.
- **Grant award criteria:** How a cultural organization serves people with disabilities is one component of the criteria 4Culture uses to determine whether organizations are eligible for an equity investment bonus added to their base grant award and for equity points awarded when scoring grant applications.
- **Public benefits:** Cultural organizations must provide and report on public benefits to be eligible for 4Culture funding. Among the public benefits cultural organizations can choose to provide and report on are, bringing cultural facilities and programming into compliance with access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and activities to improve cultural access for people who face barriers to access and are underserved in cultural programs.
- **Representation and anti-bias training:** 4Culture's mission, vision, and values direct that the composition of grant review panels and advisory committees include consideration of representation of historically underrepresented and underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minorities and people with disabilities. All grant review panelists undertake a training called, "Interrupting Bias in Grantmaking: Anti-bias training," which covers ableism.

Grant Cycle Timing. Provided below is a summary table of expected grant cycles for each of the Doors Open programs. Of note, 4Culture currently maintains an online list of its current, upcoming, and ongoing funding opportunities, including associated deadlines.²⁸ 4Culture has also provided a draft schedule of 2025 grant deadlines, which is provided as Attachment 5.

Table 2. Grant Cycles for Doors Open Programs

Doors Open Program	Grant <u>Application</u> Cycle	Award length
Capital Facilities	2024 – One Time	1-year
Operating and Program	2024 – One Time	1-year

²⁸ 4Culture. *GRANTS + ARTIST CALLS*. URL: <https://www.4culture.org/grants-artist-calls/>. Last accessed on October 11, 2024.

Support		
Operating Support	2025-2031 - Triennial	3-year
Public School Cultural Access	2025-2031 - Annual	1-year
Public Free Access	2025-2031 - Annual	1-year
Building for Equity	2025-2031 - Annual	1-year
Countywide Initiatives	2025-2031 - Annual	2-year
Launch	2025-2031 - Annual	2-year

As described at prior meetings, 4Culture is proposing a three-year award cycle for operating support. If this policy choice is made, it would require additional legislation to fully implement 4Culture's proposal. While a three-year award cycle is permissible under the Doors Open ordinance, the code that governs the established Sustained Support programs instituted them as two-year grant cycles.²⁹ Because 4Culture is proposing to administer the lodging tax and Doors Open operating support programs together, to simplify both the application burden for cultural organizations and 4Culture's administrative efforts, updating the code for Sustained Support to allow three-year grant cycles would be necessary.

In connection with grant cycle timing, committee members also raised the topic of establishing specific months as deadlines for the distribution of grant awards. For instance, the month of July was identified as a deadline for operating support grants to be distributed each cycle. In response to this potential request, 4Culture provided that if the triennial grant cycle for operating support was approved then 4Culture would be able to announce awards prior to the end of July 2025 while also providing an on-ramp to new operating support applicants for the duration of the cycle every fall (scheduled for September of this year). However, 4Culture expressed their preference that the implementation plan not establish a specific month for grant award announcements. The organization conveyed that, based on their decades of experience in juggling multiple funding sources, having flexibility is an important factor in serving the cultural sector.

Measuring Doors Open Impact. Committee members have expressed interest in understanding how success and impact of Doors Open would be measured, including goals of the program and how 4Culture will measure whether those goals are met. The goals of Doors Open established in the Doors Open ordinance are to enhance and extend the reach and offerings of cultural organizations, ensure continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and the programs of cultural organizations by underserved populations, and to provide financial support for cultural organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide. Key reporting metrics for how those goals are met are included in the Implementation Plan for each program.

4Culture also hired Mytoan Nguyen-Akbar, Ph.D. as Doors Open Evaluation Manager. Dr. Nguyen-Akbar joined 4Culture staff as in-house Evaluation Manager in summer

²⁹ K.C.C 2.48.108 and K.C.C.109 established the Sustained Support program for the arts and heritage respectively.

2024 and is developing a results-based accountability evaluation framework for Doors Open. 4Culture anticipates completing the framework by early 2025.

Using the framework, 4Culture will assess how the program enhanced the lives of residents, K-12 students, artists, cultural practitioners, and County residents, and impacted King County's creative workforce and local economy. Descriptive statistics about Doors Open awardees will include numbers of grants awarded by zip code, Communities of Opportunity tract, rural community, organizational budget size, type of organization, and other relevant community demographics in addition to those required by the ordinance. Additionally, impact measures will draw from specific, self-reported data around public, geographic, and equity benefits. 4Culture will also gather publicly available data from the American Community Survey, Arts Vibrancy Index, local Chambers of Commerce, Local Arts Agencies, and Business Improvement Associations to understand population and retail trends.

In addition to these measures, 4Culture will conduct pulse opinion polling and experience surveys in years 3 and 6 to assess how residents and audiences/participants are experiencing public benefits of the funding. 4Culture indicates that they also intend to conduct semi-structured interviews with stakeholders and publish in-depth case studies that demonstrate the range of communities and organizations served, and the kinds of impact experienced.

Emergency Operating Funding. While the Building for Equity program provides an element for capital project emergency funding, the implementation plan does not contain a program for emergency operating needs. The answer to the question of what funding exists in the implementation plan and what 4Culture's policies say on this topic was previously provided in the section at the end of the staff report with responses to the September 3rd Regional Policy Committee Questions. In summary, 4Culture identified that the operating support grants can be used for a cultural organization's most emergent needs. 4Culture's policies for emergency funding balance the cultural sector's needs for stability, equity, and sustainability.

Because committee members have expressed interest in an emergency operating support program that would function with a rolling application deadline like the emergency capital program, Council staff engaged with 4Culture about that possibility. In response, 4Culture expressed that they must balance supporting organizations in operational crisis with their role to equitably support the entire cultural sector and keep within the grant award requirements in their Charter, the King County Code, and state law. 4Culture also noted that in their community engagement work, they heard the cultural sector asking for equitable access to increased operating support and not for one-time crisis funding. Ultimately, they do not recommend that emergency operating funding be set aside for organizations in crisis.

Implementation of the Public School Access Program. Some cultural organizations have communicated concerns to committee members about the potential burden on both busy educators and on smaller cultural organizations to initiate the process of finding one another and planning educational programming. In response, 4Culture has communicated that they are doing all they can to reduce the administrative burden for both schools and cultural organizations to participate in the program. To that end,

4Culture has hired a Cultural Education Program Manager who will be working not only to matchmake educators and cultural organizations but also to provide them with technical assistance as they develop their partnership agreements and Memoranda of Understanding. The program manager has professional experience managing school partnerships as well as working within a school district as a cultural educator. Whether to accept this current arrangement or to make more prescriptive changes to 4Culture's role in the public school access program is a policy choice.

Prior Capital Expenditures. Councilmembers raised the issue of eligible capital expenses for the Doors Open Building for Equity capital program, inquiring about the feasibility of making costs incurred up to two years prior to the application eligible for reimbursement. Any reimbursements for prior spending would have to be limited to costs incurred after January 1, 2024, the effective date of the Doors Open ordinance.

Currently, 4Culture's institutional practice is to act as a "first-in" funder for capital facility projects. By providing funding for new projects, 4Culture is able to play a unique role in catalyzing development of cultural infrastructure, enabling projects to move from conception to reality, and helping cultural organizations leverage additional resources. 4Culture notes that there are many funders that focus on close-out or "cross-the-line" investments, so by serving as a "first-in" funder, 4Culture is fulfilling a gap in cultural funding. Additionally, because the Building for Equity program has an annual application cycle, once a project has gotten off the ground, the grantee can continue applying year after year until project completion.

Interest in making prior expenses eligible for reimbursement in Doors Open Building for Culture came about due to interest in aligning the program to the Building for the Arts program administered by the Washington State Department of Commerce. The Building for the Arts program is a three-year grant cycle that allows applicants to request reimbursement for eligible costs incurred up two years prior to the application deadline. According to a representative from Commerce, the rationale for allowing applicants to seek reimbursement for prior expenses is due to the length of time between funding cycles and the amount of time it can take for projects to receive funding. For example, for the 2025-2027 Building for the Arts cycle, applications closed in June 2024, and recommended projects will need to be included in Commerce's 2025-2027 Capital Budget request, which then must be approved for inclusion in the Governor's 2025-2027 budget request, which then must be approved by the 2025 legislature. Once projects have been approved in the adopted capital budget, grant awardees can only begin drawing down the awarded funding when all the other money needed to complete the project has been raised. The next round of applications begins two years later, with a deadline in mid-2026. This is a fundamentally different approach from 4Culture's capital grant program, which, as noted above, provides "first in" funding, has an annual application cycle, and provides award notifications and invoicing within a few months of the application deadline.

Whether to make prior expenditures eligible for Doors Open Building for Equity grant awards is a policy choice.

Criteria for Awarding Proceeds. The Doors Open ordinance directed that the Doors Open Program include evaluation of grant applications by a set of criteria. For the 2024

capital and operating grants, the Doors Open ordinance established those evaluation criteria. For the 2025-2031 programs, 4Culture was required to establish those evaluation criteria in the implementation plan. Provided below is a table that summarizes the proposed criteria to evaluate applications for each Doors Open program.

Table 3. Doors Open Program Criteria

	2024 Capital	2024 Oper.	Oper. Support	Public School Cultural Access	Public Free Access	Facilities	Capacity Building	Equip.	Native Cultural Facilities	Landmarks Capital	Emergency/ Unforeseen	Countywide Initiatives	Launch
Quality	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Qualifications	✓					✓	✓						
Feasibility	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Project Impact	✓					✓		✓			✓		
Public Benefit	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓		
Equity	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Economic Impact	✓	✓											
Resilience		✓	✓		✓								
Discipline or Program Specific Priorities		✓	✓		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓
Impact							✓						
Under Development				✓					✓				

Based on the implementation plan and responses from 4Culture, these evaluation criteria would be defined in the following way:

- **Quality:** the thought and reasoning the applicant has put into the project planning. This criterion may also include how community input has informed the applicant's needs assessment and the prioritization of project outcomes. For capital grant applications, this criterion includes how the project relates to the applicant's ability to secure or improve facilities in the future, as well as how the facility project is designed to help an applicant fulfill their organizational mission and address social, economic, and/or environmental challenges.
- **Qualifications:** the applicant's ability to assemble a qualified and prepared project team.
- **Feasibility:** the applicant's ability to administer and complete the project within the budgetary, logistical, and time constraints described in the application.
- **Project Impact:** For programming grants, how the project will create positive change to meet the needs of the communities being served. For capital projects, how the project will increase access to cultural facilities.
- **Public Benefit:** a description of the public benefits from the Doors Open ordinance that the applicant would provide through programs, activities, and services.

- **Equity:** the applicant's focus on marginalized communities, especially communities that are disproportionately impacted by structural racism. Advancing equity is not a requirement for funding.
- **Economic Impact:** how the applicant's project enhances the local economy, including staff and contractors employed, volunteer hours and in-kind donations leveraged, and other economic multipliers that accrue to King County.
- **Resilience:** the applicant has clearly stated plans to remain in operation, has demonstrated organizational adaptability to changes in the community, and shown responsiveness to the community's needs.
- **Discipline-specific or program-specific priorities:** Priorities that are specific to each cultural discipline or program that will be identified and listed in the guidelines for each application. These priorities may change from application cycles through a process involving 4Culture staff, advisory committees, and the 4Culture Board. An example is the arts priority of "artistic substance" for an operating grant that would evaluate how an applicant provides services that are robust, creative, and engaging with the community.
- **Impact:** how the work described in the application would affect the applicant's future sustainability and ability to improve or secure facilities. This criterion would also include how the community would benefit from program investments.

The Public School Cultural Access program is still under development so the criteria to evaluate grant applications will also be developed as part of that effort. The criteria for Native Cultural Facilities are also under development. 4Culture has conveyed that the Native Cultural Facilities Advisory Council should complete the funding criteria by December 2024. The Native Cultural Facilities Advisory Council is a group of five community-based professionals with deep ties or personal experience with the Native community, experience in community-based projects, equitable funding platforms or grant-making program development, neighborhood, community, and/or facility project development, and cultural organizations.

Whether to accept as proposed, modify, or further define the program criteria is a policy consideration.

Unallocated 2024 Revenues and Reserves. The Doors Open ordinance set the use for 2024 revenues in the following way:

- Up to 2% for repayment of start-up funding;
- Up to 3% for administrative costs;
- Up to 67% for the 2024 one-time capital and one-time operating support program; and
- The remainder (at least 28%) for the 2025-2031 Doors Open programs at the percentages provided in the program descriptions found in the ordinance.

Executive staff provided that the 67% allocation for 2024 programs was a relatively conservative amount. This approach was meant to ensure that programs did not overcommit first year funds in case of sales tax volatility and also so that the programs would have cash on hand for the grant commitments. According to Executive staff, the current financial plan for the Doors Open fund, which is found in the Executive's proposed 2025 budget, shows a 2024 ending fund balance of \$16.4 million. According

to 4Culture's 2025 Comprehensive Financial Plan, approximately \$20 million of 2024 Doors Open money is uncommitted. This \$16-\$20 million is the unallocated 2024 revenues that the Doors Open ordinance designated for eventually supporting 2025-2031 programs.

While this \$16-20 million could be allocated for program expenses in 2025-2031, committee members have also asked if this money could be used in two different ways. The first way would be to increase the allocations for 2024 one-time capital and operating awards. This policy choice would require an amendment to the Doors Open ordinance. 4Culture staff have also expressed potential timing issues with adding to the 2024 revenues. 2024 applications are already under review and panelists would need to know the total available funding by October 25th for capital projects and November 5th for operating support by the very latest. 4Culture indicated that it would be particularly difficult to equitably add money after that date to the capital project program. This is because panelists who are evaluating applications need to understand the entire pool of funding available as they deliberate on the percentages to award to projects.

Besides increasing allocations for 2024 awards, the second proposal for using the unallocated \$16-\$20 million would be to create a reserve for the Doors Open fund. Executive staff have noted that County policy encourages the establishment of reserve funds and could be used in this case to protect against unexpected fluctuations in sales tax revenues. Creating a reserve could be feasible under the current Doors Open Ordinance as long as when money is expended from the fund, it is expended according to the purposes and percentages found in the ordinance.

Beyond the question of feasibility, Executive staff and 4Culture have also considered the amount of reserve and whether the County or 4Culture would ultimately hold it. In response to the question of how much reserve to establish, Executive staff reviewed both current County policy and historic sales tax data. While County policy guidance on rainy day reserves encourages a reserve of 30-90 days' worth of expenditures, this would set aside between \$8 million and \$25 million. Executive staff also examined sales tax data back to 1980 and compared the baseline forecast from the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis to scenarios that ranged from a national recession to above average economic growth. Based on the pessimistic scenario of a national recession, Executive staff ultimately recommended a reserve between \$6 million and \$10 million.

4Culture has expressed support for creating a reserve and also shared that the agency has its own reserve policy, which dates back to 2021 and the return of lodging tax revenues for arts and culture. This policy protects 4Culture and King County's cultural resources during times of economic uncertainty and natural disasters. While the 4Culture policy generally addresses internal operations and debt service obligations, it does contain the way that 4Culture calculates the amount of reserve. 4Culture staff annually calculate their reserve by adding the full cost of debt service, 50 percent of the estimated operating costs including staff salaries and expenses related to the physical plan and day-to-day business, and five percent of estimated annual lodging tax revenue for programmatic contingencies. Since Doors Open does not currently have debt service, using just the 50 percent of administrative costs and five percent of annual programming for the 2025 Doors Open projection to estimate a Doors Open reserve

produces a reserve of approximately \$6.2 million. This estimate shows general concurrence with the Executive's proposal of reserving between \$6 and \$10 million.

Besides the amount of reserve to set aside, there is also the policy choice of which organization maintains the reserve. The reserve could be held either by the County in the Doors Open fund or directly by 4Culture. As noted previously, 4Culture establishes their own reserve for lodging tax and King County does not maintain a reserve for arts and culture in the County's lodging tax fund. Continuing this precedent in the Doors Open fund would mean that 4Culture would hold the reserve.

ANALYSIS FROM PRIOR STAFF REPORTS

This section provides staff analysis of the transmitted implementation plan as follows:

- Doors Open Ordinance Requirements
- Implementation Plan Overview
 - 4Culture's Plan to Provide Technical Assistance and Outreach
- 2024 Programs
- Sustained Support Program
- Public School Cultural Access Program
- Public Free Access Program
- Building for Equity Program
- Countywide Initiatives Program
- Launch Program
- Vulnerable Populations and Communities Outside of Seattle Allocations
- Doors Open Assessment Report
- Potential Policy Issues
- Responses to Questions Raised in Committee
- Review Schedule

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0236 would approve the King County Doors Open Program Implementation Plan. The plan would govern expenditures of the estimated \$100 million annual revenues for the Doors Open Program between 2025 and 2031, in accordance with state law and the Doors Open ordinance. The Doors Open Program is intended to expand public benefit outcomes and economic support for arts, science, and heritage organizations.

The Doors Open ordinance requires that the implementation plan be mandatorily referred to the Regional Policy Committee. The implementation plan must be approved by the Council by ordinance prior to spending any Doors Open revenues other than start-up funding and funding for the 2024 one-time program.

For 2025 – 2031, the Doors Open ordinance allocates funding to the uses shown in Table 2.

**Table 2. Annual Doors Open Allocations – 2025 through First Quarter 2031
(Based on an Assumed Annual Collection of approximately \$100M)**

Administrative costs	Up to 3%	\$3,000,000
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Doors Open Programs	Approx. 72%	\$72,000,000
• Public school cultural access	Approx. 15%	\$10,800,000
• Launch funding for new/emerging organizations	Approx. 3%	\$2,250,000
• Countywide initiatives/projects	Approx. 7%	\$5,040,000
• Building for Equity (capital projects and equipment)	Approx. 10%	\$7,200,000
• Free public access to cultural experiences	Approx. 15%	\$10,800,000
• Operating support (e.g., rent, utilities, etc.)	Approx. 50%	\$36,000,000
Increasing capacity in geographic areas with less access (outside established cultural centers³⁰)	Approx. 25%	\$25,000,000

Additionally, the Doors Open ordinance requires that at least ten percent of the Doors Open program, or approximately \$9.7 million, be allocated to support cultural organizations that serve vulnerable populations, organizations located within Communities of Opportunity (COOs), and organizations providing mentoring services to organizations serving vulnerable populations and COOs. According to the Doors Open ordinance, vulnerable populations includes, but is not limited to, veterans, seniors, unhoused individuals or individuals at risk of becoming unhoused, individuals experiencing mental illness or substance use disorders, individuals with disabilities, households with an annual household income at or below eighty percent of the area median income, survivors of domestic violence, communities at risk of gun violence, or justice-system impacted youth or youth at risk of being impacted by the justice system.

It is important to note that the allocations shown in Table 2 are based on revenue projections from August 2023, when the Doors Open program was being developed. Actual allocations will be based on the revenue 4Culture receives, and because sales tax revenue fluctuates based on economic conditions, the Doors Open revenue will fluctuate over the life of the program. According to 4Culture, the Doors Open program design prioritized allocating money to programming and did not establish a reserve fund to help stabilize annual funding levels.

Doors Open Ordinance Requirements. The Doors Open ordinance requires that the implementation plan include the following:

- Itemization of start-up funding costs incurred or planned by 4Culture or King County;
- Guidelines for eligible expenditures for each Doors Open program, consistent with state law³¹ and the Doors Open ordinance;
- Summary of the Doors Open programs and allocations;
- Criteria for awarding proceeds;

³⁰ To 4Culture's knowledge, Seattle is the only city that currently meets the definition of an established cultural center.

³¹ RCW 36.160

- Public benefit reporting framework, including standards for cultural organization reporting;
- A description of the annual application, panel, and approval process for awarding grants;
- A description of the grant contract and payment process; and
- A description of the Doors Open program's countywide plan to provide expertise, administrative assistance, and outreach.

Specific to the public school access program, the Doors Open ordinance also requires the implementation plan to include:

- Goals, priorities, and process for delivering the elements of the program, including the list of education programs offered by cultural organizations, funding for cultural education programs, and funding for public school transportation to cultural education experiences; and
- Start-up timeline, communications strategy, and roles of school districts, school teachers, cultural organizations, and 4Culture in planning and delivery.

Finally, the Doors Open ordinance requires a Doors Open Program Assessment Report that meets the following requirements for addressing the effectiveness of the Doors Open Program funding:

- Expanding cultural organizations' operations, offers of discounted and free admission, public school cultural access, and supporting newly built and expanded cultural facilities;
- Advancing equitable access to cultural organizations throughout King County and removing barriers to access faced by segments of the county population;
- Fostering creation and development of new cultural organizations throughout King County, reducing geographic barriers, and improving access; and
- Supporting the growth and development of cultural centers throughout King County.

Other requirements for the Assessment Report include:

- Overview of the evaluation personnel involved, the evaluation methodology, and methods for interpreting qualification and quantitative data;
- Fiscal data on distribution of Doors Open Program revenue, including a breakdown of spending by council district and zip code, and comparison of actuals against planned expenditures;
- Data and findings for the public school cultural access program;
- Data and findings for awards to organizations serving communities that face cultural and economic barriers to access;
- Data and findings on the sustainability and growth of cultural organizations outside of Seattle, the city with the highest concentration of arts and cultural organizations in King County; and
- Identification of any proposed changes to the Doors Open Program panel process, eligibility guidelines, or reporting requirements.

The Doors Open Implementation Plan is required to provide a timeline for providing the Doors Open Program Assessment Report to the Executive and the Council.

Implementation Plan Overview. The Doors Open Implementation Plan provides the priorities and processes for 4Culture’s administration of Doors Open Program funding. According to 4Culture, development of the implementation plan was informed by outreach conducted between January and June 2024 that included 35 in-person gatherings, three online informational sessions (available with ASL interpretation and translated into Spanish), and 14 gatherings with cultural leader groups.

The Doors Open Implementation Plan describes how 4Culture will build upon the agency’s existing programs and practices to meet Doors Open goals of expanding the reach and offerings of cultural organizations and the benefits they provide to the public. The implementation plan includes a Plan-on-a-Page that shows an overview of the Doors Open program areas, including allocations, anticipated reach, and key program features.

The implementation plan also describes the six Doors Open programs that will be the basis for allocating funding to arts, heritage, preservation, and scientific organizations according to the Doors Open ordinance requirements. The programs include Sustained Support, Public School Cultural Access, Public Free Access, Building for Equity, Countywide Initiatives, and Launch. A summary and timeline of the Doors Open Assessment Report is also included in the implementation plan.

4Culture's Plan to Provide Technical Assistance and Outreach. The implementation plan describes 4Culture's plan to leverage the agency's existing infrastructure to provide expertise, administrative assistance, and outreach to cultural organizations. 4Culture plans to continue the agency's practice of working with the agency's grant managers to identify outreach strategies, including targeted outreach to underserved communities, Black and Indigenous communities, and language communities, to increase the number of grant applications above previous applicant pools. 4Culture also plans to continue offering technical assistance to potential grant applicants including conducting online and in-person grant application workshops, and a grant resource webpage.

Also, anticipating that the cultural sector growth that Doors Open will precipitate, the implementation plan states that 4Culture intends to provide additional support to help organizations manage the risks and opportunities associated with increased funding. This would include maintaining a consultant roster and allocation of consultant hours for eligible cultural organizations, allowing organizations to receive assistance on topics such as financial emergency planning, strategic planning, and fundraising and development.

The implementation plan also describes 4Culture's efforts to place a special focus on outreach to science and technology cultural organizations, since that will be a new funding area for 4Culture due to the scope of Doors Open. 4Culture formed a Science and Technology Group in January 2024 to inform development of 4Culture's science and technology funding programs. The group consists of representatives or local science organizations intended to represent various disciplines, organization sizes, and geographic regions.

2024 Programs. The Doors Open program sets aside up to 72 percent of the estimated \$72 million 2024 Doors Open tax proceeds to go towards one-time Doors Open capital and operating grant programs.³² According to the Doors Open ordinance, 4Culture was to begin outreach and technical support for potential applicants in August 2024, with awards to be finalized and announced by the end of 2024.

The transmitted implementation plan states that an anticipated \$24.1 million will be available for the one-time 2024 capital grant program, and an additional \$24.1 million will be available for the one-time operating program. These anticipated program amounts are based on revenue projections, whereas final program funding amounts will be based on actual revenues.

