



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

April 24, 2017

Andrew Lofton
Executive Director
Seattle Housing Authority
190 Queen Anne Ave N.
Seattle, WA 98109

RE: Seattle City Council Support for SEOC/HomeSight Purchase and Sale

Dear Mr. Lofton,

On behalf of the Seattle City Council, we write to express our support of HomeSight's plan for the Southeast Economic Opportunity Center (SEOC) project adjacent to the Othello Transit Station. We encourage a swift process to accept their Purchase and Sale Agreement.

SEOC has been identified as one of the Equitable Development Implementation Plan (EDIP) projects that builds toward the City's goal of race and social equity. The Equitable Development Framework has two key equity goals: Strong Communities and People and Great Places with Equitable Access. To achieve these goals in Othello and Rainier Beach neighborhoods, we have identified priority equity drivers including: 1) Advancing economic mobility and opportunity; 2) Preventing residential, commercial and cultural displacement; 3) Building on local cultural assets; and 4) Developing healthy and safe neighborhoods. SEOC will help operationalize these strategies.

SEOC included a multitude of uses that will provide livable wage jobs and career pathways; pre-K, secondary, and post-secondary education classes and teacher training facilities; a multi-cultural community center that will celebrate the diversity and rich assets of our communities; a STEM and tech program targeting students from Rainier Valley; and community-owned housing and commercial facilities to offset displacement threats. This path breaking project has community support from residents, small businesses, and non-profits as they have been an integral part of the decision making over the past year and a half.

The community is eager to break ground on the SEOC in 2018 and reach completion in 2022. We are hopeful that this project will build opportunity in our communities and mitigate the threat of displacement and hope SHA can move swiftly in accepting HomeSight's Purchase and Sale Agreement so the project can move forward.

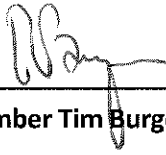
Sincerely,



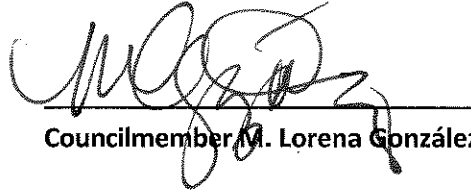
Council President Bruce Harrell



Councilmember Sally Bagshaw



Councilmember Tim Burgess



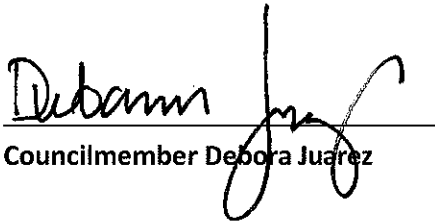
Councilmember M. Lorena González



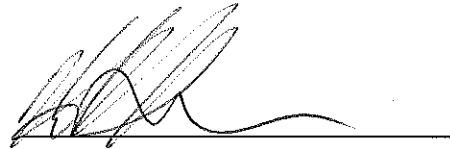
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



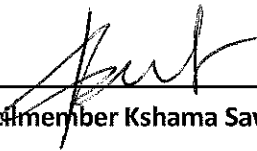
Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



Councilmember Kshama Sawant