**July 13, 2021 Meeting - Seattle Community Technology Advisory Board**

Topics covered included: Multimedia Resource and Training Institute (TMF); 2021 TMF Supplemental Awards Presentation and Vote; Committee Updates

**This meeting was held:** July 13, 2021; 6:00-7:30 p.m., via Webex

**Attending:  (All via Webex)**

**Board Members:** Rene Peters, Camille Malonzo, Nicole Espy, Leah Shin, Femi Adebayo, David Kirichenko

**Public:** Assaye Abunie,Dorene Cornwell, Eryk Waligora, Said Mohammed, Kristen Hoffman, Sabrina Roach

**Staff:** Trayce Cantrell, David Keyes, Vicky Yuki, Tara Zaremba, Vinh Tang, Cass Magnuski

**18 In Attendance**

**Rene Peters:**   Okay, we're at 6:07. We've got 14 or 15 folks, so let's start the recording. Welcome, everybody. Just as a note, we are recording the meeting just for audio purposes, so everything that's said in the meeting will have a text transcript that is published to the CTAB web site, and seattle.gov, but there won't be an audio recording. That's just for minutes-taking purposes. So, again, welcome to the July meeting. I want to start out by doing a quick acknowledgement that we are on the traditional land that the First People of Seattle, the Duwamish people, and we give honor to them past and present in the spirit and honor of gratitude for the land, itself, and for the Duwamish Tribe. I hope everybody has been enjoying the weather as well as possible. I definitely have aluminum foil left on my windows from a couple of weeks ago, during the heat wave. That made me think about the increase and onset of global climate change. It's a really interesting discussion, if you think about it. It's not something that we usually think about as technology, but I was interested when I learned that Seattle is the least air-conditioned City in the United States, and only 44 percent residential air-conditioning prevalence. And so, it brings up the question, as we saw, of who is at risk. There are a couple of really interesting factors that intersect Seattle. first is that Seattle, regionally, is known for the prevalence of trees, but in residential neighborhoods, the amount of trees present sort of maps with historical redlining. And areas that are historically redlined, and historically are minorities, have a lower amount of tree cover. Compared to affluent neighborhoods, that actually amounts to a temperature difference of at or over 10 degrees Fahrenheit, which obviously can be a humungous difference on some of those hottest days. The New York *Times* did a really interesting graphical report on it that I will post  (<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/06/30/opinion/environmental-inequity-trees-critical-infrastructure.html>). But it is interesting to think of trees as critical infrastructure, not even technology, but it's just one of the complicating factors. Again, I mention that Seattle, from an air-conditioning standpoint, only has 44 percent residential AC. That's a Seattle thing. That's a Pacific Northwest thing. NPR did a really interesting story on that, and how that makes the heat wave a little bit more dangerous. Just also the fact that Seattle has, behind New York and Los Angeles, if you think about who is really at risk, Seattle has the highest unhoused population in the country. So, similar to what we saw at the beginning of the pandemic, public resources open, like the Seattle Public Library, there was a censor at the Fisher Pavilion at the Seattle Center was also open as sort of a public cooling center. Really, when you consider the pandemic itself as a complicating factor and the fact that luckily, at least a lot of the population is vaccinated now, but imagine this happening last year when the people were still getting their feet under them with the pandemic and trying to struggle with being in enclosed spaces and having safe temperatures, there are a number of different interesting intersections that Seattle expresses in particular, and make you think what are the unique dangers to a heat wave. So the crux of my mini-ramble and an article that I'll give you (<https://www.npr.org/2021/06/28/1010923130/the-pacific-northwest-has-limited-a-c-making-the-heat-wave-more-dangerous>) is that some international agencies and some domestic agencies are arguing whether air-conditioning should be considered as critical infrastructure. In the vein of what Seattle is going through now, and a lot of the country is going through now, and considering broadband as critical infrastructure. Global warming is only going to intensify even if we completely nullified all carbon emissions today. This is a really interesting article from WBUR.org that talks about how international energy agencies are starting the conversation on climate change and what does it really mean to have access to AC. So, a kind of fascinating, timely and relevant story there, and a number of different articles that I think are really fascinating. I would be curious to hear what you guys think.

And my second, and final random tidbit: I was thinking about this as I watched the Virgin Galactic space venture, sort of a designer space venture. Also last night, the international space station happened to pass directly over the City of Seattle about four times. And I went outside to watch that. Another thing I was thinking about and something that we don't really think about a lot is there is a space real estate problem that is developing in earth's orbit above us. It's not a space that we really think about a lot. Essentially, the gist of it is that as the amount of objects that we are putting into our own orbit, such as Tesla satellites, all kinds of other satellites for use by us here down on earth, as that amount of material around our orbit increases, and it's increasing exponentially, that creates a number of really interesting future problems, from space junk posing a risk to the international space station, to interference with other satellites that provide communities around the world with pretty basic services, like satellites that measure how crops are doing, and how weather patterns are changing throughout the world. So, there is this really interesting LA *Times* article about how cleaning up outdated space junk is a future problem that we'll have to handle, as well as thinking about how what we put into the atmosphere around this can have really interesting impacts on folks down on the ground. This far outstrips City government and what we think about here in the City of Seattle, but I think it's always edifying to stretch ourselves to think about where are other places where these kinds of budding questions of digital equity are even present on the furthest frontiers. (<https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2021-06-27/satellites-self-destruct-clean-up-space-junk>)  It's quite literally 'out there' thinking, but again, a fascinating thought. And I think that you can apply some of the same principles that we use for some of our work here on the board. Maybe CTAB 2021 will have some really fascinating satellite-based discussions.

With that, I will go ahead and start the introductions. We have 17 folks, so we should be able to go through them pretty quickly. Just give your name and affiliation, and maybe what area of Seattle you represent.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**Rene Peters:**   Perfect. So that is everybody. The next order of business is to approve the minutes and the agenda. First is approving the minutes from June. Last month we had a presentation from Renaissance 21, another TMF grantee, and we also had a vote to approve a commentary from our Privacy and Cybersecurity Committee, regarding the SIR group for technologies. That documentation went forward, and will be commenting on the legislation. So, thanks to the board for getting that out. So, that was our June meeting, and I will open the floor for a motion to approve those minutes.

**Leah Shin:**  This is Leah. I move to approve those minutes.

**Rene Peters:**   Can I have a second for Leah?

**Femi Adebayo:**   This is Femi. Second.

**Rene Peters:**   Excellent. Can I have all of the 'ayes?' Can I have the 'nays' or abstentions? Going once. Going twice. Okay, that will pass. Next is to approve the July agenda. And, again, I will be putting this motion forward with the addition of the board member spotlight for Nicole Espy. And I will plan to put that right before the committee updates after our presentations. So, with that stipulation, can I have a motion on the floor to approve that agenda?

**Camille Malonzo:**   This is Camille. So moved.

**Rene Peters:**   Can I have a second for Camille?

**Femi Adebayo:**   I will second.

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you, Femi. Can I have the 'ayes?' Any 'nays' or abstentions? Going once. Going twice. All right. That will pass. So, we will get into our agenda and dive right in. First up, as you saw in the introductions, we have Assaye and we have Said here to talk about Multi-Media Resources and Training Institute. They're one of our TMF grantees, and they're doing fantastic work. Assaye is executive director of the group. Vicky Yuki, I will pass it to you to do a formal introduction, and we will go ahead on with the presentation.

**MULTIMEDIA RESOURCE AND TRAINING INSTITUTE**

**Vicky Yuki:**Thank you. I'm really excited to have Assaye and Said share about their project this year. This year again, we are kind of winding down our ability to open back up again and we are looking forward to hearing how they have really navigated all of this as they continue their programs and their outreach efforts and involvement. They have a unique digital navigators project that I'm really excited for them to share in the Yesler Community of Seattle Housing Authority.

**Assaye Abunie:**   All right. Thank you very much, Vicky. I appreciate your inviting me. This is my first time for CTAB. I also appreciate David Keyes, who is a long time colleague. It was 20 years ago since I began in the Community Technology program. I remember when a few of us who had background in Community Technology dedicated our time, volunteered about 500 hours, I think, to a creative community technology program. Since then, I know him. Almost 20 years, David, and we still continue working and seeing each other. And I appreciate his connecting us to the City, which is the primary sponsor and defender of our project since the beginning. That was the time when I volunteered with the Ethiopian community. I'm the father of three. I thought that there was no way to get experience, but by volunteering and I learned how to dedicate my time, especially since I am a father. I would like to give them an opportunity. At the time, I was the only person. There may be a few of us who know about our community, because there is no way to have a community center at the time. So, we had to plan our own community. So, that is how I started volunteering. I worked in different community technology programs and companies, but the more I volunteered, our primary jobs have become  (unintelligible). This is community driven technology (unintelligible) for the underserved young people. Because that was the time I started my volunteerism, and my background technology is computer science and I actually graduated in 1994. When I came to Seattle, really, that was something that I will always try to show in my background and also volunteering at the community. Especially for kids, that's the way they understand better, because in a traditional way, just teaching them about their culture, it doesn't give them a sense.

So, using technology was something that I always think about. Most of the programs I am involved in are technology-related. That's why from the volunteerism, now I've become the director and the founder of the MMRTI <http://mmrtiseattle.org/> program. I am also a founder of WEMA, which is the Washington Eastern African Institution. It has about ten different media outlets coming together serving the East African communities. It is also a presence and a voice. Mostly we use the STEM program in teaching young people, but we use many media. We try to find the content to use to present to the community. We use Channel 77. It is a community program.

We have been creating content, and each week, we produce and share it with the larger community, showing how immigrants are involved in the community, how they are producing and helping others, and also answering so many questions regarding immigration, and all of that kind of stuff. Since 2002, we have been producing that. So, I am just trying to give you a little background. But I have been involved for 20 years. We were displaced 40 years ago. And we thank Seattle Housing Authority, as they rescued us at Yesler, first, which was an underserved community of East Africans. And we are very happy, and because of Seattle Housing Authority, now we are fully engaged and serving the underserved and under-represented community. Since we moved here three years ago, we have had a really busy schedule. We never have free time. Summertime, we have our summer program in partnership with Seattle University. We did about 15 events last year. This year, we have (unintelligible). This is a program, especially now, about Covid in the Yesler community and how it's impacted and affected. That's what we are doing. But beyond that, last year or so, we created this program which is about four different organizations serving youth. Our navigator person -- Said will go into detail -- because he is a mentor between the two programs for the last three years.

But in general, thank you for the great grant that we received for the digital navigators and digital equity for the underserved and under-represented, especially for African Americans and immigrants who are highly affected because of their cultural and also language barrier. We got the grant last year. We created a survey which is a digital equity assessment. We are trying to reach out to our individual citizens to survey their technical needs. We found very high issues because the immigrants have no clue. Most of them have no technology background. Also, this year we are working on those internet issues, media and technology. We help them. We have about five navigators from the universities and high schools. We are trying to expand, but there are so many issues. We can talk after Said gives his presentation and I'll give you more detail. Maybe I'll let Said continue.

**Said Mohammed:**   Can you guys see my screen? Great. First I will introduce myself. My name is Said Mohammed. I am here as staff of MMRTI. I have created this presentation. This is MMRTI, Multimedia Resource and Training Institute. I will give information on what we have been doing and when we started and a general explanation of what we do.

As Assaye explained, we do a lot of activities, including creating internship opportunities for youth. This was last year, last summer, 2020. As you all know, that was the hardest time during the pandemic, however, we managed to have this adventure with other organizations. Do you know about it, or not? This is about 12 youths creating videos and making story telling for kids. If you want to know more about it, or see what the youths created, you can go here: <http://mmrtiseattle.org/> and on YouTube you can find multiple videos like this one, this one, this one, and this is me here. A lot of these here you will find regarding this specific internship.

Before I go to the navigators, this is another internship. As I mentioned, this was between November 2019 to the beginning of 2020. It was an internship of teaching media and editing based on what the youth chose. It was successful and everybody enjoyed it, including me.

And this one, FFMF, which is Future Founders Makers Fellowship. This was an internship which started for 16 weeks. It started in February and ended in June. There were about 15 youths participating, and a couple of mentors and instructors. It was virtual, but they were meeting three days a week. And everyone enjoyed it. What we did was we taught engineering and manufacturing, and bringing an idea and making it sound tangible. So, the idea was to create some transportation method for people who are living in Indonesia, Malaysia where there is a high increase of sea level, so a transportation that could transport students from their homes to school. There was a different kind of idea from every part of the teams who made things, so we taught them how to do designing, marketing, and others, and sum all of this up to make a good product. If you want to know more, once again, it is kind of a summary here of MMRTI TV. As you can see, these are some of the projects here of what interns produced. You can access it any time.

These were some of the interns. We had a lot of entrepreneurs and designers in different fields, so it was a really successful internship. We started this specific program at the end of 2020, so to know the programs and what the community has before we started the survey. As you know, it was very tough and there was no physical interaction, which made it really hard for us to gather information. We contacted about 60 families, and as you see, we got about 45 respondents. So, it took us about two to three months doing that survey because getting in person results from the residents, calling every single person and asking each person about 15 questions that include information about their families, what they have got in devices, internet, and what they use to kind of get an idea of what topics we should put on this channel by navigators. And there are more info graphics.

For this presentation, this is kind of a general idea of what we do. We had about 60 families that were contacted. There were about 115 students from preschool to high school. And the first thing we had a problem with was reaching out to people because of Covid-19. Because of the pandemic, everything changed to virtual online school. And a lot of families here at Yesler and low income families and immigrants, the majority here have language barriers. They cannot browse the internet easily. They mentioned a lot of problems that were hard to take personally. I was kind of comparing it to my family. So these language barriers and lack of information and lack of devices and resources was really hard for them, especially now with this Covid. They cannot move right or left and there is nobody contacting them. after that, we needed some kind of strategy to promote. We made a couple of videos translated into a couple of languages. so, if you go here, you can find this English based introduction, and we did it in other languages. Something I wanted to tell you here is the residents don't specifically speak English. So, we need to have multiple people who can speak different languages. Tigrinya, Amharic, Somali, Oromo, Vietnamese. There was a couple of other languages definitely, but the majority from the demographics we've got. The number of languages we have are a problem even now. We would be thankful for support on that.

We also created a lot of flyers like this one. This is me talking to some residents in March after we got the survey to ask what their internet speed was, because a lot of residents complained about how their internet was slow. In one family, there are a couple of students and they cannot do meetings at the same time. And they have classes at the same time, so there was a lack of information. So, we had to go to families in person to test their internet speed and contacting their internet providers to get more information. Because a lot of people don't know that when we call them and ask them to tell us what your internet speed is, they say, 'what are you talking about? Are you asking us if it's Xfinity? Yes, it's Xfinity.' But that's not the answer we wanted. So a couple of us had to go in person. You know, sometimes they make you feel uncomfortable because of Covid, but we really want to help them. Through that, we got permission from multiple families, and through guidance and through phone calls, we got families to give us more information regarding that. We also worked with the Yesler *Hello* newspaper. They publish a couple of newspapers. And within the last recent newspaper they published, they included the navigators. The first publication just covered was just information, and the second one the published was detailed information about the MMRTI navigators. Later on, I'll share the pdf file of their newspaper to Rene (attached), and I can share it with you.

