



## Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan

### *Project overview*

Convenience. Access. Affordability. Everyone, no matter where they live in the region, should have equitable access to garbage and recycling services. But to get there, we need a plan.

Metro's Waste Prevention and Environmental Services department is developing a Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan. This project will assess the region's current public, private, and non-profit garbage, recycling and reuse infrastructure, identify service gaps, and present potential plans for future investments in new facilities or new services.

Future investments may include construction of new facilities, incorporation of new services in existing facilities and identifying non-facility based alternatives in some cases.

The plan will consider costs and ratepayer impacts, and will elevate the needs of communities of color and other groups historically underserved or impacted by the garbage and recycling system.

### **Metro needs your voice to shape the plan**

Throughout the plan development, staff will seek to engage potentially affected and interested individuals, communities and organizations, as well as local governments, businesses, reuse organizations and advocacy organizations.

Several advisory groups will provide input at key decision points. These groups include:

- The Metro Policy Advisory Committee
- The Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee.
- The Committee on Racial Equity
- And a new Community Advisory Group, focused specifically on this plan

Local governments will have a chance to give input through roundtables and small group conversations. Project staff will also engage businesses, reuse organizations and advocacy organizations.

### **BEYOND CURBSIDE SERVICE**

People in greater Portland need better access to services in our garbage and recycling system. Beyond curbside collection, people need convenient and affordable ways to get rid of large items and hazardous wastes.

These expanded services help people get rid of items that are difficult to handle and allow people to keep more things out of the landfill.

Many people across the greater Portland region have unequal access to the services currently provided. This plan could help close the gap for access for many members of our community.



## Commitment to equity

There is an inequitable distribution of garbage and recycling services and benefits that impacts communities of color, people living with low incomes and other underserved people.

Staff will specifically engage communities of color, urban indigenous peoples and tribal nations and other groups who may be more directly impacted by the decisions that affect the garbage and recycling system, but may have fewer opportunities to influence and shape that system.

Additionally, Metro will use both Metro staff and consultants for planning, research and outreach. Metro seeks to work with COBID-certified firms and consultants with expertise in engaging historically-marginalized communities and developing programs and services that advance racial equity.



## PROJECT TIMELINE

The plan will be completed in five phases from February 2022 to Winter 2023:

