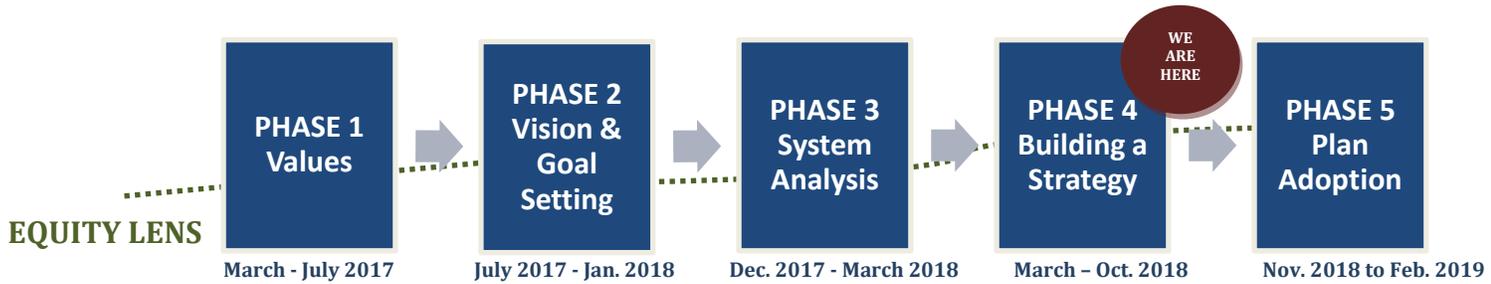




2030 Regional Waste Plan Project Update

The Regional Waste Plan will be the greater Portland area’s blueprint for managing and reducing the environmental impacts of goods consumed in the region, from production to disposal. From spring 2017 to winter 2019, Metro will work with communities around the region to develop this plan.



Project Status Summary

Work on the 2030 Regional Waste Plan is in Phase 4. Highlights of the project are detailed below.

Phase 1: Values | March to July 2017

Phase 1 developed a set of overarching guidance, including values and guiding principles, to inform plan development and implementation. The concepts for the plan values are drawn from existing guidance, including regional, state and federal policies and plans regarding waste management, recycling, toxics and other related environmental programs. The values were further shaped through public surveys, community discussions with culturally specific organizations and the application of an equity lens.



Highlights of engagement include a series of co-hosted community discussion groups. As part of this, Metro contracted with eight community-based organizations to co-organize, recruit for and facilitate discussions with community members on the garbage and recycling system. These groups included: North by Northeast Community Health Center, Trash for Peace, Momentum Alliance, Constructing Hope, Rosewood Initiative, Centro Cultural, Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, and the Environmental Professionals of Color group hosted by the Center for Diversity and the Environment.

The community discussions kicked off in June 2017 and included two group-facilitated conversations. The first discussion focused on building awareness and understanding of the garbage and recycling system and gathering input on the plan values. The second conversation included gathering community concerns and visions for the future.



In addition, Metro’s advisory Equity Work Group reviewed the draft value concepts from an equity perspective. The work group met four times between May and June 2017. As a result of this work, the group developed a set of guiding principles in addition to input on the language of the values.

Metro Council endorsed the values and principles in August 2017, which can be found at oregonmetro.gov/letstalktrash. The endorsed values and principles will be used to inform and guide the development of the plan’s vision, goals and actions.

Phase 2: Vision & Goals | July 2017 to January 2018

Phase 2 developed the plan’s vision and goals that set the priorities for the garbage and recycling system until 2030. Building on community discussions held in the first phase, Metro conducted a series of engagements to inform the development of the vision and goals , including:

- A planning workshop involving more than forty individuals, including Equity Work Group members and Metro and local government staff. During the workshop, participants considered the future of the garbage and recycling system. Metro used the input collected at the planning workshop, along with that collected through the community discussions held in Phase 1, to develop an online survey to gather broader input on the future vision of the garbage and recycling system
- An online survey that asked community members to help shape future priorities. Almost 4,000 individuals took the survey. Metro compiled the survey results to share at the leadership forums and inform the vision, goals and actions in the plan.
- Three leadership forums organized by Metro and local community-based organizations at which more than 120 individuals shared ideas and discussed future priorities for the garbage and recycling system. The forums were hosted by Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, Rosewood Initiative and Centro Cultural.
- A technical forum with more than 60 stakeholders active in some element of the garbage and recycling system provided input on the draft vision and goals.
- The plan’s Equity Work Group, local government solid waste directors, and the Metro Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee and Metro Policy Advisory Committee reviewed the draft vision and goals.