Now, a specific topic we are working on is emergency program benefits. When this information came out, we directly got this information from one of the staff members who work with us, and we started right away to help the community, because, as I mentioned, they had internet programs. So, we're trying to have them upgrade their internet, and if it is upgraded to more than $50, the government will pay $50 for them and there will be an extra $100 for them to purchase any device that they would like. This one was a bit hard because there is a lot of process for the application. For example, to get EPD, you have to apply here, and if you are told that you are eligible, then you have to go to the providers and get more info, then apply again to get it approved, then you have to wait for some time until the provider approves it. And then, after it is approved, if you are on a plan which is below $50, you have to upgrade it. We have helped more than 200 families now to apply, and we're still going further to help other families.

So, that is all I have for now, and Assaye, if there is anything you would like to add, go ahead. Thanks so much for giving me the time. Assaye is a Yesler resident. He lives right here in our building. He is one that we depend on in the future. He is training other residents of Yesler. That's what we're trying to do. By empowering the community, and empowering the youth, they can help their parents. This community is really diverse in language and background. That they can help their parents is really something that we are trying to do. And we are trying to get the help of the City of Seattle to do outreach to other communities. So far, we have just been doing a youth program and teach young people how to operate cameras, edit, and learn to be a voice for the community. We have been doing that for a long time. The digital navigators at this time of Covid really give us an opportunity to look at communities and what their issues are, because it has really impacted the underserved. Because when we teach them they ask us difference questions. We expect them to learn about technology, but we find that they are asking us about health, about other issues. There are so many ways that knowledge of technology is really very low because most of them are working very hard, and I don't think they have enough time. We want to teach them to browse. For example, if they need health, we give them instruction on how to browse and find doctors, or anything that they need. That's how we are trying to help them out. Some of them don't have enough income to help their families, and some of them with the schools, the kids don't have enough computers to browse. So, those are a lot of things that we have to help them on. For example, they ask us, is there anywhere where we can buy computers to use. Some of them, they don't have monitors.. We provide monitors and even computers. So, this is something we are engaging on because now we can see the issues and how this community is affected by Covid. Hopefully, with this support, with the City partnership, I think we can serve more residents this year. That is our hope.

Thank you very much again for the opportunity. Three are more opportunities that we are planning. At the end of each month, we are trying to create events so they will know about what is going on with our navigators. That is what we are planning for the future. Thank you again. If you have questions, we can answer.

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you so much for the presentation. I think Sabrina was in the chat with a question/suggestion. Did you want to present that?

**Sabrina Roach:**  I could probably send something to say later. It gets a little detailed, but I think this might work. There are a couple of steps to it. I think that David Keyes might have an idea about whether or not it's worth pursuing and taking the time to try. In a few months, we will know more about how Washington State will be distributing the digital navigator money. I think it was $5 million that was approved by the Legislature this year. But this is a shorter term opportunity where the funding comes from the Department of Labor.

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you. Yes, we still need to make that connection. Are there any more questions for Said or Assaye?

**David Keyes:**  We have time, so I'll just ask a quick question here. Just following up on that help that you've been giving people, which is just great. I just wondered was there something that you've been coming across with people needing help with devices or needing help with the setup in their apartments for the internet? How to set up WiFi. What do you find are the most common things?

**Assaye Abunie:**   You mean the problems that the residents are facing?

**David Keyes:**  Yes.

**Assaye Abunie:**   Honestly, you cannot say specifically, because they are not familiar with the technology. Residents here are immigrants, and when they get internet, they only know their internet provider. You ask them who is your internet provider and you say, is it Century Link, Comcast, Xfinity. Then they remember and they tell you. But after that, there is not much information that we get unless we go more deep, and contact them multiple times and try to explain it more. But the common problem was they kept mentioning that theirs is slow and they don't know how to check their speed. And they don't know how to contact their provider regarding that. They seem to be somewhat intimidated. I'm still talking to them, but as far as I know, nobody has contacted their provider. While looking for work, they try to contact their provider to get more info. The only thing they know is when they get their bill, they just send a check. That's how they pay. But they don't know how to go online, create an account on the provider's page to check what kind of plan they have, or pay online. They have no idea about that, so I have had to introduce that basic information because you have to apply that way. If you don't, you have to call and go through multiple steps, which can take time. Those are some of the problems, to answer your question.

