

Do you love parks and natural areas? Do you want to support conservation and racial equity by helping Metro fulfill its promises to the people of greater Portland? Metro is looking for individuals who are deeply committed to advancing racial equity and have experience in areas such as finance, conservation, land acquisition, accessibility, tribal sovereignty, and other topics to serve on the <u>Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee</u>, an independent community advisory committee to provide oversight of capital investments in parks and nature.

Since 2021, the committee has worked to keep Metro accountable and transparent in its use of capital funds from the \$475 million 2019 parks and nature bond and the parks and natural areas levy, which raises over \$19 million a year. Voters overwhelmingly approved both measures. The committee provides transparent oversight of the 2019 bond measure by reviewing implementation and confirming that it is in alignment with the voter approved bond goals and purpose to ensure that taxpayer funds are used responsibly.

Find out more about the existing committee membership and work at this link

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through January 31, 2024 with Metro Council appointing at least 3 new members by early Spring 2024 to serve on the existing committee. Please contact parksandnature@oregonmetro.gov with any questions or request for accommodations.

Bond and committee description

The bond measure supports projects that protect clean water, healthy habitat and access to nature. Any project funded by the bond must fulfill three criteria: advancing racial equity, climate resilience and community engagement. The measure was developed through engagement with a wide range of community members.

The 2019 parks and nature bond measure supports the following programs. <u>https://www.oregonmetro.gov/public-projects/parks-and-nature-bond-measure/background</u>

- Protect and restore land (\$155 million)
- Local parks and nature projects (\$92 million)
- Nature in Neighborhood capital grants (\$40 million)
- Metro parks improvements (\$98 million)
- Walking and biking trails (\$40 million)
- Large scale community visions (\$50 million)



Independent community oversight is essential to Metro's transparency, accountability and delivery on promises to voters in each of its funding measures. To date, the oversight committee:

- Reviews progress of the bond measure's goals and projects.
- Ensures that the implementation of the bond measure protects and restores clean water and habitat and connects people with nature.
- Ensures projects fulfill the criteria of racial equity, community engagement and climate resilience.
- Provides oversight on investments from the parks and natural areas local-option levy.
- Works with staff to develop a set of metrics that will evaluate bond measure performance.

Membership

In 2021, the Metro Council appointed 19 committee members who reflect a broad range of personal and professional experience. The committee will also reflect the diversity of the region. The Council seeks a mix of representatives who collectively demonstrate:

- A commitment to racial equity, social and environmental justice, diversity and inclusion
- Experience, skills and knowledge in finance, land acquisition, conservation, construction, environmental law, working lands and tribal sovereignty and other related topics
- Personal, lived experience with how Metro decisions impact people of color, the disability community, and the urban Indigenous community
- The ability to work collaboratively with people of diverse perspectives and experiences Connections with historically marginalized communities in greater Portland understanding of the geographic and demographic diversity of the region

Committee member commitments

- Three-four times a year, attend two hour meetings (currently virtual with the potential for at least one in-person or hybrid meeting per year).
- Spend an additional one to two hours preparing for meetings including attending informal committee working groups held between formal committee meetings as needed for additional committee discussion with each other and Metro staff.
- Serve up to three two-year terms.



Resources

Childcare, technical assistance, interpretation, accessibility assistance and other supports for participation will be provided for committee members upon request.

Questions about the application process or the oversight committee? Please email <u>melanie.reinert@oregonmetro.gov</u>

Please mail your completed application to:

Metro Regional Center Attn: Beth Cohen 600 NE Grand Ave. Portland, OR 97232

This application is also available online at <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBB5HP9</u>

Application

* 1. Please share your contact information:

Name:

Address:

Address 2:

City/Town:

State/Province:

ZIP/Postal Code:

Email Address:

Phone Number:



* 2. What county do you live in?

Clackamas
Multnomah
Washington
Other (please describe

3. If you are employed, what is your employer and title/role?

* 4. Have you read the committee description?



* 5. How did you hear about this opportunity?

* 6. In a paragraph, describe your interest in serving on the 2019 parks bond oversight committee.



* 7. What do you see as the opportunities and challenges of ensuring the parks bond is accountable to voters?

* 8. Please describe what you think it means to advance racial equity, and how it relates to the work of this committee and the parks bond in general?

9. The committee will include individuals with identities, experience, and knowledge in the following areas. Please mark all that apply for you.

I am Black, Indigenous, or a person of color.
I have a low income.
I am an immigrant or refugee.
I have a disability.