One-Time Capital Grant Program. This program will provide grant funding for building, modifying, and acquiring cultural facilities. As required by the Doors Open ordinance, the grant program is broken down into three categories: 1) projects with budgets over \$10 million, 2) projects with budgets between \$1 and 10 million, and 3) projects with budgets of less than \$1 million. 4Culture anticipates being able to fund the top scoring 10 – 20 percent of applications in each category.

The Doors Open ordinance required that the applications be reviewed by peer panels, and that the applications be scored based on the criteria of quality, feasibility, equity, and project impact, including increasing access to cultural facilities. According to the transmitted implementation plan, 4Culture also added economic impact to the evaluation criteria. As required by the Doors Open ordinance, for both the 2024 capital and operating programs, 4Culture will allocate a minimum of 25 percent to support cultural organizations outside of Seattle, and a minimum of 10 percent to cultural organizations and activities that support vulnerable populations and Communities of Opportunity.³³

The transmitted implementation plan includes a description of the annual application, panel, and approval process for awards and of the grant contract and payment process, as required by Doors Open ordinance. Payments will be provided to awardees on a reimbursement basis. 4Culture intends to use the agency's existing administrative process for both the 2024 capital and operating programs, adding the inclusion of Executive and Council appointed members to the grant application peer review panels as required by the Doors Open ordinance.

³² The remaining 28 percent of 2024 revenues will be allocated to the 2025 – 2031 Doors Open program.

³³ Ordinance 19710 defines this requirement as "(1) cultural organizations, which in fulfilling their primary purpose, focus their programming or facilities to serve one or more vulnerable populations, such as, but not limited to, veterans, seniors, unhoused individuals or individuals at risk of becoming unhoused, individuals experiencing mental illness or substance use disorders, individuals with disabilities, households with an annual income at or below eighty percent of the area median income, survivors of domestic violence, communities at risk of gun violence, or justice-system impacted youth or youth at risk of being impacted by the justice system; or

(2) cultural organizations with their primary locations and conducting a majority of their activities within census tracts ranked in certain percentiles on the Communities of Opportunity composite index [of 60 percent or greater]; or

(3) cultural organizations for providing mentoring services to such cultural organizations."

In addition to the Doors Open ordinance administrative requirements, 4Culture included several discretionary implementation elements, including:

- Requiring applicants to show an ongoing commitment to racial equity and equitable development;
- Requiring applicants for projects with budgets over \$10 million to meet a cultural space contribution, providing space or technical assistance to smaller cultural organizations;
- Due to the amount of funding available and the anticipated number of applicants, capping awards to up to 100 percent of project costs for first \$250,000, 50 percent of project costs between \$250,000 and \$1 million, 15 percent of project costs between \$1 million and \$10 million, and 5 percent of project costs over \$10 million, and capping the maximum awards at \$2.5 million for projects with budgets over \$10 million;
- Providing bonuses to base award amounts for projects that advance equity or support growing cultural resources outside of Seattle; and
- Prioritizing projects that could begin construction within two years.

The discretionary equity requirements 4Culture intends to include in administering the Doors Open one-time capital grant program are the same equity requirements 4Culture uses in administering the agency's existing Building for Equity capital grant program.

One-Time Operating Grant Program. This program will provide one-time operating grants to support cultural organizations in meeting ongoing needs such as rent, utilities, payroll, and other expenses. Grant applications will be broken into categories of heritage, historic preservation, arts, and science and technology. 4Culture anticipates approximately 700 applicants, of which all qualified cultural organizations will receive a portion of the available \$24.1 million funding.

Similar to the 2024 capital grant program, grant applications will be reviewed by peer panels and grouped by cultural discipline. Award amounts will be based on the operating budget of the organization, the panel score, and potential bonuses for advancing equity and geographic inclusion.

Applications will be scored based on the criteria required by the Doors Open ordinance, which are stability, public benefit, equity, and artistic substance. In addition, according to the proposed implementation plan, 4Culture will include economic impact as a scoring criterion.

The transmitted plan includes a description the annual application, panel, and approval process for awards and of the grant contract and payment process similar to that of the 2024 capital grant program. For the operating program, in order to receive payment, grant recipients will provide a public benefit report that matches the intended public benefits described in that organization's application and grant contract.

Sustained Support Program. The first of the six 2025-2031 programs that is described in the implementation plan is "Sustained Support."³⁴ The following sections will analyze the implementation plan's responsiveness to the requirements from the Doors Open Ordinance.

Summary of the program and allocation. The summary of the Sustained Support program describes "multi-year grants for operating funds to cultural organizations" with the objective of meeting ongoing needs. Although the implementation plan indicates that this funding is for "operations, including assistance with rent, utilities, payroll, and other basic annual expenses," the plan also describes this support as "funds for unrestricted operating expenses." The language around "unrestricted operating expenses" aligns with the existing Sustained Support program that is funded by lodging tax revenue. This operating support will be offered in four discipline areas: Heritage, Historic Preservation, Arts, and Science and Technology. The estimated annual allocation for this program is \$48.5 million.³⁵ This is the largest allocation of Doors Open program funding and, similar to the 2024 operating program, 4Culture estimates that approximately 700 organizations across the four disciplines will apply each award cycle.

Criteria for Awarding Proceeds. 4Culture intends to use both minimum operating history and a set of evaluation criteria to evaluate applications. The minimum operating history is a component of the existing lodging tax funded Sustained Support program.³⁶ The following table summarizes those criteria.

**Table 3.
Criteria for Awarding Operating Support Proceeds**

	Heritage	Historic Preservation	Arts	Science & Technology
Minimum Operating History	2 years	2 years	3 years	None
Evaluation Criteria	Resilience	Resilience	Resilience	Resilience

³⁴ Although "Sustained Support" is a term that 4Culture uses to describe operational support, Ordinance 19710 uses the term "operating support."

³⁵ Using the allocation amounts in Ordinance 19710, \$36 million should be allocated to operating support. 4Culture staff included a portion of the funding for projects outside Seattle in their calculations, so the implementation plan shows \$48.5 million for Sustained Support. 4Culture has opted to include the funding for projects outside Seattle in all programs and directed review panels to meet the minimum requirements for projects outside Seattle and programming for Communities of Opportunity.

³⁶ The operating history minimums are described in K.C.C. 2.48.

	Heritage	Historic Preservation	Arts	Science & Technology
	Public Benefit	Public Benefit	Public Benefit	Public Benefit
	Equity	Equity	Equity	Equity
	Heritage Priorities	Preservation Priorities	Artistic Substance	Science and Technology Priorities

The definitions of resilience, public benefit, and equity appear in the 2024 section of the implementation plan. The discipline-specific priorities are not defined in the plan. 4Culture staff have expressed that priorities will be identified for each funding cycle through a process involving staff, the advisory committees, and the 4Culture Board. The priorities will be listed in the application guidelines for each discipline. For example, the Arts priority for the 2025 application cycle is focused on artistic substance and whether the artistic services are "robust, creative, and engage with your community."³⁷

Description of the application and process for awarding grants. For Sustained Support funding to heritage, historic preservation, and arts organizations, 4Culture proposes to use the agency's existing application and award process. 4Culture staff have indicated that cultural organizations from these disciplines will submit one application for Sustained Support grants, and funding will be awarded from lodging tax and Doors Open revenues based on the applicant's eligibility. 4Culture will be responsible for maintaining the administrative firewalls between the funding sources as well as ensuring an organization's eligibility for each revenue source.

Although the Doors Open ordinance uses the term "annual application" in the requirements for all Doors Open Programs and the implementation plan mentions both a biennial and three-year award cycle, 4Culture indicated that the agency is proposing that Sustained Support would be on a three-year award cycle. This would be an adjustment from the two-year award cycle of 4Culture's existing Sustained Support program. The code that governs the established Sustained Support programs instituted them as two-year grant cycles.³⁸ Legal analysis of Sustained Support grant cycle requirement is still ongoing. Ultimately, while the Doors Open Ordinance allows 4Culture to set the guidelines for that funding, it would still be a policy choice for Doors Open Sustained Support to move to a three-year award cycle.

4Culture staff have confirmed the intent to move to a triennial cycle as a response to cultural organizations' desires to make longer-term planning decisions around Doors Open funding as well as to reduce the administrative burden on organizations of applying for grants. At the same time, 4Culture staff have acknowledged the greater

³⁷ "Arts Sustained Support," 4Culture website ([Link](#))

³⁸ K.C.C 2.48.108 and K.C.C.109 established the Sustained Support program for the arts and heritage respectively.

impact of a three-year grant cycle for organizations that miss the application window. To mitigate that risk, 4Culture staff indicated that there will be an application period in late 2025 for organizations that miss out on the first of the three-year funding cycle.

One final consideration for a three-year grant cycle is how awards would account for fluctuations in Doors Open revenue receipts compared to projections. There is no allocation in the Doors Open ordinance for a funding reserve. Therefore, a significant downward adjustment in the sales tax revenues that support Doors Open over the potential three-year award timespan could result in the need for 4Culture to reduce the amount awarded to cultural organizations. 4Culture has noted that all award contracts include clauses that state the awards are subject to tax collection that would allow for adjustments if revenues were below projections. Analysis around this consideration is ongoing.

The implementation plan indicates that in a typical award cycle, 4Culture Program Managers will first review applications to ensure eligibility. Then the application is reviewed by a panel of peer reviewers. The panel will make an award recommendation based on:

- The cultural organization's budget size;
- An additional award based on panel scoring;
- A possible additional geographic investment based on the organization's location; and
- A possible additional equity investment based on the scoring of the equity criterion.

For science and technology applications, community panels will review the applications and will make award recommendations based on an organization's annual program expenses. Additionally, applicants from outside Seattle, those serving a Community of Opportunity, with the smallest operating budgets or exhibiting indicators correlated with limited access to funding may receive an equity investment that increases the grant award.

All award recommendations would be sent to a discipline-specific advisory committee and then onto the 4Culture board for final approval.

Public Benefit Reporting Framework and the Description of the Grant Contract and Payment Process. The implementation plan states that "Public benefit reporting is directly tied to 4Culture's contract and payment process." In order to complete a grant contract, a cultural organization must document the public benefits the organization expects to provide. After delivering the cultural programming, the organization submits payment requests and once again reports on the benefits in public facing activities. The payment process also provides grantees the opportunity to provide participation numbers, a narrative of activities, and any other documentation required for payment.

Public School Cultural Access Program. The second of the six 2025 programs in the implementation plan is the Public School Cultural Access Program. This program has unique requirements in the Doors Open ordinance because of the specific requirements in state law.³⁹ Those requirements and how the implementation plan responds to them are described in the following sections.

Overall Summary of the Program. The proposed implementation plan provides a summary of the program to boost student access to cultural experiences. All 19 school districts in King County would have access to an online roster of cultural organizations that provide either on-site or off-site cultural education programs. Funding would be provided to both cultural organizations for the programming and to schools that meet the criteria for free transportation. The implementation plan identifies \$14.6 million as the estimated annual allocation for this program. 4Culture estimates that 350 cultural organizations across all disciplines are expected to apply for annual funding.

Description of Goals, Priorities, and the process for the Delivery of the List of Education Programs required by State Law. The implementation plan details a list of the Doors Open ordinance-required goals and priorities for establishing the list, or roster, of cultural education programs. The goals for developing the roster include:

- Enable teachers and other school staff to find science, arts, and heritage education programs that align with their classroom and school learning goals.
- Enable teachers and other school staff to find science, arts, and heritage education programs from organizations that reflect their school communities.
- Provide information and support to teachers and other school staff that reduces their barriers to initiating, planning, and implementing cultural field trips and partnerships.
- Provide information and support to cultural organizations that reduce their barriers to engaging with public schools.
- Provide a basis for establishing sustained relationships between schools and cultural partners for the benefit of students.

The priorities from the implementation plan for developing the roster include:

- Educators will be able to search and filter to find science, arts, and heritage programs that meet their specific learning goals and time parameters.
- Educators will be able to clearly know if their school is eligible for free transportation funding to offsite cultural experiences. They will also know what the process is for requesting free transportation through their district.
- Cultural organizations will be able to provide descriptive program information for the roster so that educators have a clear sense of the value and requirements of each program.
- Cultural organizations will be able to update their program information on the roster at least annually.

³⁹ RCW 36.160.110 ([Link](#))

- New cultural organizations will be able to add programs to the roster at least annually.

The process for delivering the roster of cultural programming is also described in a four-step outline. The first step in the process is outreach from 4Culture to cultural organizations to get those organizations to submit entries for the roster. The second step is 4Culture reviewing the submissions for eligibility. If organizations meet the Doors Open requirements, they would provide programming information so 4Culture can build out the programming roster. Finally, 4Culture would also collect some information from schools to help facilitate communication between schools and cultural organizations.

Description of Goals, Priorities, and the process for the Funding Cultural Education Programs. While neither state law nor the Doors Open ordinance appears to require funding cultural organizations for educational programming as part of the Public School Cultural Access Program, the implementation plan does provide goals, priorities, and a grant process for this. The stated goal in the plan is to sustain, deepen, and extend the partnerships between cultural organizations and schools. The priorities include clear communication to develop a plan that meets students' learning needs and for 4Culture to gather data that would allow the organization to both improve the process and study the impact of increased cultural access for students.

The process proposed for funding cultural education programs would begin with a teacher or other school staff contacting a cultural organization to begin the procedure. The school staff and organization would then complete a memorandum of understanding (MOU) through the 4Culture website that would gather the necessary data on the type of learning experience and number of students. Once the MOU is agreed upon and signed, the cultural organization could apply for a grant for the programming. 4Culture intends to design a panel review process for grant applications that would meet the scheduling needs of schools, but those details have not yet been determined. Upon completion of the programming, both the cultural organization and the teacher would be surveyed to confirm the programming occurred and to gather feedback. The cultural organization would then be able to submit an invoice for the cost of the programming.

Description of Goals, Priorities, and the process for the Delivery of Funding for Music and Arts Education in Schools in addition to Basic Education Funding. 4Culture staff have expressed that the implementation plan addresses this requirement by directly funding the cultural organizations that can provide educational programming to public school students. As part of the first phase of this program, 4Culture staff intend to develop a baseline of cultural programs being offered to schools and plan to use that to compare with future program data to measure any increase in cultural programming.

Description of Goals, Priorities, and the process for the Delivery of the Funding for Transportation required by State Law. The implementation plan describes the goals and priorities for funding public school transportation. In accordance with state law, the program prioritizes transportation funding for all school districts with at least 40 percent

of the student population eligible for federal free and reduced-price school meals (FRL).⁴⁰ The plan also expresses the goal that if funds are sufficient, all schools with 40 percent or more FRL rates, regardless of overall school district FRL rates, will receive funding. Moreover, there is a goal for all schools that face significant transportation costs due to their distance from cultural centers to receive transportation funding.

While the goals and priorities are clear, the process for delivery of the funding for transportation identified in the implementation plan is less clear. The plan notes that there are various transportation models in the 19 school districts within King County, and 4Culture staff will design a system that is appropriate for each district. The tentative start-up timeline depicted transportation design occurring concurrent with transmittal of the implementation plan. Because of this timing, it is also unclear how the process for transportation funding would prioritize funding for school districts with 40 percent FRL rates with the yet to be determined process for reviewing applications for both transportation and cultural programming funding.

Description of Start-up Timeline, Communications Strategy, and Respective Roles. The implementation plan contains a tentative start-up timeline that covers the 10-month period from May 2024 through February 2025. The timeline contains a summarized list of actions with the respective month for each action that takes the program from stakeholder engagement through roster buildout, testing and launch.

The implementation plan also contains a communication strategy that covers two time periods: program design in 2024 and program launch in 2025. The program design communication strategy focuses on understanding barriers both schools and cultural organizations have faced, what has previously worked well in partnerships between educators and cultural organizations, and identifying the information needed to build out the cultural organization roster. The strategy for 2025 focuses on engaging with educators and cultural organizations to inform them about the program and opportunities as well as raising the awareness of the general public.

The implementation plan also fulfills the ordinance requirement of identifying "respective roles that school districts, teachers, cultural organizations' education programs, and 4Culture will have in planning and delivery of the public school cultural access program." The tables contained in the plan delineate that:

- School districts will help inform program design and support communication to school staff.
- Teachers will inform program design, utilize the roster to arrange programming for students, work with cultural partners to develop a plan for programming, and complete surveys after the programming has been completed.
- Cultural organizations will inform program design, provide data for the roster, collaborate with school staff to develop plans for programming, provide programming, complete surveys afterwards, and receive funding.

⁴⁰ The first item bulleted list at the bottom of page 32 of the transmitted implementation plan appears to have a typo. That item should state "All school districts with 40%+ FRL rates have access to transportation funds."

- 4Culture will conduct engagement to inform program design, then design and maintain the website, roster and funding mechanisms for the program, and also foster relationships between schools and cultural organizations.

Public Benefit Reporting Framework. The transmitted implementation plan includes a framework for public benefit reporting that appears to meet the Doors Open ordinance requirement. The framework identifies the general public benefit, equity inclusion, and geographic inclusion benefits that cultural partners are most likely going to provide in order to satisfy Doors Open requirements. The framework also describes that data will be collected through the MOU that cultural organizations will need to receive funding for programming. The MOU process will gather data to illustrate the public benefits to school students, educators, and the cultural organizations using the initial list of 16 metrics.

Public Free Access Program. The third of the six programs beginning in 2025 that is described in the implementation plan is Public Free Access. The following sections will describe how the program description in the plan responds to the requirements from the Doors Open Ordinance.

Summary of the program and allocation. The implementation plan describes how the program would reimburse cultural organizations for free and reduced-cost access to increase access to cultural offerings by reducing the barrier that admissions fees present to many residents. The estimated annual allocation is \$14.6 million. 4Culture estimates that 300 organizations will apply annually for this funding.

Criteria for Awarding Proceeds. The implementation plan contains five criteria for awarding proceeds to cultural organizations under this program. The criteria require that the cultural experience is:

- Mission-based and engages the attendee in the mission;
- Identical to the experience to attendees paying the standard admission fee;
- Produced by the applicant organization;
- Open and advertised to the public such that anyone who wishes to attend may do so; and
- In-person at venues in the county where attendance counts are taken.

Description of the application and process for awarding grants. The transmitted implementation plan describes an application process that would include using the Sustained Support application process as a means of pre-qualifying eligible cultural organizations for the Free Access program. The stated intent behind this method is to reduce the burden of applying to multiple programs, as was required in the Doors Open ordinance, as well as a strategy to ensure equitable access to funding. Organizations that are deemed eligible for the Free Access program would then complete a short application that describes the number and documentation method for free and reduced cost attendees in the previous year, the plan for current year experiences where free and reduced cost programming will be offered and how the organization will prioritize free and reduced access for members of underserved communities.

The plan states that grants for the current year are based on the attendance data from the previous year. 4Culture staff have expressed that this method greatly simplifies the application process for smaller organizations that may be reliant upon volunteers to write the grant applications. 4Culture staff believe that providing attendance from the prior year avoids the need for projections on programming, attendance, and revenues, and also reduces unclaimed grant awards that could happen with missed projections. Finally, 4Culture staff indicate that organizations that receive Public Free Access grants are also likely to be already receiving Sustained Support operating grants so that the combined support will allow even smaller organizations to expand their offerings for free access.

In addition to attendance-based application reviews, applicants that are located outside of Seattle, serving a Community of Opportunity, with a small budget, or having other indicators correlating to a limited access to funding may receive an equity investment increasing the grant amount over what would otherwise have been awarded. 4Culture staff indicate that an application question will ask how applicants plan to reach underserved communities as a means of both gathering this information and encouraging applicants to increase their accessibility to all communities in the county. While it appears that this increased equity investment should be used solely for funding free access, the implementation plan could be more explicit that it cannot be used as an operating support grant.

Public Benefit Reporting Framework and Description of the Grant Contract and Payment Process. Like the other Doors Open program areas, the transmitted implementation plan combines public benefit reporting with the payment process. In order to receive reimbursement, cultural organizations would have to provide data on the number of free or reduced-cost attendance provided. This data appears to be the only proposed method of tracking a cultural organization's provision of public benefits as no other reporting is included in the proposed implementation plan for this program. The grant contract process would be the same for the Free Public Access Program as for other Doors Open programs.

Building for Equity Program. The Doors Open Building for Equity cultural facilities program would include six grant categories by incorporating five capital grant programs 4Culture currently administers and creating one new grant category. According to the implementation plan, the estimated annual funding across for the Building for Equity program would be approximately \$9.7 million. The following sections will describe how the implementation plan responds to the requirements of the Doors Open ordinance.

Summary of the program and allocation. Building for Equity "encompasses 4Culture's facilities, facility-focused capacity building, and other capital grant programs. 4Culture's current Building for Equity initiative was built to center communities that have historically faced barriers to purchasing and stewarding cultural space, and provides a combination of funding, tailored support, and strategic partnerships."⁴¹ The Building for Equity program would include 4Culture's existing Capacity Building, Facilities, Equipment,

⁴¹ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 39.

Landmarks Capital, and Emergency/Unforeseen Capital programs and a new program, Native Cultural Facilities, focused on facilities that serve native communities and share native cultures. 4Culture estimates that 200 organizations across the arts, heritage, historic preservation, and science disciplines are expected to apply each award cycle.

Criteria for awarding proceeds. Table 4 summarizes the criteria for awarding proceeds for the six programs.

**Table 4.
Criteria for Awarding Proceeds**

Facilities	Capacity Building	Equipment	Native Cultural Facilities	Landmarks Capital	Emergency/Unforeseen
Quality and Qualifications	Quality and Qualifications	Quality	Currently Under Development	Quality	Quality
Feasibility	Feasibility	Feasibility		Feasibility	Feasibility
Project Impact and Public Benefit	Impact	Project Impact		Advancing Equity	Project Impact and Public Benefit
Advancing Equity	Advancing Equity	Advancing Equity		Program Priorities ⁴²	Emergency ⁴³ /Unforeseen Opportunity ⁴⁴
				Focus on rehabilitation of designated landmark property	

The transmitted implementation plan proposes to include Building for Equity additional eligibility requirements not included in the Doors Open ordinance. For the Facilities program, similar to the 2024 one-time capital program, the implementation plan would include an additional eligibility requirement for projects with budgets larger than \$10 million to demonstrate "commitment to Equity in Development and Construction Practices."⁴⁵ For the Capacity Building Program, a program designed to create a pathway for smaller organizations to advocate and plan for cultural facilities, the transmitted plan proposes that the program would only be available to organizations located in a Community of Opportunity, serving a vulnerable population, or located outside of Seattle or the organization's primary mission or programs supporting

⁴² The implementation plan notes that the "Program Priorities criterion allows the Landmarks Capital program to adapt to time-sensitive needs and specific gaps in funding for historic preservation" (pg. 40).

⁴³ Emergency criteria include: a pressing situation that would cause a facility or landmark to be threatened, or to suffer severe economic consequences due to conditions outside of the applicant's control; a threat to the safety of patrons or staff; catastrophic event or natural disaster.

⁴⁴ Unforeseen Opportunity criteria include: an opportunity that was not available at the time of the last application deadline and that will no longer be available to the applicant by the next application deadline; will allow an organization an unexpected opportunity to significantly advance its goals and mission.

⁴⁵ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 39.

historically marginalized communities. These eligibility requirements are consistent with 4Culture's current practices.

Description of the application and process for awarding grants. The implementation plan notes that each grant program and cycle have a different pool of applicants, and recommendations for awards would be made by separate panels of working professionals in the fields that 4Culture funds – representative of geography, organization size, and points of view. The panels would then recommend selected proposals to 4Culture's Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria described in the previous subsection. The 4Culture Board would approve the final list of awards. Emergency/Unforeseen Opportunity funds would be reviewed by the relevant 4Culture Advisory Committee, which would make a recommendation to the 4Culture Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

The implementation plan notes that the application and review process for Native Cultural Facilities funding is currently under development under the guidance of the Native Advisory Council. According to 4Culture staff, the Native Cultural Facilities Advisory Council is comprised of five community-based professionals with deep ties or personal experience with the Native community, experience in community-based projects, equitable funding platforms or grant-making program development, neighborhood, community, and facility project development, and cultural organizations. 4Culture staff anticipates the funding criteria to be completed in December 2024.

As with the other Doors Open programs, grant payments would be made via reimbursement. The implementation plan notes that there would be an open application period of 6-8 weeks with at least three workshops sharing the guidelines, criteria, application process, and engagement to community networks and media outlets.

