

# OUR VANCOUVER

OUR FUTURE 2045

## **Council Work Session: Equity Framework**

**Monday, July 3, 2023**

# Agenda



## City Staff Presenting:



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### **Dom Martinelli**

Senior Long Range Planner, CDD

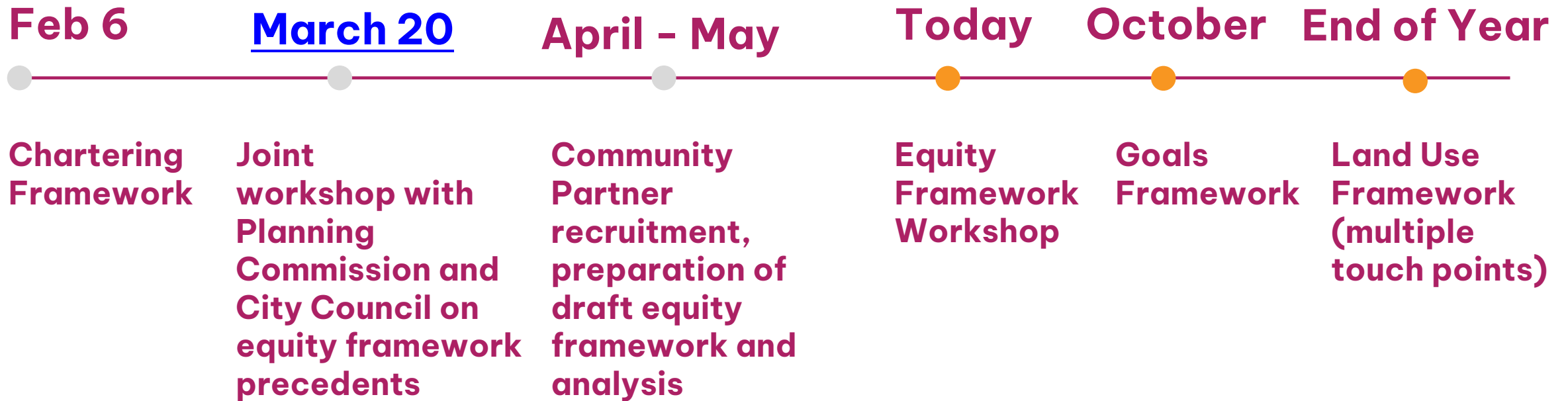
[Domenic.Martinelli@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:Domenic.Martinelli@cityofvancouver.us)

An aerial night photograph of an industrial facility, likely a water treatment plant. A large, illuminated cylindrical storage tank stands prominently in the center. To its right, a large rectangular building features a neon sign that reads "You belong here" in a cursive script. The facility is surrounded by parking lots filled with cars and other industrial structures. The sky is dark with some clouds, and the overall scene is lit by the facility's lights and the neon sign. A semi-transparent purple and orange geometric overlay is present on the left side of the image.

# Purpose

- Provide an overview of work done to date, and current process for establishing an equity framework to guide all Comprehensive Plan work and decision making.
- Incorporate Council feedback into final Equity Framework guiding resolution, before returning for Council adoption.

# Where we are at today - 2023



# Key Takeaways

Joint Planning Commission  
and City Council Work  
Session (3/20)

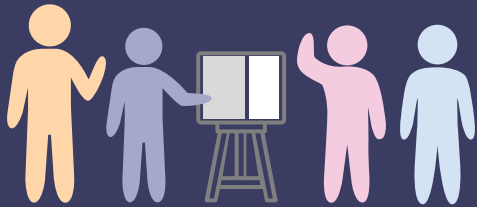
## Reviewed Three Precedent Examples:

- Richmond Equity Agenda
- NYC Framework for an Equitable Future
- Renton Equity Lens



- Planning for equity is an iterative process
- Understand our current practices and systems, and evaluate if / how they change
- Providing real choice and opportunity
- Everyone who *wants* to live in Vancouver should have the opportunity to do so.
- How we talk about our history as a community
- Prioritize people and lived experiences
- Difference between process and outcome equity.
- Good data = good decisions

# Equity Definitions



**Equity** is a state or system of fairness or justice that recognizes and balances different challenges, opportunities, and needs across groups of individuals.