I am LGBTQIA2S+.
I have background/knowledge of financial management or auditing.
I have background/knowledge of conservation/ecology principles.
I have background/knowledge of issues related to working lands.
I am a lawyer.
I have experience providing culturally specific services.
I bring experience from the business perspective.
I bring experience from the philanthropic perspective.
I have background/knowledge of issues related to provision and maintenance of parks and natural areas.
I am a member of another underserved or historically marginalized group*. (Please describe below)

***Historically marginalized -** A limited term that refers to groups who have been denied access and/or suffered past institutional discrimination in the United States and, according to the Census and other federal measuring tools, includes African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics or Chicanos/Latinos and Native Americans. This is revealed by an imbalance in the representation of different groups in common pursuits such as education, jobs, housing, etc., resulting in marginalization for some groups and individuals and not for others, relative to the number of individuals who are members of the population involved.

Other groups in the United States have been marginalized and are currently underrepresented. These groups may include but are not limited to other ethnicities, adult learners, veterans, people with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals, different religious groups and different economic backgrounds.

University of California, Berkeley (2015). Berkeley Diversity – Glossary of Terms.



* 10. Please describe in more detail how your background, knowledge and/or lived experience will help you to contribute to the committee.

11. Please describe any previous or existing relationships with Metro including employment, and list any participation in an advisory committee, oversight committee, contracting work, etc.



Demographics

These next questions help decision-makers at Metro know if we are hearing from a representative group of people reflecting the region's diverse communities and broad range of experiences.

* 1. Which of the following ranges includes your age?

Under 18
18-24
25-34
35-44
45-54
55-64
65-74
75 and older
Prefer not to answer

* 2. Within the broad categories below, where would you place your racial or ethnic identity? (Select all that apply)

Native American, American Indian or Alaska Native Asian or Asian American
Asian or Asian American
Black or African American
Hispanic or Latino/a/x
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
White
Prefer not to answer
An ethnicity not included above (please specify)



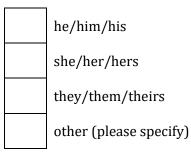
* 3. How do you identify your gender? (Select all that apply)

Man
Woman
Hispanic or Latino/a/x
Non-binary, genderqueer or third gender
Prefer not to answer
A gender not listed above (please describe)

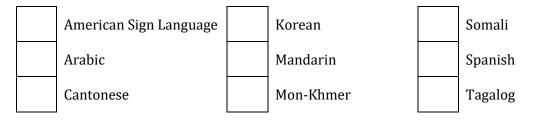
Do you identify as transgender?



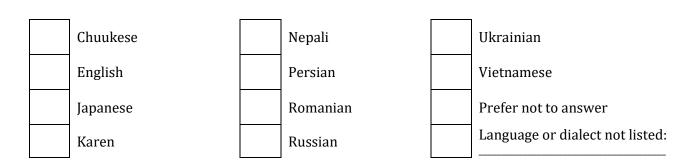
* 4. Please share your gender pronouns.



* 5. What language or dialect is used most in your home? (Select one)







* 6. What is your education experience?

Less than high school
Some high school
High school diploma
Some college or an associate's or 2-year technical degree
Bachelor's degree
Post-graduate degree
Prefer not to answer
Other (please describe

* 7. If you live with a disability, which of these best describes your disability or disabilities? (pick all that apply)

Ambulatory difficulty (having serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs)
Cognitive difficulty (because of a physical, mental or emotional challenge, having difficulty remembering, concentrating or making decisions)
Hearing difficulty (deaf or having serious difficulty hearing)
Independent living difficulty (because of a physical, mental or emotional challenge, having difficulty doing errands alone)
Self-care difficulty (having difficulty bathing or dressing)
Vision difficulty (blind or having serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses)



	Prefer not to answer
	No disability
	Other (please describe

* If I'm not selected to be part of this group, I would like to receive email updates:

Yes
No

* Would you be interested in receiving information/updates on other opportunities to participate in Metro committee work?



Under Oregon law, a "public official" includes any person serving on a public body, including volunteers and regardless of whether the person is compensated. By serving on this committee, you would be considered a public official and are required to comply with Oregon Government Ethics Law and to disclose any conflicts of interest.

An actual or potential conflict of interest exists when an official action either will or could result in financial benefit (or detriment) to you, your close relatives or a business with which either you or your close relatives are associated.

By submitting this application, you confirm that you have read and agree to the committee description and commitments.

Please note that information provided in this document is public information, with the exception of the Optional Information section. Information in the optional section will only be disclosed as required by law.

Metro makes a commitment to provide reasonable accommodation for any disability that may interfere with a person's ability to actively participate in this process. Call 503-797-1774 with such requests, or 503-797-1804 TDD