The vision and goals are written to set the direction for the future and accommodate a range of actions the region can take to accomplish the goals.



Metro Council endorsed the vision and goals on January 30, 2018. They can be found at oregonmetro.gov/letstalktrash.

Phase 3: System Analysis | December 2017 to March 2018

The purpose of Phase 3 was to establish an understanding of where the region is today relative to the goals and vision generated during Phase 2. To do this, Metro compiled and summarized existing data on different aspects of the garbage and recycling system. This also included developing written descriptions about the system's existing programs, policies and infrastructure, as well as current opportunities and challenges facing the system. The information gathered in this phase served as a starting point to develop an overall framework to measure progress of the plan and to inform the development of actions in the next phase of plan development.

Phase 4: Building a Strategy | March 2018 to October 2018

The purpose of Phase 4 is to develop an action plan to close the gap between the current condition of the garbage and recycling system and the vision and goals for the system's future. To accomplish this, Metro assembled eight technical work groups to identify and draft actions to move the system toward its desired future.

The groups were made up of representatives from local governments, garbage and recycling facility operators, haulers, community organizations and others with a particular interest in the system. The work groups focused on:

- Quality service
- Education and information
- Good jobs
- Economic prosperity
- Garbage and recycling operations
- Reduce, reuse and repair
- Healthy products
- Preparedness and resiliency



Each work group met up to four times, including a final session at which all of the groups together looked at how goals and actions might connect and to assess the need for additional improvements to the draft actions.

Metro also sought input on the draft actions from the community, specifically those individuals who had taken part in earlier phases of the Plan development. During a four-hour session held at the Oregon Zoo, more than 100 local residents associated with eight culturally-specific community based organizations reviewed draft actions to see whether they reflected their input and to prioritize the changes they most want to see in the system. The small group conversations were conducted simultaneously in Russian, Spanish and English, with Metro bilingual staff facilitating and taking notes.





The session with community focused on actions associated with four goal areas that residents had previously identified as most important to them:

- Garbage and recycling operations
- Quality service
- Information and education
- Jobs and economic opportunities

Following the community engagement, Metro staff further refined the draft actions in coordination with the Equity Work Group and local government partners.

What's Next

As part of the last steps of Phase 4, Metro staff will discuss the draft actions with the Metro Policy Advisory Committee, Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Metro Council in October 2018. The final outcome of this phase is a set of prioritized actions that will be incorporated into the final plan.

Phase 5: Plan Adoption | November 2018 to February 2019

The fifth and final phase of the process will begin in November 2018 and be focused on finalizing and adopting the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. The draft plan will be available for public review and feedback from mid-November through mid-December.

For this comment period, engagement activities will include:

- briefing community groups about the plan with an explanation about the Metro Council decision-making process
- making briefing materials and information about the plan available online for the general public
- holding a public forum on December 5, 2018 for individuals interested in reviewing the draft plan and providing comments in-person

Metro will summarize all comments received during the comment period in a public comment report, as well as recommend changes to the draft plan in response to the comments. These summaries will be available in print and online.

Metro's Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee and the Metro Policy Advisory Committee will consider the draft plan and provide input to the Metro Council in January 2019.

The Metro Council will hold legislative hearings on the plan in February 2019. To subscribe to Metro News for updates or opportunities to weigh in visit oregonmetro.gov/letstalktrash.

AT A GLANCE: Upcoming advisory committee and Metro Council meeting dates

October 10, 2018	Metro Policy Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee provide input on draft actions
October 16, 2018	Metro Council work session to review draft actions
January 23, 2019	Metro Policy Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee provide input on draft plan
February 5, 2019	Metro Council work session to review draft plan
February 21 & 28, 2019	Metro Council legislative hearings to consider plan adoption