



## Mayor's Inclusion Task Force

### **Background:**

Renton is one of the fastest growing cities in our region known for its growing diversity, a vibrant and livable community, and high quality programs and services for our residents and businesses. The City of Renton sees this growth and diversity as a chance to celebrate our differences. The Mayor of Renton and other city leaders recognize the changing demographics of Renton's population as an opportunity to bring the community closer together and to become an all-inclusive city with equal opportunities for every citizen.

### **Purpose**

The Renton Business Plan includes the following mission and goals of inclusion:

The city of Renton, in partnership and communication with residents, business, and schools is dedicated to:

- Building an inclusive informed city with opportunities for all.

The goals of Inclusion are to:

- Improve access to city services, programs and employment, and make residents and businesses aware of opportunities to be involved with their community
- Build connections with ALL communities that reflect the breadth and richness of the diversity in our city
- Promote understanding and appreciation of our diversity through celebrations and festivals
- Provide critical and relevant information on a timely basis and facilitate two-way dialogue between city government and the community

The Mayor's Inclusion Task Force will help support the city's mission and goal and facilitate dialogue and enhance understanding, trust, respect and representation to create a culture of inclusion in our community that is welcoming to all residents.

### **Role and Responsibilities**

- Help identify barriers and develop strategies to promote inclusion of culture, language, ethnicity, vulnerable populations, race, age, faith, gender, sexual orientation, etc. that impact residents of Renton.
- Facilitate dialogue and enhance understanding, respect and representation to create a culture of inclusion in our community that is welcoming to all residents.

- Advocate for members of your respective community on issues that are unique to your community or affect the city as a whole.
- Advise and provide information to the Mayor, City Council, staff, commissions and boards on issues that promote an inclusive city.
- Help facilitate communication and understanding about city endeavors within your respective community.
- Initiate, support and engage others in city events and activities that promote inclusion in the City of Renton, remove barriers to full participation, highlight and celebrate the cultural diversity of the city. Such endeavors include but are not limited to:
  - Help recruit for boards, committees, and commissions within the city.
  - Actively promote information about job and career opportunities in the city.
  - Sponsor events that remove barriers and promote inclusion.
  - Support celebrations of culture and diversity.
  - Further the city's goal of inclusion in ways that create meaningful participation of all residents.
- The city shall provide staff support to advise and assist the task force members in their endeavors as well as an initial training.
- The task force will provide an annual report to the Mayor on the effectiveness of the task force and its accomplishments.

### **Membership**

- The task force members are volunteers appointed for a two-year term by the Mayor. The initial task force members will be appointed in staggering terms of two to three years to support continuity of their work.
- Members represent a cross-section of the residents of the community including members of cultural/ethnic groups, vulnerable populations, faith-based groups, human services organizations, councilmembers, and various dimensions of the city's diversity.
- All task force members are appointed for a two-year term and all serve without compensation. Personal expenses incurred by members in connection with their service shall be reimbursed by the city.
- A majority of the members may name subcommittees to further the work of the task force. Subcommittees shall report their work, findings and recommendations to the task force as a whole.

### **Criteria for Selection**

- Willingness to be an active participant of the task force.
- Ability to effectively participate in a diverse group of people.
- Recognized and valued as an opinion leader and respected member of a Renton community.
- Willingness to share information about their own community and to listen and seek understanding on issues that affect residents of the city outside of one's own group.