



Equity Advisory Group

Named Communities Investment Fund

-Project Prioritization -

February 15th & 17th, 2023

Introductions & Agenda

Topic	Topic Owner
Welcome & Introductions	Amber
Overview of the Meeting: rules and intent	Amber
Partner Share	Amber
Named Communities Investment Fund <i>- Project Prioritization</i>	Ana/Amber
Next Meeting/Close	Amber

Guest Introductions

- Name
 - Pronouns
- Organization



Today's Meeting

Equity Lens Session February 2023

Work through the various initiatives driven from December's brainstorm session. Begin to prioritize 2023 projects utilizing the Named Communities Investment Fund.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT				
INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.

Rules for Engagement



- Encouraged to actively participate in discussions
- Each member will be provided time to speak
- Healthy and civil debate is encouraged
- Members should be open to new ideas and concepts
- Respectful of differing opinions
- Collectively the group should strive to align varying options (e.g., identify shared goals for different perspectives)

Partner Shares

- Upcoming relevant community events or opportunities
- Pressing issues facing our community or a need someone might be able to address
- Challenges your organization is facing (especially around equity)





Named Communities Investment Fund

-Project Prioritization -

Equity Advisory Group Driven Projects

Purpose	To achieve meaningful energy efficiency improvements on projects identified by the EAG as high priority.
Annual Funding Amount	\$500,000 (with flexibility for project completion).
Requirements	Funds can be used towards a measurable Energy Efficiency project and/or with Health, Safety and Repairs.

Named Community Investment Fund



Named Communities Investment Fund

Equity Advisory Group Brainstormed Ideas (December 2022)

Major themes (strategies) included:

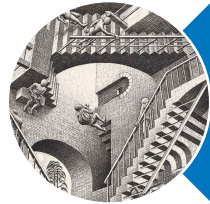
- **Increase electric vehicle charging infrastructure for and within named communities**
 - Increase EV charging in rural places
 - Ride share in rural communities in combination with EV
 - More EV charging in places without access
 - Multi-family charging infrastructure
 - Education for landlords on EV charging options
 - Find ways to encourage landlords to add charging
 - Address policy barriers to increasing charging infrastructure
- **Increase tree canopy and shade in named communities through “Community greening” projects**
 - Plant trees in named communities
 - Plant more trees
 - More native plants
 - Planting native shade trees (Gonzaga has data to help guide location – City of Spokane partnership in planting of the trees)
 - More plant diversity
 - Community gardens to increase greenspace and provide food
- **Increase access to energy efficient appliances and products for named communities**
 - Provide energy efficient light bulbs to named communities
 - Increase rebates for appliances – gave furnace example
 - Battery operated light bulbs
 - Electric blankets for elderly
 - E-Bike System in Communities
 - Solar, distributed solar, batteries for other locations in named communities
- **Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for community members without stable housing**
 - Solar, distributed solar, batteries for unhoused population
 - Get support via the city
 - Energy efficiency for homeless/warming shelters
 - Camp Hope – funding towards weatherization to hotel being utilized
 - Charging lockers for smart phones – phones being stolen – homeless example charging in libraries
- **Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for schools, community centers, and other places where named communities spend time**
 - Schools – infrastructure upgrades and education
 - Schools in NC through EE efforts
 - Appliances – community centers
 - Elder facilities
 - Solar, distributed solar, batteries for schools in named communities
- **Increase awareness of and engagement in energy efficiency programs while also meeting whole-household needs through community-based partnerships and referrals to services**
 - Tap into existing referral systems to include questions about energy efficiency needs (e.g., Spectrum’s system, Northeast Community Center’s intake forms, etc.) and connect people to energy efficiency programs
 - Ask named communities about their energy efficiency and other household needs and refer to outside services (such as rental assistance, peer support, etc., similar to Spectrum’s existing process)
 - Fairly compensate CBOs for their help
 - Partner with existing service providers, schools. Education on EE kits being handed out
- **Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for Spokane Tribe partners**
 - Work with Spokane Tribe on energy efficiency, fleet electrification, etc.
 - Spokane Tribe Housing Authority microgrid projects – have enough for 3 buildings but would like to include the senior housing buildings in the project
- **Improve energy efficiency in multi-family and mobile home communities**
 - Multiple Mobile Home Communities – weatherization
 - Work with large multifamily dwellings for EE regards to both heat and cold. Creates higher rent – hard to flex with.
- **Other**
 - How might we get residents that utilize oil switch over to electricy
 - ~~Expanding My Clean Energy Program @ Avista~~
- **“Data Agenda” – topics to investigate**
 - Look to strategy examples in other communities (e.g., expanding EV charging)
 - Can we raise the poverty level to capture more of the working poor
 - Seek grant funding to increase available funds