**Process Equity** is ensuring the overall process is designed in an **equitable** manner that prioritizes fair treatment and meaningful involvement from **Priority Communities**.

**Outcome Equity** is ensuring individuals from different demographic and socioeconomic backgrounds have **equitable** opportunity to reach their full potential. Equitable outcomes are both **measurable** and the result of equitable processes.

**Priority Communities** identify historically marginalized and/or most vulnerable communities that should be centered in our processes.



An aerial photograph of a city street intersection. A pedestrian is walking across a crosswalk that features large, light-colored circular patterns on a darker pavement. The street is lined with trees and buildings. A semi-transparent purple and blue overlay covers the left side of the image, and a semi-transparent orange and red overlay covers the right side. The title text is centered over the purple/blue area.

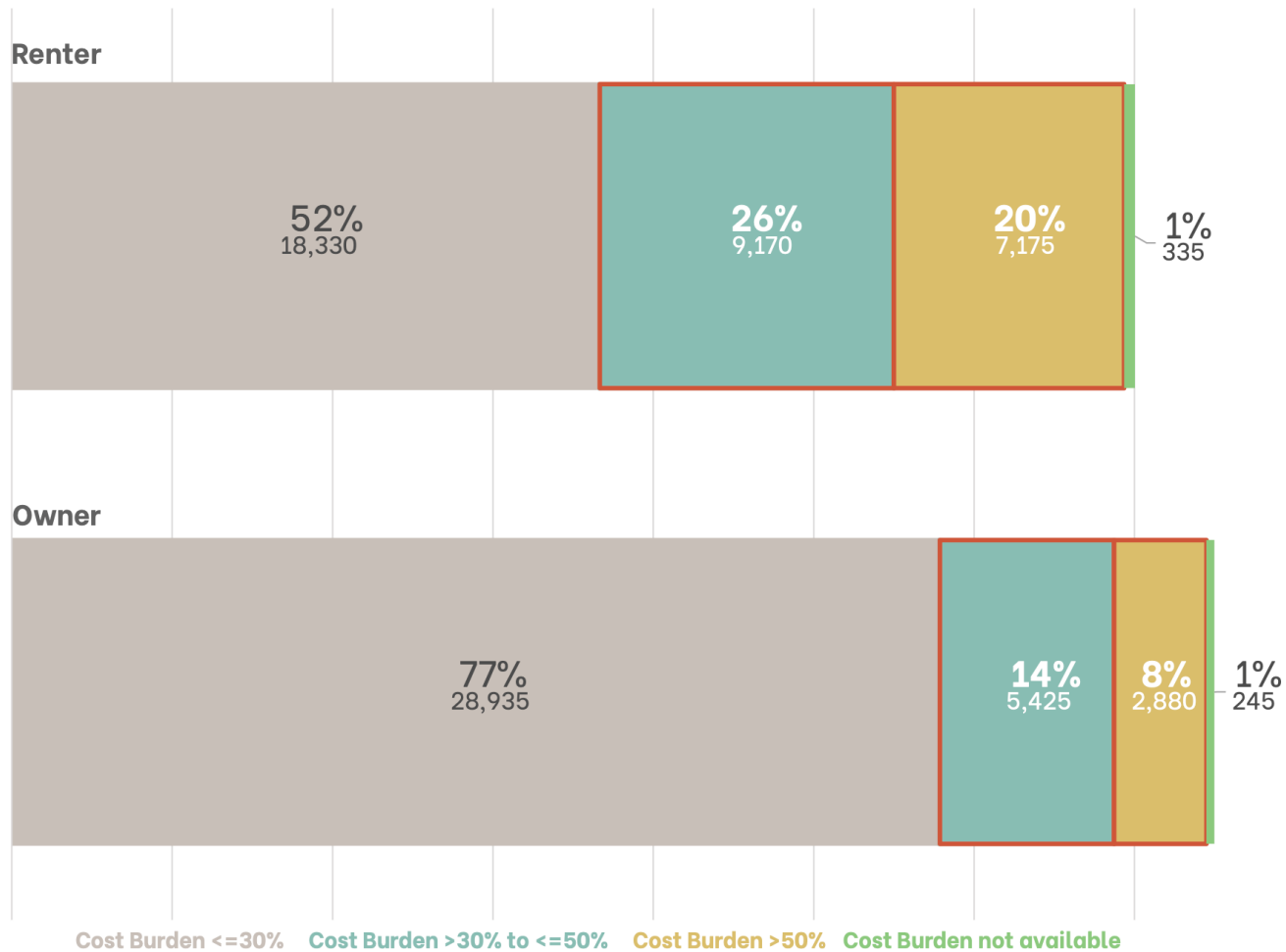
# Early Findings: Equity Analysis



# Priority Communities

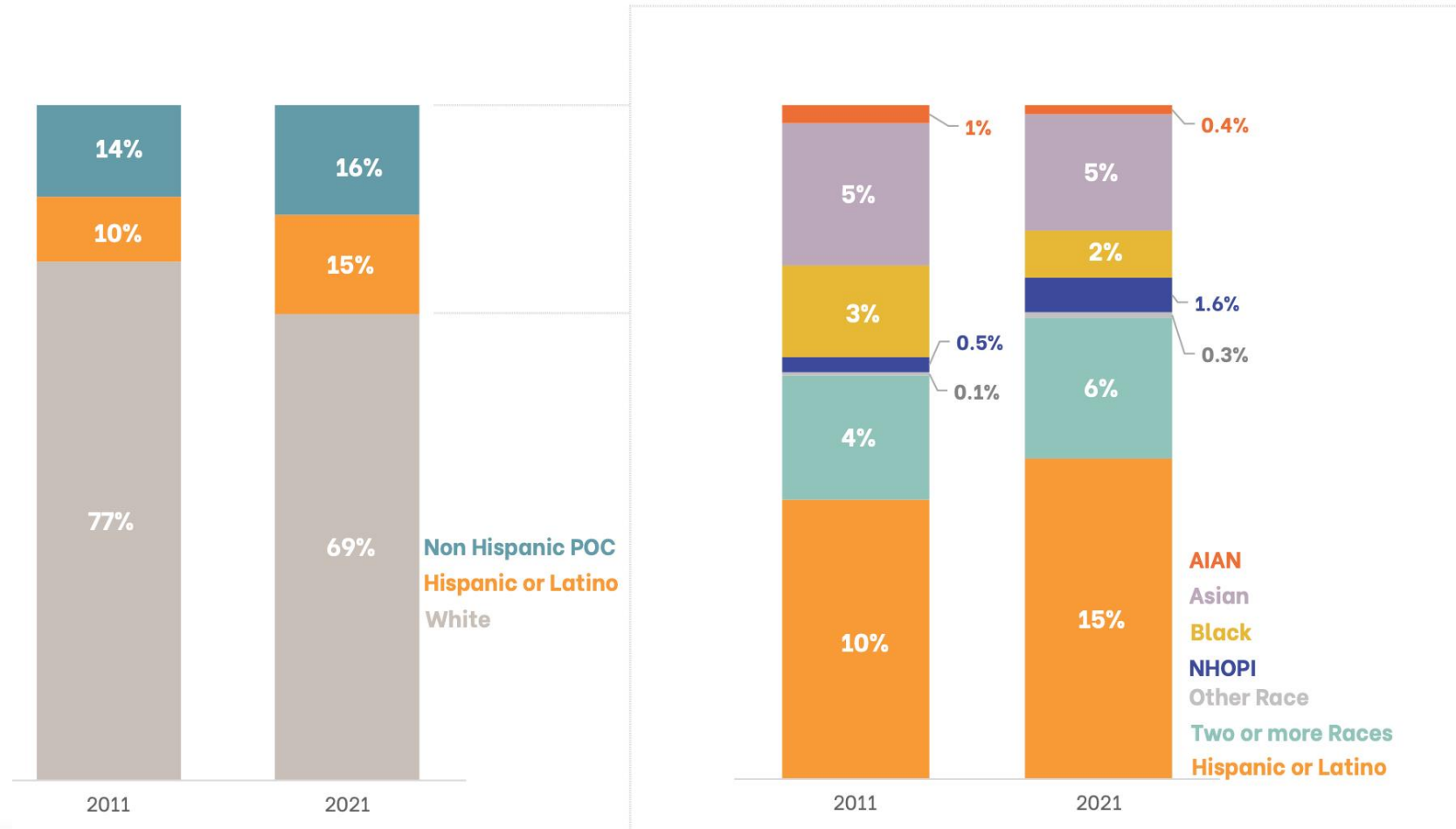
- BIPOC community
- People with low incomes
- People with disabilities, including neurodivergent
- Youth and children
- LGBTQ+ individuals
- Renters
- People without an address/ people experiencing homelessness
- Small business owners
- Refugees
- Undocumented population