Public benefit reporting. The implementation plan identifies the key reporting metrics as the number and type of projects funded over time by district and ZIP Code. Facilities grants would require organizations to provide arts, culture, science, and/or heritage programs, services, or opportunities as a public benefit for at least ten years. The organization would be required to widely publicize public performances, events, and programs and track the number of events and audiences served. The organization would be required to provide 6-hours of expertise over the entire award period to the Building for Equity program by participating in a focus group, interviews, or workshop.

Organizations with a project budget over \$10 million would be required to participate in a Space Contribution program facilitated by 4Culture in which the organization would offer free technical assistance, use of facility space, or other equivalent to a Building for Equity Capacity Building or Launch grantee.

Capacity Building grants would require that organizations provide cultural opportunities as public health regulations permit. These would include:

- Regularly scheduled cultural programs produced by the organization offered to King County residents and visitors, either live or through virtual means;
- Access to special events or educational programs offered by the organization;
- and

- Participation/engagement of the organization's staff, board or volunteers in training that prepares them to serve their community better and increase their skills in planning for and managing capital projects.

Organizations would be required to widely publicize public benefit performances, events, and programs and track the number of events and audiences served.

Equipment grants would require organizations to provide opportunities to the public with the equipment over a period of at least ten years.

Landmarks Capital grants would require that organizations agree to maintain the property as a landmark in perpetuity and maintain the property in good condition for a minimum of 10 years. According to the transmitted implementation plan, public benefit centers on rehabilitation and long-term stewardship of designated landmarks.

For Emergency/Unforeseen Opportunity grants, the implementation plan notes that "public benefit varies slightly by program area but parallels the public benefit requirements of Building for Equity Facilities and Landmarks Capital programs."⁴⁶

Countywide Initiatives Program. The fifth of the six 2025 Doors Open programs is the Countywide Initiatives program, which the Doors Open ordinance described as supporting "regional initiatives and projects, including public programs, supports for cultural practitioners and cultural organizations, limited-time cultural events, and funding for unmet cultural sector needs. The implementation plan proposes a somewhat narrower scope for the Countywide Initiatives program of supporting "field services organizations that improve career opportunities for King County's cultural practitioners."⁴⁷ 4Culture staff have indicated that the focus on field services aligns with a strategic need that 4Culture has identified in its strategic plan, which is to support individuals in the cultural sector who are not eligible to directly receive Doors Open funding, but whose role in the sector is critical to Doors Open's success. Whether to focus Countywide Initiatives program funding on field services organizations is a policy choice for councilmembers.

The implementation plan refers to field services as "the constellation of programs, resources, and networks that support capacity building for cultural organizations and cultural practitioners in King County."⁴⁸ The estimated annual funding across for this program would be \$6.8 million annually.

Summary of the program and allocation. The transmitted implementation plan describes the Countywide Initiatives funds as providing multi-year project-based grants to increase field services provider capacity. The plan further identifies three types of field services that 4Culture is "best equipped" to support:

- Pathways, which are training and skill-building opportunities not consistently available and accessible across career stages, disciplines, and regions;

⁴⁶ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 42

⁴⁷ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 43

⁴⁸ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 43

- Community building for cultural practitioners who want community building or mentorship opportunities such as cooperatives or communities of practice; and
- Professional services include legal counsel, professional photography and marketing, trademarking, and tax advice for cultural practitioners.

4Culture estimates that 50 organizations across the four cultural disciplines are expected to apply each award cycle.

Criteria for awarding proceeds. The Countywide Initiatives program award recipients would be cultural organizations with a primary purpose of providing programs, resources, and networks that support capacity building for cultural organizations and cultural practitioners in King County or cultural organizations that provide or would like to provide field services but do not include it as their primary mission focus.

Awards would prioritize funding and support for organizations that are based and projects that will take place outside of Seattle, in a Community of Opportunity, or meeting other equity criteria.

Description of the application and process for awarding grants. The implementation plan indicates that grant applications would be evaluated by panels composed of working professionals in the fields that 4Culture funds – representative of geography, organization size, and points of view. The panels would then recommend selected proposals to 4Culture's Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria described in the previous subsection. The 4Culture Board would approve the final list of awards.

Grant terms would be at least three years "to allow for appropriate length of planning before implementation and help sustain projects for one to two interactions."⁴⁹

Public benefit reporting. The implementation plan identifies key reporting metrics as the number and location of field service providing programs and the number of participants completing the programming or service. According to the implementation plan, organizations would collect data including:

- Number of programs or services provided;
- Number/attendance for practitioners that participated in their organization's programming or services;
- Location of programming or services; and
- Number of partnerships between cultural organizations facilitated.

4Culture staff have stated that 4Culture will develop a baseline of data for Field Services through the application and award process from the first year of the funding program.

Launch Program. The sixth of the six 2025 programs, the Launch program, would be "focused on new and emerging, Doors Open-eligible cultural or science organizations in King County, with a goal to ensure that all geographic areas of King County and all

⁴⁹ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 45

communities in the county have access to cultural experiences."⁵⁰ The estimated annual funding for the program would be approximately \$2.9 million annually.

Summary of the program and allocation. The Launch program would provide grants for start-up costs and multi-year operating support for new and emerging organizations. The program would pair funding with capacity building and technical assistance. The transmitted implementation plan notes that this program would enable new organizations to have a pathway to receiving Sustained Support, which is only available to organizations with a 2-year (heritage and preservation) and 3-year operating status (arts). As part of supporting new organizations, the Launch program would allow organizations that have previously received Sustained Support and are hiring paid staff for the first time to apply.

The implementation plan also notes that an additional priority of the Launch program would be to increase access to cultural space, especially for organizations that have historically faced barriers to purchasing and stewarding cultural space.

4Culture estimates that 25 to 50 organizations across the four cultural disciplines are expected to apply each award cycle.

Criteria for awarding proceeds. New and emerging organizations would be eligible to apply for Launch grants. According to the implementation plan, new organizations are "Doors Open-eligible cultural or science organizations that are less than three years old and have not previously been awarded Sustained Support funding,"⁵¹ and emerging organizations as "Doors Open-eligible cultural or science organizations that do not yet have 501c3 status or have had 501c3 status for less than three years, and are hiring paid, regular staff for the first time."⁵² Emerging organizations may have previously received Sustained Support. A cultural organization that does not have 501c3 status would only be eligible for Doors Open funding through contracting with a Doors Open-eligible cultural organization as a fiscal sponsor.

The implementation plan also identifies new collaborative ventures among existing cultural organizations as eligible for Launch funding if the organization has a decision-making body and structure that is independent of the participating organizations.

The plan indicates that the Launch program would "prioritize organizations based outside of Seattle, or in a Community of Opportunity (COO), or meeting other equity criteria, for funding and support."⁵³

According to the plan, program criteria will be refined based on outreach and engagement in 2024 and 2025. Program criteria are anticipated to include Quality and Qualifications, Impact and Public Benefit, Feasibility, and Advancing Equity.

⁵⁰ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 46

⁵¹ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 46

⁵² Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 47

⁵³ Doors Open Implementation Plan, pg. 47

Description of the application and process for awarding grants. The implementation plan indicates that applications would be evaluated by panels of working professionals in the fields that 4Culture funds – representative of geography, organization size, and points of view. Based on the criteria described in the previous subsection, the panels would then recommend selected proposals to 4Culture's Advisory Committees and Board. The 4Culture Board would approve the final list of awards.

Public benefit reporting. The implementation plan identifies the key reporting metrics as the number of awards and total funding over time to new organizations by geography and discipline and the number of new organizations that gain eligibility for the Sustained Support grant program.

Reporting metrics for organizations receiving Launch funds may include visitation numbers, volunteer hours, or audiences served. Public benefits reported can include work that leads to growth in reach and impact and programs and services that increase access to culture and science, especially for underserved communities.

Vulnerable Populations and Communities Outside of Seattle Allocations. The Doors Open ordinance includes an intention for "increasing the number, capacity, and stability of cultural organizations or cultural facilities, or both, in geographical areas that need additional cultural capacity with investments to ensure all communities in the county have access to cultural experiences." For both the 2024 one-time programs and the 2025-2031 programs, the Doors Open ordinance requires that at least 10 percent of grant funding be allocated to cultural organizations serving vulnerable populations and Communities of Opportunity, and that at least 25 percent of grant funding be allocated to cultural organizations located outside of Seattle.

4Culture is proposing to incorporate into all the Doors Open programs the minimum allocations to cultural organizations serving vulnerable populations and located in Communities of Opportunity or outside of Seattle. Applicants eligible for those allocations, therefore, would be able to receive additional funding by applying to the Doors Open programs relevant to their organizations and would not need to apply, for example, to a separate program dedicated to providing grants to organizations outside of Seattle. 4Culture's intention with that approach is to minimize the burden of applying for cultural organizations, particularly smaller organizations, and to streamline the process for 4Culture so that cultural organizations can receive funding quickly and efficiently.

The Doors Open ordinance also defines equity and geographic inclusion benefits and requires that each cultural organization receiving Doors Open funding provide at least one of such benefits. Equity and geographic inclusion public benefits include:

- Providing free or low-cost attendance to cultural organizations and cultural facilities for county residents who have economic, geographic, and other barriers to access;
- Providing free access to curriculum-related arts, science, and heritage programs for public school students throughout the county at school and at cultural sites with emphasis on underserved students;
- Increasing the diversity of staff and governing boards of cultural organizations;

- Increasing opportunities for access to cultural facilities, programs, and services for diverse and underserved populations and communities;
- Broadening cultural programs and provide programming that appeals to diverse populations within the county;
- Increasing investment in programs and organizations that represent and reflect the diversity of the county;
- Planning and implementing cultural programs or collaborating with other cultural organizations in order to extend the reach and impact of cultural programs to diverse and underserved populations and communities;
- Planning and implementing cultural programs and activities outside established cultural centers;
- Partnering with other cultural organizations on cultural programs and activities outside established cultural centers, through direct investment or in-kind support, on priority projects and initiatives; and
- Providing cultural programming to communities outside the city in which a cultural organization is primarily located, either directly or in partnership with other cultural organizations, or public schools, or through other means.

4Culture plans to track cultural organizations' delivery of public benefits, including equity and geographic inclusion public benefits, through public benefits reporting that grant recipients will be required to provide in order to receive funding.

4Culture also intends to ensure the Doors Open equity and geographic inclusion goals are met through the provision of additional investments that will be added to the grant awards for organizations that are located outside of Seattle or are located within a Community of Opportunity.

While the proposed implementation plan states that it will adhere to the 10 percent and 25 percent equity and geographic inclusion allocation requirements, the plan describes a process whereby grants will be allocated according to scoring by panels in various funding siloes and does not provide the methodology by which 4Culture will ensure the overall program funding meets the allocation requirements.

4Culture staff provided additional clarification that each Doors Open program and application review panel would have direction to meet the 10 percent and 25 percent minimum requirements. If a panel for any grant pool cannot meet the requirement during the panel review process, for example because there are no applicants satisfying the requirements or the award requests from eligible organizations is lower than the set asides, the panel would then work with the 4Culture program manager to reallocate the funds within the pool of eligible applicants or to other Doors Open programs to ensure that the overall 10 percent and 25 percent program minimums are met.

Doors Open Assessment Report. As the final element of the implementation plan, the Doors Open ordinance requires that 4Culture provide a timeline for submitting a Doors Open Program Assessment Report to the Executive and the Council. The transmitted plan proposes a 2029 delivery timeline in order to inform the process for proposing a renewal of the Doors Open Program, which would begin in 2030. The plan states that

the assessment report would include the information required in the Doors Open ordinance. Asked for further detail, 4Culture staff provided the information shown in Table 5 about the methodology that would be used to assess the impact of the Doors Open Program.

Table 5. Doors Open Assessment Report Methodology

Levels of Data Analysis	Methods	Potential Sources
Grantee and Applicant Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descriptive statistics on the category or discipline, organizational demographics, and geographic dispersion of awarded grantees • Qualitative data includes in-depth case studies, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, content analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant and Awardee data • Photographic submissions • Site visits by external reviewers • Local press • Staff insights
Audience and Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey data • Organizational partners working with schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience and attendee survey data • Youth satisfaction surveys through org partnerships
Creative Workforce Sector Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical data • Supplemental surveys • Partnering with reputable research partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ArtsFund and other regional partners • American Community Survey • Creative Vitality Index / WESTAF data
King County Residential Polling/ Opinion Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling based 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text or email polling using statistically representative sample of residents

In describing how 4Culture would measure and evaluate Doors Open outcomes for the Assessment Report, the transmitted implementation plan states that 4Culture will hire a full-time evaluator to help 4Culture improve data collection and reporting. The plan also states that 4Culture would include Doors Open Program reporting in the agency's regular annual reporting to the Executive and to the Council's Committee of the Whole. The plan does not provide detail about what elements and data would be including in the annual Doors Open reporting.

Potential Policy Issues. Council staff have identified several policy issues of potential interest to committee members.

Vulnerable Populations, Communities of Opportunity, and Geographic Inclusion Requirements. The proposed implementation plan describes how grant programs will provide bonuses to cultural organizations who serve vulnerable populations, are in Communities of Opportunity, and are located outside of Seattle. However, the proposed plan does not describe how 4Culture will ensure that at least 10 percent of Doors Open proceeds go towards cultural organizations meeting the Doors Open ordinance definition of serving vulnerable populations or Communities of Opportunity or how 4Culture will ensure 25 percent of proceeds go to cultural organizations outside of Seattle. 4Culture staff provided additional clarification that the agency intends to apply those minimum set asides to the grant pools for all Doors Open programs, and if there are not enough eligible requests within a grant pool to meet the minimum requirements, reallocate the grant awards either to eligible organizations within that grant pool or to another Doors Open program in order to meet the requirements in the overall Doors Open program. Whether to add 4Culture's proposed methodology for meeting those requirements, or another approach, to the implementation plan is a policy consideration.

Criteria for Awarding Proceeds. The Doors Open ordinance requires the implementation plan to include the criteria for awarding proceeds for each of the programs. For most of the programs, the proposed implementation plan does so in broad terms. For example, the proposed criteria for the Heritage Sustained Support Program is: "resilience, public benefit, equity, and heritage priorities." Whether to accept as proposed, modify, or further define the program criteria is a policy consideration.

Grant Cycle for the Sustained Support Program. 4Culture currently administers King County's Sustained Support grant program to provide operating support to King County cultural organizations. The program is established in county code with a 2-year grant award cycle. Through the Doors Open Implementation Plan, 4Culture is proposing to transition the Sustained Support program to three-year grant cycles in order to provide cultural organizations with more certainty about funding levels and to reduce the administrative burden of preparing grant applications. Tradeoffs to this proposed change include a longer waiting period for cultural organizations that miss an application deadline and the potential for Doors Open revenue fluctuations to impact out-year grant awards. The grant cycle length for Sustained Support is a policy consideration.

Assessment Report Timing and Annual Reporting. The Doors Open ordinance requires the implementation plan to include a proposed timeline for providing the Doors Open Assessment Report to the Executive and the Council. The plan proposes the report be transmitted in 2029. A policy consideration is whether that timing allows adequate time to use the report to make any adjustments in administration of the program and to inform the Doors Open renewal process in 2030. The proposed implementation plan also states that 4Culture will integrate Doors Open program reporting into 4Culture's regular annual reporting to the Executive and Council, so whether to place specific requirements or parameters on what that annual reporting entails is a policy consideration.

Responses to September 3rd Regional Policy Committee Questions. 4Culture provided the following responses to questions raised by committee members at the September 3, 2024, Regional Policy Committee briefing on the Doors Open Implementation Plan.

Opportunities for Smaller Organizations to Access Cultural Facility Grants. A question was raised about what options are available for securing or revitalizing cultural venues for organizations that are too small to own or operate their own spaces. 4Culture provided the following response.

Building for Equity's Capacity Building grant program provides funding and technical support for organizations who are looking toward acquiring, owning, and/or operating their own spaces. This program is designed to prepare organizations to access Building for Equity's Cultural Facilities grant, a program that funds organizations who are acquiring, renovating, or stewarding cultural spaces.

4Culture's Preservation Action Fund, which is Lodging Tax supported, is a potential tool for small organizations that are looking to partner in acquiring and revitalizing a historic building.

Launch, a program which combines technical assistance with startup funding, is also a potential tool for small organizations to build towards operating their own space.

Funding Emergency Needs. A question was raised about what program(s) Doors Open would have for funding emergency needs and whether 4Culture has a policy to guide under what circumstances and conditions emergency funding can be provided. 4Culture provided the following response.

The 2024 Doors Open Operating Support program provides funding for operating expenses – meaning organizations can put them toward their most emergent needs. This funding program opened in August, closed in September and awards will be announced by December 31, 2024; with contracting to begin in January 2025 with initial payment requests in the first quarter of 2025. The scale of funding and the speed of the program administration is unprecedented in 4Culture's history.

For 2025-2031 Doors Open programs there are:

Sustained Support. Sustained Support provides multi-year grants for operating funds to cultural organizations. These awards provide funds to organizations with a track record of delivering public programs and services. With funds for operating expenses, organizations can deploy resources to their most emergent needs.

Emergency and Unforeseen Program for Building for Equity. 4Culture's Emergency and Unforeseen Program operates on a rolling basis and faster timeline than the Building for Equity Cultural Facilities program. Emergency and Unforeseen grants meet a wide variety of unexpected facility needs for cultural organizations, and the funds are only available for actual costs incurred to repair or renovate cultural spaces.

As soon as Emergency and Unforeseen Program applications are received, 4Culture staff review them and refer them to the appropriate Advisory Committee: Arts, Heritage, Historic Preservation or Science. The Advisory Committee will then meet with the applying organization to discuss the request and subsequent next steps.

4Culture Support Network Consulting Roster. 4Culture plans to provide additional scaffolding and support to help organizations manage the risk and opportunities associated with additional public funding. Cultural organizations will have access to the roster and will receive an allocation of consultant hours based on their eligibility. Emergency/crisis consulting is part of the roster of topics and help for the following areas is made available:

- Financial emergency planning
- Facilities management
- Leadership and board optimization
- Legal services

4Culture is developing this roster and has tentative launch plans for the first or second quarter of 2025, depending on Doors Open Implementation Plan approval.

Policy/Guidelines for Emergency Funding. 4Culture’s approach to emergency funding balances the cultural sector’s needs for stability, equity, and sustainability. Public funding to meet cultural organizations in crisis is limited; therefore, emergency funding must be distributed strategically and equitably.

4Culture administers responsive and transparent funding programs that operate within the confines of King County Code, 4Culture's Charter, and 4Culture's Bylaws. These policies set forth competitive funding programs with publicly available guidelines and criteria, and a review and appeal process.

The requirement that 4Culture grantees perform promised “public benefit” services before receiving grant funds is rooted in Washington statute, RCW 42.24.080. RCW 42.24.080 describes advance payment to a private party without consideration (meaning the party meets very specific contractual requirements) as an unconstitutional gift of funds.

4Culture has long worked with this facet of state law in the agency's grant processes, and as such, has developed ways for awardees to invoice for partial payment as often as they need to perform their work and provide the contracted public benefit. Our processes accommodate cultural organizations, protect the public's money, and ensure that cultural work continues to be equitably supported.

Review Schedule. The proposed ordinance was referred as a mandatory dual referral to the Committee of the Whole and then the Regional Policy Committee. Table 6 provides the anticipated legislative schedule for this item. Amendment deadlines are included in Attachment 2 to this staff report.

Table 6. PO 2024-0236 Legislative Review Schedule

Action	Committee/Council	Date
Introduction and referral	Full Council	August 20 th
Discussion Only	COW	August 27 th
Briefing	Special RPC	September 3 rd

Discussion Only	COW	September 24 th
Briefing	Special RPC	September 30 th
Hold for Discussion/ Possible Action	COW	October 21 st
Discussion/Possible Action	COW	November 4 th
Discussion/Possible Action	RPC	November 13 th
Final Action	Full Council	November 26 th

INVITED

- Brian Carter, Executive Director, 4Culture
- Aaron Rubardt, Deputy Budget Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget (PSB)
- Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Executive's Office

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0236 (and its attachment)
2. Legislative Review and Amendment Schedule
3. Transmittal Letter
4. Fiscal Note
5. 4Culture 2024-2025 King County Grants and Artist Calls



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2024-0236.1

Sponsors Balducci and Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE approving the King County Doors Open
2 Program implementation plan, required by Ordinance
3 19710, Section 9, to govern the expenditure of the cultural
4 access sales and use tax from 2024 through 2031 to achieve
5 outcomes related to public and educational benefits and
6 economic support for arts, science, and heritage
7 organizations.

8 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 9 1. The Washington state Legislature declared in RCW 36.160.010 that
10 there is a need to provide public and educational benefits and economic
11 support for arts, science, and heritage organizations.
- 12 2. The King County council, through Ordinance 19710, created the Doors
13 Open Program to support arts, science, and heritage organizations, and
14 approved a new one-tenth of one percent sales tax to fund the Doors Open
15 Program.
- 16 3. Ordinance 19710, Section 9, requires the executive, in consultation
17 with 4Culture, to transmit the implementation plan and an ordinance to
18 approve the plan to the council no later than July 15, 2024. The
19 implementation plan, once effective, will govern the expenditure of the

20 sales and use tax's proceeds until the tax expires in 2031. The required
21 implementation plan is Attachment A to this ordinance.

22 4. Ordinance 19710, Section 9, enumerates specific requirements for the
23 implementation plan. The Doors Open Program Implementation Plan for
24 2024-2031, dated XXX, 2024, Attachment A to this ordinance, responds
25 to the requirements set out by Ordinance 19710 Section 9, by: itemizing
26 start-up funding costs incurred or to be incurred by 4Culture and the
27 county; establishing guidelines for eligible expenditures for each Doors
28 Open Program element; providing detailed program descriptions of the
29 elements of the Doors Open Program and a framework for 4Culture
30 administration of these programs; and providing a timeline for the Doors
31 Open Program Assessment Report that will address the effectiveness of
32 the Doors Open Program funding.

33 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

34 SECTION 1. The Doors Open Program Implementation Plan for 2024-2031,
35 dated, XXX, 2024, Attachment A to this ordinance is hereby approved to govern the

- 36 expenditure of the cultural access sales and use tax proceeds as authorized under
- 37 Ordinance 19710.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: A. Doors Open Implementation Plan



101 PREFONTAINE PL S
SEATTLE, WA 98104
4CULTURE.ORG

Doors Open Implementation Plan

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1. Executive Summary

In December 2023, King County passed Ordinance 19710, creating the King County Doors Open cultural access program.¹ This legislation levies a 0.1 percent sales tax in King County to fund arts, heritage, science, and historical preservation non-profit organizations to increase the public benefits that cultural organizations provide throughout King County.

Ordinance 19710 requires transmittal of an implementation plan to the King County Council. This plan details the Doors Open program priorities and processes for administering funding. It provides an assessment framework for how the program will measurably increase access to cultural offerings for King County residents and visitors, especially those living in underserved areas.