Thank you very much for your support. We have applied for the Century Link, and we know how much difference it has really. Usually, we bring them here. We show them the difference and how their speed is increased if they have it. But most of the time, the problem we are facing is the literacy. They don't even trust us. They don't think that we're helping them. They think it is for us, or they think it is for the government, or something. So understanding the issues, and giving the right information is hard for us. Mostly, we use their kids so they can tell them the right thing. There is a difference between Comcast or Wave or Century Link. Most of them are trying to pay $9.95 for broadband, for example. And if we say, you will get $50 for access, even that they even don't understand. Communication is difficult especially in the time of Covid. It's hard to raise everybody. But it will take time to give them education and help them solve their problems.

**David Keyes:**  Yes, we know this is a challenge to make sure that people are getting what they're supposed to get in bandwidth for the $9.95. The whole speed they should be getting for the Internet Essentials program.

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you. Thank you guys so much for the really amazing work that you guys are doing in your community. We are looking forward to having you guys back to give us more updates on how things are going, as hopefully, we start turning the corner on Covid and start getting even more active in the community. Appreciate it. Thank you so much. Now that we're at the top of the hour, we'll move to our next TMF-related item. Vicky has a really exciting update to give on some supplemental awards for grants. I will hand the mic off to her. This will require, after she presents, we'll be having a vote for the board to approve any supplemental awards. So, Vicky, off to you.

**2021 TECHNOLOGY MATCHING FUND SUPPLEMENTAL AWARDS PRESENTATION AND VOTE**

**Vicky Yuki:**   Thank you. And thank you so much for those questions for Assaye and Said. The work they do is so valuable. And also, the amount of reaching out, and those examples of how difficult it is to do this work, it really kind of hammers home to me the value of these Tech Matching Fund grants and any funding that we can provide to these community-based organizations that do this work. They do this work day in and day out. Assaye was saying how this is a full time job. It's a labor of love for this community and for this work. I just want to again appreciate you both for the work that you're doing, and have done for the last 20 years. I mean, I have known you for that long, too. It's a community. We grow together.

So, I'm really excited to share with you that the Council has approved through Council Bill 120093 back on June 21 for some supplemental dollars for additional funding: $330,000 for the Technology Matching Fund program. This is very exciting for us. I just want to advance to the next slide. Just to reiterate, these support community-driven efforts, especially the kind that MMRTI is doing in the past. We have been lucky to have them share with us their programming through these presentations to CTAB. Basically, they're community-driven efforts. We put out the opportunity and they do the work. They find their matching funds. They find their communities that they want to do their project ideas in. As of now, we have put over $5.5 million out to support, I believe now, it's 335 projects generating about $9 million in community match. It's just been an amazing program. David will recall that we started it way back when. this was absolutely something that I think recipients of these Tech Matching Funds understand, that it's supportive dollars for the work that they do. We're hoping we can provide that help for them.

I want to show you that we did have 55 applications totaling almost $4.3 million this last year. Those applications were due in January, and then we went to review with this great review panel. They did a lot of work of reviewing applications. Each application is reviewed a specific number of times. And we ended up with a list of 15 projects that were awarded back in March, which was 14 being funded by our Technology Matching Fund dollars, $320,000. And then we also had some supplemental dollars from the Rise Foundation. They provided funding to deal with the Fund One More Project. So, it's a total of 15. After we did a Council presentation in April, Council said we probably had 14 more that we could easily fund. They all rated high. They were up there. Really, the difference of just very small percentage points in terms of whether they were funded or not. So, they took that to heart, and were able to allocate the ARPA funding that came through, $330,000 for those additional projects to be funded.

So, we're really excited. Thank you so much to Council and the Mayor's Office for making that happen. These projects I'll be sharing with you on the next screen. Before we go there, we'll be serving a little more than 2,000 folks in Seattle. I won't go through each one of them, but something that I find very valuable, 1,800 will be for the BIPOC community. We've got a lot of folks who are housing-insecure. We've got a lot going on with homelessness in our City, and housing insecurity is a big deal; 513 will go to help unemployed folks find jobs and give them the tools that they need. And then, in partnership with schools and other programs, we've got 621 teens that are going to be served, and 396 older adults, as well. I wanted to point out to you where this touches, how many people these grants touch.

As you can see on the map on the right, we go all the way from Lake City down to near White Center. Now we can say that we have got grants in every Council District. They are all over, and the need is great in each and every one of them. I have listed them in alphabetical order on the slide, there. You can what the amount will be for each project. Each grant is matched with at least 50 percent of their funding award. If it's a $20,000 grant, then they're matching it with $10,000. That's the best my math can do right now. Talk about easy math. The real value here is that we look at all of these organizations that would not have been funded if we hadn't gotten those additional dollars. These are all outstanding organizations in Seattle that do this work with the immigrant and refugee communities. And we are very excited to be able to continue our partnerships with them.

So, that's my official presentation. These are the awards that we will be giving out this year with CTAB's recommendation. I did submit a memo from the review panel to each of the board members individually and as a group. Each of these projects are broken down and I actually described the projects in a little more detail. That list will be available and we'll be putting that up on the web site as soon as this is vetted and as soon as CTAB approves these supplemental awards to the 2021 cohort, and as our CTO approves that, as well. So, there's a little bit more process here.