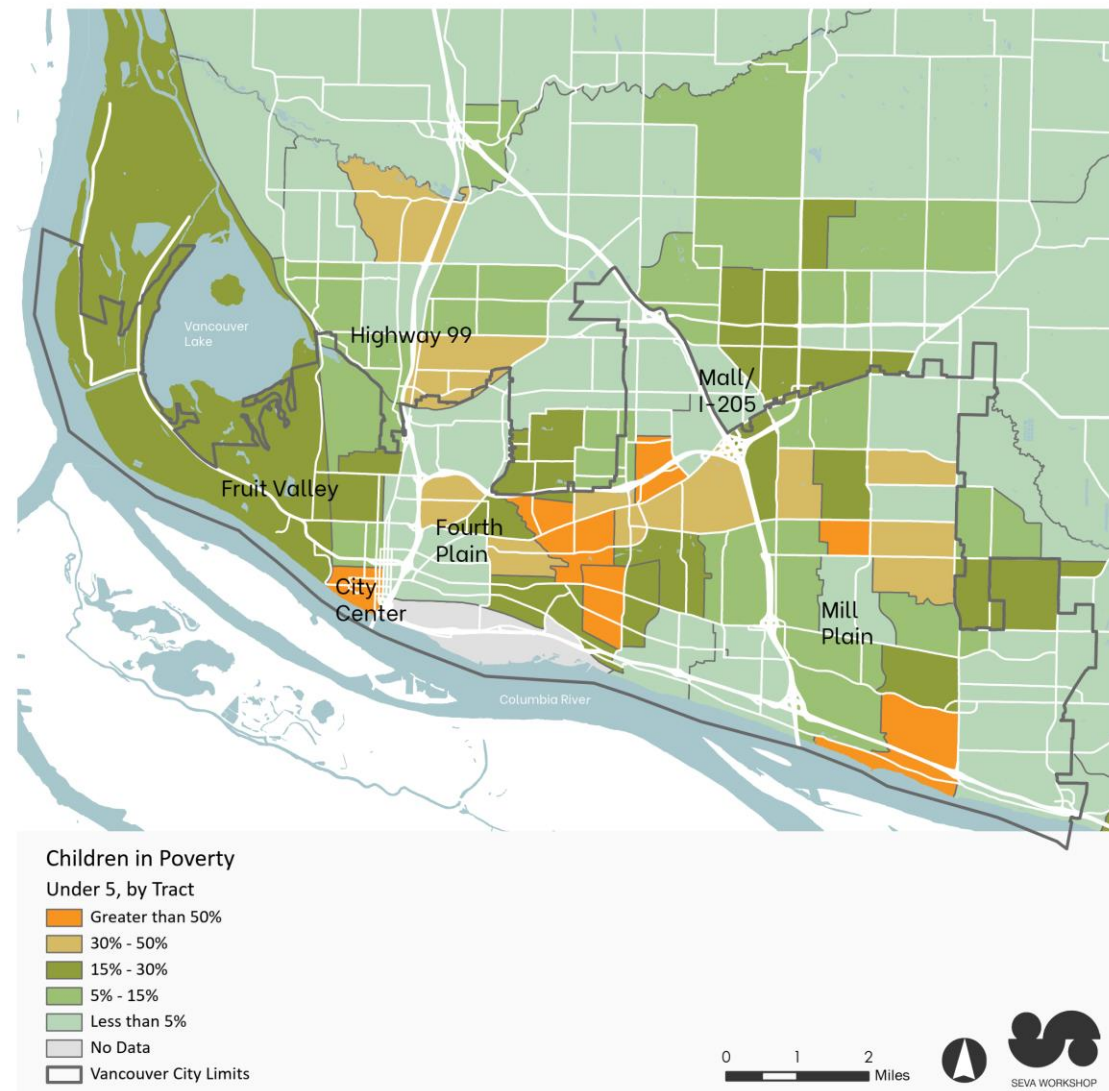




**Over two-thirds of the lowest income households are paying more than half their income for housing.**

# The City of Vancouver is experiencing shifting demographics, just over 30% of the population is POC compared to 24% in 2011.





**Over fifteen percent of resident households are living below the federal poverty line.**

Source: American Community Survey 5 year estimates 2017-2021



# Key Takeaways

- The following are **intertwined** as it relates to equitable outcomes:
  - Housing
  - Land use, development, and infrastructure
  - Equity and opportunity
  - Climate and environment
- **Race and ethnicity intersect with income and wealth** to determine the available housing and neighborhood choices.
- **Neighborhoods vary greatly in access** to amenities, infrastructure, and social supports.
- Creating an equitable city will require focused attention on the neighborhoods and communities **farthest from opportunity**.

