

EMAIL SENT JUNE 29, 2020

Dear community advisors for the GEC:

Commissioners Kathi Elliott and Megan Block shared your email addresses with me. They have my gratitude for acting diligently and compassionately as liaisons between community members and the GEC.

I sincerely thank all of you for sustained engagement with the Gender Equity Commission, in the aftermath of the GEC's report "Pittsburgh's Inequality Across Gender and Race" being released in September 2019. Based on community feedback like your own, we re-designed the [remaining phases of the Gender Analysis](#) (follow the link to our webpage for an overview) and have prioritized continuing this work through community-based participatory research (CBPR).

The next steps include issuing a formal RFP, which is a governmental process regulated by the procurement bureau in the City's Office of Management and Budget (OMB). We will incorporate recommendations provided by the community partners in the RFP working group and will involve community members in the new procurement process according to OMB protocols. We have asked the Mayor's Office to approve a budget of \$70,000 to continue this re-imagined work and are waiting on a formal response. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a delay in moving this forward.

Also: given the disparities that have been revealed due to COVID-19 and the racial unrest following the unjust murders of George Floyd and Brionna Taylor, the GEC incorporated many insights and suggestions you shared with us and released a set of 11 policy recommendations to guide City Council and the Mayor's Office in making changes: "[Building an Equitable New Normal: Responding to the Crises of Racist Violence and COVID-19](#)." These recommendations will also provide a foundation for the next phases of the gender analysis.

Thanks again for your dedication and interest in making Pittsburgh a more equitable and livable city for ALL.

Take good care,

anupama (anu) jain
Executive Director | Gender Equity Commission