

Meeting of the HB 22-1350 Steering Committee

2/14/2023, 9am MST

Virtual - Zoom Webinar Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82129861811>

9:00am -- Mr. George Vinton, CEO of Common Group, welcomed the Steering Committee.

9:02am – Mr. Vinton took attendance and determined that there was a quorum present. He walked through the agenda and introduced the purpose of the meeting.

9:04am – Mr. Vinton reviewed key program performance metrics, including the overperformance of applicants in total, especially in Scale, and process, team capacity, and technical assistance considerations. He walked through lead partner categories (for-profit, educational institution, nonprofit, etc.) and industries served by applications.

9:07am – Mr. Vinton previewed the rest of the review process. Mr. Jaeckel highlighted that Scale applicants were largely statewide, and that there will be more regional partnerships in the Seed and Planning applicants.

9:09am – Mr. Vinton presented the Scale Letter of Interest (LOI) review process, including Scale applicants that advanced to scoring and the lead applicant category, industry, and region of applicants that advanced. Ms. Janet Lopez, Board of Trustees Member, Fort Lewis College and 4-year Institution Representative on the steering committee, emphasized elements of the RFA stage that she considered important, such as providing regional needs and data and speaking to the proximate leadership on applicant teams.

9:13am – Mr. Landon Pirius, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Colorado Community College System (CCCS) and 2-year College Representative on the steering committee, raised a discussion on whether or not applicants with like solutions would be encouraged to shape intentional partnerships. Mr. Jaeckel thought the idea was important, especially for Scale grants, and that there could be an opportunity to encourage applicants to partner together.

9:16am – Mr. Vinton presented a recap of the selection process across the different tracks and stages. The team is currently in the process of reviewing LOIs and advancing applications to the Request for Application (RFA) stage. He highlighted the different groups that would review applications, including evaluators, advisory boards, the Selection Committee, and OEDIT.

9:20am – Mr. Vinton presented the RFA applicant evaluation criteria and emphasized that the rubric and evaluation criteria would be included in the RFA invite.

9:26am – Mr. David Eddy, Colorado Site Director, Boeing and business representative on the steering committee, asked a clarifying question about what the team was looking for to

demonstrate sustainability. Mr. Vinton clarified that since the timeline for the grant is short, the team is looking for applicants to demonstrate that they have a plan in place. Mr. Eddy provided feedback that as an industry leader, he would expect a firmer commitment and plan in place. Mr. Vinton stated that the team would incorporate his feedback into the review process.

9:29am – Mr. Vinton continued to review the RFA evaluation process. Ms. Lopez expressed an opinion that the right partnerships should be essential to the evaluation process. Mr. Vinton explained that the commitments of industry and training/education/community partners had been highlighted in the RFA and rubric.

9:40am – Mr. Vinton finished reviewing the RFA evaluation process. Mr. Wayne Taliaferro, Strategy Director for Student Success, Lumina Foundation and foundation & higher education representative on the steering committee, asked a clarifying question about the rigor expectation for continuous improvement for Seed and Scale grants. Mr. Vinton clarified that their plans, outcomes they will track, and how they will incorporate those learnings for improvement would be assessed.

9:44am – Mr. Vinton determined that there was consensus among steering committee members that there were no major flags or changes to be made to the rubric.

9:45am – Mr. Vinton overviewed the Selection Committee criteria. Ms. Tawny Espinoza, Vice President of Business Development at Community Hospital and Adjunct Professor at CO Mesa University and higher education & healthcare representative on the steering committee, asked a clarifying question about the timeframe defined in “long-term potential.” Mr. Vinton explained that the team is looking for substance in whether the program delivers a participant experience leading to jobs, changes organizational practices, and creates partnerships that go beyond the single program at hand.

9:56am – Mr. Vinton assumed consensus for finalizing the RFA that will go out on February 17 for Scale and March 3 for Seed and Planning semi-finalists.

10:05am – Mr. Vinton spoke to the composition of the Selection Committee and explained that the team would finalize the list of Selection Committee outreach early next week. The group is slated to come together at the end of March to begin training on the process and their involvement will be through early April.

10:14am – Mr. Vinton highlighted the nominations gathered so far in the steering committee 1:1s and requested the steering committee to send more nominations for Selection Committee members by tomorrow to start the process. Several steering committee members nominated each other and asked other clarifying questions about the process.

10:20am – Mr. Vinton overviewed the program metrics proposed to assess performance of Scale RFA applicants. Ms. Tracy Huebner, Director, Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning at WestEd and member of the grant administration team, said in the meeting chat that

WestEd was developing a data collection plan in conjunction with these key metrics and would have a plan in place by March for consideration by OEDIT and the Steering Committee.

Ms. Lopez started a discussion around data of program participants and their outcomes. Mr. Vinton emphasized the importance of gathering participant data and outcomes created by the programs. Mr. Jaeckel added that there was no restriction on programs to serve only the regions they are based in. Ms. Sarah Hughes, Chair, Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and higher education representative on the committee, highlighted that while the focus of Opportunity Now was regional jobs, partners could reach across the state, so job creation and matching could be thought about more creatively.

10:28am – Mr. Vinton shared decision points, considerations, and risks around metrics/outcomes, participant characteristics, and program measures. There was a discussion on considerations around personal data and other partnerships that could be established with Colorado Data Trust and other similar organizations. There was also a discussion around the shortened timeline of the grant (before December 2026) limiting the ability to track longer-term outcomes.

10:41am – Mr. Jaeckel took a vote on the policies and procedures outlined in steering committee members' packets sent in advance of the meeting. Mr. Roger Low, Founder & CEO, Colorado Equitable Economic Mobility Initiative (CEEMI) and nonprofit representative on the steering committee, motioned to vote, which was seconded by Ms. Hughes. All steering committee members voted in favor of adopting the policies and procedures.

10:45am – Mr. Vinton highlighted next steps to schedule the next meeting, provided closing remarks, and adjourned the meeting.