Update on the District's Racial Equity Initiative

January 12, 2023 – Office of Civil Rights



Where We Have Been

Office of Independent Police Auditor & Office of Civil Rights – GARE Cohort

- BART is a member and continues to be a member
- Partnership between OCR and OIPA
- Strategic Framework created to drive change associated with structural and systemic issues on equity, beginning with Race.

What does our framework emphasize?

 It emphasizes and rewards action, not planning. It measures success so we can pivot initiatives quickly and respond to current needs.

Big Step – Task force to find success by building on incremental wins

 Upcoming: Climate Survey – Learn what we think as a group, learn from it and engage in storytelling to understand the nuance from the workforce.



Framework

Transportation Equity Leadership Strategies

Institutional Culture

- Emphasize and elevate contributions to equity
- Challenge norms while embracing cultural change
- Equitable access to this work for our stakeholders

Data-Driven Decisions

- Leverage existing and develop new systems to advance equity at BART
- Identify root causes of inequity using modern analytical methods

Continuous Learning

- Adopt a learning posture
- Increase our knowledge of diversity, equity inclusion and belonging
- Emphasize our equity and social justice work at BART, while also contributing to the body of knowledge of equity practice

What tactics do we apply at this phase?

Culture

How do we accomplish these goals?

Many Leaders

Independent leadership within each EO using a council structure.

Elevate contributions to equity

Build a standard way to communicate using a common language Emphasize nontraditional celebrations besides cultural/racial but also social



Current Timeline



PHASE 1

- GARE Cohort
 Internal Exec
 Meetings
- Race Equity Task Force
- Affinity Groups



PHASE 2

- Climate Survey
- Internal Analysis
- Action Plans



PHASE 3

- Learning and Teaching Process
- Enhance Feedback



PHASE 4

- Plant New Cultural Flags
- Prevent Reentrenchment



Racial Equity Climate Survey

District-wide Survey

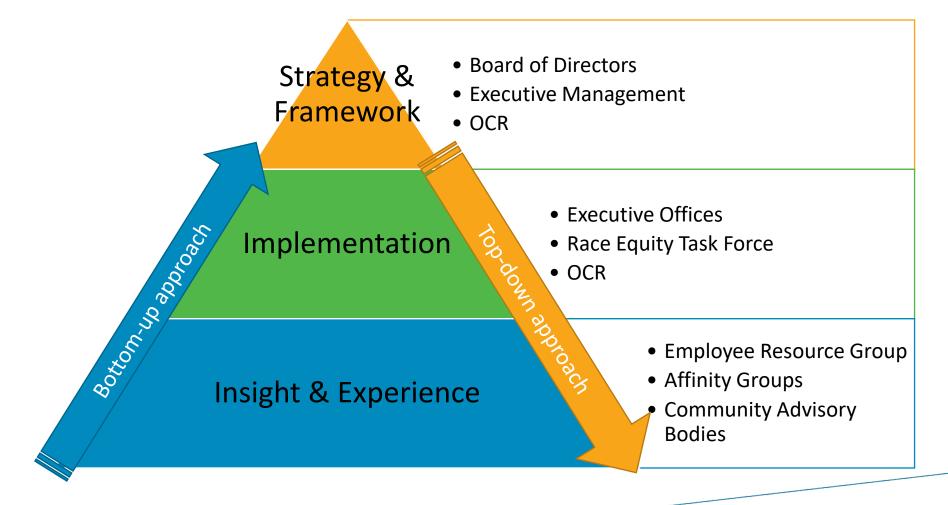
- Goal: Provide District with initial baseline and guidance on staff equity perceptions and experience (personal/dept/BART)
- Development: Incorporates feedback from key stakeholders
- Distribution: Via email and post card mailed to all employees
- Next Steps:
 - Distribute results
 - Offices submit action plans
 - Actions assess based on survey results

Race Equity Action Plan Cycle





Top-down & Bottom-up Approaches





Affinity Groups



Forming

- Addressing the issue of creating Space, Time, and Access for District staff
- Understanding the role of affinity groups
- Seeking feedback from RE Task Force

Storming

- Establishing a charter
- Lifting-up the initial affinity groups
- Collaborating with Employee
 Resource Group

Norming

- Understanding affinity groups value
- Empowering bottom-up creation of additional groups

Performing

- Creating a stronger sense of belonging
- Advocating for issues



How We Will "Build"

"Build" improves upon our prior work, institutionalizes these processes in critical areas of power traditionally closed to the historically marginalized, begins to scale this work so that it can be experienced throughout the organization.



Risk-based metrics to measure success

- Metrics to measure success
- Enhancing our risk profile to dedicate resources to critical areas
- Measuring against other activities such as capital projects



Race Equity Action Plans for each Executive Office

- Addressing each EO's need
- Focus on teaching to advance
- Scale this work so that each business unit can then replicate this process



Deeper connections with groups' processes connected to equity:

- Sustainability & Planning + Env. Justice
- Hiring and Compensation (HR/Admin)
- Info and Teaching (EA & Comms)



End