I just also wanted to say that we're really excited. The funding is there, but it's not -- we're getting everything lined up so as soon as the funding is there, we can just get those distributed. Everybody has been notified, and they're all very excited for this opportunity. Does anybody have any questions, put them in the chat, and ....

**Rene Peters:**   I think Femi posted a question in chat. Not sure if that was a mistake.

**Femi Abedayo:**  That was a mistake.

**Vicky Yuki:**   This additional 14, that means that we will have about $675,000 going out in grants this year for the 2021 Technology Matching Fund cohort. And then, for those who were not funded this year, we will be having our grants open up again in October fr 2022. There was a question that Sabrina asked. Yes, these are just the supplemental awards.

**Rene Peters:**   Just piggybacking on that so that everyone understands the process: The initial round of the 15 that you saw on the slide before those that we got extra funding for, everyone went through and graded them based on various metrics of what their application was comprised of, the communities that they serve, how well defined their program was. And these are the next 15. So, we only had so much money to spread among those first 15, and this is the next batch. But, the ones that didn't get funded, they still get the feedback from the applications, and through that grant process, that allows them to put forward stronger applications for the next cycle. Right, Vicky?

**Vicky Yuki:**   That's correct. Several of our applicants are grantees who over the past number of years have been turned down for grants, and have come back with stronger ideas that have been funded. So, I always try to be very supportive of them. We meet with them and we review their applications with them ahead of time. We talk about their project ideas. I just want to say thank you again to the wonderful review committee which does so much work. I keep coming back year after year and really appreciate it. As you can see, the value of doing actual ranking and reading of these projects from not just the top 15 that we funded, but further down the line. Because we had them all ranked from the top all the way down, that really made a very quick turn-around for us. We were able to say, okay, well here's the next batch. And we were able to just turn that around without calling everybody back together again. The first 2021 group is on the web site.

**Rene Peters:**   David Keyes just posted a link to that: <http://www.seattle.gov/tech/initiatives/digital-equity/technology-matching-fund/2021-awardees> . Vicky, this all goes back to you and your preparation and how well we were able to get this next batch of awards out. This was all your leadership, and we really appreciate your enabling the committee to quickly make these decisions really well-informed.

**Vicky Yuki:**   Thank you. So, with that, I'd like to ask CTAB to approve the recommendations for these 14 supplemental grants.

**Rene Peters:**   So, board members, as Vicky said, you guys received an email that has an attachment with all of the descriptions. You're seeing just the general breakdown of the funding amounts and the group. If there are no further questions, I would like to open the floor for a motion to approve the supplemental batch of TMF grantees for the year 2021.

**Camille Malonzo:**   This is Camille. First of all, Vicky, this is so incredible. Congratulations again for getting all of this work done, and getting even more community members who do incredible work that they have continued to do. Thank you again. This is amazing. And also, looking at the additional grantees, they're so awesome. I'm so glad that we were able to support these incredible institutions. With that, I am so excited to move to recommend these supplemental awardees.

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you, Camille. Do I have a second?

**Femi Adebayo:**   Second.

**Rene Peters:**   All in favor, say 'aye.'  Are there any 'nays' or abstentions on this vote? Going once, going twice. Well, that is good news, and that is good news for this next batch. This motion will pass. We will get this turned around as quickly as possible. Thank you, everybody who was on the review committee. Thank you again, again, and again, to Vicky. And thanks to all of the board members for turning this around quickly.

**Vicky Yuki:**   Thank you very much.

**Rene Peters:**   Excellent. So, that will finish off that agenda item for this meeting. And the next is an additional agenda item that I failed to put on the official agenda that I sent out to everybody. Early on in this year, Camille and I set a goal to just help the public and board members to get to know who is on the board. It's a focus on the personalities and motivations of the really amazing folks who we get to work with, and so I'm super happy to introduce Nicole Espy, and give her the floor so that she can share with you about herself. And, everybody, please be sure to be thinking about questions to pepper Nicole with after her presentation. No pressure, Nicole. The floor is yours.

**BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: NICOLE ESPY**

**Nicole Espy:**  Thanks. I just have a couple of notes, but most of what I will say is somewhat vague, probably because I'm the co-chair of the Privacy and Cybersecurity Committee. But I will say that most of my employment details are on my LinkedIn, so look for Nicole Espy. There is another one. I think she's a hairdresser. That's not me. I work at Fred Hutch here in Seattle.

Just as background, my reasons for joining CTAB: I joined last year. During the protests for Black Lives, I was inspired to (unintelligible)...web sites, committees or boards that I could be involved with as a project manager. I'm good with logistic sometimes, so I thought I could just apply my logistical capacity to helping Seattle residents. It was also a way, as a person who moved to Seattle three years ago, to get to know other people in Seattle, and get to know what the City is about, and other organizations, which is why being involved in some of the TMF reviews was exciting. It was a good way to learn about works here in the City.

