

# Tool Library Information Gathering Session Recap

- A. Invitees and Attendees
- B. Meeting Agenda
- C. Resources Shared
- D. Presentation Slides
- E. Partner Interest Survey Results

On March 31, 2026, staff convened a Tool Library information gathering session with community partners and interested organizations.

## A. Invitees and Attendees

Staff invited 123 individuals from the following organizations:

Businesses in Related Industry	Attended
Community Members who have expressed strong interest	Attended
Educational Institutions, LWSD	Attended
Faith based communities (including but not limited to: Chabad of Kirkland, Iman of Kirkland, King’s Cross, Kol Ami, Lake Washington Christian, Lake Washington United Methodist, Lakeside Christian, Northlake Unitarian Universalist, Pursuit Kirkland, Salthouse, St. John’s Episcopal, St. John Vianney Catholic, Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council, Woodmark Church)	Unable to attend
King County Library System	Attended
Kirkland Chamber of Commerce	Unable to attend
Kirkland City Staff	Attended
Kirkland Community Foundation	Unable to attend
Kirkland Downtown Association	Unable to attend
Kirkland Senior Council	Attended
Kirkland Woman’s Club	Unable to attend
Kiwanis Club	Unable to attend
Neighboring City Staff	Unable to attend
Regional Tool Library Operators, Volunteers	Attended
Rotary Club	Unable to attend
Service Based Organizations (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Eagle Scouts)	Unable to attend
Tilth Alliance	Attended
WM (Waste Management)	Attended

## **B. Meeting Agenda:**

90-minute session (presentation + Q&A).

1. Welcome & Introduction (City staff, City Manager, Councilmember) – 15 min
2. Tool Library Overview (Josh Epstein, Seattle REconomy) – 20 min
3. City Funding & RFP Process – 20 min
4. Q&A Session – 20 min
5. Wrap Up & Networking – 15 min

## **C. Resources Shared:**

During the session, the following resources were shared:

- Seattle REconomy's 2025 Year in Review: <https://seattlereconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Seattle-REconomy-2025-Annual-Report-Spread.pdf>
- Library of Things Toolkit: <https://www.shareable.net/toolkit/library-of-things/>
- City of Kirkland Tool Library Initiative webpage: [www.kirklandwa.gov/toollibrary](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/toollibrary)

## **D. Presentation Slides:**

The following slides were presented:



# Kirkland Tool Library Opportunity Event

March 31, 2026  
11:30am – 1:00pm

## Presenters:

- Kurt Triplett, City Manager, Welcome
- Amy Falcone, City Councilmember, Project Vision
- Josh Epstein, Seattle REconomy, Tool Library Overview
- Andreana Campbell, Interim Government Affairs Manager, Implementation Plan
- Kate Ryan, Special Projects Coordinator, Implementation Plan



# Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Discuss the concept of a community tool library
- Share the City of Kirkland's interest in this initiative
- Connect with interested organizations
- Answer any questions you may have!

## Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introduction – 15 min
- Tool Library Overview – 20 min
- City Funding & RFP Process – 20 min
- Q&A Session – 20 min
- Wrap Up & Networking – 15 min



## Council's Tool Library Vision

- A tool library is a shared resource where community members can borrow tools and equipment similar to how a traditional library lends books.
- City Council has been interested in a Kirkland community tool library for many years.
- Kirkland City Council approved the 2025 Year-End Budget Adjustments which included start-up funding for a Tool Library upon approval of an implementation plan.
- We're currently in the early stage of this initiative, and there will be plenty more opportunities to engage in this project.

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**Josh Epstein**  
*Executive Director*

## Seattle REconomy: An overview of our tool libraries



# Tool Library Overview

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- **NE Seattle Tool Library (est. 2013)**
  - Woodshop
- **Shoreline Tool Library (est. 2024)**
  - Reuse Materials Store
  - Bike Sales
  - Extensive game, toy, and puzzle library
  - Donation site for redistribution partners
- **Shared Offerings**
  - 10,000 tools
  - Bike Shacks (bike repair)
  - Seed libraries
  - Classes & events (sliding scale)
  - 3D printers



# Community Benefits

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- Save money
- Free up space
- Reduce consumption & waste
- Build community
- Create jobs
- Increase knowledge and skills
- Create volunteering opportunities



# Financial Sustainability

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- **Expenses**
  - Space
  - Staffing and Volunteers
  - Overhead (utilities, insurance, etc.)
- **Revenue**
  - Memberships
  - Grants
  - Tool and material sales
  - Classes
  - Other (fees, donations, etc.)



# Potential Modules

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- Tool library
- Bike shack
- Reuse store
- Classroom/gathering space
- Fixer room
- Woodshop
- Metal work
- Makerspace



# Resources

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- Seattle REconomy as a consultant or volunteer learning opportunity
- Grants:
  - King County Solid Waste Re+
  - Next Cycle See Grant
  - Dept. of Ecology PPG
- [Shareable.net](https://shareable.net)
  - [shareable.net/toolkit/library-of-things-toolkit/](https://shareable.net/toolkit/library-of-things-toolkit/)



# Thank You!

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[seattlereconomy.org](https://seattlereconomy.org)  
[Josh@seattleREconomy.org](mailto:Josh@seattleREconomy.org)  
[@seattlereconomy](#) on most online platforms



Scan for [seattlereconomy.org](https://seattlereconomy.org)



## City Funding & Draft Implementation Plan

- City Council has set aside \$100,000 in start up funding
- If substantial interest today, staff will propose a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to Council for approval
- Must apply to City's RFP to be awarded
- Operator chosen from RFP applicants

## Other Potential City Support

- Location, if approved by Council
- Identifying additional grants
- Community outreach, volunteers, and communications

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## Potential Timeline

**April 21**

City Council to review and potentially approve RFP scope of work

**End of April**

Initiate RFP with Council approval

**End of May**

RFP application due date

**Mid June**

Kirkland staff to award bid

**End of June**

Bring back to City Council for approval

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# Q&A Session & Indication of Interest

Please scan and  
answer 3 quick  
questions



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# THANK YOU

[www.kirklandwa.gov/ToolLibrary](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/ToolLibrary)

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## E. Partner Interest Survey Results:

Attendees were asked in a digital survey:

1. Are you, or your organization, interested in operating and/or partnering with the Kirkland Tool Library?
2. If so, how?
  - a. Interested in applying to operate.
  - b. Interested in sponsoring.
  - c. Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).
  - d. Other
3. If other, explain.
4. What other person or organization would you think is interested, or should be part of the conversation?
5. Your name and organization

Survey results overview:

- 9 respondents indicated an interest in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).
- 2 respondents indicated an interest in applying to be the operator.
- 1 respondent indicated an interest in providing sponsorship.

Survey results with submitter names removed:

	<b>Are you, or your organization, interested in operating and/or partnering with the Kirkland Tool Library?</b>	<b>If so, how?</b>	<b>If other, explain.</b>	<b>What other person or organization would you think is interested, or should be part of the conversation?</b>
1	Yes, interested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> </ul>		
2	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	Programming/workshop support, publicity	Liveable Kirkland
3	Yes, interested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interested in applying to operate.</li> </ul>	interested in joining an org to help plan and support	Tilth Alliance

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>		
4	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	WM could include tool donations at our Recycle Right events to help support the tool library	
5	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> </ul>		Other eastside cities like Redmond, Woodinville, Bellevue
6	Yes, interested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in sponsoring.</li> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	Interested in volunteering or being on the board	
7	Yes, interested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in applying to operate.</li> </ul>		Working with KIRKLAND community Foundation
8	No, not interested			
9	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> </ul>		
10	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> </ul>		
11	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> </ul>		
12	Maybe, want to learn more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in applying to operate.</li> <li>Interested in providing resources (volunteers, tool donations, skills).</li> </ul>		KCLS, LW Tech Makerspace, King County salvage / c&d program