Doors Open maintains and builds upon 4Culture’s core programs that address the critical needs of cultural organizations located in and serving King County. Doors Open allows 4Culture to:

- Enhance and extend the reach and offerings of cultural organizations
- Ensure continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and the programs of cultural organizations by underserved populations
- Provide financial support for cultural organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide

Doors Open meets these ordinance-defined goals through six Program Areas: Sustained Support, Public School Cultural Access, Public Free Access, Building for Equity, Countywide Initiatives, and Launch; and two investment areas: Outside of Seattle and Communities of Opportunity. The Implementation Plan allocates projected Doors Open revenue in accordance with Section 8 of Ordinance 19710, as follows:

2024	2025 - 2031
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 percent for repayment of start-up funding; • 3 percent for administrative costs; • 67 percent for one-time capital and one-time operating support programs; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 percent for cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity, and cultural organizations providing mentoring services ○ 25 percent supports organizations outside of Seattle • Remaining funding to 2025 programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 percent for administrative costs; • 72 percent for Doors Open programs, of which, 10 percent for cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity, and cultural organizations providing mentoring services; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15 percent Public school access program ○ 3 percent Launch funding ○ 10 percent Building for Equity ○ 15 percent Public Free Access ○ 7 percent Countywide initiatives and projects ○ 50 percent Sustained Support • 25 percent for Outside of Seattle, of which, 10 percent for cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity

Doors Open Implementation Plan-on-a-Page

	2024 Doors Open Programs ²		2025-2031: Doors Open ³					
	Capital Facilities	Operating and Program Support	Sustained Support	Public School Cultural Access	Public Free Access	Building for Equity	Countywide Initiatives	Launch
Estimated Annual Funding	\$24.1M [Ord. 8.A.3.a]	\$24.1M [Ord. 8.A.3.a]	\$48.5M [Ord. 8.B.2.f]	\$14.6M [Ord. 8.B.2.a]	\$14.6M [Ord. 8.B.2.e]	\$9.7M [Ord. 8.B.2.d]	\$6.8M [Ord. 8.B.2.c]	\$2.9M [Ord. 8.B.2.b]
Programming or projects outside Seattle⁴	Minimum of \$6M	Minimum of \$6M	Minimum of \$24.3M across all programs					
Programming in Communities of Opportunity (COO) or for vulnerable populations⁵	Minimum of \$2.4M	Minimum of \$2.4M	Minimum of \$9.7M across all programs					
Grant Cycle/Timeline	One Time (first awards announced in December 2024)	One Time (first awards announced in December 2024)	Triennial	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual
Estimated Number of applicants	175 to 225 projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage: 90 Preservation: 30 Arts: 500 Science and Tech: 80 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage: 90 Preservation: 30 Arts: 500 Science and Tech: 80 	350 orgs across four disciplines	300 orgs across four disciplines	200 orgs across four disciplines	50 orgs across four disciplines	25-50 orgs across four disciplines
Primary Program Objective	Funding for building, remodeling, and buying specialized space that houses and facilitates cultural work	Funding to help organizations amplify their programming and support delivery of their mission	Help meet the ongoing needs of cultural organizations	Increase public school student access to cultural educational experiences	Increase access to cultural offerings	Support cultural building projects and create a pathway to equitable facilities funding	Support regional initiatives for cultural workforce development	Ensure that all areas and communities in the county have access to cultural experiences
Key Program Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project size categories; goal to fund the top 10% to 20% in each category Prioritizes projects that can begin within two years Prioritizes greater % of project funding for projects under \$1M Cultural space contribution requirements for projects greater than \$10M 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low barrier application Panels by discipline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides multi-year funding (up to three years) for operations or programming Low barrier application Panels by discipline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes central database Provides funding for cultural education offerings through programs at schools and cultural facilities Provides transportation funding for eligible school districts Helps schools and cultural organizations develop shared learning goals and a program plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides multi-year funding Low barrier application Reimbursement to orgs for the cost of free and reduced programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides multi-year funding Builds on Facilities and Capacity Building programs Adds equitable funding strategies to Equipment, Landmarks Capital, Emergency Capital programs Cultural space contribution requirements for eligible orgs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-year project-based funding for orgs providing services for cultural practitioners Support for workforce and career development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides multi-year funding Start-up cost funding Multi-year operating support to new + emerging orgs Funding paired with capacity building + technical assistance

² For the purposes of the Implementation Plan, 2024 Doors Open funding amounts assume a \$48.1M in revenue for 2024 grants. Actual revenues may be higher or lower. Not included in the 2024 Programs list is startup and administrative funding (2% and 3% of revenue, respectively).

³ For the purposes of the Implementation Plan, 2025-2031 Doors Open funding is an estimated \$100M annual funding. This was the estimate presented and used during the ordinance process. Annual fund projections may be lower or higher. Not included in the 2025-2031 programs list is administrative funding which is up to 3% of revenue, annually).

⁴ Programming for projects and programs outside Seattle is included in both the 2024 Doors Open program estimated annual funding and the 2025-2031 Doors Open programs estimated annual funding.

⁵ Programming for COO and vulnerable population programming is included in both the 2024 Doors Open program estimated annual funding and the 2025-2031 Doors Open programs estimated annual funding.

	2024 Doors Open Programs ²		2025-2031: Doors Open ³					
	Capital Facilities	Operating and Program Support	Sustained Support	Public School Cultural Access	Public Free Access	Building for Equity	Countywide Initiatives	Launch
Outreach and Engagement Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Connectors (1:1 pre-submittal application support) Application workshops 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application workshops Strategic advertising 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application workshops Strategic advertising 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage 2024 stakeholder outreach PSESD touchpoints District and school outreach 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic advertising 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Connectors Application workshops 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application workshops Strategic advertising 4Culture engagement and comms channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Connectors Strategic advertising 4Culture engagement and comms channels

2. Implementation Plan Background

A. Introduction to Cultural Access Programs

In 2015, the Washington State Legislature passed ESHB 2263 which provides for the creation of local cultural access programs.⁶ The law allows Washington counties to create cultural access programs that provide funding for public school access to arts, science, and heritage organizations and for cultural organizations to provide increased public benefits.

Washington's cultural access law was modeled after the Denver Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (DSCF), which was created in 1989 and is funded through a 0.1 percent sales tax collected in the seven-county Denver, Colorado metropolitan area.⁷

In King County, the program can be funded by up to 0.1 percent of sales tax for seven years, after which it may be renewed. The funds must be used for public benefits and may not supplant county and state funds customarily provided to cultural organizations.

In April 2023, the state passed HB1575 which changed state law⁸ to allow for county legislative authorities to impose a cultural access program sales tax of up to 0.1 percent by ordinance. Additionally, if a county has not imposed a cultural access program sales tax by December 31, 2024, a city within that county may do so. The statute does not allow a county and city within that county to concurrently impose a cultural access program sales tax.

B. Overview of 4Culture

The King County Council created 4Culture, King County's Cultural Public Development Authority (PDA), in 2002 in order "to support, advocate for and preserve the cultural resources of the region in a manner that fosters excellence, vitality and diversity."⁹ 4Culture replaced the functions of King County's former Office of Cultural Resources in order to exercise the powers vested in PDAs under state law and realize operating efficiencies through operating independently of county government.¹⁰

4Culture's name was derived from the agency's four, original cultural programs. With Doors Open, 4Culture will include Science in its cultural funding program list.

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.
- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving, and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.

⁶ RCW 36.160

⁷ <http://scfd.org/>

⁸ RCW 82.14.525

⁹ King County Ordinance 14482

¹⁰ [King County - File #: 2002-0365](#)

- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County’s 1% for Art program and manages public art installations and the King County Public Art Collection on behalf of King County government.

These cultural programs are established in the King County Code (K.C.C.) Chapter 2.48, which also states that 4Culture is responsible for administering grants to cultural organizations, groups, public agencies, and individuals in King County. Those grant programs are categorized into the areas of support for projects, buildings and equipment, and operations and are to be administered according to code provisions and guidelines and procedures adopted by 4Culture

4Culture Governance and Accountability

4Culture is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors. Directors are to have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources, be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns and can evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region. Directors must be residents of King County and are to be chosen to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the County.¹¹ Directors are appointed by King County Councilmembers and the Executive and confirmed by the Council.¹²

C. Foundational Policies and Plans

The following policies and plans are central to 4Culture’s existing programming and operations and are a reference point for the history of cultural development policy in King County.

- [Charter and Bylaws of the Cultural Development of King County](#) (last updated October 9, 2019, through Ordinance 19036)
- 2019 King County 4Culture Task Force Briefing Book and Report
 - The Briefing Book supported the 27-member King County 4Culture Task Force, charged with assessing and evaluating 4Culture’s governance structure, processes, and practices through an equity and social justice lens.
 - The Report, authored by Janet Brown, former President of Grantmakers in the Arts and a nationally facilitator and consultant, included detail on the community meetings and listening sessions conducted by the Task Force, an overview of 4Culture operations, and recommendations for 4Culture moving forward. The document also includes a comparison of 4Culture with organizations across the United States focused on People of Color/Native organizations, small-midsized organizations, and communities outside urban centers.
- [2019 Building for Equity Agreement for Implementation](#) (Ordinance 18939): legislation enabling 4Culture to partner with King County in using an advance on future lodging tax proceeds to fund Building for Equity, a \$20 million equity-based cultural facilities program.
- [2020 King County Cultural Health Study](#)

¹¹ Ordinance 19036, Attachment A, Section 5.2.B

¹² Ordinance 19036, Attachment A, Section 5.2.D and 5.2.E

- In 2018, 4Culture embarked on a two-year endeavor to research and analyze the cultural health of the county. Staff conducted a listening session tour, compiled award information from cultural funders, synthesized city-level cultural planning, and documented existing cultural infrastructure.
- The findings are the basis for the Doors Open Recommended Spending Plan, as presented to the Executive and Council beginning in 2022 and leading up to the Doors Open ordinance process in late 2023.
- [2020 4Culture Strategic Plan/King County’s Cultural Plan](#) (extended through December 2024 by the 4Culture Board of Directors)
- [2020 King County Cultural Education Study](#): A Countywide Analysis of K-12 Students Access to Cultural Education and Community Assets
- [2021 4Culture COVID-19 Recovery Framework](#): 4Culture convened a diverse group of cultural sector leaders to share their concerns and ideas for the future, and to develop a roadmap for rebuilding the sector during and after the pandemic.
- [2023 King County Doors Open Ordinance](#) (Ordinance 19710): Legislation, decades in the making, that created the King County Doors Open cultural access program and imposed a 0.1 percent sales tax increase in King County to fund the program.

D. Ordinance Requirements Crosswalk

The Doors Open Implementation Plan is in accordance with the requirements laid out in Ordinance 19710.

Overarching Requirement	Program Area	Ordinance location	Implementation Plan location
Itemization of start-up costs	Administration	Section 8. A.1	Appendix A
Program descriptions	2024 Capital Grant	Section 4. A.2 a-h	Section 4. A
	2024 Operating Grant	Section 4. A.2 a-h	Section 4. B
	Sustained Support	Section 4. A.1 f	Section 5. A
	Public School Cultural Access	Section 4. A.1 a	Section 5. B
	Public Free Access	Section 4. A.1 e	Section 5. C
	Building for Equity	Section 4. A.1 d	Section 5. D
	Countywide Initiatives	Section 4. A.1 c	Section 5. E
	Launch	Section 4. A.1 b	Section 5. F
	Increasing capacity outside of Seattle	Section 8.B.3	Section 5.G
Assessment Report	Administration	Section 9 D.2 a-g	Section 6

E. Doors Open Framework Overview

Doors Open builds upon 4Culture’s core programs that address the critical needs of cultural organizations located in and serving King County. Doors Open allows 4Culture to:

- Enhance and extend the reach and offerings of cultural organizations
- Ensure continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and the programs of cultural organizations by underserved populations

- Provide financial support for cultural organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide

Doors Open meets these goals through six Program Areas: Sustained Support, Public School Cultural Access, Public Free Access, Building for Equity, Countywide Initiatives, and Launch; and two investment areas: Outside of Seattle and Communities of Opportunity.

The sales tax is expected to generate approximately \$783 million in revenue between 2024 and 2031, according to the King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis’s March 2024 forecast.¹³ For the purposes of the Implementation Plan, 4Culture is using an annual estimated funding of \$72 million for 2024 and \$100 million for years 2025 and beyond. Annual projections may be lower or higher but all percentages for allocations will be applied as proscribed in the ordinance.

The following plan allocates projected Doors Open revenue in accordance with Section 8 of Ordinance 2023-0343, as follows:

2024

- 2 percent for repayment of start-up funding;
- 3 percent for administrative costs;
- 67 percent for one-time capital and one-time operating support programs;
 - 10 percent for cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity, and/or cultural organizations providing mentoring
 - 25 percent supports organizations outside the city of Seattle
- Remaining funding to 2025 programs

2025 - 2031

- 3 percent for administrative costs;
- 72 percent for Doors Open programs, of which 10 percent must go to cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity, and/or cultural organizations providing mentoring (percentage breakdown in sub-bullets);
 - 15 percent Public school access program
 - 3 percent Launch funding
 - 10 percent Building for Equity
 - 15 percent Public Free Access
 - 7 percent Countywide initiatives and projects
 - 50 percent Sustained Support
- 25 percent for programming outside the city of Seattle; of which 10 percent for cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity; and/or cultural organizations providing mentoring services

¹³ [Office of Financial and Economic Analysis](#)

Ordinance Objective and Program/Investment Area Crosswalk

Doors Open Primary Objectives per Ordinance	Program and Investment Areas							
	Sustained Support	Public School Cultural Access	Public Free Access	Building for Equity	Countywide Initiatives	Launch	Outside of Seattle	Communities of Opportunity
Enhance and extend the reach and offerings of cultural organizations				X	X	X		
Ensure continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and the programs of cultural organizations by underserved populations		X		X			X	X
Provide financial support for cultural organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide	X		X	X				

The Doors Open Ordinance (Ordinance 19710) eligibility excludes municipalities, individual cultural practitioners, radio stations, newspapers, and magazines. 4Culture will reorient its Lodging Tax to better support these ineligible entities.

The Doors Open Ordinance (Ordinance 19710) provides, among other things, for a 2024 One-Time Operating Support grant program with a one-time annual application process, and from 2025 onward, a biennial application process. KCC 2.48.108 and KCC 2.48.109 direct 4Culture to administer the Lodging Tax funded Sustained Support Programs through a biennial application process. To bring these two programs into application and contract period alignment, the 2024 Lodging Tax funded Sustained Support Program will be a one-time annual application process, and from 2025 onward, a standard biennial application process.

F. Doors Open Public Benefit Reporting Framework

For decades, 4Culture has defined Public Benefit as the opportunity for King County residents and visitors to access and engage in arts and other cultural activities, events, communities of practice, historic and cultural spaces, and works of public art related to our program areas. Public Benefit is a service requirement for all recipients of Lodging Tax supported programs at 4Culture. Put simply, public benefit makes it easier to experience culture.

As stated in the ordinance, all Doors Open grant recipients must meet at least one General Public Benefit requirement and one Equity or Geographic Inclusion Benefit requirement.

General Public Benefits

1. Providing low-barrier opportunities for everyone in the county to take part in the region's cultural life and participate in cultural programs;
2. Providing performances and programs throughout the county, directly in and for local communities, or through partnerships between and among cultural organizations;
3. Providing cultural educational programs and experiences at a cultural organization's own facilities or in schools or other cultural facilities or venues;
4. Bringing cultural facilities and programming into compliance with access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
5. Supporting cultural organizations that strive to engage traditional cultures and crafts;
6. Presenting free cultural festivals;
7. Providing free events, programing, and educational materials, which enhance a cultural
8. experience either before or after, or both, attending an exhibit, performance, or event;
9. Providing arts, science, and heritage career building opportunities for youth through internships and apprenticeships or other means;
10. Establishing partnerships between cultural organizations or other cultural institutions to present new multidisciplinary cultural experiences;
11. Implementing organizational capacity-building projects or activities that a cultural organization can demonstrate will enhance the ability of that cultural organization to execute community outreach, communications, and marketing strategies to attract and engage county residents with opportunities for access to cultural experiences and with emphasis on underserved communities; and
12. Implementing organizational capacity-building projects or activities that a community-based cultural organization can demonstrate will enhance the ability of that cultural

organization to provide or continue to provide meaningful public benefits not otherwise achievable.

Equity Inclusion Benefits

1. Providing free or low-cost attendance to cultural organizations and cultural facilities for county residents who have economic, geographic, and other barriers to access;
2. Providing free access to curriculum-related arts, science, and heritage programs for public school students throughout the county at school and at cultural sites with emphasis on underserved students;
3. Increasing the diversity of staff and governing boards of cultural organizations;
4. Increasing opportunities for access to cultural facilities, programs, and services for diverse and underserved populations and communities;
5. Broadening cultural programs and provide programming that appeals to diverse populations within the county;
6. Increasing investment in programs and organizations that represent and reflect the diversity of the county; and
7. Planning and implementing cultural programs or collaborating with other cultural organizations to extend the reach and impact of cultural programs to diverse and underserved populations and communities.

Geographic Inclusion Benefits

1. Planning and implementing cultural programs and activities outside established cultural centers;
2. Partnering with other cultural organizations on cultural programs and activities outside established cultural centers, through direct investment or in-kind support, on priority projects and initiatives;
3. Providing cultural programming to communities outside the city in which a cultural organization is primarily located, either directly or in partnership with other cultural organizations, or public schools, or through other means.

Reporting Standards for Funded Organizations

As part of 4Culture’s established contracting process, all grant recipients provide Program Staff with a Scope of Service and a Public Benefit agreement. The Scope of Service and the Public Benefit agreement are included in 4Culture’s contract template and signed by both the grant recipient and 4Culture. To receive reimbursement, the grant recipient must report on the contracted Public Benefit agreement.

G. Leveraging 4Culture’s Strengths

4Culture’s long history as public cultural funder means that it has developed relationships with cultural groups and communities throughout the County. For Doors Open, 4Culture will leverage its existing infrastructure – administrative, financial, and social – and strengthen it with the incredible opportunities that this new source of funding will provide.

Established Engagement and Communications Channels

For every grant and public art program, 4Culture's Communications department works with grant managers to identify the audiences to reach to increase applications and recipients. The strategies employed are often specific to each program, and include targeted outreach to underserved communities, language communities, and communities specific to the discipline of the grant.

Equity Priorities for Outreach, Engagement and Communications

In 2020, the 4Culture's communications team set a goal to reach Black and Indigenous communities for every grant program to align the communications work with 4Culture's racial equity goals. Since this time, with the addition of geographic inclusion and equity investments, and other efforts to lead with racial equity in our programming, 4Culture has seen increases in funding totals to these communities. Since 2021, 4Culture's demographic data shows that the percentage of applications and recipients in King County Spanish-speaking and AAPI communities is lower than the population rate in King County's census data. Because of this, we have increased outreach to these communities and plan to continue to focus on these areas.

In 2020, with the shutdown of in-person outreach due to the pandemic, 4Culture instituted a language access policy and a communications campaign to explain to the public that anyone with language-access needs can contact hello@4Culture.org and our main phone line to request translation services. This messaging was translated into King County's five most spoken languages. Staff handle these requests to make sure the person's needs are met and tracked through the entire process. This has resulted in mainly ASL, Spanish, and Chinese translations services for grant workshops, information sessions, and print translation.

4Culture's Outreach Engagement Strategies

The following sections outline several of the outreach and engagement strategies 4Culture uses in its engagement work.

Content Focused Strategies

- Listening Sessions
- Grant Workshops
- General Information Sessions
- Website, email, and social media

Visibility Focused Strategies

- Hello 4Culture outreach events
- Tabling at community events
- Print and online advertising and promotional materials

Language Focused Strategies

- Partner with community organizations and ambassadors for outreach events and workshops
- Community-based advertising

Example Outreach Partnerships

- Se Habla Media
- Wa Na Wari Walk the Block
- Rainier Valley Creative District Artist Resource Fair
- Artist of Color Expo and Symposium
- Nепantla Cultural Arts Gallery
- El Rey 1360 AM
- Local Services, Unincorporated King County
- Cinco de Mayo, Redmond
- Federal Way Community Festival
- Kenmore Town Square

- Translated materials and subtitled online workshops

Geographic Access Focused Strategies

- Partner with organizations and individuals to increase visibility.
- Advertise grants in community news outlets and blogs.

BIPOC Community Focused Strategies

- Partner with organizations and individuals to increase visibility.
- Advertise grants in BIPOC community media serving King County.

Strategies in Action

Hello 4Culture

In 2025, 4Culture will re-launch its monthly community outreach series, [Hello 4Culture](#) to focus on Doors Open. Pre-COVID, our Hello 4Culture program took us to cities and towns across King County to hear the community's ideas, questions, and concerns. Communities with the least access to 4Culture's resources and the lowest number of applicants and recipients were prioritized by analyzing 4Culture and King County census data.

In 2020, 4Culture moved the outreach series online and partnered with cultural organizations across King County and Washington State to provide monthly info sessions on topics ranging from COVID relief funding applications to mutual aid for artists.

For Doors Open, Hello 4Culture will focus ordinance objectives to reach economically and geographically underserved communities and locations. To do this, 4Culture will leverage the [Communities of Opportunity Composite Index Map](#) and will continue to develop multilingual materials and language access practices.

Tabling and Outreach Events

4Culture regularly tables at community events where the cultural sector is the main audience and is expanding to science and technology education events. We also table at community events focused on serving BIPOC and rural communities located in King County.

Email and Social Media

- Email announcement to past applicants
- Announcements in enews (usually twice during lifecycle of grant)
- Posted to social media (x, Facebook, Instagram)
- Announced in community news outlets and blogs to reach all geographic areas of King County, examples include Bellevue Reporter (and all Sound Publishing online and print outlets), Shoreline Area News, I Love Kent, and related South King County affiliate blogs.

Technical Assistance

4Culture uses a variety of methods to make sure that each program's potential applicants have ample opportunities to get their questions answered.

- [Online and in-person grant application workshops](#) (free, drop-in, events held throughout the County)
- [Manage Your Grant](#) resource page, a dedicated spot for applicants to track their application and make sure they have everything they need for a successful grant process.

4Culture’s website is accessible for the vision-impaired, including all linked PDF documents. ASL translation services are available on request.

Established Contract and Payment Processes

As part of 4Culture’s contracting process, all grant recipients provide Program Staff with a Scope of Service and a Public Benefit agreement. The Scope of Service and the Public Benefit agreement are included in 4Culture’s contract template and then signed by both the grant recipient and 4Culture.

While the full contract details all obligations and responsibilities held by both parties, for the purposes of practical contract management, the Scope of Service and the Public Benefit agreement are what staff reference when managing relationships with individual grantees. Both items are recorded in 4Culture’s CRM with the contract.

3 months after the grant deadline

- Program staff draft Scopes of Service and forward to awardees for review and editing. Once this editing/review process is complete, the Scope of Service is entered into 4Culture’s CRM.
- 4Culture’s Finance Team prepares the final contract document and sends it out for electronic signature. Contracts are signed by the recipient, initialed by 4Culture’s Controller (after checking all required documents are on file) and signed by the Executive Director.

4-18 months after the grant deadline

- Awardees submit invoices through 4Culture’s online portal (either partial or final), and staff review invoices for accuracy and required supporting materials (e.g. report on project activities, invoices/receipts, proof of 4Culture recognition, and photo documentation).
- Once final invoices are submitted, the contract is closed out in the CRM and in the accounting department's system.
- If awardees don’t request reimbursement for the full amount, the program staff will confirm with the awardee that all funds will not be used and notify Accounting that the funds will not be distributed.

H. Support Network Consulting Roster

The increased funding available through Doors Open will greatly impact cultural organizations. While we anticipate most of these impacts being positive, it’s possible that within these moments of tremendous organizational growth, change, and evolution, many organizations will face unique challenges and unfamiliar risks. 4Culture plans to provide additional scaffolding and support to help organizations manage the risk and opportunities associated with the potential influx of increased funding. It will also provide assistance to organizations with emergency/crisis situations.

Cultural organizations will have access to the roster and will receive an allocation of consultant hours based on their eligibility. Below are the anticipated roster topic areas with topics specific to emergency/crisis needs highlighted.

Roster Topic Areas

- Financial Emergency Planning
- Cultural Facilities
- Strategic Planning
- Organizational Design and Management
- Financial Planning and/or Strategy
- Human Resources
- Interpretive Planning
- Leadership and Board Optimization
- Board/Board Relations
- Communications, Marketing, Branding
- Fundraising/Development
- DEAI
- Legal Services
- Accessibility (language, ADA, facilities, mobility)

4Culture is developing this roster and has tentative launch plans for Q1-Q2 2025, depending on Doors Open Implementation Plan approval.

I. Special Focus on Science and Technology Outreach

4Culture has a long history of supporting organizations advancing science and technology through our existing funding programs. This includes organizations whose missions reflect the technological history of our region, such as MOHAI and the Museum of Flight, both of which 4Culture has funded for many years via Projects, Sustained Support, Collections Care, and Cultural Equipment funding programs. In addition, 4Culture has supported numerous projects that have explored the intersection of arts and technology through Tech-Specific (a site-specific funding program) and Special Projects funding programs. These established relationships have proven invaluable in informing our work for Doors Open.

With the possibility of new King County funding for science focused organizations, 4Culture staff launched a research project in the fall of 2019 to interview local science organizations regarding their needs, funding priorities, programming, anticipated capital projects, and the health of the field in general. Unfortunately, this work was cut short due to the pandemic.

But the foundation laid by that plan was continued in the formation in January 2024 of a [Science & Technology Group](#) consisting of representatives of local science organizations from various disciplines, different size budgets, and regions of the county.

This group has met monthly since January 2024, providing insights into the field, and discussing important questions regarding the development of a new set of science and technology focused funding programs.