Some of the reasons why I wanted to join the Privacy and Cybersecurity Committee is my mom is a lawyer. So, in growing up, she said, 'Make sure you don't have records of everything, because that could be submitted as evidence.' And it sort of made me think about how the law affects us, and what sorts of things being used are construed in one way or another. So, I kind of grew up in a paranoid house. But then, in grad school, I had to pass through the center of the universe when there were a lot of tourists who would be taking photos. This was a time when Google was collating peoples' images, and I realized that I am in the background of literally every person's photo from Finland to everywhere. I kind of started thinking about how technology was affecting my personal privacy.

Just going back a little bit more about myself, my dad had a long career in the military, and as a teacher, and is now happily retired. My mom was a public defender for juvenile delinquents, and also is happily retired. But they're also extreme hobbyists. They're always busy. And I think that's why I like to fill up my free time with more things, as well. So, CTAB is great for that. But also, both of their careers taught me that it's really important to try to make the world a better place, but to not be uncritical of how our government plays out in our lives.

My personal career has been in the intersection of science, policy, and pandemics. And so, I kind of always grew up worrying about pandemics, and reading about them. I never knew I would experience one in my own lifetime, so it's quite fascinating. So it was fun doing the privacy and contact tracing for the Surveillance and Contact Tracing Panel last year. It appealed to me.

In my personal life, I have a huge passion for art and art museums. In college, I specialized in British landscapes from the 1690s to the 1820s. So, if you want to learn about the evolution of landscape painting in that country, I can tell you about it. After college, I just got focused on working and lost a lot of those activities, but in moving to Seattle, I've been taking classes at the Pratt, and getting involved with the Seattle Print Arts, another great group of artists here in Seattle. I got a scholarship at the Edition Studio to learn folk painting and to explore other print media. So, check out Seattle Print Arts; they're a great group of people.

I started an Instagram page, if you want to check out what I do. It's that Cole Joy Prints.

I just wanted to talk about what my goals are. for myself, it's to become more involved in science policy development projects in pharma, epidemic preparedness, and urban health. And then, personally, stay interested in producing art and making it more public. And then, for CTAB, my goals are to provide the board more of my time and my efforts, and new ideas, create a panel regarding privacy and cybersecurity, and to, hopefully, make, at least, the Privacy and Cybersecurity Committee and its actions a little bit more public, letting more of Seattle residents know what CTAB is doing, and what we're doing for them, specifically. If there are any comments or ideas on how to gin up more involvement, I would really enjoy that. Just to see that if I fall off a cliff, someone would pick up the mantle. It would be great to make sure that the group is continuing on. That's it. Thank you!

**Rene Peters:**   Wow! Amazing presentation. Really interesting background. We definitely got a great deal from your motivations, and I'm looking at this Instagram page. You should absolutely redesign the CTAB web site with some of these prints instead of that picture of a person holding up a phone. If anybody has any questions for Nicole, feel free to unmic yourselves. You're from Seattle? You're from the area?

**Nicole Espy:**  No. I'm from Atlanta. Then I went to college at Yale in Connecticut, and then lived in and out of DC a few times. And I went to grad school in Boston.

**Rene Peters:**   Awesome. Any other questions for Nicole?

**David Keyes:**  A really quick note. This is David. I just remembered that the Yale Art Museum has a great collection of British landscapes, don't they?

**Nicole Espy:**  Yes. I was at the Yale Center for British Art, which is an amazing museum. And, I spent a summer in London in college, and found that some of the better art was back in Connecticut! And I'm limiting that to landscapes between 1690 and 1820.

**Rene Peters:**   Well, awesome. Thank you so much for sharing, Nicole. If I ever need an art appraisal on some landscapes, I will hit you up. Okay, perfect. We are at just about 7:30, so we will move ahead to committee updates. Since, Nicole, you are warmed up and on the mic, would you and Camille want to do your Privacy and Cybersecurity update first?

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**PRIVACY AND CYBERSECURITY COMMITTEE**

**Nicole Espy:**  Yes. Sounds good. I wasn't able to make the last meeting, so I don't know if Camille wants to talk. We did confer ahead of time so that I am up to speed about what we talked about and what we're planning to do.

**Camille Malonzo:**  So, we had our meeting, gosh, probably two weeks ago. We talked about the follow-up to our memo, which we are really excited that we got through to the Privacy Office. We sent it over to Amari, and it will be part of the Group 4A, so that's great. We also talked a lot about panels and talks that we would like to see and host this year. I don't want to give any spoilers, because they'll be very exciting. So, just watch out for the next few CTAB meetings, and just know that they'll be very exciting and Privacy and Cybersecurity related. So, that's our update.

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you for that update. Is Tyler here?  I'm assuming he's not, which means we will not have an update for Smart Cities. But, if by some magic, he is here, the floor is open for a Smart Cities update. Going once, going twice. I didn't think so. DEI? Is there an update for Digital Equity and Inclusion? I know Harte wasn't able to make it today.

