



King County Economic Alliance

**COVID-19 Recovery for Unincorporated
Areas**

9/20/23

Unincorporated King County Economic Alliance

Mission: Center equitable and sustainable economic recovery from COVID-19 on our most-vulnerable and hardest-hit community members in unincorporated King County.

Vision: Co-create pathways to economic recovery with those in unincorporated King County who were hit hardest by the COVID-19 public health crisis.



Pro-equity framework


We are also challenging business as usual. The journey toward equity is necessarily disruptive. We must question existing systems of power and privilege by undoing the systems that have perpetuated unfair outcomes, and creating new spaces for learning and growth.

[King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan](#)




King County Economic Alliance

The King County Council appropriated \$5.25 million CLFR funding to Local Services to form an economic alliance focusing on serving unincorporated areas.



Collaborate with alliance members and contracted partners to provide economic recovery from COVID-19 in unincorporated King County.



Programing timeline:
2022 through 2024



Partnership structure



Workflow and function

**Contracted partners
operate programing**

1. Career Connector
2. Business Builder
3. Community Innovator

**Monthly Alliance
meetings** coordinate
COVID-19 economic
recovery across
unincorporated areas

Alliance Members
**partner in creating
equitable pathways to
business ownership
and/or living wage
careers** for our most
vulnerable residents



Programing strategies



SnoValley Economic Alliance- History

Community Partners of the UKC Economic Alliance convened a group of Economic Development and CBO partners including the Snoqualmie Valley Innovation Center to define regional economic development values and priorities for the Snoqualmie Valley.

The cities of **Snoqualmie Valley - Carnation, Duvall, North Bend, and Snoqualmie** – find it beneficial to join with **the Department of Local Services** representing unincorporated King County – in promoting and coordinating King County’s rural area economic development efforts by creating the Snoqualmie Valley Economic Alliance.

Federal small business incubation grants (like USDA’s RISE Grant) require a partnership agreement documented through a formal MOU. This group plans to utilize the MOU to pursue funding individually and together.

The MOU will be signed by local organizations to enrich collaboration efforts including community associations, non-profits, greenway associations, school districts, chambers of commerce and tribes. Snoqualmie Valley Innovation Center is the coordinating 501c3 organization.


Priorities and Values Identified

- Honor the historic role of Snoqualmie Valley
- Healthy living through sustainability and Green Jobs
- Diversity
- Equity
- Preserve rural character
- Entrepreneurship
- Economic empowerment
- Curiosity
- Rural SR 202/203 Corridor Infrastructure Improvement
- Preserving and supporting local business



A large orange circle is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially cut off by the edge.

Things to note

- The MOU outlines economic development values and priorities which were identified by city staff and community partners who participated in monthly meetings between March 2023 and September 2023.
 - **There will be no costs associated with this MOU.** The Snoqualmie Valley Economic Alliance MOU will provide the required documentation for interested parties to pursue federal, state, and private economic development funding.
- 
- A series of four yellow curved dashes are located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

Timeline:

- **September 2023:** Partners review final draft of MOU- send through legal review and edit, if necessary.
- **End of Sep/October 2023:** Snoqualmie Valley Innovation Center, Snoqualmie Valley Chamber of Commerce, and DLS present MOU to each city council for deliberation.
- **November 2023:** Cities vote to sign the MOU. Once cities and county (DLS) signatures are obtained, the MOU will be extended to community partners to sign.
- **December 2023:** Planning and final signature adoption.
- **Jan 2024-June 2024:**
 - Apply to relevant funding opportunities such as USDA RISE Grant
 - Support Snoqualmie Innovation Center in hosting learning series for small business success tools
 - Support Farmers & Makers Markets across Snoqualmie Valley through Regional coordination
 - Align with Regional King County Creative Economy and Green Jobs Strategies



Questions?