Topics of discussion for the group have included questions that affect the field:

- What would your organization prioritize with additional funding: kinds of programming, capacity building, facilities, equipment, or other?
- What strategies does your organization employ to expand outreach to underserved communities?
- What are the key issues in the regional science and technology field?

- What organizations and communities should be participating in this group that are not currently represented?
- What are the professional development needs of individuals working in regional science and technology cultural organizations?
- How can 4Culture protect against funding pseudoscience?
- How do you encourage the development of an understanding of scientific inquiry as a lifetime pursuit rather than a “requirement” to be set aside upon graduation from high school?
- What metrics have you found most useful in communicating the success of your programming?

To date, some initial observations from these discussions in the group, in individual interviews, and other stakeholder conversations revealed following strengths and challenges:

- Science organizations have made significant investments in programming for K-12, many with a focus on Title 1 public schools.
- Science and technology focused organizations in the region share similar needs to other cultural organizations: investing in capital facilities, offering competitive salaries for staff, engaging underserved communities, delivering programming at additional venues in communities, and other items.
- Misinformation has damaged the public's understanding of science. Rebuilding the public's trust in and understanding of science is a challenge.
- There is an ongoing shortage of qualified educators in science and technology. The increase in the cost of living in King County has made staffing science and technology focused organizations more difficult.
- Transportation costs associated with travel to organizations' venues can be a barrier to participation in programming.

Science and Technology Grants

Science and technology grants will fund cultural organizations whose mission statement includes an explicit focus on science or technology. Organizations with a primary purpose of advancing and preserving zoology (such as a zoo or an aquarium) must be accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums or supporting an organization accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Science and technology grants do not support the following activities:

- The conduct of primary research not directly providing experiences to the general public
- Medical and public health practice, including but not limited to medical treatment, medical or nutritional advice, or medical instruction.
- Pseudoscience, defined for this purpose as any system of beliefs or concepts that exhibits characteristics including but not limited to the inability in principle to be falsified by observable facts, lacking a research framework that tests and revises ideas based on observable facts, and/or has been demonstrated to be false by observable facts.

Doors Open is a new opportunity for 4Culture to fund cultural organizations in direct support of their science and technology programming. To ensure adequate resources are dedicated to this task, 4Culture established a Science and Technology Department, beginning with hiring a Science and Technology Director. The director will recruit a Science and Technology Program Manager as well as a Science and Technology Support Specialist. The department director is also charged with helping lead outreach to potential applicants. That outreach and engagement will include:

- Continued meetings of the Science & Technology Group through the early summer of 2024

- Recruiting and developing a formal advisory committee by the fall of 2024
- Convening a gathering of science and technology groups in the second half of 2024
- Conducting a landscape survey and analysis of the field in the winter/spring of 2024.

3. Doors Open and Implementation Plan Community Engagement

4Culture aims to maintain our trust, confidence, and credibility with the cultural community in distributing Doors Open revenue, as we have done over several decades with Lodging Tax and 1% for the Art supported programs. We are a public funder with community-focused goals and outcomes.

Because the cultural sector has a history of underinvestment and many organizations are in challenging economic circumstances, 4Culture provides regular and consistent proactive updates to all stakeholder groups and will do so throughout implementation and roll out of programs. 4Culture also provides a strong set of resources and information available online to make it easy for stakeholders to find the information they need.

To know more about the depth and breadth of 4Culture’s regular slate of communications, outreach, and engagement strategies, please see [Established Engagement and Communications Channels](#).

The following list is a summary of Implementation Plan-specific outreach taking place from January 2024 to June 2024 – the point of plan submittal.

- In person gatherings with cultural community groups: 22
- Online general info sessions (with ASL interpretation and translated into Spanish): 3
- In person gatherings with language/ethnic/racial community groups: 8
- In person gatherings with municipal groups: 5
- Gatherings with cultural leader groups: 14

4. Doors Open 2024: One Time Capital and Operating Support

A. One-Time Capital Grant Program: Doors Open Facilities

Program Summary

Doors Open Facilities grants will provide funding for building, remodeling, and buying specialized space that houses and facilitates cultural work in King County. The fund prioritizes projects that can begin construction or acquisition within two years of being awarded funds (by December 31, 2026). A total of \$24.1M is available in the funding pool for a variety of project size categories.

This grant builds from 4Culture and King County’s [Building for Equity initiative](#) to support cultural building projects and create a pathway to racial equity in cultural facilities funding. To help us achieve this goal, applicants must show an ongoing commitment to racial equity and equitable development, and applicants with project budgets over \$10M will be required to meet a Cultural

Space Contribution Requirement, where they provide space or technical assistance as part of their public benefit.

Facility project requests may be made in proportion to the Facility Project size, as indicated below. Applications and Contracts will have commensurate sets of reporting agreements and partner contribution agreements to the project size.

- Projects under \$250,000: Applicants may request up to 100% of total project costs.
- Projects between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000: Applicants may request up to 100% of project costs for first \$250,000 and 50% of project costs between \$250,001 and \$1,000,000
- Projects between \$1,000,001 and \$10,000,000: Applicants may request up to 100% of project costs for first \$250,000, 50% of project costs between \$250,001 and \$1,000,000, and 15% of project costs between \$1,000,001 and \$10,000,000.
- Projects greater than \$10,000,000: Applicants may request up to 100% of project costs for first \$250,000, 50% of project costs between \$250,001 and \$1,000,000, 15% of project costs between \$1,000,001 and \$10,000,000, and 5% of project costs over \$10,000,001. . The maximum request for this pool is \$2,500,000

In addition to the Base Awards, which are determined based on the panel score as applied to the requested amount, applications are eligible for an Advancing Equity and Geographic Inclusion bonus. Each application may have an additional percentage of funding added to their allocation if they are either outside the City of Seattle, or if the facility is in a 2020 US Census tract area with a Community of Opportunity index percentile of 60% or greater.

Additionally, if an organization does not score high enough to receive a Base Award, it may still be eligible for a Geographic Inclusion bonus, and thus the application may still be funded in part.

Program Allocations

An estimated total of \$24.1M will be available for the Doors Open Facilities Grant, to be awarded to organizations applying within different project sizes. Based on previous facility grant cycles, 4Culture anticipates between 175 to 225 total applications for facility funding and will aim to fund the top scoring 10%-20% in each category.

A minimum of 25% of this Operating Support program will be allocated to organizations whose primary location is outside of the City of Seattle; and a minimum of 10% will be allocated to organizations whose primary location is within a 2020 US Census tract area with a Community of Opportunity index percentile of 60% or greater or provide services to vulnerable populations as defined in the implementing ordinance.

Application Process

Applications will be available for a minimum of five weeks, allowing applicants as long as possible to gather the information required. The application will be available on 4Culture's application portal. 4Culture anticipates that most applicants will already have a profile created on the profile, thus streamlining this process.

Doors Open Facilities criteria includes Quality and Qualifications; Feasibility; Project Economic Impact and Public Benefit; and Advancing Equity.

4Culture staff will do their best to answer questions and help Doors Open Facilities applicants in advance. We anticipate hundreds of applications for this program and encourage applicants to prepare early to meet the deadline and take advantage of the support staff can provide.

In addition to staff support, 4Culture has hired several Community Connectors, who will help applicants prepare for their application, including how to go about getting proposals required for application such as architectural and design estimates; how to frame a project for the review panel; advice on choosing the right scale of project (potentially consolidating several smaller projects into “Accessibility Needs,” for example, or picking only the “HVAC Improvements” part of a larger project to propose); and aiming applicants towards best practices and commonly accepted structures for capital budgeting. These Connectors will work proactively to reach out to potential applicants as well as providing an open calendar where applicants can make appointments for consultation.

Panel Process

Each Project size category will have a panel, consisting of five members, two of which are appointed by the Council and Exec, to review those applications. The panel consists of working professionals in the fields we fund, and who represent all parts of King County, sizes of organizations, and different points of view.

Panelists will review the contents of the applications and utilize a scoring sheet to score each application assigned to them. Panelists will have approximately three weeks to conduct their reviews.

The panel will be held over a 1-to-3-day period, depending on the quantity of applications received. During this period, the panel will talk about the proposals and recommend funding for selected proposals to 4Culture’s Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria outlined above. The 4Culture Board then approves the final list of awards.

Applicants are notified of their awards after the Board gives final approval for funding.

Award and Approval Process

In the Panel process, panelists will review and rate project proposals. Panelists are not required to come to consensus, but to provide their own unique perspectives. These scores will be aggregated to create a final score for each application. Panels will recommend a final slate of projects and funding to progress to the Advisory Committee.

For one-time programs in 2024, 4Culture will bring together representatives of each of the standing Advisory Committees (Arts, Heritage, and Preservation) to review the process and funding recommendations. They will receive a presentation of the application process, applicant pool, panel process and final award slate recommendations. The Advisory Committee will have a chance to review the recommendations, ask questions and approve the slate.

Once the Advisory Committee approves the funding slate, the recommendations progress to 4Culture’s Board of Directors December Board Meeting, where the slate will be reviewed and approved for funding.

Contract and Payment Process

Once the 4Culture Board provides final approval for funding recommendations, 4Culture Program Managers work with each applicant to develop a Scope of Services and Public Benefit for their contract. Once a grant contract has been signed by both parties, invoices may be made to request reimbursement for qualifying expenses.

The following information is shared directly with grant recipients:

1. You will be notified via email about your award once the 4Culture Board of Directors votes to approve funding.
2. To receive grant funds, you must sign a contract with 4Culture, which will spell out a Scope of Services that you described in your application.
 - a. When you develop your contract's scope of services, remember to plan a payment schedule that reflects your eligible expenses (those incurred on or after the award date) and organizational timeline for providing your public benefit
 - b. Drafting and signing your contract may take several months to complete, due to the high number of anticipated grantees across discipline areas. If the timeline of the funding poses a concern for your organization, please reach out to your Program Manager.
3. For all programs, you need to submit a W-9 Form before we can issue payment. If you have previously completed this step for past grants, you do not need to do so again.
4. For capital funding (excluding equipment) a Certificate of Liability insurance (COLI) is required with 4Culture additionally insured for every contract before it can be executed. A current COLI must also be on file before payments are issued.
5. 4Culture provides funding on a reimbursement basis, which means we provide funding for completed work, and not future work. The value of your invoice must be equal to, or more than, the expenses related to providing your public benefit.
 - a. You may submit a partial payment or a final payment invoice.
 - b. If you are submitting your final payment invoice, you will be asked to ensure your profile is up to date with the latest financial information from your 990s.
6. You will be required to submit a set of documents along with your invoice:
 - a. A report that demonstrates your public benefit. If you request incremental payments, you will need to submit a report on the provided public benefit for each invoice.
 - b. Examples of 4Culture acknowledgement via marketing or publicity materials
 - c. Digital images documenting the project activities, digital images documenting your activities, including photo credits, permission to publish, and captions.
7. Invoice payments may be made via check or via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Payment normally happens within 3-5 weeks.

B. One-time Operating Support Program

Program Summary

The one-time operating program provides operating and programmatic dollars to meet the day-to-day needs of cultural, science and technology organizations. Funding is intended to provide programs and services for public benefit. Awards are provided as unrestricted operating funds,

allowing organizations to deploy resources to their most emergent needs or where they will be most impactful for the delivery of the organization's mission.

Program Allocations

There are four funding disciplines, between which an estimated \$24.1 million will be awarded. The anticipated number of applicants per discipline, based on historical data and field scans are as follows:

- Heritage – approximately 90 applicants
- Historic Preservation – approximately 30 applicants
- Arts - approximately 500 applicants
- Science and technology - approximately 80 applicants

Award amounts will be determined using a combination of:

- Budget size
- Average score, as determined by the panel
- an Advancing Equity Bonus, for those organizations who are focusing on marginalized communities, especially those that are disproportionately impacted by structural racism
- Eligibility for Geographic Inclusion Bonus (inclusive of both Outside Seattle and COO status)

A minimum of 25% of this Operating Support program will be allocated to organizations whose primary location is outside the City of Seattle; and a minimum of 10% will be allocated to organizations whose primary location is within a 2020 US Census tract area with a Community of Opportunity index percentile of 60% or greater or provide services to vulnerable populations as defined in the implementing ordinance

Application Process

Applications will be available for a minimum of five weeks, allowing applicants as long as possible to gather the information required. The application will be available on 4Culture's application portal. 4Culture anticipates that most applicants will already have a profile created on the profile, thus streamlining this process.

Program Criteria

Applicants will be asked to respond to prompts on the following program criteria:

- **Resilience:** Your organization has clearly stated plans to remain in operation through 2025. You have demonstrated organizational adaptability to changes in your community, and responsiveness to your community's needs.
- **Public Benefit:** Your organization offers substantial public benefit through your programs, activities, and services. Public benefit may include – but is not limited to – any free or reduced cost admission, events, or programs that increase access to in King County.
- **Advancing Equity:** Your organization has a focus on marginalized communities, especially communities that are disproportionately impacted by structural racism. This is not a requirement for funding.
- **Discipline-specific priorities:** These are specific contributions related to Historic Preservation, Heritage, Arts, or Science and Technology fields.

- **Program Economic Impact:** How the program enhances the local economy, including staff and contractors employed, volunteer hours and in-kind donations leveraged, and other economic multipliers that accrue to King County.

4Culture staff will do their best to help with applicants. We anticipate applications in the hundreds for this program and encourage applicants to prepare early to meet the deadline and take advantage of the support staff can provide.

Application Prompts

The application has been developed with an eye toward balancing the need to provide enough information to the panel to make an informed recommendation about funding, while keeping barriers low and access accessible for organizations who may not have a professionalized grant writing team.

Applicants will be asked to provide the following information:

- Organization description
- Description of community served
- Programming description
- Description of organization governance or decision-making practices
- Description of public benefit

Panel Process

Each of the discipline areas will have at least one panel and up to four panels, depending on the number of applications received. Each panel will have five members, two of which are appointed by the King County Council and King County Executive. The panel consists of working professionals in the fields, who represent all parts of King County, sizes of organizations, and different points of view.

Panelists will review the contents of the applications and utilize an online score form to score each application assigned to them. Panelists will have three to five weeks to conduct their reviews.

The panel will be held over a 1-to-3-day period, depending on the quantity of applications received. During this period, the panel will talk about the proposals and recommend funding for selected proposals to 4Culture's Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria outlined above. The 4Culture Board then approves the final list of awards.

Applicants are notified of their awards after the Board gives final approval for funding.

Award and Approval Process

In the Panel process, panelists will review and rate applications. Panelists are not required to come to consensus, but to provide their own unique perspectives. These scores will be aggregated to create a final score for each application. Panels will recommend a final slate of organizations to progress to the Advisory Committee.

For one-time programs in 2024, 4Culture will bring together representatives of each of the standing Advisory Committees (Arts, Heritage, and Preservation) to review the process and funding recommendations. They will receive a presentation of the application process, applicant pool, panel process and final award slate recommendations. The Advisory Committee will have a chance to review the recommendations, ask questions and approve the slate.

Once the Advisory Committee approves the funding slate, the recommendations progress to 4Culture’s Board of Directors December Board Meeting, where the slate will be reviewed and approved for funding.

Contract and Payment Process

Once an organization has been awarded funding for Sustained Support, the next step is contracting. Contracting involves defining the scope of work for the project that has been selected.

The following information is shared directly with grant recipients:

1. You will be notified via email about your award once the 4Culture Board of Directors votes to approve funding.
2. To receive grant funds, you must sign a contract with 4Culture, which will spell out a Scope of Services that you described in your application.
 - a. When you develop your contract’s scope of services, remember to plan a payment schedule that reflects your expenses and organizational timeline for providing your public benefit
 - b. Drafting and signing your contract may take several months to complete, due to the high number of anticipated grantees across discipline areas. If the timeline of the funding poses a concern for your organization, please reach out to your Program Manager.
3. For all programs, you need to submit a [W-9 Form](#) before we can issue payment. If you have previously completed this step for past grants, you do not need to do so again.
4. 4Culture provides funding on a reimbursement basis, which means we provide funding for completed work, and not future work. The value of your invoice must be equal to, or more than, the expenses related to providing your public benefit.
 - a. You may submit a partial payment or a final payment invoice.
 - b. If you are submitting your final payment invoice, you will be asked to ensure your profile is up to date with the latest financial information from your 990s.
5. You will be required to submit a set of documents along with your invoice:
 - a. A report that demonstrates your public benefit. If you request incremental payments, you will need to submit a report on the provided public benefit for each invoice.
 - b. Examples of 4Culture acknowledgement via marketing or publicity materials
 - c. Digital images documenting the project activities, digital images documenting your activities, including photo credits, permission to publish, and captions.
6. Invoice payments may be made via check or via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Payment normally happens within 3-5 weeks.

C. Engagement and Communications Strategy for 2024 Doors Open Programs

Outreach is targeted to underrepresented communities based on prior award and applicant pool demographics. Guided by 4Culture’s Communications priorities, these efforts include targeted outreach and engagement including communications in multiple languages to broad-based community networks and media outlets within 4Culture’s network.

Most of 4Culture’s capital grant programs are long-standing, and our existing communication strategies employ a racial equity lens to target outreach to underserved communities to encourage

them to apply for funding. For more detail on how we'll leverage existing communication channels, see [Established Engagement and Communications Channels](#). A special focus will be on reaching and engaging Science and Technology organizations that are newly eligible for Cultural Facilities programs. For more detail on these outreach strategies, see [Special Focus on Science and Technology Outreach](#).

Technical Assistance Workshops

4Culture will offer a series of virtual workshops open to all potential applicants, to provide information on program guidelines, the application process and answer questions, discuss project details, and review draft applications.

All workshops will be held remotely. For those who are unable to attend, a workshop recording will be available. Workshop recordings are translated into Spanish and Chinese subtitles.

5. Doors Open 2025-2031

A. Sustained Support

Program and Allocation Summary

Sustained Support provides multi-year grants for operating funds to cultural organizations. These awards provide unrestricted funds to organizations that have a track record of delivering programs and services for the benefit of the public. With funds for unrestricted operating expenses organizations can deploy resources to their most emergent needs.

4Culture offers Sustained Support in each of our four funding program areas. Applicants must choose one of the four areas which best fits their mission and programs. Applicants must have a minimum two-year operating history for Heritage and Preservation Sustained Support; they must have a minimum three-year operating history for Arts Sustained Support.

Program Criteria

Heritage

These awards provide unrestricted support to cultural organizations that have a track record of delivering heritage programs and services, for the benefit of the public. Reviewers use the following criteria: Resilience; Public Benefit, Equity, and Heritage Priorities.

Sustained Support

Estimated annual funding: \$48.5 million

Objective: Meet the ongoing needs of cultural organizations

Strategy: Provide predictable, multi-year funding assistance for operations, including assistance with rent, utilities, payroll, and other basic annual expenses

Key Reporting Metrics: Number of awards and total funding over time by organization; Number of awardees and total funding over time by geography and discipline

Historic Preservation

These awards provide unrestricted support to cultural organizations that have a track record of delivering historic preservation programs and services, for the benefit of the public. Reviewers use the following criteria: Resilience; Public Benefit, Equity, and Preservation Priorities.

Arts

These awards provide unrestricted support to cultural organizations that have a track record of delivering artistic cultural programs and services for the benefit of the public. Reviewers use the following criteria: Resilience; Public Benefit, Equity, and Artistic Substance.

Science and Technology

Operating funds for science and technology cultural organizations provide unrestricted support to organizations to deliver programs and services for the benefit of the general public, King County residents as well as visitors. For these grants, reviewers will look to the following criteria: Resilience, Public Benefit, Equity, and Science and Technology Priorities.

Application, Panel, and Award Process

Heritage

In a typical, biennial award cycle, 4Culture Program Managers first review all applications to ensure eligibility. Program Managers facilitate panels of peer reviewers, which change for each Sustained Support cycle, to evaluate all eligible applications.

Award amounts have three components:

- A base award determined by the recipient organization's budget size.
- A possible additional award based on overall panel score.
- A possible Geographic Investment based on geographic location and/or an Equity investment based on organization's score on the Equity criterion.

The panel's award recommendations are sent to the Heritage Advisory Committee for review, and then onto 4Culture's Board for final approval.

If an organization is selected for funding, the Program Manager will work with the organization to create a grant contract outlining a Scope of Services and Public Benefit for each consecutive year. Organizations that receive Sustained Support funding are typically paid annually upon completion of one or more of the Public Benefit activities described in their grant contract.

Historic Preservation

In a typical, biennial award cycle, 4Culture Program Managers first review all applications to ensure eligibility. Program Managers facilitate panels of peer reviewers, which change for each Sustained Support cycle, to evaluate all eligible applications.

Award amounts have three components:

- A base award determined by the recipient organization's budget size.
- A possible additional award based on overall panel score.

- A possible Geographic Investment based on geographic location and/or an Equity investment based on organization's score on the Equity criterion.
- (see Equity Investments section under "What Sustained Support Funds," above).

The panel's award recommendations are sent to the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee for review, and then onto 4Culture's Board for final approval.

If an organization is selected for funding, the Program Manager will work with the organization to create a grant contract outlining a Scope of Services and Public Benefit for each consecutive year. Organizations that receive Sustained Support funding are typically paid annually upon completion of one or more of the Public Benefit activities described in their grant contract.

Arts

In a typical, biennial award cycle, 4Culture Program Managers first review all applications to ensure eligibility. Program Managers facilitate panels of peer reviewers, which change for each Sustained Support cycle, to evaluate all eligible applications.

Award amounts have three components:

- A base award determined by the recipient organization's budget size.
- A possible additional award based on overall panel score.
- A possible Geographic Investment based on geographic location and/or an Equity investment based on organization's score on the Equity criterion.

The panel's award recommendations are sent to the Arts Advisory Committee for review, and then onto 4Culture's Board for final approval.

If an organization is selected for funding, the Program Manager will work with the organization to create a grant contract outlining a Scope of Service and Public Benefit for each consecutive year. Organizations that receive Sustained Support funding are typically paid annually upon completion of one or more of the Public Benefit activities described in their grant contract.

Science and technology

Operating grants for science and technology cultural organizations are competitive and reviewed by community panels. Applications are scored according to the criteria of resilience, public benefit, equity, and science and technology priorities. Applicants must receive a minimum score to receive a grant.

Science and technology grant awards are scaled relative to the applicant's annual program expenses. In addition, applicants located outside Seattle, located in, and primarily serving a King County Community of Opportunity, with the smallest operating budgets, and/or exhibiting other indicators generally correlated with a limited access to funding receive an equity investment increasing the grant amount over and above what would have been awarded otherwise.

The panel's award recommendations will be sent to the Science and Technology Advisory Committee for review and subsequently to 4Culture's Board for final approval.

Engagement and communications plan

4Culture's operating grant programs are long-standing, and our existing communication strategies employ a racial equity lens to target outreach to underserved communities to encourage them to apply for funding. For more detail on how we'll leverage existing communication channels, see [Established Engagement and Communications Channels](#).

A special focus will be on reaching and engaging Science and Technology organizations that are newly eligible for operating grant programs. For more detail on these outreach strategies, see [Special Focus on Science and Technology Outreach](#).

Like our other programs, 4Culture will offer digital and non-digital engagement to assist potential applicants with understanding the program and technical assistance throughout the application process. This will also include opportunities to receive one-on-one support from 4Culture staff. Typically, this comes in the form of feedback on individual applications, technical assistance, and offering general guidance on understanding and interpreting program criteria and eligibility requirements.

Outreach is focused on underrepresented communities based on prior award and applicant pool demographics. Guided by 4Culture's Communications priorities, these efforts include open application periods of 6-8 weeks; at least three workshops sharing guidelines, criteria, and the application process; and engagement including communication in multiple languages to broad-based community networks and media outlets within 4Culture's network.

Public Benefit Reporting

Public benefit reporting is directly tied to 4Culture's contract and payment process. The grant contract is where the public benefit requirements are first documented, and cultural organizations report on their public facing activities in their payment request. Payment requests are submitted through the 4Culture grant portal and allow grantees to list attendance and participation numbers, provide a narrative evaluation of their activities, attach any necessary documents including photos, budgets, and proof of acknowledgment of 4Culture's support.

As an agency it is a value that we ease the reporting burden for grantees. We collect only needed information so that we can determine overall impact and learn how best to leverage resources for deeper investment in the arts, culture, and science fields.