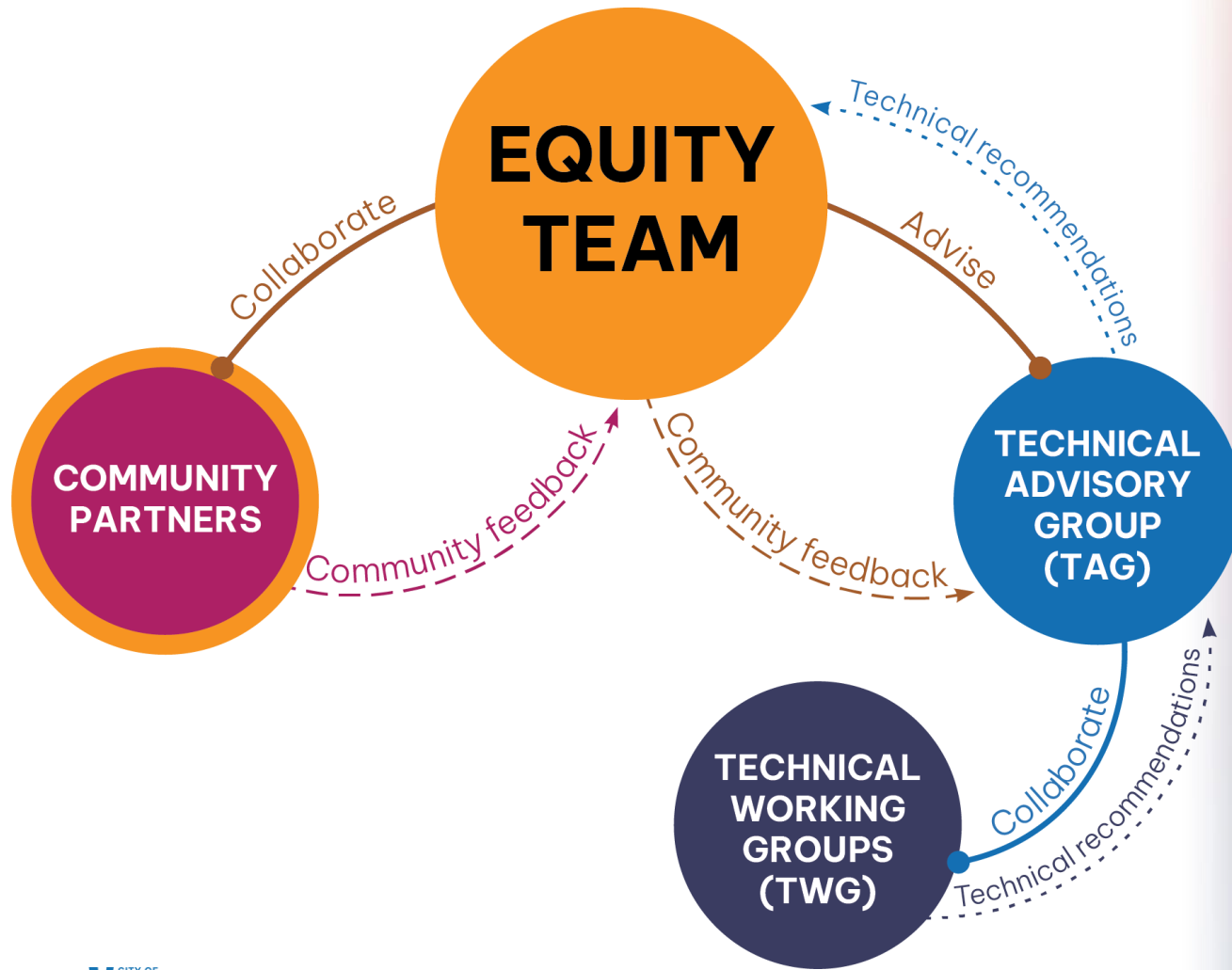


# Equity Team Role

# Equity Team & Community Partners

Community Partners will be members of the Equity Team

Equity Team conversations will ensure Community Partners are connected to the technical work, and vice versa in a co-creative model for policy development





# Community Partner Cohort

## Community-Based Organizations

- Queer Youth Resource Center
- Family-Community Resource Coordinator, Fruit Valley Elementary
- Latino Leadership Northwest
- Next Success
- Pasitos Gigantes
- Sakura 39ers
- PICA-WA
- Odyssey World International Education Services

## Liaisons with community focuses in

- Slavic, Russian, Ukrainian communities
- Vietnamese, Chinese
- Pacific Islander communities
- Seniors
- Youth
- Spanish speaking communities;
- Housing Insecurity

## City Boards & Commission Representation

- Planning Commission
- Transportation and Mobility Commission

# Community Partner Work Plan

- Meeting 1 (June 12)
  - Intros, project orientation, visioning exercise
- Meeting 2 (June 26)
  - Approve group charter, review equity analysis, develop preliminary equity outcomes
- Meeting 3 (July 18)
  - Detailed review of equity framework
- Meeting 4 (Early / Mid-August)
  - Visioning and Goals Development

# Equity Framework Draft Objectives

- Set forth the City of Vancouver's definition of equity and key principles by which Comprehensive Plan goals, objectives and policies can be reviewed for equity.
