

2021–2022

Equity Advisory Committee Members



Puget Sound Regional Council

KING COUNTY



Ben Sung Henry

Pronouns: he/him | Race/Ethnicity: Biracial (Korean and white)

Ben currently lives in Renton and has spent 20 years serving as a journalist, lobbyist, policy associate, community leader, and progressive movement-builder. He currently serves as Communications Director at Social Venture Partners International. He brings an equity lens to all his work, addressing the barriers facing marginalized Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities throughout Washington.



Chris Stearns

Pronouns: he/him | Race/Ethnicity: Native American (Navajo)

Chris serves as a councilmember for the City of Auburn. He's been committed to fighting for racial equity and justice his entire career as a lawyer representing Indian tribes across the nation and has also served in positions within the federal government devoted to upholding treaty rights and improving services to Indian tribes.



Debbie Lacy

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Mexican and white

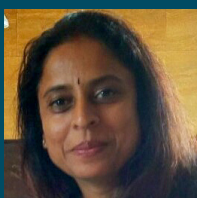
Debbie currently lives in Kirkland and is the founder of Eastside For All, which convenes partners to transform policies, practices, investments, and relationships so that the needs and solutions of communities of color are centered. She works with community and government agencies to address gaps in access to opportunities, resources, and representation.



Hien "Elly" Trinh

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Vietnamese

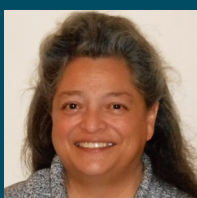
Elly is an academic immigrant from Sai Gon, Vietnam who currently lives in Burien. She works at a human services non-profit and is a student at South Seattle College working on a certificate in Building Science. She has a strong connection to community and innovative ideas on outreach/engagement.



Lalita Uppala

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Asian Indian

Association of Western Washington (IAWW), which is the longest-serving Indian community-based organization in the Pacific Northwest. As part of her work, she has created programs, workshops and community conversations to address systemic racism.



Lisa Espinosa

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Latina and Native American (Apache)

Lisa currently lives in West Seattle and serves as an Energy Management Analyst for Seattle City Light. Lisa has an extensive background in providing energy efficient programs to communities. She is passionate about developing equitable benchmarks and brings tools and a strong connection with communities to support these efforts.



Megan Espinoza

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Latina and white

Megan currently lives in Seattle's Hillman City and is an architect at a firm designing affordable housing. She has an extensive background in planning and zoning and is passionate about ensuring decisions are informed by community.

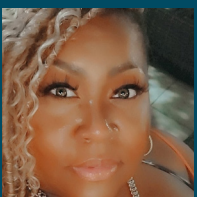
KITSAP COUNTY



Brenda Fantroy-Johnson

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: African American

Brenda serves as a councilmember for Bainbridge Island and Lead Security Risk Manager for AT&T. She is a founding member of the Bainbridge Island Race Equity Advisory Committee and has a passion for reducing inequities related to transportation and housing.



Jewel Shepherd-Sampson

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: African American

Jewel currently lives in Port Orchard. She is a small business owner who has served on community advisory panels effectively connecting community to government agencies. She has a passion for working with youth and encouraging them to use their voices to impact change.



Shannon Turner

Pronouns: he/him | Race/Ethnicity: Black/African American

Shannon currently lives in Poulsbo. He serves as the 2nd vice president of the NAACP in Bremerton, WA (Branch 1134) and is the chair of the DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Committee for the 23rd LD Democratic Party. In these roles he leads conversations, trainings, forums, etc. on racial inequities and how to combat them.

PIERCE COUNTY



Brendan Nelson

Pronouns: he/him | Race/Ethnicity: Black/African American

Brendan has lived in the Hilltop community his entire life. He serves as the Executive Director of EPIC, which is a nonprofit that focuses on addressing the needs of communities of color through business support, access to housing resources, educational opportunities, etc.



Dionne Bonner

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Black

Dionne currently lives in Central Tacoma and is passionate about reducing displacement. She is a small business owner and an artist who uses design as a catalyst to open dialog and reflection.



Laurenne Sayles

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Black

Laurenne currently lives in Central Tacoma. She serves as a grant writer for the Urban League where she delivers human interest storytelling in the fields of education, youth, diversity/inclusion, workforce development, and social justice.



Lucretia Robertson

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Black

Lucretia currently lives in Gig Harbor. She owns a small business and currently serves as the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Kitsap Regional Library where she works to operationalize equity, create space for race-conscious conversations and cultivate an inclusive culture where staff and patrons feel a sense of belonging.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY



Jason Smith

Pronouns: he/him | Race/Ethnicity: Biracial (Black and white)

Jason currently serves as the Training and Community Outreach Administrator for the City of Marysville. He has successfully led several advisory committees to improve outcomes for marginalized communities.



Lupe Valtierra-Prieto

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: American Indian- Mexican Diaspora

Lupe is a member of the LGBTQ+ community. She currently lives in Mill Creek. She's passionate about the importance of community informing decisions and as a DACA recipient working in the healthcare system, she brings a unique perspective about the barriers faced by undocumented professionals.



Micah Lusignan

Pronouns: he/him | Race/Ethnicity: Mexican and white

Micah currently lives in Lynnwood, Washington and has extensive experience advocating for the rights of people with disabilities and training high school students with visual impairments. He identifies as queer and is legally blind.



Michelle Stewart

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: Black

Michelle currently lives in Everett. She's working on a Masters in Public Administration at The Evergreen State College. She brings a nuanced understanding of urban growth areas (UGA) and how housing segregation perpetuates inequities.



Mindy Woods

Pronouns: she/her | Race/Ethnicity: White and Native American

Mindy served in the military, has experienced homelessness and currently lives in Edmonds. She now serves as the Human Services Program Manager for the City of Edmonds and sits on several committees bringing a lens of equity to all of her work.