B. Public School Cultural Access

Program Summary

The Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program will provide King County public school students with greater and more equitable access to science, arts and heritage learning from our county's rich array of cultural organizations.

Beginning in 2025, all public schools and tribal schools in King County's 19 school districts will have access to an online roster of science, arts, heritage, and historic preservation cultural organizations that provide on-site and off-site cultural education programs in and out of the school day. Funding for programs will be provided directly to cultural organizations, and free field trip transportation will be provided to schools in districts with a 40% or higher free and reduced lunch rate.

Increased student access to cultural learning and experiences correlates with higher levels of academic achievement in high school and college and higher levels of civic engagement such as voting and volunteering.¹⁴ A 2019 study found that elementary students who received increased access to education programs from cultural organizations and teaching artists had decreased disciplinary rates, improved their writing achievement, and that students' compassion for others increased.¹⁵

Cultural learning experiences can lead to better outcomes for students in King County, and this is why 4Culture is committed to implementing the Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program with the following goals and values:

- All King County public school students can access engaging and enriching experiences that positively impact their wellbeing, performance in school, and overall growth and development.
- We will prioritize increased access to cultural experiences and activities for students from communities that have been disproportionately impacted by racism and other systems of oppression.
- We will prioritize increased access to students in schools that are located outside of established cultural centers.
- We will prioritize community cultural organizations that are led by and staffed by people from communities that have been disproportionately impacted by racism and other systems of oppression.
- We will prioritize cultural organizations that are located outside of established cultural centers.
- We will work to build and improve relationships between public schools and cultural organizations throughout King County.
- We will collect data to improve both the quantity and quality of cultural education programs provided by cultural organizations to schools.

Public School Cultural Access

Estimated annual funding: \$14.6 million

Objective: Increase public school student access to cultural educational experiences

Strategies:

- Develop database of appropriate onsite and offsite cultural experiences for public schools
- Provide funding to sustain and extend the offerings of cultural organizations through programs provided at schools and at cultural facilities and venues of the cultural organizations
- Provide funding for transportation to cultural facilities and venues for eligible school districts

Key Reporting Metric: Number of schools, classes participating in Public School Cultural Access funded programs by county council district, zip code, school district

Goals and Priorities for the Cultural Education Programs Roster

Establishing a central database for public school educators to find no-cost onsite and offsite cultural learning opportunities for their students is central to 4Culture's Public School Cultural Access Program.

Roster Goals:

¹⁴ James Catterall, 2012.

¹⁵ Daniel H. Bowen, 2019.

- Enable teachers and other school staff to find science, arts, and heritage education programs that align with their classroom and school learning goals.
- Enable teachers and other school staff to find science, arts, and heritage education programs from organizations that reflect their school communities.
- Provide information and support to teachers and other school staff that reduces their barriers to initiating, planning, and implementing cultural field trips and partnerships.
- Provide information and support to cultural organizations that reduce their barriers to engaging with public schools.
- Provide a basis for establishing sustained relationships between schools and cultural partners for the benefit of students.

Roster Priorities:

- Educators will be able to search and filter to find science, arts, and heritage programs that meet their specific learning goals and time parameters.
- Educators will be able to clearly know if their school is eligible for free transportation funding to offsite cultural experiences. They will also know what the process is for requesting free transportation through their district.
- Cultural organizations will be able to provide descriptive program information for the roster so that educators have a clear sense of the value and requirements of each program.
- Cultural organizations will be able to update their program information on the roster at least annually.
- New cultural organizations will be able to add programs to the roster at least annually.

Process for Data Collection and Delivery to Public Schools and Cultural Organizations

The process for data collection to populate the roster will include the following steps:

1. Outreach to cultural organizations to submit entries for the Partner roster
 - a. 4Culture will put out a call for submissions using their cultural orgs list and lists of current partners provided by schools and districts during school stakeholder engagement
 - b. Cultural organizations will fill out an automated form to establish eligibility. If they are found eligible, they will proceed to a submission form where they input data to populate the roster. (see #3)
2. Cultural Partner eligibility
 - a. Meet all organizational structural requirements for Doors Open
 - b. Align with at least one of the Discipline Definitions
 - c. Provide a minimum of one Public Benefit
 - d. Provide a minimum of one Equity Inclusion Public Benefit and/or a minimum of one Geographic Inclusion Public Benefit
 - e. Must agree to meet all the partnership requirements of the district with which the program is occurring. Examples of district requirements may include staff background checks and required liability insurance.
3. Roster Data Collection
 - a. Eligible cultural partners will provide organization and program information through an online portal on the 4Culture website.
 - b. Prior to the initial launch of the roster organizations will have a minimum of five weeks to complete their data to allow sufficient time to gather required information. During this time, technical assistance will be available on the website, through on-line webinars, and through email and phone support from 4Culture staff.

- c. Organization and program information for the roster will include [Note that additional fields may be added based on continuing stakeholder engagement with teachers and district staff.]:
 - i. Organization name,
 - ii. Discipline: Science, Arts, and/or Heritage
 - iii. Sub-discipline, e.g. Historic Preservation, Biology, Engineering, Dance, Music, History,
 - iv. List of school districts and tribal schools that they serve,
 - v. Grade levels they serve,
 - vi. Program name (organizations will be able to list multiple programs as needed),
 - vii. Program type (field trip, in-school single performance/event, in-school residency),
 - viii. Program description,
 - ix. Alignment to state curriculum standards, if applicable,
 - x. Student time needed for program,
 - xi. Educator planning time needed for program,
 - xii. Number of students program can accommodate,
 - xiii. Languages available for learning experiences,
 - xiv. Experience with special education students,
 - xv. Accessibility features available for program, e.g. ASL interpretation, wheelchair accessibility, assistive technology,
 - xvi. Race/ethnicity/accessibility information about program staff,
 - xvii. Estimated cost of program (for 4Culture, not visible to schools)
 - xviii. Organization contact information
 - xix. Link to program registration
 - xx. Downloaded program information, e.g. photos, videos, case studies, lesson plan.
- 4. Cultural Organizations also need information about schools in King County.
 - a. Some information about schools can be uploaded annually from the Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction and other information will have to be obtained from schools via survey.
 - b. Survey information is marked with an asterisk. Cultural organizations will be able to search and filter for specific types of schools.
 - i. School name
 - ii. District
 - iii. Principal
 - iv. Address, phone number
 - v. Grades in school
 - vi. Size of school
 - vii. If school is eligible for free transportation for off-site cultural programs.
 - viii. Students' percentages for race/ethnicity, languages spoken, free and reduced lunch status, students experiencing homelessness, special education
 - ix. If there is a partnership liaison, their name and contact information*
 - x. Link to school website*

Goals and Priorities for Funding for Cultural Education Programs

The cultural education programs funding structure is designed with a goal of sustaining, deepening, and extending cultural education partnerships between cultural organizations and schools. Many

King County cultural organizations already provide engaging and rigorous education programs. Doors Open funds will ensure that existing partnerships with schools can be sustained through the budget reductions that many schools are currently facing. Doors Open funds will expand access to additional schools to bring existing cultural programs to their students, and over time will enable cultural organizations to build out new education programs to provide more access to King County public school students.

Priorities

The cultural education programs funding structure is designed to ensure that:

- Schools and cultural organizations clearly communicate and develop shared learning goals and a program plan to ensure that students' learning needs are met.
- 4Culture gathers relevant data to improve processes for schools and cultural organizations over time and to study the impact of increasing cultural education access on students and communities.

Process

1. Once a teacher or other school staff contacts a cultural organization to initiate a partnership, the organization and the teacher will complete a brief on-line memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU form will be accessible from the 4Culture website. The MOU will gather data that will be used in the grant application such as the type of learning experience, the school, and how many students will be served. The MOU must be signed by a representative from the cultural education organization, the public-school educator, and a school administrator (principal or assistant principal), or school district representative.
2. After an MOU is signed, the cultural organization will apply via an online portal to 4Culture for a grant.
3. To be responsive to school scheduling needs, 4Culture will design a panel review process with timing that ensures responsiveness and flexibility. Feedback from cultural partners and school stakeholders will inform the design.
4. Upon completion of the partnership, a brief survey will automatically be sent to the teacher and the partner to confirm that the partnership occurred and gather feedback for partnership and process improvements.
5. The cultural organization will submit an invoice for reimbursement of the cost of the program.

Goals and Priorities for Funding Public School Transportation

Per Washington state legislation RCW 82.14.525, school districts with at least 40% of the student population eligible for federal free and reduced-price school meals (FRL) will have access to transportation funding to attend programs and activities. Because transportation costs have been identified as a barrier for schools to student access to field trips, 4Culture's priority is that all schools with 40% FRL or higher are eligible for transportation funds, regardless of their district, receive free transportation for cultural education field trips.

- All schools with 40%+ FRL rates have access to transportation funds. This applies to 189 schools in 8 districts (Auburn, Federal Way, Highline, Kent, Muckleshoot Tribal School, Renton, Skykomish, Tukwila)
- If there are sufficient funds, we will include all schools with 40%+ FRL rates to have access to transportation funds. This applies to 68 schools in 8 additional districts – Bellevue (6), Enumclaw (1), Issaquah (2), Lake Washington (1), Northshore (2), Seattle (46), Shoreline (4), Vashon (1).

- If there are sufficient funds, we will include all schools in all districts that face significantly higher transportation costs due to distance from cultural centers.
- Process for reserving bus transportation is clear and streamlined for teachers.
- Process for receiving payment for transportation by district or bus company is clear and reliable.

Process for Delivery of Transportation Funds

The 19 King County school districts use a variety of transportation models. Some districts own and operate their own fleet of busses, while others contract with a bussing company. Through stakeholder engagement with district transportation leaders, 4Culture will design a system so that teachers in each district can request bus transportation in the method that is appropriate for their district and the district or bus company can invoice 4Culture for the cost. 4Culture’s Finance and Legal teams will also be engaged in the design of the delivery process.

Tentative Program Timeline, 2024-2025

May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
School stakeholder engagement; refine roster + transportation design									
	Cultural education partners stakeholder engagement								
		Website + roster design requirements complete	Website + roster built						
					- Beta test website w/ school staff + partners - Hire Public Schools Cultural Access Program Manager	Cultural education organizations submit roster info		- Soft launch website, roster to schools - Monthly panel review begins	Launch event for district and school staff in person at a cultural partner space

Engagement and Communications Plan

4Culture’s communication strategy includes a stakeholder engagement component for the 2024 planning year and a communications plan component for the 2025 launch of the Doors Open Public Schools Cultural Access Program.

2024 Stakeholder Engagement for Public Schools Cultural Access Program Design

The goals of Public Schools Program stakeholder engagement approach are to:

- Understand the current barriers across the districts to school and district partnerships with science, arts, and heritage organizations.
- Identify what has worked well to inform required functions for the roster and the funding partnership mechanism.
- Identify the information schools need in a roster to serve their curricular needs as well as the needs of their specific populations of students, including information about

racess/ethnicities of staff, languages spoken, accessibility, experience with special education students, and geographies served.

- Identify the barriers that cultural organizations have in forming and maintaining partnerships with schools and how Doors Open’s design could help mitigate those barriers to strengthen public education partnerships.
- Identify the information that science, arts and heritage organizations need about schools and what tools they may need to access that information.

Stakeholders and engagement methods:

- District Superintendents
 - Goals: To build their understanding of Doors Open and 4Culture and to obtain their support in engaging with other district staff
 - Methods: Utilize Puget Sound Educational Services District as an existing touchpoint.
- District Curriculum Managers and Teachers on Assignment for science, visual and performing arts, social studies (including ethnic studies and Native American studies) language arts, Career and Technical Education.
 - Goal: Understand what information school staff needs related to content and curriculum to make a partnership choice.
 - Methods: Online focus groups, by content area or geography
- School and Community Partnerships and Engagement Managers
 - Goals: Identify barriers to partnership and what schools and educators need to encourage partnership at a systems level. Identify existing partnerships with science, arts, and heritage organizations.
 - Methods: 1-1 conversations, on-line focus group
- Teachers and other school staff who make partnership decisions
 - Goals: Identify barriers and needs. Identify existing successful partnership models. Beta testing for website and on-line roster.
 - Methods: On-line focus groups with stipends provided for work outside of the school day. May be grouped elementary/secondary, geography, content areas.
- Transportation Managers
 - Goals: Understand the cost and process for funding school transportation to cultural partner facilities.
 - Methods: 1-1 interviews
- Science, Arts, and Heritage Education Community Organizations:
 - Goals: Gather functionality needed for roster and funding mechanism from a partner perspective.
 - Method: Focus groups with a variety of types, organization sizes, and locations.

2025 Public Schools Cultural Access Launch

There will be three main strands of communication: district and school staff, cultural education partners and the King County general public.

Communications with Districts and Schools

Goal: Inform district and school staff about the program and give them a consistent easy way to access the roster

Message: Partnering with King County science, arts, and heritage community organizations will increase student engagement, expand the breadth and depth of student learning, and bridge cultural gaps. Through Doors Open, there are hundreds of no-cost programs with King County science, arts, and heritage community organizations and free field trip transportation is available to many schools.

Strategies: Work with school district communications departments to add persistent links on district and school staff web pages. District staff eNews, emails via curriculum managers. In-person launch event at a cultural partner space.

Communications with Cultural Education Partners

Goal: Inform science, arts, and heritage cultural organizations about the funding and roster opportunities.

Message: More than \$10M is available annually to provide free science, arts and heritage education programs to King County public school and tribal school students. This is an opportunity to sustain, deepen and extend cultural education to students across the county.

Strategy: Email outreach through 4Culture’s existing cultural organizations list augmented by organizations that schools report already partnering with. Webinars and technical assistance by 4Culture staff to provide information and answer questions.

Communications with Public

Goal: Raise awareness of Doors Open Public Schools Cultural Access Program in the general public, especially those connected to public education (students, families, school staff)

Message: Partnering with King County science, arts, and heritage community organizations will increase student engagement, expand the breadth and depth of student learning, and bridge cultural gaps. Through Doors Open, there are hundreds of no-cost programs with King County science, arts, and heritage community organizations and free field trip transportation is available to many schools.

Strategy: Media campaign that includes an in-person event for school leaders, educators, students, families, cultural education organizations and media to raise public and educator awareness of the program.

Table of role descriptions: school districts, cultural orgs, 4Culture

School Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform program design [transportation managers, curriculum managers] • Support communication about program to school staff [communication managers]
School Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform program design through focus groups and beta testing, pre- and post-launch • Utilize cultural education partners roster to arrange programs for students

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with cultural education partners to plan programs and complete no-cost partnership agreement (or MOU) • Implement cultural learning programs with partner • Complete brief post-partnership survey
Cultural Organization Education Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform program design through focus groups and beta testing, pre- and post-launch • Provide data to populate roster with organizational and education program details • Assign staff to monitor school program requests • Collaborate with requesting school staff to plan programs and complete no-cost partnership agreement (or MOU) • Implement cultural learning programs with school staff • Complete brief post-partnership survey • Receive funds
4Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct stakeholder engagement with staff from schools and cultural education partners to inform program design. • Design, implement and maintain website, roster, funding mechanisms for transportation and cultural education organizations. • Create conditions to foster positive, long-term relationships between schools and cultural organizations.

Public Benefit Reporting for Public Schools Cultural Access Program

Doors Open Public School Cultural Access Program grant recipients are required to meet at least one general Public Benefit requirement and one Equity or Geographic Inclusion Benefit requirement. Of these, the most relevant to the Public Schools program are:

- Providing cultural educational programs and experiences at a cultural organization's own facilities or in schools or other cultural facilities or venues; (GENERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT)
- Providing arts, science, and heritage career building opportunities for youth through internships and apprenticeships or other means; (GENERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT)
- Providing free access to curriculum-related arts, science, and heritage programs for public school students throughout the county at school and at cultural sites with emphasis on underserved students; (EQUITY INCLUSION BENEFIT)
- Providing cultural programming to communities outside the city in which a cultural organization is primarily located, either directly or in partnership with other cultural organizations, or public schools, or through other means. (GEOGRAPHIC INCLUSION BENEFIT)

Data on Public Benefits will be collected through the Memorandum of Understanding that the cultural organizations and schools complete to receive funding. Public Benefits data will include data that illustrates the immediate benefits of programs to King County public school students and staff as well as benefits for the cultural organizations. 4Culture will also gather data to show the

longer-term benefits of engaging in learning through community partnerships with cultural organizations to King County students and communities.

Metrics related to benefits to public school students include:

- Number of students participating in programs by program type, category, discipline
- Number of students participating in programs by school FRL rate (EQUITY INCLUSION BENEFIT)
- Number of students participating in programs by county council district, zip code, school district (GEOGRAPHIC INCLUSION BENEFIT)
- Application and award levels to organizations for education programs by school, school district, schools where at least 40% of students are eligible for the Free and Reduced Lunch program (FRL)

Metrics related to benefits to public schools and staff include:

- Number of schools, classes participating in programs by program type, category, discipline
- Number of schools, classes participating in programs by school FRL rate (EQUITY INCLUSION BENEFIT)
- Number of schools, classes participating in programs by county council district, zip code, school district (GEOGRAPHIC INCLUSION BENEFIT)
- Number of busses and amounts paid to school districts for transportation by district, school, county council district
- Number of professional development programs by school, district, cultural category, discipline
- Number of teachers participating in professional development by school, district, cultural category, discipline

Metrics related to benefits to cultural organizations include:

- Application and award levels to organizations by program type, category, discipline
- Application and award levels to organizations by organization size, demographics of leaders, staff (EQUITY INCLUSION BENEFIT)
- Application and award levels to organizations by county council district, zip code, school district, school (GEOGRAPHIC INCLUSION BENEFIT)

Metrics to understand Doors Open's impact and to inform improvements to the Doors Open the Public School Cultural Access Program include:

- Number of cultural organizations that are listed on the roster by category (science, arts, heritage) and discipline (e.g. zoology, computer science, music, theatre)
- Number of educational programs listed by type (field trip, in school), category, discipline,
- Traffic to roster

Additional metrics to grow understanding of the impact of programs on students will be added after consulting with evaluation staff.

C. Public Free Access

Program and Allocation Summary

The Public Free Access program aims to reduce the significant barrier that admission fees pose to many King County residents and visitors, particularly underserved communities, in accessing quality, relevant cultural and science experiences. Reimbursements are provided to cultural organizations to help cover the costs of providing free and reduced cost programming throughout the year.

Program Criteria

Grants may be used to support free and reduced cost attendance at arts, heritage, preservation, or science experiences that meet the following criteria:

- Mission-based and meaningfully engages the attendee in the mission.
- Provides an identical experience to attendees paying a standard fee.
- Produced by the applicant organization.
- Open and advertised to the general public without restriction or limitation by invitation, such that anyone who wishes to visit/attend/participate/purchase a ticket may do so.
- In-person at venues in King County whereat head counts are taken and recorded.

Application, panel, and award process

Maintaining a focus on equitable access to funding, the Public Free Access program minimizes the burden of applying by automatically pre-qualifying current Doors Open operating support grant recipients, if they meet all other program eligibility requirements. The operating support panel process effectively serves as the panel process for Public Free Access grants, meaning that being awarded an operating support grant for the current year provides eligibility to apply for a Public Free Access program grant for the same year if the applicant provides cultural experiences consistent with the program criteria and guidelines.

Applicants are required to complete a short application providing necessary information, including but not necessarily limited to the following items:

- Number of free and reduced cost attendance and total other paid attendance provided by the applicant during the previous calendar year.
- How attendance was counted.
- What documentation of the attendance is preserved.
- List of the cultural experiences in the current calendar year the applicant plans to offer free or reduced cost participation.
- How the applicant will prioritize providing free or reduced cost access to cultural experiences for members of underserved communities.

Public Free Access grants for the current year are based on the free and reduced cost attendance provided in the previous calendar year that meets the program criteria and guidelines.

Public Free Access

Estimated annual funding: \$14.6 million

Objective: Increase access to cultural offerings

Strategy: Reimburse cultural organizations for free and reduced-cost access experiences

Key Reporting Metric: Number of free and/or reduced cost attendants

In addition, applicants located outside Seattle, located in, and primarily serving a King County Community of Opportunity, with the smallest operating budgets, and/or other indicators correlated with a limited access to funding receive an equity investment increasing the grant amount over and above what would have been awarded otherwise.

Public Benefit Reporting

To receive reimbursement, all Public Free Access recipients provide documentation on the number of free and/or reduced cost attendance provided. This reporting metric is collected by 4Culture for annual reporting and is evidence of the General Public Benefit and Equity Inclusion Benefit requirements.

D. Building for Equity

Program and Allocation Summary

The Doors Open allocation for Building for Equity encompasses 4Culture’s facilities, facility-focused capacity building, and other capital grant programs. 4Culture’s current Building for Equity initiative was built to center communities that have historically faced barriers to purchasing and stewarding cultural space, and provides a combination of funding, tailored support, and strategic partnerships.

Doors Open will enable 4Culture’s existing Building for Equity funding programs, including Capacity Building and Facilities, to grow. A new program will be initiated, focusing on facilities that serve Native communities and share Native cultures.

The Doors Open Building for Equity allocation will also bring additional resources and a renewed focus on equitable funding strategies in 4Culture’s Equipment, Landmarks Capital, and Emergency/Unforeseen Capital programs.

Program Criteria

Building for Equity: Facilities criteria include Quality and Qualifications; Feasibility; Project Impact and Public Benefit; and Advancing Equity. An additional eligibility requirement for projects with budgets larger than \$10 million is a demonstrated commitment to Equity in Development and Construction Practices. Funding levels will be determined during the funding process based on revenue availability and applicant need.

Building for Equity: Capacity Building criteria include Quality and Qualifications, Feasibility, Impact, and Advancing Equity. (An additional eligibility requirement for Capacity Building applicants is being located in a Community of Opportunity or outside of Seattle; or the organization’s primary mission or programs must support historically marginalized communities.)

Building for Equity

Estimated annual funding: \$9.7 million

Objective: To support cultural building projects and create a pathway to equitable facilities funding.

Strategies:

- Provide funding for cultural and science organizations to acquire, build, and renovate buildings, to purchase equipment
- support organizational capacity building for meeting facility goals

Key Reporting Metric: Number and type of projects funded over time by district and zip code

Equipment criteria include Quality, Feasibility, Project Impact, and Advancing Equity.

Native Cultural Facilities funding criteria are currently under development. A Native Advisory Council is working with 4Culture staff to refine funding criteria.

Landmarks Capital criteria include Quality; Feasibility; Public Benefit; Advancing Equity; and Program Priorities. (The Program Priorities criterion allows the Landmarks Capital program to adapt to time-sensitive needs and specific gaps in funding for historic preservation. Additionally, the project must focus on the rehabilitation of a designated landmark property.)

Emergency/Unforeseen criteria include Quality, Feasibility, and Project Impact and Public Benefit. Additionally, projects must meet eligibility criteria as follows:

Emergency:

- A pressing situation that would cause a facility or landmark to be threatened, or to suffer severe economic consequences due to conditions outside of the applicant's control
- A threat to the safety of patrons or staff
- A catastrophic event or natural disaster

Unforeseen Opportunity:

- An opportunity that was not available at the time of the last application deadline and that will no longer be available to the applicant by the next application deadline.
- Will allow an organization an unexpected opportunity to significantly advance its goals and mission

Application, panel, and award process

Each grant program and cycle has a different pool of applicants and projects. Grant recommendations for Building for Equity Facilities, Building for Equity Capacity Building, Equipment, and Landmarks Capital funding are made by separate panels consisting of working professionals in the fields we fund, and who represent all parts of King County, sizes of organizations, and different points of view. Each panel, the composition of which changes every year, comes together to talk about the proposals and recommends funding for selected proposals to 4Culture's Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria outlined above. The 4Culture Board then approves the final list of awards.

Applicants are notified of their awards after the Board gives final approval for funding. Program managers work with each applicant to develop a Scope of Services and Public Benefit requirements for their grant contract. Grant payments are made upon request for reimbursement for qualifying expenses; the applicant must submit copies of their invoices to 4Culture to document the expenses.

The application and review process for Native Cultural Facilities funding is currently under development under the guidance of a Native Advisory Council.

4Culture sets aside a limited amount of capital grant funding for Emergencies and Unforeseen Opportunities, outside of the regular grant cycle. Applications for Emergency/Unforeseen Opportunity funding are reviewed by the relevant 4Culture Advisory Committee in advance of their regular meeting, and typically the applicant joins the committee for an interview. Advisory Committee members evaluate whether the project meets 4Culture's definition of an Emergency or Unforeseen Opportunity, and they consider the project's merits using the criteria of Quality, Feasibility, Equity, and Public Benefit.

