

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** Building Economic Justice in Portland: Presentation of the Cities for Financial Empowerment Blueprint for the City of Portland and Multnomah County

**Contact name:** Seraphie Allen

**Contact phone:** 503-823-1185

**Presenter name:** Seraphie Allen, accompanied by the Design Team who authored the report

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

In the summer of 2018, financial empowerment practitioners came together along with staff from the Portland Mayor's office, Prosper Portland, and Multnomah County Idea Lab (MIL) to apply for a planning grant from the Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE). The group was awarded the grant, which ultimately supported the convening of not only the public sector partners and culturally specific financial empowerment practitioners, but also their clients. The Blueprint outlines the important next steps for a comprehensive approach to racial equity in financial empowerment in Portland and Multnomah County.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

n/a

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

The partners who applied for the CFE planning grant chose a design approach for this project to counter the status quo for how policy is developed. Public sector leadership often designs and implements programs and policies for their service population with minimal community participation. If community feedback is solicited, it's typically through dominant culture formats. The group used a Human Centered/Collaborative Design (HCD) process that starts with the end-users at the heart of the process by creating new solutions to suit their needs.

In March 2019, the design team invited a larger group of community members to learn more about what they believe a holistic system could look like. At the final design session, design members evaluated ideas that came from this community meeting and refined those ideas to find the most feasible and highest impact ideas.

The final work of the design team resulted in four recommendation areas:

1. Systems Change;
2. Fees, Fines, and Debt;
3. Knowledge Sharing and Financial Inclusion; and
4. Barriers to Practitioner Organizations Efficiency, Creativity and Innovation

**100% Renewable Goal:**

n/a

### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

**Does this action change appropriations?**

**YES:** Please complete the information below.

**NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount