



## **Economy Possibility Day**

December 12, 2024, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Mixer, 15251 NE 40<sup>th</sup> St Redmond, WA 98052

Session Sponsors:



### **Session Objectives:**

- Assess the economic health of our region through the economic levers of workforce/education, technology/innovation, infrastructure/transportation, and regulatory/tax climate.
- Explore how race and racial equity impact economic opportunities.
- Explore through an economic lens how our choices impact our community.
- Discuss the role your leadership plays in shared prosperity.

### **Required Pre-Work – Read, Review, Explore, Write**

- **Watch:** [Explained- Racial Wealth Gap](#)
- **Review:** The Exploring Economies Definitions (located below)
- **Explore:** [Equity Is the Superior Growth Model for an All-In Nation](#)
- **Explore:** The [Port of Seattle Equity Map](#) and the [Tacoma Equity Map](#)
  - Spend time reviewing the Economy Equity Indexes
- **Write:**
  - **What is your economic story?** Consider the policies, systems, and community elements that have benefited or burdened your economic journey. What was your family's relationship with finances while you were growing up? What opportunities were available to you as a young adult? What tough financial trade-offs have you made?
  - **Write a summary to describe your pathway to the present.** If there is a picture or an object that symbolizes your economic story, please feel free to bring it.

## **Exploring Economies**

Please review the definitions below to support broad thinking about existing and possible economies.

**Capitalism** is an economic system in which private individuals or businesses own capital goods. At the same time, business owners (capitalists) employ workers (labor) who only receive wages; labor does not own the means of production but only uses them on behalf of the owners of capital.

**Feminist Economy** Feminist economy visualizes and repairs the harms of capitalism's exploitation of both paid and unpaid reproductive labor. It focuses on eliminating the gendered division of labor and gender binary that enforces global capitalism's exploitation and extraction of resources from women all over the world—especially from the Global South, Black, Indigenous, Asian, and Pacific Islander, migrant women, and gender non-conforming people. In a feminist economy, we recognize, value, and center reproductive labor—low-carbon, community-generating, life-affirming, and skilled work—that is necessary for the well-being of everyone and to sustain human society and nature itself. Feminist economy focuses on four principles to re-envision our world: ensuring bodily autonomy and self-determination as it relates to feminized and GNC people; socializing reproductive labor; being in the right relationship with people globally; and being in the right relationship with nature. Rather than commodify war, the feminist economy engenders peace.

**Gift Economy** A gift economy is an economic system based on gift-giving, in which goods or services get exchanged with no expectation of remuneration, reciprocity, or quid pro quo. This system differs from a market economy (aka market system), in which individuals exchange goods and services for money, or a barter economy, in which goods and services get exchanged for items or services of equal value.

**Green Economy** The green economy is defined as a sustainable economy and society with zero carbon emissions and a one-planet footprint where all energy is derived from renewable resources that are naturally replenished. A green economy rigorously applies the triple bottom line of people, planet, and profits across all corporations at the microeconomic level and throughout the entire economy at the macroeconomic level. In contrast to a green economy, a traditional “black” energy economy is based on carbon-intensive fossil fuels such as coal and petroleum. By definition, a low-carbon economy is distinct from a green economy because it still generates carbon emissions.

**Market Economy** A market economy is an economic system in which economic decisions and the pricing of goods and services are guided by the interactions of a country's individual citizens and businesses. There may be some government intervention or central planning, but this term usually refers to an economy that is more market-oriented.

**Sharing Economy** The sharing economy is an economic model that allows consumers to share in the creation or use of products, goods, and services. This sharing often takes place across digital platforms, such as online communities or apps. The sharing economy is an economic model that allows consumers to share in the creation or use of products, goods, and services. This sharing often occurs across digital platforms, such as online communities or apps.

**Solidarity Economy**: A solidarity economy ecosystem is an environment where all of the things a community needs are controlled and governed by everyday people: like housing, schools, farms and food production, local governance structures, art and culture, healthcare and healing, and transportation.