Advisory Committee recommendations for out-of-cycle funding go to the 4Culture Board of Directors for final approval. In the absence of a meeting of the 4Culture Board, recommendations are reviewed and approved by the 4Culture Executive Committee.

Engagement and communications plan

Most of 4Culture’s capital grant programs are well-established, and our networks and communication strategies employ a racial equity lens to target outreach to underserved communities and encourage them to apply for funding.

Outreach is focused on underrepresented communities based on prior award and applicant pool demographics. Guided by 4Culture’s Communications priorities, these efforts include open application periods of 6-8 weeks; at least three workshops sharing guidelines, criteria, and the application process; and engagement including communication in multiple languages to broad-based community networks and media outlets within 4Culture’s network.

A special focus will be on reaching and engaging Science and Technology organizations that are newly eligible for Building for Equity Facilities, Building for Equity Capacity Building, Equipment, and Emergency/Unforeseen programs.

In addition, 4Culture’s Native Advisory Council will advise on outreach and engagement strategies for the Native Cultural Facilities program.

Public Benefit Reporting

Building for Equity Facilities grants require organizations provide arts, culture, science and/or heritage programs, services, or opportunities as a public benefit for a period of at least 10-years as specified in the agreement governing the award.

During that time, as public health regulations permit, the public will regularly have access to the organization’s facility or primary location and will benefit from participation in specific arts, culture, science and/or heritage opportunities provided by the organization.

The organization must widely publicize its public benefit performances, events and programs throughout King County and track the number of public benefit events and audiences served by such programs.

In addition, as part of the public benefit to be provided by this grant, this organization agrees to provide 6-hours to the Building for Equity Program. These hours may include participation in a focus group, interviews with 4Culture staff and/or to present at a 4Culture workshop. The intent of this participation is to evaluate the efficacy of the Building for Equity Program through its participants and to create a community of practice around planning, developing, and building facility projects.

For organizations with project budgets of \$10m or more, a unique public benefit is required. These grantees agree to participate in a quantifiable Space Contribution program facilitated by 4Culture. The intent of this program is to encourage resource-sharing and partnership between Building for Equity constituents. The Grantee will offer free access to technical assistance, use of facility space or other equivalent benefits over a designated period with a Building for Equity Capacity Building or Launch grantee.

Building for Equity Capacity Building grants require organizations provide the following potential cultural opportunities as public health regulations permit:

- Regularly scheduled cultural programs produced by the organization offered to King County residents and visitors, either live or through virtual means
- Access to special events or educational programs offered by this organization
- Participation/engagement of this organization’s staff, board and/or volunteers in training that prepares them to better serve their community and increase their skills in planning for and managing capital projects.

The organization must widely share its public benefit performances, events, and programs throughout King County and track the number of public benefit events and audiences served by such programs.

Equipment grants require organizations to provide the following types of potential opportunities to the public, with the equipment over a period of at least 10 years:

- Regularly scheduled free or pay-what-you-can access to rehearsals, previews and/or performances; or historic space, exhibits, and/or programs enabled by the equipment supported by this grant.
- Regularly scheduled free or reduced-price admission to displays or collections enabled by using the equipment supported by this grant.
- Regularly scheduled public programs produced by the grantee and offered to King County residents and visitors at other sites.
- Access to educational programs produced by the grantee that are targeted to under-served King County populations such as students, senior citizens, or other specific audiences.

The **Landmarks Capital** program’s public benefit centers on the rehabilitation and long-term stewardship of designated landmarks. Landmarks Capital recipients must agree to maintain the property as landmark in perpetuity, and to maintain the property in good condition for a minimum of 10 years. The recipient must abide by local historic preservation regulations, which typically include a requirement for design review of any proposed changes, and adherence to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Emergency/Unforeseen public benefit varies slightly by program area but parallels the public benefit requirements of Building for Equity Facilities and Landmarks Capital programs.

E. Countywide Initiatives

Countywide Initiatives funding will support ‘field services’ organizations that improve career opportunities for King County’s cultural practitioners. Field services are investments in people, without whom the cultural sector would not exist. A healthy workforce will strengthen the arts and culture ecosystem and, in turn, improve the cultural experience available to the residents and visitors of King County.

Countywide initiatives will use the framework of field services to support cultural practitioners. Field services refers to the constellation of programs, resources, and networks that support capacity building for cultural organizations and cultural practitioners in King County.

- **Capacity building** is the generation of resources or support intended to help an organization, group, or individual enhance their ability to fulfill their mission or purpose (i.e., any activity or support that is focused on the health and sustainability of an organization or the practitioner rather than specific programs.)
- **Cultural practitioners** are the collection of artists; administrators, professionals, and volunteers of cultural institutions and culture-focused public agencies; owners or stewards of historic structures and landscapes; culture bearers; technical specialists; and creative professionals and workers with specialized skills needed in the cultural ecosystem.

4Culture has historically played a supporting role in field services, though it may not have considered this an explicit function of the organization. Studies by ArtsFund, 4Culture, and others between 2018 and 2022 highlight a need for more systemic and sustained approach to field services to enable the cultural sector to thrive during the regional affordability crisis.¹⁶ In 2020, understanding and providing a systemic approach to field services for individual practitioners was included as one of King County’s Cultural Plan Goals: “Foster racial equity, agency, and collaboration for cultural practitioners to build a stronger cultural sector.” The Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated the need greatly, shuttering many venues, pushing cultural practitioners out of the region, and creating social and creative isolation.

Countywide Initiatives

Estimated annual funding: \$6.8 million

Objective: Support regional initiatives for cultural workforce development

Strategies:

- Multi-year project-based funding for organizations providing field services for cultural practitioners
- Support for cultural workforce and career development

Key Reporting Metric: Number and location of field service providing programs; Number of participants completing the programming and/or service

¹⁶ ArtsFund Social Impact Study, 2018; King County 4Culture Task Force Report, 2018; 4Culture Cultural Health Study, 2021; and Puget Sound Regional Council’s Arts and Culture Economic Recovery Strategy, 2022.

Field Services, Post-Pandemic

A landscape scan of Field Services conducted by BERK Consulting in 2023 found that field services offerings are most challenged by funding and staffing constraints among field services providers. Field services are most robust in Seattle where providers are concentrated, and where funding and programming is augmented by the City of Seattle. Field services opportunities are often found through social media or through word-of-mouth, and there is no accepted countywide hub for communication of opportunities.

Field service offerings 4Culture is best equipped to support include:

Pathways. Training and skill-building opportunities are not consistently available and accessible across career stages, disciplines, and regions.

Community-building. Cultural practitioners want community building and mentorship, such as cooperatives or communities of practice to connect with other cultural practitioners.

Professional services. Individual cultural practitioners need professional services such as legal counsel, professional photography and marketing, trademarking, and tax advice. These services, when available, may not be tailored to the unique needs of cultural workers or affordable.

Program and Allocation Summary

Countywide Initiatives will help 4Culture provide transformative funding to field services providers who support cultural workforce development for cultural practitioners in all disciplines and throughout the county. Countywide Initiatives funds will provide multiyear project-based grants to increase capacity for field services providers to support individual practitioners of all cultural disciplines.

Program Criteria

This program will be open to:

- Cultural organizations with a primary purpose to provide programs, resources, and networks that support capacity building for cultural organizations and cultural practitioners in King County.
- Cultural organizations who provide or would like to provide field services, but do not include it as their primary mission focus. For projects proposed by these cultural organizations (that are not primarily field service providers), the proposed project must benefit more than the staff, membership, or audience of the applicant organization.

Examples of Field Service Providers in King County

- Artist Trust
- Shunpike
- Arte Noir
- Maple Valley Creative Arts Council
- African American Writer's Alliance
- Centro Cultural Mexicano
- Washington Trust for Historic Preservation
- Historic Seattle
- yəhaw' Indigenous Creatives Collective
- Ethnic Heritage Council
- Museum Educators of Puget Sound
- TeenTix

Countywide initiatives will prioritize support for organizations that are based and projects that will take place outside of Seattle, in a Community of Opportunity, or meeting other equity criteria, for funding and support.

Application, Panel, and Award Process

Field service project grants will be evaluated by panels of professionals in the fields we fund, who represent all parts of King County, sizes of organizations, and different points of view. Each panel will come together to talk about the proposals and recommend funding for selected proposals to 4Culture's Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria outlined above. The 4Culture Board will approve the final list of awards.

Applicants will be notified of their awards after the Board gives final approval for funding. Program managers will work with each applicant to develop a Scope of Services and Public Benefit requirements for their grant contract. Grant contract terms will be at least 3 years, to allow for appropriate length of planning before implementation and help sustain projects for one or two interactions.

Engagement and communications plan

4Culture conducted extensive outreach in the development of Countywide Initiatives. In addition to working across all advisory committees, 4Culture partnered with eight organizations throughout the county to gain insight from the cultural practitioners they serve. In April 2024, 4Culture hosted a community convening for all field services partners involved in the development of the Field Services landscape scan to provide additional review and feedback.

Partner organizations for the early development of Countywide Initiatives includes:

- African American Writer's Alliance
- Centro Cultural Mexicano
- Festal
- King County Historic Preservation Program
- Maple Valley Arts Council
- Powerful Voices
- Wing Luke Museum YouthCAN
- yəhaw' Indigenous Creatives Collective

In 2025, 4Culture will run an open roster call to ensure we connect with as many field service providers in the county as possible. We will target grant outreach to known field service providers from the 2024 landscape scan and new providers, with an emphasis on communities often underfunded by 4Culture. Like our other programs, 4Culture will offer digital and non-digital engagement to assist potential applicants with understanding the program and technical assistance throughout the application process.

Public Benefit Reporting

Recipients of Countywide Initiatives funding will report on how funding helped with implementation of capacity-building projects or activities to support cultural practitioners. Data collected will include:

- Number of programs and/or services provided

- Number/attendance for practitioners that participated in their organization’s programming and/or services
- Location of programming and/or services
- Number of partnerships between cultural organizations facilitated

F. Launch

Program and Allocation Summary

The Launch program is focused on new and emerging, Doors Open-eligible cultural or science organizations in King County, with a goal to ensure that all geographic areas of the county and all communities in the county have access to cultural experiences.

Launch will provide grants for start-up costs and multi-year operating support to new and emerging organizations, paired with capacity building and technical assistance. New organizations will have a pathway to receiving Sustained Support, which is only available to organizations

with a minimum 2-year operating history for heritage and preservation and 3-year operating history for arts. Organizations that have previously received Sustained Support but have had 501c3 status for less than 3 years and are hiring paid staff for the first time, can apply for a limited-time boost in operating support, along with capacity building services to enable their growth and stability.

An additional priority of this program is increasing access to cultural space, especially for organizations that have historically faced barriers to purchasing and stewarding cultural space. The Launch program will explore leveraging 4Culture’s existing capital programs, including Building for Equity Facilities and the Preservation Action Fund, to increase access to cultural space for new and emerging organizations.

Program Criteria

The Doors Open Ordinance states:

"New or emerging cultural organization" means a cultural organization formed, and operating exclusively for exempt purposes, as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit no more than three years prior to seeking funding under the Door Open Program."

For the purposes of the Launch program, 4Culture further defines “**new organizations**” as Doors Open-eligible cultural or science organizations that are less than three years old and have not previously been awarded Sustained Support funding. New organizations that do not have 501c3 status may be fiscally sponsored, if the sponsor is a Doors Open-eligible 501c3 organization.

Launch

Estimated annual funding: \$2.9 million

Objective: Ensure that all geographic areas of the county and all communities in the county have access to cultural experiences

Strategies: Grants for start-up costs and multi-year operating support to new and emerging organizations, paired with capacity building and technical assistance

Key Reporting Metric: Number of awards and total funding over time to new organizations by geography and discipline; Number of new organizations that gain eligibility to Sustained Support

New collaborative ventures among existing organizations are also eligible for funding as new organizations, but they must have a decision-making body and structure that is independent of the participating organizations.

For the purposes of the Launch program, 4Culture further defines “**emerging organizations**” as Doors Open-eligible cultural or science organizations that do not yet have 501c3 status or have had 501c3 status for less than three years, and are hiring paid, regular staff for the first time. Emerging organizations may have received Sustained Support previously.

The Launch Program will prioritize organizations based outside of Seattle, or in a [Community of Opportunity](#) (COO), or meeting other equity criteria, for funding and support.

Program criteria for selecting new and emerging organizations to be funded will be refined based on outreach and engagement taking place in 2024 and 2025 and are anticipated to include Quality and Qualifications; Impact and Public Benefit, Feasibility, and Advancing Equity.

Application, Panel, and Award process

New Organization and Emerging Organization grant applications for start-up and operating support will be evaluated by panels of professionals in cultural sector fields, who represent all parts of King County, sizes of organizations, and different points of view. Each panel will come together to talk about the proposals and recommend funding for selected proposals to 4Culture’s Advisory Committees and Board based on the criteria outlined above. The 4Culture Board will approve the final list of awards.

Applicants will be notified of their awards after the Board gives final approval for funding. Program managers will work with each applicant to develop a Scope of Services and Public Benefit requirements for their grant contract. Grant contract terms will be 2-3 years, to help sustain new and emerging organizations until the next Sustained Support application round that they will be eligible for.

Engagement and Communications Plan

4Culture will conduct an extensive outreach and engagement process beginning in 2024 and continuing into 2025. Priorities for this engagement include:

- Outreach will include opportunities for both digital and non-digital engagement
- Geographic reach of engagement will be countywide, with an emphasis on rural and underserved communities
- Language access will be prioritized based on 4Culture analysis of demographic data indicating communities that are underserved with cultural funding

Outreach and engagement for the Launch program will include technical support for the formation of new organizations, to help build a pipeline of applicants that will be competitive for New Organization grants.

Public Benefit Reporting

Like Sustained Support recipients, New and Emerging organizations will report on the public benefit of their activities over the course of each year that they receive funding. This may include metrics such as visitation numbers, volunteer hours, or audiences served. The public benefit

reported by Launch-funded organizations can include capacity-building work that leads to growth in reach and impact. Public benefit can also include free and reduced cost programs and services that increase access to culture and science, especially for underserved communities.

G. Outside of Seattle Program and Communities of Opportunity Program

Ensuring continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and cultural programming located in and serving economically and geographically underserved populations is a key objective of the Doors Open program and is long held value at 4Culture. Built into each of the six Doors Open programs is the requirement that the recipient organization provide Equity and/or Geographic Inclusion Benefits, in addition to the General Public Benefit requirement.

In addition, the ordinance sets aside funds to ensure that 25% of Doors Open program funding supports organizations outside of established cultural centers and that of all Doors Open funding, a minimum of 10% goes towards organizations in Communities of Opportunity or serving vulnerable populations.

Per the ordinance, the goals for this funding are:

1. Overcoming economic and geographic inequities that limit access to the arts, science, and heritage experiences by expanding access to programs and activities at cultural organizations in the county, such that audiences represent the diversity of the county;
2. Stronger relationships between local communities and cultural organizations that result in the creation of programs and activities that are mutually beneficial;
3. Making the boards, staff, and programming of cultural organizations more representative of the diversity existing within the county; and
4. Ensuring that the Doors Open Program distributes a total of at least one million dollars to cultural organizations in each county council district each year.

Investments in Geographic Inclusion and Equity

4Culture recognizes that where an organization is based or provides its services, as well as the communities it serves, can affect access to funding and other resources. To take a step towards balancing these disparities, 4Culture will award additional funding to organizations that are based in parts of King County that are less served by other funding sources, and to organizations that specifically serve marginalized communities.

Communities of Opportunity Composite Index Map

To identify the locations for equity investments, 4Culture leverages the [Communities of Opportunity Composite Index](#). This index is a publicly available research tool with data compiled by Public Health – Seattle & King County. This work stems from a partnership funded by Best Starts for Kids, King County, and the Seattle Foundation.

The COO Composite Index was first developed in 2012 and includes a set of indicators for different health and socioeconomic domains to examine their combined impact on community health and well-being.

4Culture has been using this Composite Index Map to help practice its equity investments since 2020.

Outside of the City of Seattle

Cultural organizations with a primary location outside of Seattle City limits will receive additional geographic equity funds. 25% of all Doors Open funding will be distributed to organizations outside the City of Seattle.

Communities of Opportunity

Organizations that are located in a Community of Opportunity are eligible for additional funds. The Communities of Opportunity (COO) index includes a set of health and socioeconomic indicators to gauge community health and well-being. 4Culture aligns our equity investments with the COO index to identify the areas of King County in greatest need of support. 10% of all Doors Open funding will be distributed to organizations located in a Community of Opportunity or serving one or more vulnerable populations

6. Measuring and Evaluating Doors Open Outcomes

Doors Open gives 4Culture the opportunity to hire its first full-time Evaluator. This position was posted publicly in March 2024 and the new hire is expected to join by early summer 2024. The Evaluator will help 4Culture to improve its data collection, reporting, and reflection processes and will help ensure that Doors Open programs are accountable to the public.

Key reporting metrics listed for each program may be revised upon review by the Evaluator.

Timeline for Assessment Report

4Culture plans to deliver the assessment report in 2029. This will provide time to gather and analyze data which will inform the Doors Open renewal process in 2030. Prior to the official Assessment Report, 4Culture will integrate Doors Open program reporting with its regular cycle of reporting on budget and funding activities to the Executive and the King County Council.

Assessment Report Requirements

As required in the ordinance, 4Culture will develop an Assessment Report and reporting process that addresses the effectiveness of program funding. In developing this Report and reporting process, it will work with following groups:

- Qualified evaluation personnel
- Staff from cultural organizations
- King County cultural consumers
- School districts
- 4Culture staff
- 4Culture Board of Directors

Per the Ordinance, the Assessment Report will include:

- An overview of evaluation personnel, methodology, and practices
- Funding distribution data by council district and zip code
- Planned vs actuals for program allocations, year past and year ahead
- Data and findings on public benefit outcomes for King County residents

- Data and findings on Public School Cultural Access Program, broken down by council district and zip code, and by percentage of schools eligible for Doors Open transportation funding
- Data and findings on organizations located in and serving Communities of Opportunity
- Data and findings on capacity building and growth for organizations located and serving communities outside of Seattle
- Recommendations for future improvements or changes to Doors Open program processes, criteria, and reporting requirements

7. Appendices

A. Itemization of Doors Open Start-Up Costs

Table reflects Doors Open expenditures incurred by 4Culture between December 5, 2023, and March 31, 2024.

Item	Cost	Note
Existing Staff – Doors Open time allocation	\$531,050	Employee allocation % range: 0% - 80%. Average time allocation 31%.
Indirect Costs - Occupancy/IT	\$134,705	Indirect costs parallel salary allocations; thus 31% of total allocable indirect costs
New staff	\$29,471	2024 Doors Open Project Director through 3/31
Consulting expenses	\$24,950	
Legal and accounting	\$17,817	
Other	\$7,753	Includes professional fees for design, outreach and marketing, and office equipment and supplies
Total	\$745,746	

B. 2024 Board Directors

Staci Adman: Kenmore (District 1)

Staci is an artist who lives and creates in Kenmore, WA. She graduated from the University of Washington with a BFA in painting and now works in a wide variety of media. She has enjoyed sharing her love of art with children and youth for a couple of decades. She currently teaches adult glass and fiber classes at The Schack Art Center in Everett and her work is found in several local galleries. Staci had the honor of being a co-creator of the Kenmore Mural Project in Kenmore, WA in 2016 and has created several public art projects around Woodinville sponsored by the Woodinville Rotary's Peace Pole project.

Catherine Nueva España, Vice President: Seattle (District 4)

Catherine Nueva España is a consultant with experience in arts, design, and creative practices. She helps leaders recognize personal values and create a practice of sustaining collaborations. She has been interim executive director at On the Boards and EarthCorps, executive director at Velocity Dance Center, and a board member at Khambatta Dance Company. She serves as a board commissioner for ArtsWA and serves on a variety of grant panels. España received her BA from Wellesley College, and her MA in Dance Studies from the Trinity Laban Conservatoire in London.

Leanne Guier: Pacific (District 7)

Leanne Guier is the retired mayor of Pacific, Washington, where she served from July 2013 until December 2023. Leanne has also worked as the Political Coordinator for the UA Plumbers and Pipefitters Local. She has served on a variety of King County Regional Committees, including Water Control, Transportation, Growth Management, and Flood Control. In 2019, she was elected President of the Sound Cities Association (SCA). Leanne also spearheaded construction of 3 War Memorial sites along the Interurban Trail.

Angie Hinojos: Redmond (District 3)

Angie Hinojos is the Executive Director and co-founder of Centro Cultural Mexicano in Redmond. Angie is a Trustee for Cascadia College, and Chair of the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs. She is a Public Artist and a passionate advocate for social and racial justice. She received a degree in Architecture from UC Berkeley and utilizes her experience with art and culture to strengthen community bonds. As a community organizer, Angie has focused on equity in education to increase access to higher education for underserved communities.

Khazm Kogita, Member-at-Large: Seattle (District 8)

Khazm “King Khazm” Kogita is a multidisciplinary artist, music producer, and community organizer who's a prominent figure in the Hip-Hop community in Seattle and internationally. His work to unify and empower the communities is demonstrated through over 25 years of art and service. Khazm is Executive Director of 206 Zulu, a Seattle Disability Commissioner, a Here & Now Project Board Member, and Manager of Washington Hall.

Afua Kouyaté: Seattle (District 2)

Afua Kouyaté is a teaching and performing artist specializing in cultural arts leadership, emphasizing therapeutic engagement. As the Executive Director of Adefua Cultural Education Workshop, she is viewed as one of Seattle’s treasures, a leader in the cultural arts sector, and dedicated to the community. Afua is renowned for building educational pathways for youth and families for African cultural experiences. Afua presents a full year of programming in the of study of arts, history, and culture.

Seth Margolis: Seattle (District 8)

Seth Margolis is the Director of Education Operations for the Boeing Academy for STEM Learning at The Museum of Flight in Seattle and has worked at heritage organizations in the United States and Canada. He teaches museum education for the UW Graduate Program in Museology, serves on the advisory board for the Museum Studies Certificate Program, and is a member of the 4Culture Heritage Advisory Committee.

Frank Martin: Skykomish (District 3)

Frank Martin is the managing principal of the Chain Companies and has been a recipient of a 4Culture Preservation grant to restore the Skykomish Theater into what is now known as Onemish Lodge, an extended stay basecamp in the heart of the Great Northern Corridor. Prior to Chain, Frank was a Senior Program Manager at Microsoft, Senior Project Manager for Investco Financial Corporation, and Construction Manager for a general contractor in Seattle.

Bryan Ohno: Kent (District 5)

Bryan Ohno is the Director of Soos Creek Studio, a contemporary ceramic studio that creates sustainable use pottery, and trains the next generation of youth potters. Bryan's career has led him to direct two art galleries in Tokyo and Seattle. He was also the founding director of MadArt. Bryan previously served on 4Culture's Art Advisory Committee. Bryan received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts from the University of Puget Sound. Bryan also serves on the Kent Arts Commission.

AC Petersen: Kirkland (District 6)

AC Petersen has been choreographing and producing dance/theatre works since 1983. She is a volunteer book narrator at the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library and worked in communications and media relations with the UW Libraries. While at the Northwest Asian American Theatre, she worked with individual artists from Asia and Pacific Island regions in creating new interdisciplinary works. She was a founding co-editor of DanceNet, a publication for the region's dance community, from 1990-2000, and has a BA in Architecture from the University of Washington.

Natasha Rivers, Secretary: Renton (District 5)

Natasha Rivers is the Senior Sustainability & Measurement Manager at BECU where she is developing a strategic framework around their social impact and commitment to philanthropy, diversity, equity, and inclusion. Natasha has served on the boards of the Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Urban League Young Professionals, and Treehouse for Kids. In 2022, Rivers was named one of Seattle's 40 Under 40 by the Puget Sound Business Journal. She is a Leadership Tomorrow alum and Partner with Social Venture Partners (SVP). Natasha earned her PhD in Geography from UCLA with a focus on contemporary sub-Saharan African migration.