Initiative	Notes
Increase tree canopy and shade in NC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plant trees in named communities ▪ Plant more trees ▪ More native plants ▪ Planting native shade trees (Gonzaga has data to help guide location – City of Spokane partnership in planting of the trees) ▪ More plant diversity ▪ Community gardens to increase greenspace and provide food
Increase access to energy efficient products and appliances for NC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide energy efficient light bulbs to named communities ▪ Increase rebates for appliances – gave furnace example ▪ Battery operated light bulbs ▪ Electric blankets for elderly
Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for community members without stable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get support via the city ▪ Energy efficiency for homeless/warming shelters
Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for schools, community centers, and other places where NC spend time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schools – infrastructure upgrades and education ▪ Schools in NC through EE efforts ▪ Appliances – community centers ▪ Elder facilities
Increase awareness of and engagement in energy efficiency programs while also meeting whole-household needs through community-based partnerships and referrals to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tap into existing referral systems to include questions about energy efficiency needs (e.g., Spectrum’s system, Northeast Community Center’s intake forms, etc.) and connect people to energy efficiency programs ▪ Ask named communities about their energy efficiency and other household needs and refer to outside services (such as rental assistance, peer support, etc., similar to Spectrum’s existing process) ▪ Fairly compensate CBOs for their help ▪ Partner with existing service providers, schools. Education on EE kits being handed out
Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for Spokane Tribe partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with Spokane Tribe on energy efficiency, fleet electrification, etc. ▪ Spokane Tribe Housing Authority microgrid projects – have enough for 3 buildings but would like to include the senior housing buildings in the project
Improve energy efficiency in multi-family and mobile home communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multiple Mobile Home Communities – weatherization ▪ Work with large multifamily dwellings for EE regards to both heat and cold. Creates higher rent – hard to flex with.

Criteria



Leverage



Feasibility



Specificity



Values

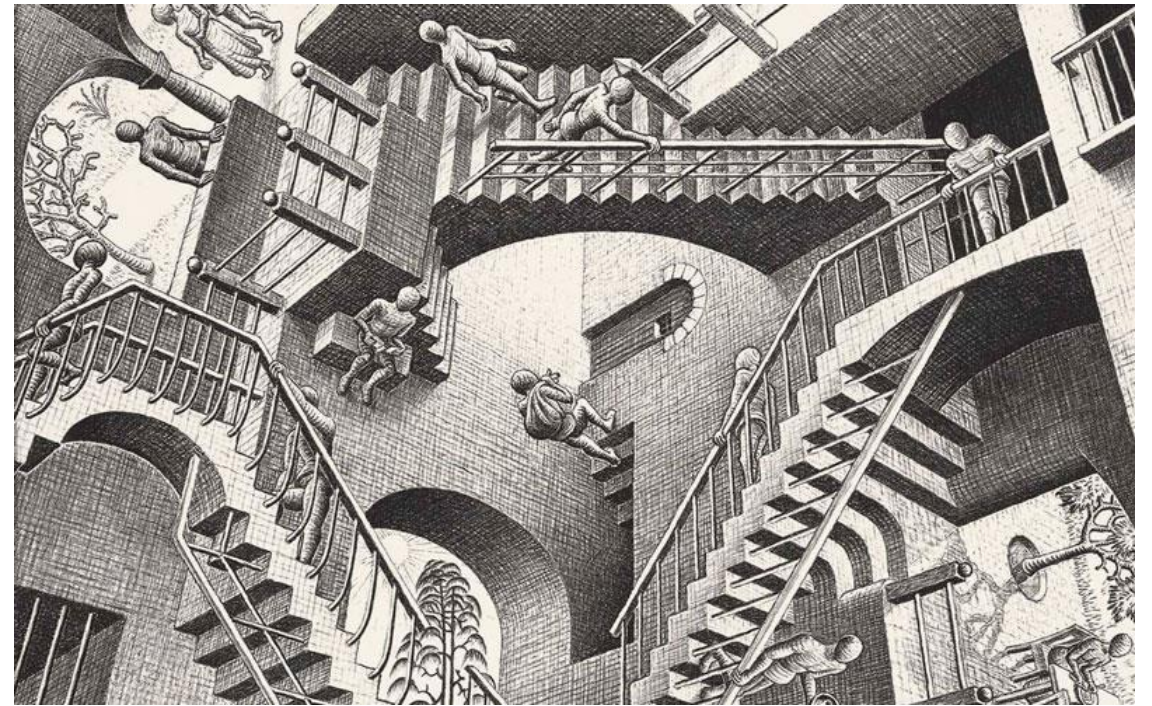
Prioritization Criteria

Leverage: Does the activity address the most important root causes identified? Does it have the greatest potential impact on the performance measures for the strategy?



Prioritization Criteria

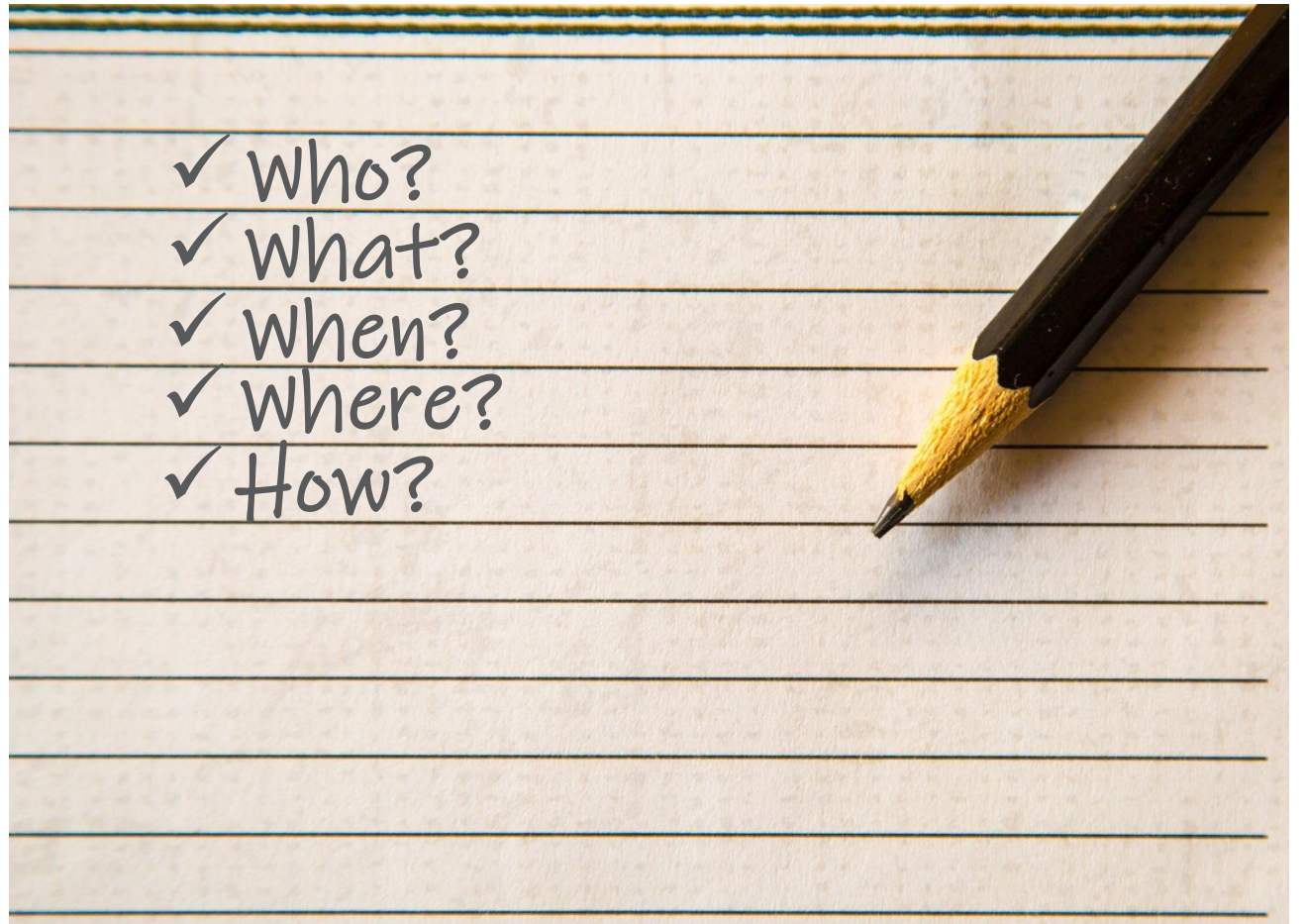
Feasibility: Is it within our reach? Do we have the resources and time? Is it within the ability of the stakeholder group?



Prioritization Criteria

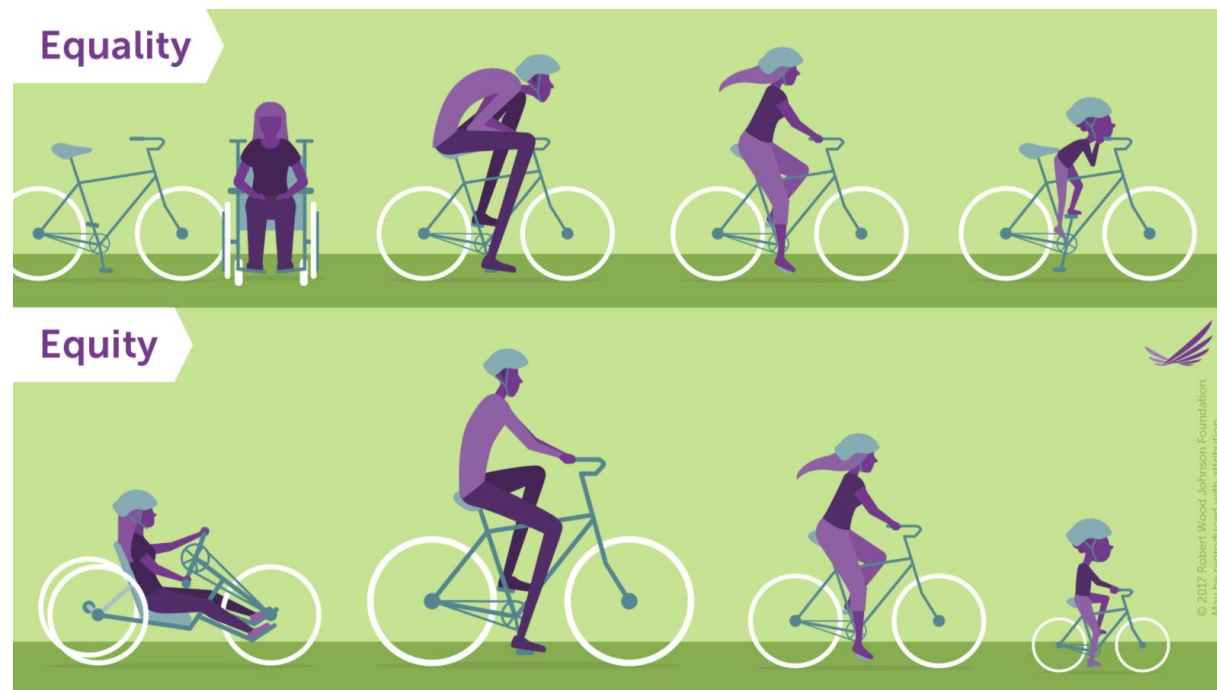
Specificity: Is the activity specific enough to be implemented?

- ✓ Who?
- ✓ What?
- ✓ When?
- ✓ Where?
- ✓ How?



Prioritization Criteria

Values: Is the strategy consistent with the values of the group?



Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Next Meeting | Support Team

Evening:
Wednesday, March
15th @ 4:30 to 6:00
pm

Wed. 15th March

Fri. 17th March

Morning: Friday,
March 17th @ 7:30
to 9:00 am

Amber Lenhart
Amber.lenhart@gmail.com
509.475.9575

Ana Matthews
Ana.Matthews@avistacorp.com
509.495.7979

Tamara Bradley
Tamara.Bradley@avistacorp.com
509.495.9686