

# BUSINESS COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP FUND

Invested. Empowered. Rooted.

 Seattle Office of  
Economic Development



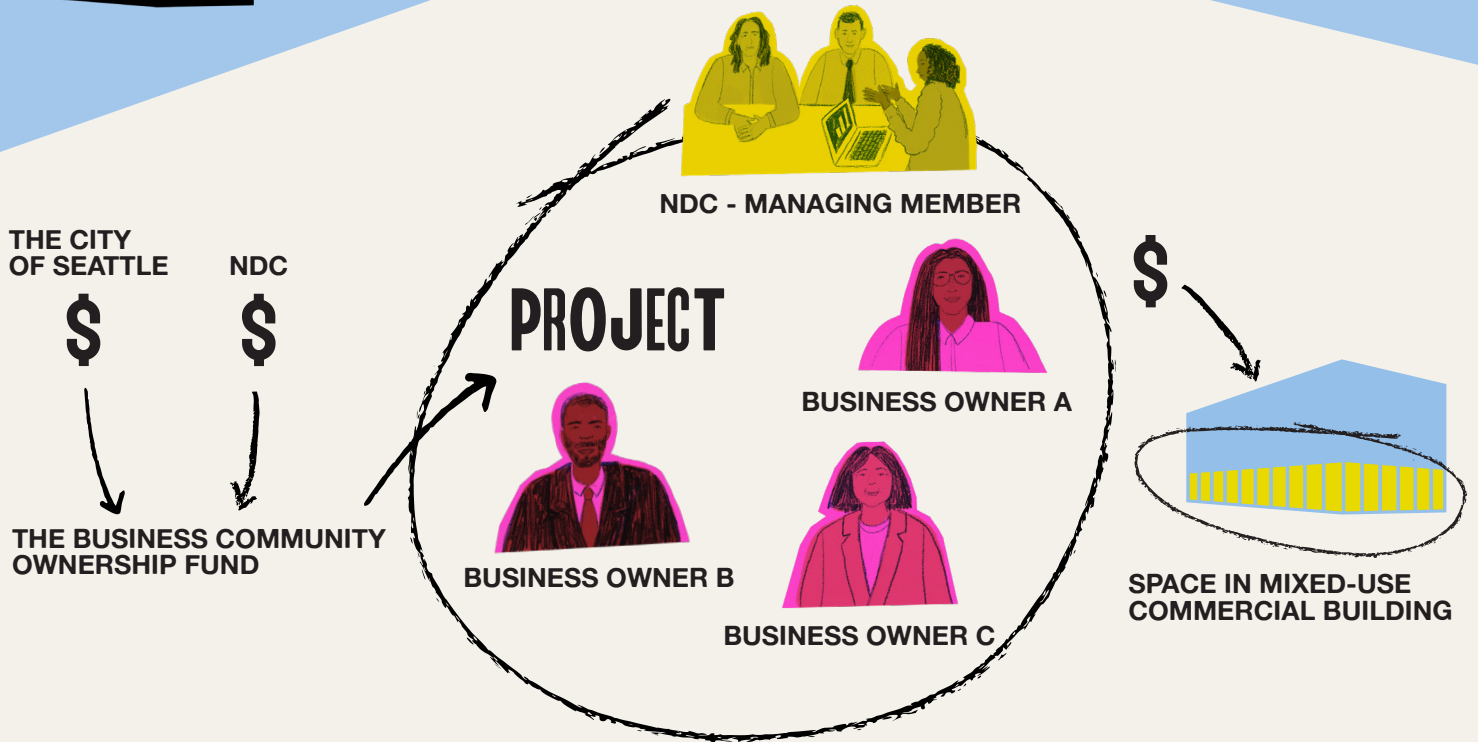
# COMMERCIAL RENT IN SEATTLE IS BECOMING UNSUSTAINABLE.

Businesses in Seattle's historic BIPOC neighborhoods are experiencing increasing rates of displacement.

Many of these businesses are owned by people of color, immigrants, women and LGBTQ+ people.

The Business Community Ownership Fund aims to:

- Re-anchor BIPOC and other historically disinvested neighborhoods in Seattle
- Build business owners' financial security and economic independence
- Increase business income and value by providing owners long-term stability and control



## HOW IT WORKS

- 1 The BCO Fund invests in commercial spaces in Seattle neighborhoods, physically rooting businesses at the highest risk of displacement.
- 2 The Fund creates an LLC to invest in each project. Multiple business owners become members of the LLC, which purchases the property those businesses will occupy. Financing is secured by the National Development Council as a managing member.
- 3 Tax benefits from real estate can benefit the business owners.

## BENEFITS

- Stable, affordable rent
- Permanent physical space
- A community of support with other business owners
- Access to tools and resources that promote future growth
- Lower occupancy costs keep businesses in place
- Displaced BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant and women business owners can return to their communities
- Increased business income goes directly to owners

