

Summary

[Ekubo Protocol](#) is an AMM on Starknet with a singleton design, super-concentrated liquidity and support for extensions. The implementation is written in the Cairo language to take full advantage of Starknet's architecture, but re-uses much of the same design philosophy as Uniswap V4. Ekubo's design is the most advanced of any AMM in production. In its first month, Ekubo won approximately 75% of total volume traded on Starknet with only 5% of the TVL.

Ekubo proposes a partnership with the Uniswap DAO in the form of a 3 million UNI (~\$12MM) contribution in exchange for a 20% share of a future Ekubo protocol governance token. As a result, the Uniswap DAO becomes a significant stakeholder in Ekubo protocol and vice versa. This alignment enables the development teams of Uniswap and Ekubo to collaborate. We at Ekubo, Inc. believe this is a vitally important step in the decentralization of Uniswap protocol development, effectively onboarding the Ekubo team as core developers.

Background

My name is Moody Salem ([Twitter](#), [GitHub](#)), and I am the founder of Ekubo, Inc., the company developing Ekubo Protocol. Before starting the company, I was an engineer lead on the Uniswap team. I joined the Uniswap Labs team in April 2020 as the 5th employee. As an engineer at Uniswap, I wrote much of the early Uniswap interface, created token lists, wrote the first swap routing algorithm for V2 and V3, committed about half of the V3 code, and finally led the design of V4.

In May 2022 I became an Advisor to Uniswap Labs and 1 year later I left the advisor role. I began working on an AMM for Starknet because I believe in Starkware's technical vision: a ZK rollup optimized for throughput rather than EVM compatibility. I deployed the first version of Ekubo protocol 3 months after starting work on it. Since [AVNU](#)'s integration on September 14th and [Fibrous](#)'s integration shortly after, Ekubo has facilitated the majority of volume traded on Starknet entirely through the aggregators. Ekubo, Inc. has also partnered with the largest wallet on Starknet, Argent, in order to bring capital efficient market making to more users.

We believe Starknet with its rapidly improving programming language and infrastructure will soon be one of the most active L2s on Ethereum. Because it does not focus on compatibility with the EVM, it includes innovations such as account abstraction and, soon, volition that have the potential to greatly improve the UX of interacting with the blockchain and simplify onboarding for the next wave of users. If Starkware delivers on their vision, UNI holders need to have a stake in this market.

Budget

The purpose of the 3 million UNI is to continue the operation of Ekubo, Inc. for development of Ekubo protocol as well as contribution to Uniswap protocol. The expenses include primarily engineering, audits, and legal support.

We believe this amount of UNI gives Ekubo the runway to grow Ekubo protocol into a sustainable product. Much of the work will be to deliver public goods to the Starknet ecosystem, including standard token, governance, and incentives contracts written in Cairo, all of which are necessary to scale Starknet to the same level of usage as competing L2s.

Because this is an investment of liquid tokens, the UNI will be spent at the discretion of the CEO of Ekubo, Inc. for operations, research and development, with the mission of organically growing Ekubo protocol usage and revenue to sustain ongoing development. We will deliver biannual reports of our progress to the Uniswap community via the forum.

Technical details

In order to fractionalize ownership of the protocol, we will deploy a set of governance contracts on Starknet including a token representing voting rights on Ekubo protocol within 1 month of this proposal passing. The Uniswap DAO will receive 20% of this token, which it can delegate or redistribute however it decides. The remaining 80% will be controlled by Ekubo, Inc. Any further distribution of the 80% of tokens held by the company will be determined on a future date solely by Ekubo, Inc.

As with Ekubo protocol, the token will be native to the Starknet L2. We will create a proxy on Starknet to hold the tokens on behalf of the Uniswap DAO to be transferred or delegated as the DAO pleases.

Sharing of intellectual property

The proposal will also update the Uniswap V4 license to include a grant to Ekubo, Inc. for unlimited use on the Starknet network. This grant mitigates any issues pertaining to the sharing of code between Ekubo, Inc. and the Uniswap community. Ekubo, Inc. employees will also sign a standard contributor license agreement before contributing to the Uniswap V4 protocol.

Links

- [Ekubo home](#)

- [Docs page](#)
- [Starknet](#)
- [Starknet vision](#)
- [Starknet vision](#)
- Dashboards:
- [app.ekubo.org](#)
- [Flipside: Ekubo](#)
- [Flipside: AVNU](#)
- [Flipside: Fibrous](#)
- [DefiLlama](#)
- [app.ekubo.org](#)
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