

## Signed Letters of Agreement

The following organizations and individual have signed the Letter of Agreement for the Convergence Collaborative.

Axiom Construction
Compass Health
Enterprise Community Partners
Everett Gospel Mission
HopeWorks
Housing Hope
JMC Cabinets & Interiors
LISC
M.L. Fox Architectural Woodwork
Geuhar Serikbayeva
United Way
VOAWW
WSU Everett

An example of the Letter of Agreement is provided on the following pages.

## Organizational Letter of Agreement

This Letter of Agreement (“LOA”) identifies the commitment required of partners of the Convergence at Everett Station Community Collaborative (“Convergence Collaborative”). By signing this agreement, the partner agrees to pursue with committed intent to collaboratively work toward the purpose, mission, and vision of the Convergence Collaborative, holding to our shared values and principles.

The Convergence Collaborative will be a multi-year effort for equitable community development in the Everett Station neighborhood by aligning public and private investments, programs, and policies to meet the needs of marginalized populations and to reduce disparities, providing access to quality education, living wage employment, healthy environment, and affordable housing and transportation.

The effort will be coordinated by the Everett Station District Alliance in a shared partnership with invested community members and partners serving through work groups, an Equity Committee, and a Leadership Advisory Council.

The purpose of the Convergence Collaborative is to cultivate a green, equitable, and place-based community in the Everett Station neighborhood.

The mission of the Convergence Collaborative is to focus on improving health, affordability, economic opportunity, and quality of life for people of all incomes and races, including residents, workers, business owners, visitors, and commuters.

This vision of the Convergence Collaborative is informed by the *Convergence: Everett Station Area TOD Study*, published in 2021. The study outlined the following vision: “At Everett Station, the City and community partners can collectively leverage the strength of the existing manufacturing and industrial business community, a large portfolio of publicly owned land, and planned investments in transit infrastructure to grow a resilient employment center, focused on green construction and next-generation clean energy industry jobs, together with support programs and services that allow working families to thrive—early childhood education, affordable housing within walking distance, healthy food options, and opportunities for job training and professional development.”

# Agreement and Commitment

## 1. Commitment

- A. Partners agree to regularly attend meetings of work groups and committees to which they are members.
- B. Partners agree to serve as ambassadors between the Convergence Collaborative and the community and be an advocate for the mission, vision and values of the Collaborative.
- C. Partners will provide open, honest feedback about organizational matters as they impact the work of the Collaborative.
- D. Partners understand and are committed to implementing four needs identified in Kaiser Permanente's Community Health Needs Assessment through the lens of equity, including access to care, economic security, access to healthy food and physical activity, and climate change.

## 2. Outcomes

- A. Partners agree to support efforts of the Convergence Collaborative to bring together public agencies, nonprofit social service providers, businesses, property owners, and other invested community members to creatively solve problems, manage change, and plan for a healthy, sustainable, and prosperous Everett Station District neighborhood.
- B. Partners agree to make good faith efforts to support the Convergence Collaborative's desired outcomes identified in the Equity Principles and the work groups' strategic plans and priorities, as adopted by the Leadership Advisory Council.

## 3. Non-binding agreement

- A. Partners acknowledge that no contractual relationship is created among them by this LOA but agree to work together in the spirit of partnership and collaboration.
- B. This Letter of Agreement in no way restricts partners from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.

### This Letter of Agreement is agreed to by:

Organization/Agency/Business: Washigton State University Everett

Authorized Signer (print name and title): Mark A. Beattie, PhD

Authorized Signature: *Mark Beattie* Date: 10/17/2022

## Supporting Material

### Convergence Collaborative Values

*The following values were adopted by the Everett Station District Alliance Membership in December 2020. The Leadership Advisory Council of the Convergence Collaborative will establish its own values document that will guide the collaborative.*

- **Social equity.** We embrace diversity, promote equity, and invite inclusion of all economic and social sectors of our community.
- **Collaboration.** We achieve more by working together.
- **Industry.** We value the business activities for creating and selling products which are the neighborhood's heritage and will continue into the future.
- **Community.** We believe in the character and diversity of both people and place are critical to creating a great neighborhood.
- **Growth.** We embrace change, encourage new business and residents in our neighborhood, and seek to shape it for future prosperity.
- **Respect.** We respect the opinions of all stakeholders and recognize the importance of property rights.
- **Environment.** We believe a healthy environment is crucial to human well-being and prosperous businesses in the long-run.
- **Transparency.** We engage in clear, robust, and timely communication to establish a bedrock of trust and confidence.
- **Consensus building.** We work toward consensus among stakeholders to generate support for the long-term success of the neighborhood.

## Principles for Equitable Development

*The following Principles for Equitable Development were established by the Equity Work Group of the Convergence Study during 2020-2021, and then officially endorsed by the Everett Station District Alliance Board of Directors. The Equity Committee of the Convergence Collaborative will use these principles as its starting-point for establishing the equity principles for the collaborative.*

Our efforts aim to transform ideas of equity in community planning, policy development, and resource allocation. The compounding effects of historic social injustices are challenges we must address together, particularly with those facing poverty, communities of colors, and all other historically marginalized populations. As an allied community, we can begin to create generational power and wealth — a future where everyone’s contribution matters and people can take ownership of what they make.

- **Center Community:** Actively engage the local community in decision-making, planning, and policy-making to ensure those who have been historically marginalized, including people with disabilities, indigenous populations, and communities of color, etc. are central to decision-making.
- **Design for All:** Following principles of Universal Design, design engagement processes and the built environment for people of all ages, abilities, and languages so that they may fully participate in the community and safely and easily access jobs, shopping, and services.
- **Create Housing Abundance and Affordability:** Proactively build enough housing for people of all incomes to meet the region’s and City’s needs, with prioritization of building housing near light rail. Prevent discrimination in housing opportunities, especially for people of color, immigrants, and households with low income. Provide a range of unit sizes and of rental and ownership opportunities and to support families and generational wealth creation.
- **Provide Affordable and Convenient Transportation Options:** Ensure all households have access to conveniently and safely walk, bike, and ride transit from their homes to destinations of work, school, shops, and other services.
- **Support a Just and Equitable Economy:** Support the building of generational wealth for those who have been the most economically disadvantaged by providing career pathways through education and training, supporting existing and incubating new minority-owned businesses, and supporting new community-based business models.
- **Cultivate Safe and Healthy Environments:** Create or renovate accessible open spaces and recreational facilities, such as schools, parks, healthcare, libraries, and fresh food opportunities, to promote community health.
- **Promote Environmental Justice:** Address environmental health disparities for underserved communities by creating sustainable development and attaining resources to alleviate environmental health risks.
- **Preserve, Sustain, and Utilize Local Assets:** Support arts and cultural programs to address the needs of diverse populations that can strengthen and preserve existing cultural landscapes. Acknowledging indigenous voices and recognizing the history of this land and how it ties into the lives of the people past and present are crucial in doing so.