**Regenerative Economy** is based on ecological restoration, community protection, equitable partnerships, justice, and full and fair participatory processes. Rather than extracting from the land and each other, this approach is consistent with the Rights of Nature, valuing the health and well-being of Mother Earth by producing, consuming, and redistributing resources in harmony with the

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planet. A Regenerative Economy values the dignity of work and humanity. It prioritizes community governance and ownership of work and resources, instead of oppressive systems that devalue people and their labor through violent hoarding by a few. Rather than limit peoples' ability to entirely shape democracy and decisions that impact our communities, a Regenerative Economy supports collective and inclusive participatory governance. It requires a re-localization and democratization of how we produce and consume goods. It ensures all have access to healthy food, renewable energy, clean air and water, good jobs, and healthy living environments. A Regenerative Economy requires an explicit anti-racist, anti-poverty, feminist, and living approach that is intersectional and eschews top-down, patriarchal, classist, xenophobic, and racist ideology.

### **Optional Additional Resources**

- **Read: Gift Economy:** Gift of Strawberries (pdf in Google Drive) from **Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teaching of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer**
  
- **Scorecard for Shared Prosperity:** The resources below will familiarize you with Civic Commons' Scorecard for Shared Prosperity:
  - **Explore** Civic Commons' [Scorecard for Shared Prosperity](#) framework
  - **Watch** all or part of [A Conversation on Shared Prosperity](#) (1 hr., 14 mins, June 17, 2020)
  - **Watch** all or part of [Civic Commons: Resilience & Equity: Scorecard for Shared Prosperity Update \(58 mins, March 4, 2021\)](#)
  
- **Doughnut Economics:**
  - **Watch:** [A Healthy Economy Should Thrive, Not Grow](#) (16-minute video and transcript) - Doughnut Economics with Kate Raworth
  - **Explore** the framework of [Doughnut Economics](#)

## Agenda

Time	Activity	Presenter(s)
9 A.M.	<b>Welcome and Reconnection</b> <a href="#">Land Acknowledgement</a> <b>Economy Day Context Setting</b> <b>Morning Mash-up (9:15- 9:45)</b>	C. Marie Taylor, LT'23
9:15 A.M.	In small groups, you will discuss your prereads.	Your classmates
9:45 A.M.	<b>What is your Economic Story?</b> Pair shares	<a href="#">Brian Surratt, LT'07</a>
10:30 A.M.	Break	
10:45 A.M.	<b>Economy 101 Presentation</b> <b>Economic Trade-Offs Exercise</b> <b>Q&amp;A Session</b>	<a href="#">Chris Mefford, LT'08</a> Brian Surratt, LT'07 Your classmates
12:00 P.M.	Lunch	
12:30 P.M.	Microsoft and Smartsheet Tours, Small Business Treasure Hunt	
2:15 P.M.	Envisioning an Equitable and Inclusive Economy	Sofia Voz, LT'19 - Host <a href="#">Philly Marsh</a> <a href="#">Laura Clise</a> <a href="#">Amelia Ransom</a> <a href="#">Jolenta Coleman-Bush</a>
3:05 P.M.	Break	
3:10 P.M.	<a href="#">Afternoon Mash-up – Open Space conversations</a> <b>Spend time with your classmates and have conversations you want to have. Sample Topics can include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss your reactions to the Transactional to Transformative Leadership chapter of four pivots.</li> <li>• Your reactions to the economy, given the incoming administration?</li> <li>• How are you practicing your health &amp; wellbeing?</li> <li>• How do you align your values with your wallet?</li> </ul>	Jessica Werner, LT'05
4:00 P.M.	Wrap-up and Adjourn	C. Marie Taylor, LT'23
4:15 P.M.	<b>Social Hour</b> - Craft75 Gastropub Microsoft Building 6; 15745 NE 36th St, Redmond, WA 98052	

## **Bios**

**Laura Clise** is the founder and CEO of Intentionalist, an award-winning Seattle-based social enterprise that makes it easy to support small businesses and diverse communities through everyday decisions about where we eat, drink and shop. Prior to Intentionalist she held leadership roles spanning sustainability, corporate responsibility, supplier diversity, external communications, and corporate citizenship at Weyerhaeuser, AREVA Inc., the U.N. Global Compact, Intel Corporation, and Business for Social Responsibility.

Laura received an MBA from the Thunderbird School of Global Management, and graduated with distinction from the Carleton College Department of Political Science. Laura can sing and/or order ice cream in more than ten languages, and proudly serves on the Athlete Ally, IslandWood, and Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

**Jolenta Coleman-Bush** is the Director of Education, Workforce, and AI Skilling for the Washington State team at Microsoft Philanthropies. In this role, Jolenta oversees education partnerships and investments, driving initiatives that enhance educational opportunities and workforce development in the region. With over 20 years of experience in policy and program administration within the education and workforce sectors, Jolenta has extensive experience in philanthropy, nonprofit management and corporate responsibility. Before joining Microsoft, Jolenta worked in education policy at the City of Seattle and the League of Education Voters, where she supported initiatives such as college and career readiness, education funding, and early learning. Jolenta is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and holds a master's degree in education policy from the University of Washington.

**Chris Mefford, LT'08** (Economy Day Special Host), is President & CEO, Community Attributes. Chris founded Community Attributes Inc. in Seattle in 2005 as a community and economic development consulting firm. CAI facilitates economic development strategies, produces compelling economic impact stories and market studies, and builds custom technology tools. Chris is an expert in strategy development and facilitation, regional economic development, and economic and demographic analysis. He often speaks to audiences about regional economies and community development.

**Philippa (Philly) Marsh** has over 20 years of economic development, marketing, and project management experience working in both the private and public sectors. Philly is the Economic Development Manager at the City of Redmond, Washington. With a passion for building community and creating economic vitality, Philly fosters collaborative partnerships and creative solutions. Philly was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska, and received her undergraduate degree in Public Relations and Advertising from Chapman University. She found her passion for assisting small businesses through her experience at the "Made in Alaska" brand program and Anchorage Markets. After a career as the marketing and event director for Bold Hat Productions, producing well-loved festivals across the Puget Sound region, Philly returned to school to receive her Master of Public Administration at Seattle University. She has spent the last ten years creating community and economic vitality for cities on the Eastside.

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**Amelia Ransom, Honorary LT**, Amelia Ransom, SPHR, is a seasoned DEI and HR leader with over 30 years of experience driving culture, strategy, and leadership development. As former Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Smartsheet, she led DEI initiatives and Corporate Social Responsibility efforts. Previously, Amelia crafted their first DEI strategy at Avalara and boosted company engagement. Her career began at Nordstrom, where she held leadership roles in store management, learning, and inclusion. Dedicated to community impact, Amelia serves on the boards of Evergreen Goodwill of Northwest Washington, The Institute for Sustainable Diversity and Inclusion, Leadership Tomorrow, and YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish.

**Brian Surratt LT'07**, is a multi-sector executive with 25 years of experience driving economic development and cultivating partnerships across private and public sectors and diverse communities. Brian's career reflects a commitment to engaging community, private, and public sector leaders to advance economic prosperity so individuals and communities can flourish in our competitive, global economy. Currently, Brian is the President and CEO of Greater Seattle Partners (GSP), a public/private partnership that advances inclusive economic growth and competitiveness for the Puget Sound region. The GSP team focuses on attracting new investment and talent, promoting international trade and growing existing industry clusters to create and sustain opportunity and prosperity for everyone in Greater Seattle. Brian served as the inaugural Puget Sound Executive Director of one of the country's largest community development finance organizations, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), where he launched a multi-million dollar "Housing Equity Accelerator" program with Amazon to capitalize and scale emerging Black affordable housing developers the region. He was a Vice President at Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc., the leading publicly traded urban real estate investment trust focused on building collaborative life science and technology campuses in the nation's most dynamic innovation centers. He was a key member of Seattle's executive team and supported Alexandria's dramatic expansion of life science space in the market. Brian also was the mayor-appointed Director of Economic Development for the city of Seattle, and he oversaw efforts that spanned workforce development, manufacturing growth, foreign-direct investment, and anti-displacement strategies. He negotiated the city's \$1.6 billion development agreement to build Climate Pledge Arena and served as the policy lead in Seattle's historic efforts as the first major city in the United States to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Brian serves in a range of community and public governance roles as well. He serves as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Seattle Colleges District, the state's largest community college system, and as a Commissioner for the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. Brian also on the boards of several community-based organizations, including the Swedish Health Services, Downtown Emergency Service Center, and William D. Ruckelshaus Center. Brian received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Tulsa and a master's degree in public policy from the University of Washington. He is a German Marshall Memorial Fellow and Woodrow Wilson Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow.