

From: [Kennie Hobbs](#)
To: [Commissioner Melissa Dunn](#)
Cc: [Shardy Sobers](#); [Sean Henderson](#); [Melissa P. Dunn](#); [Karen Pottinger](#); [Cityattorney](#); [Andrea Anderson](#); [Zachery Davis-Walker](#)
Subject: Re: Exciting News: Lauderdale Selected for SCEI Cohort with \$15,000 Grant Award
Date: Monday, April 14, 2025 8:34:54 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

The MOU would have to be placed on the next Commission meeting for consideration and approval by the full Commission.

Commissioner, Dunn, due to agenda deadlines, please forward proposed MOU to the City Attorney and copy the City Clerk for placement on April 28th agenda. However, being that is item is part of LHPP, I would suggest adding it to the April 21st Workshop Agenda for discussion and input of the full commission.

Sincerely,
Kennie Hobbs, Jr.
Interim City Manager

On Apr 14, 2025, at 1:53 PM, Commissioner Melissa Dunn <mdunn@lauderdale-fl.gov> wrote:

Outstanding work, Shardy! This grant will help us advance economic mobility in Lauderdale.

Thank you for your hard work.

From: Shardy Sobers <ssobers@Lauderdale-fl.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2025 1:46 PM
To: Kennie Hobbs <khobbs@lauderdale-fl.gov>; Sean Henderson <shenderson@lauderdale-fl.gov>; Melissa P. Dunn <melissa@mdmarketingandconsulting.com>
Cc: Karen Pottinger <kpotting@lauderdale-fl.gov>; Commissioner Melissa Dunn <mdunn@Lauderdale-fl.gov>
Subject: Exciting News: Lauderdale Selected for SCEI Cohort with \$15,000 Grant Award

Good Morning Team,

The City of Lauderdale has been selected as one of 20 cities for the Southern Cities Economic Initiative (SCEI) cohort!

This opportunity, which we applied for in early March, comes with a \$15,000 grant to support our Lauderdale Shines initiative. The funding is designated to boost economic mobility from April through October of this year—with the potential for continued support.

To move forward, the MOU must be signed and returned to the National League of Cities by May 5th.

Please advise on next steps.

Thanks all!

With Gratitude,
Shardy Sobers

Community Services Program Manager | LHPP | City of Lauderdale

O: 954-730-3095 | **F:** 954-730-3025 | **E:** ssobers@Lauderdale-fl.gov

Office Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



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From: Rosanna Mulcahy <Mulcahy@nlc.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:01 PM
To: Shardy Sobers <ssobers@Lauderdale-fl.gov>
Cc: Heidi Goldberg <Goldberg@nlc.org>; Kayla Anthony <kanthony@nlc.org>; kyra.naumoff <kyra.naumoff@gmail.com>; Denise Belser <Martin-Belser@nlc.org>; Dennis Campa <campa@nlc.org>; Ayesha Mehrotra <mehrotra@nlc.org>
Subject: Welcome to the New SCEI Cohort!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Lauderdale. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Commissioner Dunn,

Congratulations! We are thrilled to welcome you to the newest Southern Cities Economic Initiative (SCEI) cohort. Your official welcome packet is attached. We're so excited to partner with you in this important work.

Here are a few quick notes as you get started:

- I'll be sending a calendar invite shortly for our **SCEI launch call on Wednesday, April 24 at 1:00 PM ET**. The meeting will run for approximately **1 hour and 15 minutes**. The invite will go to your designated project lead, so please feel free to forward it to any other team members who should attend.
- We've included a **communications toolkit** in your packet to help you share the news of your selection and support the promotion of this amazing initiative across the South.
- We're compiling a list of Twitter handles to share with all participating cities so you can easily connect and amplify each other's work. **Please add your handle(s) directly to the [shared document](#)** and we will share with the full cohort when the full list is complete. You can also send the city handle information to kanthony@nlc.org. **This is due by the end of the day on 4/15/2025.**

Lastly, if you have any questions, please reply to all on this email to ensure you get a quick response.

Welcome aboard—we can't wait to get started!

Warmly,

The SCEI Team



Rosanna Mulcahy

PROGRAM MANAGER, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT
MUNICIPAL PRACTICE

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