

CITIZENS' ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (CEOC)

Best Practices and Participation Workgroup Meeting
March 4, 2026 | 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. | Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Tasha Mae, Jason Lambacher, Hanna Floss, Corin Goodwin, Kathy Sakahara and John Rodriguez

Absent: Mike Flood, Stanley Tsao and Hillary De la Cruz

Guest: Kathy Soliz, Naheed Aaftaab, Kendall LeVan Hodson and Kristina Rose

Council Staff: Jose Brito Alvarado, Jon Fowler, In Hauck Choi and Tania Mondaca

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting started at approximately 12:05 p.m. Corin Goodwin was introduced as a newly appointed representative of the disability community to the CEOC.

2. Meeting Minute Approvals

The February 5, 2026 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Voter Education Fund

Staff from King County Elections presented information regarding the Voter Education Fund (VEF). The staff shared that the VEF is currently in the second half of the fifth cycle of the program and has registered over 600 new voters and assisted over four thousand residences. After the presentation, CEOC members and staff discussed strategies on how they could improve community representation.

4. Demographics and Data on King County Voters

Staff from King County Elections presented information regarding demographics and data available about King County voters.

5. Review and Ongoing Discussion about 2025 Workplan Items

CEOC members continued discussion regarding community engagement and video voter guides, and the voter education pages in the voter pamphlet. No recommendations were discussed or made.

6. Staff Updates

Staff introduced Jose Brito Alvarado, who will be helping with CEOC matters moving forward.

7. Good of the Order

CEOC members discussed the WA Voting Rights and SAVE Act.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

MEETING CHAT

12:11:02 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:

how can my agency partner to bring this in the Black Community? We are so lost when it comes to this! I have sat on a few panels, but lack of funding has made my reach SMALL!

12:11:34 From Tania Mondaca to John Rodriguez(direct message):

Hi John! King County Elections started their voter education fund presentation. They'll move on to do their second presentation. When they are done, you can go back to the beginning of the agenda (welcome remarks and meeting minutes). Please let me know if you have any questions.

12:12:18 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:

Here is a list of current grantees: <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/elections/education-and-outreach/voter-education-fund>

12:12:43 From John Rodriguez to Tania Mondaca(direct message):

Ok thanks, I was having technical issues with my Zoom connection. Sorry about that.

12:13:23 From Tania Mondaca to John Rodriguez(direct message):

No worries! Please let me know if you need anything. I'm on stand by as well as Jon Fowler.

12:13:25 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:

We would love more applicants from orgs that serve Black Community orgs...would love to chat more about this.

12:13:35 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:

wow I do not see any black/African American partners...suprising

12:13:57 From Corin Goodwin to Hosts and panelists:

what about disability support organizations?

12:14:15 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:

Corin click the link, it shows the grantess

12:14:37 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:

re: Disability This cycle we didn't get any applicants! It was surprising to us too.

12:15:36 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:

Naheed, I will definitely reach out, because less than half of the 400 black Washingtonians eligible to vote are registered - yet they are heavily impacted by many voting decisions

12:16:00 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:

@Tasha, I would love that!

12:16:31 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:

Will you guys share this slide show?

12:17:14 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:

PLEASE KEEP IT GOING!

12:19:07 From Kathy Sakahara to Hosts and panelists:
Kendall, who is the Native org you work with?

12:19:44 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
2025-2026 Grantees
Multiyear Grantees

African Community Housing and Development
Asian Counseling and Referral Services
El Centro de la Raza
Entre Hermanos
Greater Seattle Korean Association
Institute for Community Leadership
Latino Community Fund of Washington
Malawi Seattle Association
Native Vote Washington
Para Los Niños
Real Change Homelessness Empowerment Project
Refugee Women's Alliance
Seattle-King County Coalition on Homelessness
Serve Ethiopians Washington
Somali Bridge
Somali Health Board
Villa Comunitaria
West Hill Community Association
Wing Luke
Seed grantees

Djiboutian American Community of Seattle
Seattle Envelopes
Southwest Seattle Education Coalition
Washington United Migrant

12:20:33 From Kathy Sakahara to Hosts and panelists:
Kendall you mentioned lack of funding for staff Is there an way volunteers could help?

12:20:45 From Hanna Floss to Hosts and panelists:
When is the application process open?

12:21:09 From Kathy Sakahara to Hosts and panelists:
Naheed, could you please repeat the gaps you need help to fill

12:22:41 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:
The gaps: Black Community, serving Disabled communities, Russian speakers, and Native/Tribal

12:22:59 From Corin Goodwin to Tania Mondaca(direct message):
I am better able to participate via chat because of my hearing. i'll try to limit it.

12:24:19 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:
Cycle opens at the end of each even year, we can send you the RFP so you can advertise

12:25:40 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
thank you for this - is there a email list we can get on to be notified of the RFP?

12:26:57 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:
Naheed Aaftaab: naaftaab@kingcounty.gov

12:27:13 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
awesome!!

12:27:17 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
ty for this presentation

12:27:25 From Naheed Aaftaab to Hosts and panelists:
Seed grants are specifically designed for new orgs who are new to voter education

12:27:36 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
cannot believe I knew nothing of this lol

12:30:20 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
is immigrant African - added into Black/African American? these seems very high...

12:34:06 From Kendall LeVan Hodson to Hosts and panelists:
Here's the link to the tool -
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/5e208a3836c74ef9a9263c2b3084e28f>

12:34:35 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
this is awesome

12:35:42 From Jason lambacher to Hosts and panelists:
Very cool tool

12:36:10 From Kendall LeVan Hodson to Hosts and panelists:
Here's a link for this data -
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/6ee7edd8e3524ada929b7d2c3aeca94d>

12:36:29 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
I am sooooo excited about this! lol

12:36:45 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
I love data - because it's important to speaks from Facts, not feelings

12:38:27 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
Hi engagement in Kent around voting

12:50:59 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
i know the difference

12:51:22 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
thank you Kathy!

12:52:09 From Kendall LeVan Hodson to Hosts and panelists:
and we always have lots to learn!

13:02:07 From John Rodriguez to Tania Mondaca(direct message):
our next meeting is April 9, time?

13:02:41 From Jason lambacher to Hosts and panelists:
Great discussion, everyone. I have to speak on a panel at a conference in 15 min. See you next month!

13:04:04 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
so sorry for talking so long

13:04:05 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
lol

13:04:25 From Kathy Sakahara to Hosts and panelists:
LWV will help people get required docs

13:04:37 From Tasha Mae to Hosts and panelists:
YES Love it Kathy!

13:04:55 From Kendall LeVan Hodson to Hosts and panelists:
Such a great question - we can definitely answer with Tania and Jon's help