Latha Sambamurti: Redmond (District 6)

Latha Sambamurti is the producer and Artistic, Outreach and Development Director of several large-scale arts and culture festivals in Washington. She is an educator, trained musician, band leader, and winner of Kirkland Performance Center's You Rock award for community service. Sambamurti has been a Washington State Arts Commissioner and a Redmond Arts & Culture Commissioner/Chair. She serves as a board director for several state and regional cultural organizations. Sambamurti holds a master's degree in English Literature.

Steven Schindler, Treasurer: Issaquah (District 3)

Steven Schindler is a partner with Perkins Coie, where he represents individuals and families in personal and estate planning strategies. His practice also includes working with individuals and groups to form charitable organizations and advising existing charitable organizations on a variety of legal and tax matters. He serves on several boards, including the Atlantic Street Center, End of Life Washington, and Powerful Schools, Inc, and is a member of the 2018 cohort of Leadership Tomorrow. Steven joined the 4Culture Finance Committee in 2020.

Neil Strege: Renton (District 9)

Neil Strege is Vice President of the Washington Roundtable, a public policy research and advocacy group comprised of senior executives of major Washington state employers. Before joining the Roundtable, Neil worked at the King County Council and as a Member of Congress. He is a graduate of Washington State University and a lifelong resident of Washington State. Neil serves on the board of the YMCA Youth and Government program and is the Vice Chair of the Washington Research Council.

Eugenia Woo, President: Seattle (District 2)

Eugenia parlayed a lifelong interest in architecture, history, cities, and communities into a career in historic preservation, serving as Historic Seattle's Director of Preservation Services since 2009. She develops and implements preservation policies and initiatives; provides technical assistance; engages in community outreach; and coordinates broad advocacy efforts. In 2022, Eugenia was honored with an Advocacy Award of Excellence from US Docomomo. Eugenia was a 4Culture Historic Preservation Advisory Committee member from 2015-2020, serves on the Governor's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and is a co-founder and current Treasurer of Docomomo US/WEWA.

Ex Officio Members

- Councilmember Claudia Balducci, District 6
- Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda, District 8
- Councilmember Sarah Perry, District 3
- Brian J. Carter, 4Culture

C. 2024 Advisory Committee Members

Arts

Amy Dukes, Issaquah (District 3)

Amy Dukes is the Arts Program Administrator for the City of Issaquah. In this role, she oversees the community arts granting program, manages the public art program, contributes to policy development, participates in the Local Arts Agency Network, and serves as the liaison to the mayor-appointed Arts Commission. She has worked in the arts and philanthropic sectors since 1995 in the Seattle area, Southern CA, and NYC.

Sudeshna Sen: Seattle (District 3)

An Indian American filmmaker, Sudeshna grew up in India and Japan before moving to the United States for graduate school. Her films have premiered at SIFF, Outfest Los Angeles, New York Indian Film Festival, and Vancouver South Asian Film Festival. Sudeshna is a member of Alliance of Women Directors, Women in Film and serves on the board of Seattle International Film Festival.

Lauren Superville: Seattle (District 7)

Born and raised in New Jersey, Lauren Superville is an Individual Giving Officer at Seattle Opera. Her background is in project coordination and creating and managing successful community events. She is leveraging her passion for relationship building by bringing together a wide range of stakeholders including staff, donors, and board members for the Opera's mid-level giving program.

Bryan Ohno: Kent (District 5)

Bryan Ohno is the Director of Soos Creek Studio, a contemporary ceramic studio that creates sustainable use pottery, and trains the next generation of youth potters. Bryan's career has led him to direct two art galleries in Tokyo and Seattle. He was also the founding director of MadArt. Bryan previously served on 4Culture's Art Advisory Committee. Bryan received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts from the University of Puget Sound. Bryan also serves on the Kent Arts Commission.

Jessica Ramirez: SeaTac (District 7)

Jessica Ramirez is the Special Events and Volunteer Coordinator for the City of SeaTac, and participates in their Arts, Culture and Library Advisory Committee, which is the citizen advisory committee charged to advise the City Council on topics related to art and culture. In addition, Jessica represents City of SeaTac in the quarterly Local Arts Agency Network meetings.

Heritage

Christina Arokiasamy: Kent (District 5)

Born and raised in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Christina Arokiasamy is renowned for her culinary skills, as a spice expert and as an award-winning cookbook author. She was Malaysia's first-ever official Food Ambassador to the United States and brings with her over 25 years of world class culinary expertise as a former chef of various Four Seasons Resorts throughout Southeast Asia. Christina is a passionate advocate for cultural heritage practitioners in King County.

Teofila "Teya" Cruz-Uribe: Burien (District 8)

Teya is the Director of the Sea Mar Museum of Chicano/a/Latino/a Culture and the Health Center Administrator of the Sea Mar Adolescent Medical Clinic. Teya has an M.A. in Museology from the University of Washington's (UW) Museology Program, and an M.A.I.S. in Russian, Eastern European & Central Asian Studies from the Jackson School of International Studies at University of Washington.

Suzanne Greathouse: Kenmore (District 1)

Suzanne Greathouse is the President of Kenmore Heritage Society and brings over 30 years of experience working with a broad spectrum of individuals, businesses, corporations, and universities. A Kenmore resident since 2014, Suzanne serves as a Bothell/Kenmore Chamber of Commerce Ambassador, Kenmore Planning Commissioner and is on the boards of the Northshore Senior Center and EvergreenHealth Foundation. Suzanne is focused on evolving the Heritage Society into a vibrant, inclusive, and fun organization.

Rachael McAlister: Auburn (District 7)

Rachael McAlister is the Director of the White River Valley Museum in Auburn, WA. Before taking on the role of director in 2018 she served as the Museum's Curator of Education for seven years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art from Belmont University and a Master of Arts in Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins University. McAlister's work includes extensive arts and heritage programming, municipal leadership, strong cultural partnerships, energized and engaged staff, and a commitment to racial justice and equity.

Seth Margolis, Board Representative: Seattle (District 8)

Seth Margolis is the Director of Education Operations for the Boeing Academy for STEM Learning at The Museum of Flight in Seattle and has worked at heritage organizations in the United States and Canada. He teaches museum education for the UW Graduate Program in Museology and serves on the advisory board for the Museum Studies Certificate Program.

Temi Odumosu: Seattle (District 2)

Temi Odumosu is an interdisciplinary scholar and curator at the UW iSchool. Her research and curatorial work are engaged with the visual and affective politics of slavery and colonialism, race, and visual coding in popular culture, postmemorial art and performance, image ethics, and politics of cultural heritage digitization. Odumosu holds a Ph.D. and Master of Philosophy in art history from the University of Cambridge and contributes to a variety of international research networks and initiatives.

Historic Preservation

Stefanie Barrera: Seattle (District 2)

Stefanie Barrera is an architectural designer at SMR Architects focusing on affordable housing projects. While working on her Master of Architecture at the University of Washington, Stefanie interned for 4Culture's Beyond Integrity Group. Her interest in historic preservation emanates from a curiosity to learn about other cultures, and the connection between cultural significance and place.

Justin Ivy: Seattle (District 2)

Justin Ivy is the owner of Heritage Art Glass, a Seattle-based stained and leaded glass studio specializing in repair, restoration, and new historic reproduction windows. Working with a wide array of clientele, from homeowner to developer to church board, he has been involved with projects in many of the Puget Sound region's historic structures.

Robyn Mah: Shoreline (District 1)

Robyn Mah is a principal at I.L. Gross Structural Engineers and has made historic building rehabilitation a cornerstone of her career. Robyn's recent renovation and adaptive reuse projects include Mercy Magnuson Place (Building 9) at Magnuson Park and YWCA's 5th and Seneca Building in Seattle.

Frank Martin, Board Representative: Skykomish (District 3)

Frank Martin is the managing principal of the Chain Companies and has been a recipient of a 4Culture Preservation grant to restore the Skykomish Theater into what is now known as Onemish Lodge, an extended stay basecamp in the heart of the Great Northern Corridor.

Dawn Moser: Auburn (District 7)

Dawn Moser lives in south King County and is a gallery guide at the Washington State History Museum and a land use planner. Dawn has worked in land use planning and community development in Oregon, Washington, and Utah, engaging and informing community members about historic preservation.

Huy Pham: Seattle (District 8)

As the Executive Director of APIAHiP: Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation, Huy leads the national nonprofit organization in its mission to protect historic places and cultural resources significant to Asian and Pacific Islander Americans through historic preservation and heritage conservation. Huy is eager to continue his work collaborating with government agencies, nonprofit organizations, community members and groups, developers, stakeholders, and policymakers to apply a progressive preservation ethic to their work at the local, state, and national levels.

Public Art

Sonia-Lynn Abenojar: Seattle (District 2)

Sonia-Lynn Abenojar is co-founder of La Union Studio, an architectural and interior design studio based out of Seattle, Washington. Her interdisciplinary experience in urban planning and design, community engagement, and project management led her to a career in cultural placemaking and inclusive design. Abenojar is passionate about the built environment; she holds a BA in Architecture + Community Design from the University of San Francisco and a Master of City Planning degree from UC Berkeley.

Leo Saul Berk: Seattle (District 2)

Leo Saul Berk is an artist who examines the transformative potential of exceptional architecture to positively shape our lives. He is a recipient of the Artist Trust Arts Innovator Award, Betty Bowen Award, and Distinguished Alumni Award, University of Washington. Berk has held solo exhibitions at the Frye Art Museum, Henry Art Gallery, Institute of Visual Arts at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Seattle Art Museum.

Kamari Bright: Seattle (District 4)

With the goal of creating something that starts the process of healing, Kamari Bright is a multidisciplinary artist with works that have been received across the US, Greece, France, Mexico, Germany, & Canada. The 2022 Artist Trust Fellowship Award for Black Artists recipient is currently working on a manuscript connecting the influence of Christian folklore on present-day misogyny, and a videopoem extrapolating collective trauma and its connection to land stewardship.

Catherine Nueva España, Board Representative: Seattle (District 4)

Catherine Nueva España is a consultant with experience in arts, design, and creative practices. She helps leaders recognize personal values and create a practice of sustaining collaborations. She has been interim executive director at On the Boards and EarthCorps, executive director at Velocity Dance Center, and a board member at Khambatta Dance Company. She serves as a board commissioner for ArtsWA and serves on a variety of grant panels. España received her BA from Wellesley College, and her MA in Dance Studies from the Trinity Laban Conservatoire in London.

Kate Fernandez: Seattle (District 2)

Kate Fernandez is an artist, cultural producer, and educator. She currently works as the Director of Interpretation & Visitor Experience at the University of Washington's Burke Museum.

Tommy Gregory: SeaTac (District 5)

Tommy Gregory is a practicing artist and the Sr. Manager and Curator for the Port of Seattle, where he oversees conservation, commissions, and acquisitions as well as temporary exhibitions at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Philippe Hyojung Kim: Seattle (District 2)

Philippe Hyojung Kim (he/him/they) is a Seattle-based artist, curator, and educator. He is a member of SOIL, a co-founder/curator of Specialist, a Fine Arts faculty member at Seattle Central College, and a curator for Washington State Arts Commission. Philippe grew up in a small town outside of Nashville, TN, and moved to Pacific Northwest in 2013. He currently lives and works in Seattle's North Beacon Hill neighborhood with his husband, Drew, and their dog, Jack.

Keith McPeters: Seattle (District 8)

Keith McPeters is a Principal at GGN, a landscape architecture studio based in Seattle. A diverse design background allows Keith to merge architecture and landscape architecture with his interests in art, music, and history. His design advisor role at GGN involves him in the concept and design phases of many projects across the studio. He received his BS in Architecture and Master of Landscape Architecture degrees from the University of Virginia.

Science and Technology Working Group Participants

- Derek Baker, Seattle Aquarium
- Jeff Bauknecht, Museum of Flight
- Stephanie Bohr, Woodland Park Zoo
- Kent Chapple, Oxbow Farm & Conservation Center
- Paul Chiocco, Pacific Science Center
- Gladis Clemente, Villa Comunitaria
- Jennifer Dumlao, Seattle Aquarium
- Kim Kotovic, Seattle Universal Math Museum
- Paul Meijer, Birds Connect Seattle
- Bianca Perla, Vashon Nature Center
- Grace Reamer, Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
- Dana Riley Black, Museum of Flight

- Arthur Ross, Technology Access Foundation
- Kate Sorensen, Bellevue Botanical Garden Society
- Chloe Wightman, Girl Scouts of Western Washington
- Amy Zarlengo, Pacific Science Center

The Advisory Committee and Board Director Representative are in development.

Doors Open Implementation Plan (2024-0236)
King County Council Committee Review and Amendment Schedule

As of August 23, 2024

Action	Committee/Council	Date	Amendment Deadlines
Introduction and referral	Full Council	August 20 th	
Discussion Only	COW	August 27 th	
Briefing	Special RPC	September 3 rd	
Discussion Only	COW	September 24 th	
Briefing	Special RPC	September 30 th	
Hold for Discussion/Possible Action	COW	October 21 st	Striker Direction to Staff: October 7 th COB
			Striker Distributed: October 14 th COB
Action	COW	November 4 th	Line Amendment Direction to Staff: October 17 th noon
			Striker Direction to Staff: October 21 st COB
Action	RPC	November 13 th	Striker Distributed: October 28 th COB
			Line Amendment Direction to Staff: October 30 th noon
Action	RPC	November 13 th	Striker Direction to Staff: November 5 th noon
			Striker Distributed: November 6 th COB
Final Action	Full Council	November 26 th	Line Amendment Direction to Staff: November 8 th COB



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

July 29, 2024

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

I am pleased to transmit a proposed Ordinance that would if enacted, approve the Doors Open cultural access program implementation plan as called for by Ordinance 19710, as well as govern the expenditure of the cultural access sales and use tax from 2024 through 2031 to achieve outcomes related to public and educational benefits and economic support for arts, science, and heritage organizations.

In December 2023, the King County Council passed Ordinance 19710, authorizing the creation of the King County Doors Open cultural access program. Ordinance 19710 requires the transmittal to the Council of an implementation plan that, once adopted, will govern the expenditure of the sales and use tax's proceeds until the tax expires in 2031.

The sales tax is expected to generate approximately \$741 million in revenue between 2024 and 2031, according to the King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's July 2024 forecast. The enclosed plan describes the forecasted expenditure of sales tax proceeds consistent with Ordinance 19710. It identifies and describes how the Doors Open program will utilize this funding to:

- enhance and extend the reach and offerings of cultural organizations;
- ensure continued and expanded access to cultural facilities and the programs of cultural organizations by underserved populations; and
- provide financial support for cultural organizations to continue and extend the numerous public benefits they provide.

The enclosed implementation plan further details the program priorities and processes for administering funding, and an assessment framework for how the program will measurably increase access to cultural offerings for King County residents and visitors, especially those living in underserved areas.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

July 29, 2024

Page 2

Thank you for your continued support of the Doors Open cultural access program.

If your staff have questions, please contact Brian Carter, Director, Executive Director of 4Culture, at 206-263-1586.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Aaron Rubardt, Deputy Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Brian Carter, Director, 4Culture

2023-2024 FISCAL NOTE

Ordinance/Motion:
 Title: Doors Open Implementation Plan
 Affected Agency and/or Agencies: 4Culture / PSB
 Note Prepared By: Chris McGowan, Executive Analyst, Office of Performance, Strategy & Budget
 Date Prepared: 7/9/2024
 Note Reviewed By: Aaron Rubardt, Deputy Director, Office of Performance, Strategy & Budget
 Date Reviewed: 7/25/2024

Description of request:

Implementation plan provides a framework for the Doors Open program.

Revenue to:

Agency	Fund Code	Revenue Source	2023-2024	2025	2026-2027
Cultural Development Authority	1160	Sales Tax	72,000,000	100,000,000	200,000,000
TOTAL			72,000,000	100,000,000	200,000,000

Expenditures from:

Agency	Fund Code	Department	2023-2024	2025	2026-2027
Cultural Development Authority	1160	4Culture	72,000,000	100,000,000	200,000,000
TOTAL			72,000,000	100,000,000	200,000,000

Expenditures by Categories

Expenditures ²	Fund Code	Department	2023-2024	2025	2026-2027
4Culture Admin & Startup Costs	1160	4Culture	3,600,000	3,000,000	6,000,000
One-Time Operating Support Program	1160	4Culture	24,100,000	0	0
One-Time Capital Support Program	1160	4Culture	24,100,000	0	0
Public School Cultural Access	1160	4Culture	3,030,000	14,550,000	29,100,000
Launch	1160	4Culture	600,000	2,900,000	5,800,000
Building for Equity	1160	4Culture	2,020,000	9,700,000	19,400,000
Public Free Access	1160	4Culture	3,030,000	14,550,000	29,100,000
Sustained Support	1160	4Culture	10,100,000	48,500,000	97,000,000
Countywide Initiatives	1160	4Culture	1,420,000	6,800,000	13,600,000
TOTAL			72,000,000	100,000,000	200,000,000

Does this legislation require a budget supplemental? Yes, additional appropriation authority will be requested in another ordinance.

Notes and Assumptions:

¹ Budget authority for the Doors Open program is included in the 2023-2024 3rd Omnibus and will be included in the 2025 Proposed Budget. The Council has authorized the tax collection by ordinance in 2023. This legislation will have no direct fiscal impact but will guide the implementation of the program.

² Funding allocation includes 25% for programming or projects outside of Seattle and 10% programming in Communities of Opportunity or for vulnerable populations.

AT-A-GLANCE

2025 DEADLINES

JAN 1 – OCT 31
Heritage Professional Development Stipend

JAN 1 – DEC 1
Open 4Culture

FEB 27
Public Free Access

MARCH 12
Art Projects

MARCH 12
Heritage Projects

MARCH 12
Preservation Special Projects

APRIL 1-DEC 1
Landmark Nomination Support

APRIL 17
Building for Equity: Building Community

JUNE 25
Landmarks Capital

JULY 9
Cultural Equipment

AUG 7
Building for Equity: Project Development

AUG 27
Launch

SEP 10
Sustained Support

OCT 21
Public Schools Cultural Access

NOV 6
Building for Equity: Anchoring Community

NOV 12
Cultural Support Services

NOV 20
Building for Equity: Native Cultural Facilities

2024 DEADLINES

SEP 4
Doors Open Facilities

SEP 4
Sustained Support

ONGOING DEADLINES

ONGOING
Emergency and Unforeseen

ONGOING
Touring Arts Roster Incentive Program

ARTIST CALLS

DEC 11
Gallery 4Culture

ONGOING
Public Art Calls

As the cultural funding agency for King County, 4Culture works to make our region vibrant.

2024-2025


KING COUNTY GRANTS + ARTIST CALLS

office hours

M-F, 9AM-5PM

101 Prefontaine PI S
Seattle WA 98104
206-296-7580
hello@4culture.org

 /4CULTURE

 /4CULTURE

 /KC4CULTURE

4Culture revenues come from Doors Open, King County Lodging Taxes, and 1% for Art Capital Construction.



CULTURE

2024 SUSTAINED SUPPORT

APPLY BY SEP 4

Funds day-to-day costs for cultural, science and technology organizations.

Arts

bret.fetzer@4culture.org
(206) 263-1599

Preservation

dana.phelan@4culture.org
(206) 263-1604

Heritage

chieko.phillips@4culture.org
(206) 477-6811

Science + technology

fundisha.tibebe@4culture.org
206-477-2298

2024 DOORS OPEN FACILITIES

APPLY BY SEP 4

Helps organizations buy, build, or renovate the buildings and spaces that make cultural experiences possible.

casey.moser@4culture.org
(206) 477-2316

2025 PROJECTS

ART PROJECTS

APPLY BY MARCH 12

Funds individuals and groups in creating and sharing new work.

Individuals

melissa.newbill@4culture.org
(206) 263-1603

Groups + organizations

scott.oshima@4culture.org
(206) 477-8064

HERITAGE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STIPEND

APPLY 1/1 - 11/31

These funds can help you participate, make connections, and learn new skills for your career path in the heritage field.

megumi.nagata@4culture.org
(206) 263-3474

HERITAGE PROJECTS

APPLY BY MARCH 12

Supports documenting, exhibiting, and interpreting heritage in King County.

megumi.nagata@4culture.org
(206) 263-3474

PRESERVATION SPECIAL PROJECTS

APPLY BY MARCH 12

Funds research, planning, education, and advocacy for historic places.

emily.lawsin@4culture.org
(206) 477-3110

OPEN 4CULTURE

APPLY 1/1 - 12/1

Supports projects by individuals and groups new to 4Culture.

scott.oshima@4culture.org
(206) 477-8064

TOURING ARTS ROSTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

ONGOING APPLICATION

Defray costs for cultural organizations hiring performing artists.

scott.oshima@4culture.org
(206) 477-8064

2025 OPERATING SUPPORT

LAUNCH

APPLY BY AUGUST 27

Supports the creation and growth of new and emerging cultural and science organizations.

dana.phelan@4culture.org
(206) 263-1604

PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

APPLY BY FEB 27

Offsets the costs that organizations face in providing free and reduced-cost access to their programming.

bart.j.cannon@4culture.org
(206) 263-1584

SUSTAINED SUPPORT

APPLY BY SEP 10

Funds day-to-day costs for cultural, science and technology organizations.

Arts

bret.fetzer@4culture.org
(206) 263-1599

Preservation

dana.phelan@4culture.org
(206) 263-1604

Heritage

chieko.phillips@4culture.org
(206) 477-6811

Science + technology

bart.j.cannon@4culture.org
(206) 263-1584

2025 BUILDINGS + EQUIPMENT

BUILDING FOR EQUITY: ANCHORING COMMUNITY

APPLY BY NOV 6

Funds and fosters equitable development for organizations buying, building, or renovating buildings and specialized spaces that make cultural experiences possible. Project budgets that are 10 million+ are invited to apply.

maya.santos@4culture.org
(206) 263-0691

BUILDING FOR EQUITY: BUILDING COMMUNITY

APPLY BY APRIL 17

Funds organizations buying, building, or renovating the buildings and specialized spaces that make cultural experiences possible. Project budgets that are 10 million and under are encouraged to apply.

maya.santos@4culture.org
(206) 263-0691

BUILDING FOR EQUITY: NATIVE CULTURAL FACILITIES

APPLY BY NOV 20

Support projects including land acquisition, renovations, and new construction that serve Native communities through the advancement and preservation of culture.

maya.santos@4culture.org
(206) 263-0691

BUILDING FOR EQUITY: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

APPLY BY AUGUST 7

Funds and supports applicants building organizational capacity to meet long-term facility needs.

maya.santos@4culture.org
(206) 263-0691

CULTURAL EQUIPMENT

APPLY BY JULY 9

Helps supply organizations with the machinery, equipment, or computer hardware they need.

Arts

melissa.newbill@4culture.org
(206) 263-1603

Preservation

emily.lawsin@4culture.org
(206) 477-3110

Heritage

megumi.nagata@4culture.org
(206) 263-3474

Science + Technology

bart.j.cannon@4culture.org
(206) 263-1584

EMERGENCY + UNFORESEEN

ONGOING APPLICATION

Supports cultural organizations with unexpected capital costs.

Arts

bret.fetzer@4culture.org
(206) 263-1599

Preservation

dana.phelan@4culture.org
(206) 263-1604

Heritage

chieko.phillips@4culture.org
(206) 477-6811

Science + technology

bart.j.cannon@4culture.org
(206) 263-1584

LANDMARKS CAPITAL

APPLY BY JUNE 25

Funds the rehabilitation and restoration of designated landmarks.

dana.phelan@4culture.org
(206) 263-1604

LANDMARK NOMINATION SUPPORT

APPLY 4/1/-12/1

Supports individuals and organizations preparing a landmark nomination of a historic place in King County.

emily.lawsin@4culture.org
(206) 477-3110

2025 EDUCATION

PUBLIC SCHOOL CULTURAL ACCESS

APPLY BY OCT 21

Addresses gaps in science and cultural education by providing public schools with free access to activities.

nina.yarbrough@4culture.org
(206) 477-7537

2025 CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

APPLY BY NOV 12

Provides support for organizations that contribute to quality of life and career development for cultural workers. A project of County Connected.

chieko.phillips@4culture.org
(206) 477-6811

2025 ARTIST CALLS AND PUBLIC ART

GALLERY 4CULTURE

APPLY BY DEC 11

Presents the work of King County artists in the heart of Pioneer Square.

andy.le@4culture.org
(206) 263-1587

PUBLIC ART

APPLICATIONS ONGOING

Transforms public space with artwork and experiences, with opportunities for artists posted throughout the year.

fiona.dang@4culture.org
(206) 848-0215



CULTURE