**DIGITAL EQUITY COMMITTEE**

**Vicky Yuki:**  I think I can share a little bit. I got to share the 2021 supplementals with them. DEI Committee is vital in that review panel process and outreaching, as well as other people who are not part of that committee. One of the things that we did talk about that they're going to be supporting is our transition from web grants to Flux. We will be tapping them to be test-users and such for that application, since we've got to get that rolling. They're very excited to be working on some amazing projects, and in anything having to do with the City. So, we're trying to regroup and do some planning on some exciting work to do. Dorene has also met with me and maybe she has something to share. I just thought I would drop that in.

**Rene Peters:**   Dorene, anything we've missed? Okay, it looks like she is away from the mic.  So, thanks for those updates, all. We will move on the public comment. This is the space for any updates, announcements, questions, comments from board members or anybody else. The floor is open.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Camille Malonzo:**  I have two comments. The first one is there are supposed to be two public comment meetings around Group 4A for the Surveillance Ordinance. The second one was rescheduled. And it is now July 20. And I will post the link. But if people are interested in learning more about the latest crop of surveillance technologies that are up for comment, I think that's a great meeting to go to. There will be representatives from the Privacy Office, as well as subject matter experts from SPD to answer your questions.

The second one is just some news. Today, during the Port of Seattle meeting, the Port voted to ban all except one private use of facial recognition technologies, at for example, the airport. It kind of extends the 18-month moratorium on the ban and just kind of making it more permanent. I'll post some links. I think this is really important. Other cities and parts of government are looking at facial recognition bans, and their use, and their impacts on our communities, and I think, if I read it right, Seattle is the first Port to pass such a ban. I think other people will also know that our county has passed or is considering a ban as well. We're considering it at a State level, as well. I'll post both of those things in the chat.

<https://www.portseattle.org/news/port-permanently-bans-facial-recognition-other-biometrics-law-enforcement-and-mass#:~:text=The%20Port%20of%20Seattle%20Commission,entities%20operating%20at%20its%20facilities>

<http://www.seattle.gov/tech/initiatives/privacy/events-calendar?trumbaEmbed=eventid%3D154016662%26seotitle%3DGroup-4a-Surveillance-Technologies-Public-Meeting-2%26view%3Devent%26-childview%3D>

**Rene Peters:**   Thank you, Camille. The county, right now, is considering; and that legislation is moving forward, but I don't think they've passed it yet. So, I will go ahead a spoil, just a little bit, of things to come. We've actually been in talks with the office of Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles, who sits on King County Council, and is spearheading the facial recognition ban legislation. We are planning to have her in for a meeting to speak with us this fall. So, that will be really exciting, coming up in September or October. Are there any other comments? I saw that Sabrina dropped a link into the chat, talking about Seattle winning a national DEI award. Do you have any words on that?

**Sabrina Roach:**  I offer my congratulations to you all. It was very much about David Keyes' work, and you all are a part of that work. A lot of people are responsible for this work. Our organization, the National Digital Inclusion Alliance, wanted to recognize this great work. The City of Seattle is in good company with other cities. I encourage you to have a look at that, and bask in your glory. <https://www.digitalinclusion.org/?s=seattle>

**Rene Peters:**   I love that! That's great news. Thank you, and congratulations to everybody, Vicky Yuki, and David Keyes.

**Vicky Yuki:**   Thank you, Sabrina, for your support in advocating for us at a national level. We're really blessed to have you there representing our region. All of the digital equity work that you really poured into it all of the years that I've known you. Everything you do is about digital equity. We really value that. Thank you.

**Sabrina Roach:**  That's very kind. It's just great to be part of a community that does this work. And to be able to come to CTAB meetings. I mean, I'm not getting a sandwich right now. I don't know why you can't deliver them to everyone's house!

**David Keyes:**  No, we still have improvements in our inclusion programs to work on. (laughs)

**Sabrina Roach:**  But yes, I love it that my City has figured out this way to have a CTAB. And it's exciting to see who shows up to do this work. So, check out that award. I think there are things in the works to make a bigger deal about it. You will see that.

**David Keyes:**  Yes, and thanks, everyone, too. It's a whole combination of what we can do as staff, as volunteers, board members. It's getting the attention of City Council and the Mayor's Office that all really makes us able to act on and support groups like those Tech Matching Fund grantees that you guys heard about tonight. You guys do the frontline work.

**Sabrina Roach:**  It's a really unique program in the country.

**David Keyes:**  And it was initiated by CTAB.

**Vicky Yuki:**   I do have an announcement. I wanted to remind folks that we do have our Digital Equity Learning Network session, coming up on Thursday at noon. I'll go ahead and put the RSVP link into the chat. I'm thinking that everybody here is on that list who is getting it through the listserv, but if not, you can always ping me. vicky.yuki@seattle.gov.

**Rene Peters:**   Yes, I absolutely did not get it. I'm glad that we did the announcement. Thank you so much. Awesome. That's exciting news for everybody, and congratulations to the team. We will round out public comment with that, and move to our final order of business, which is adjournment. I just wanted to thank everybody for coming out, spending a beautiful, sunny Seattle afternoon here with all of us, talking about tech. I hope to see you back next month for some more great talks and awesome perspectives. Good to see all of your faces. Have a great rest of July, please.

**ADJOURNMENT**