# **BUSINESS MEETING NOTE**

review and passage of council bill 118759

Location: seattle city council

Date: september 6, 2016

## **ATTENDEES:**

## **Agenda Items:**

- council bill 118759: authorization for the department of neighborhoods to implement neighborhood matching fund projects in 2016.
- the automatic carry forward of 2016 appropriations for the neighborhood matching sub fund to future budget years.
- projects to be funded by the bill, including the zulu's urbana project, rainier valley radio studio, digital storytelling classes by one america, and various community and educational developments.
- the role of district councils and other geographically based organizations in vetting projects for the neighborhood matching fund.
- the positive impact of the neighborhood matching fund on community engagement and crime reduction.
- specific grant recommendations, particularly for one america and the chinese information and service center.

#### **Summary:**

the meeting focused on the passage of council bill 118759, proposing authorization for the department of neighborhoods to implement various community projects under the neighborhood matching fund program for the year 2016. addressing a broad slate of initiatives, the bill aims to support projects that foster community involvement, arts, education, and infrastructural improvements across diverse seattle neighborhoods. a significant portion of the discussion revolved around the unique method of selecting these projects, highlighting the critical role played by district councils and other local organizations in this process. a notable emphasis was placed on the inclusion and support of projects aimed at fostering digital literacy, providing educational spaces, and enhancing community facilities. council members shared insights into the anticipated positive impacts of these projects, not only in terms of immediate community benefits but also concerning longterm social effects, such as crime reduction and the empowerment of immigrant communities through language skills and digital literacy. the successful passage of the bill, as indicated by unanimous support, signifies a strong commitment towards community-driven initiatives and the continuous endorsement of the neighborhood matching fund program by the council.

#### **Notes:**

- the committee recommends the passage of council bill 118759, highlighting its significance in promoting community projects and enhancing neighborhood engagement.
  detailed discussion on the importance of a structured selection process for project funding, with an emphasis on the need for a geographically based vetting organization.
  highlighted projects promise to deliver diverse benefits ranging from arts engagement in the central district to educational advancements and public space enhancements in various neighborhoods.
- the council expressed strong support for the neighborhood matching fund's role in reducing crime and fostering community cohesion through grassroots projects
- personal remarks by council members emphasized the broader social benefits of the bill, particularly in supporting immigrant communities through education and storytelling, illustrated by passionate support for the grants going to one america and the chinese information and service center.