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June 2023

## Happy Happy Happy!



Dear Friends,

June is a time of so much celebration — the start of summer, Pride, and Juneteenth. And during this past month, we made time to celebrate.

The Port's Employee Resource Groups of Blacks in Government (BIG) and Port-wide Pride (PWP) organized the Port's celebrations of Juneteenth and Pride, respectively. BIG organized an in-person Juneteenth event for Port employees, featuring a marketplace with local Black vendors, guest speakers, and artists. On Sunday, June 25, PWP pride organized over 100 Port employees to march in the 29th annual Seattle Pride Parade, and for the first time ever, PWP used a fully electric truck as the vehicle for the Port's float.



These efforts fill me up and inspire me. Even in the midst of hard work to advance equity, we must take time to celebrate our achievements, our communities, and our beautiful diversity. I am hopeful that we, as a community, can continue to shape our organization and our country into one that is guided by our deepest values. It is up to all of us to build an equitable and inclusive community, region, and nation.

Happy summer! Happy Juneteenth! Happy Pride!

In Unity,

**Bookda Gheisar**  
Senior Director  
Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (OEDI)

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## Centering Equity and Taking Action

**South King County Community Impact Fund — Apply for Funding!**



The Port is now accepting proposals for the fourth South King County Community Impact Fund Economic Recovery Program cycle. The SKCCIF's Economic Recovery Program connects communities to Port funding opportunities for programs that expand economic opportunity and recruit a new generation of workers for port-related industries from historically underserved communities in South King County. Port-related industries include aviation, maritime, construction trades, and green career industries. Learn more about the [SKCCIF Economic Recovery Program](#) and [apply by July 21, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.](#)

## Join the OEDI Team!



Are you an equity, racial, and social justice leader with a passion for inspiring others? Do you have experience using an equity lens in policy development and communications? Then apply to become OEDI's [EDI Policy and Communications Manager](#)! In this position, you will lead the Port's efforts to advance equity through policy, manage OEDI's internal and external communications, and coach employees on how to advance equity and anti-racism in their work. Learn more about the position and apply by 11:59 p.m. on July 9.

[Apply now](#) →



## Celebrating Pride with Action

To commemorate June as Pride Month, the Port of Seattle Commission [passed a proclamation](#) during the June 27 Commission meeting, honoring the profound contributions of the LGBTQIA2S+ community and condemning the growing number of laws and legislation rooted in bigotry and homophobia that seek to deny freedom of expression and speech. The Port also announced that its first all-gender restroom will open at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) in mid-July. Located between gates D1 and D2, this multi-user, all-gender restroom is among the first of its kind to be introduced in a North American airport. The ADA-accessible restroom is inclusive to all, and has stalls with full doors, a family restroom, a private urinal room, and a shared washing station.



[Learn more →](#)

## Moving Beyond the “Isms”



In recognition of Juneteenth, LaTonja Brown of the Northwest Seaport Alliance authored a blog — *Moving Beyond the “Isms”* — on the Port’s website reflecting on her time at the Port of Seattle and the progress that the Port has made to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion over the last 25 years. LaTonja writes about her own personal growth and journey to understand and practice values of inclusion, and she calls on all of us to “navigate diversity, inclusion, and equity with grace, openness, and sincerity.”

[Read the blog →](#)

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