- Identify planning priorities according to data analysis and inclusive community engagement.
- Guide the selection of goals, policies and capital investments.
- Articulate how equity is integrated in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan and the Comprehensive Plan product itself.



# Framework Approach





# Next Steps

- Staff will incorporate Council input into guiding Equity Framework outline.
- Staff will return with an adopting resolution for both the **Community Partnership Framework** and the *Equity Framework*.
- Community partners will have an opportunity to weigh in and shape these frameworks before Council considers for approval.

# Next Steps

**July 3**

**Council Workshop**  
Equity Framework

**July 18**

**Community Partner  
Meeting #3**  
Equity Framework

**Early August**

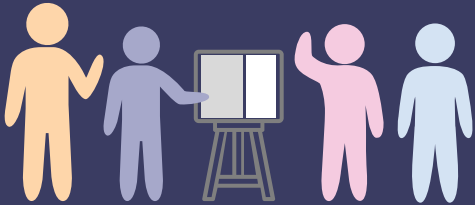
**Council Resolution**  
Formal endorsement  
of Community Partnership  
Framework,  
Equity Framework





# Discussion

# Questions for Council



- Thinking back to the [March 20](#) workshop, does this approach reflect your key takeaways from the precedents examples that were reviewed?
- Are there other steps that need to be incorporated in the framework approach?
- What other information or data is needed to inform equitable decision making?





Thank you!