

## Regional Waste Advisory Committee agenda



**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Thursday, June 26, 2025

2:00 PM Metro Regional Center Council Chambers

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81917615913>

(Webinar ID: 819 1761 5913

Passcode:320959)

**1. Call To Order, Declaration of a Quorum & Introductions (2:00 PM)**

This meeting will be held electronically and in person at the Metro Regional Center Council Chambers. You can join the meeting on your computer or other device by using this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81917615913>

**2. Action Items (2:05 PM)**

**2.1 Recycling Modernization Act (2:05 PM)**

Presenter(s): Thomas Egleston, Policy Manager, Jill Hrycyk, Senior Planner

Attachments: Meeting Worksheet

**2.2 Regional Service Standards and Bulky Waste Collection – Advisory Input (3:00 PM)**

Presenter(s): Thomas Egleston, Policy Manager, Sara Kirby, Senior Planner

Attachments: Meeting Worksheet

**3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes (3:45 PM)**

**4. Public Communication on Agenda Items (3:50 PM)**

Public comment may be submitted in writing and will also be heard by electronic communication (video conference or telephone). Written comments should be submitted electronically by mailing [carly.tabert@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:carly.tabert@oregonmetro.gov). Written comments received by 4:00 pm on the Wednesday before the meeting will be provided to the committee prior to the meeting.

Those wishing to testify orally are encouraged to sign up in advance by either: (a) contacting Carly Tabert by phone at 971-275-2264 and providing your name and the item on which you wish to testify; or (b) registering by email by sending your name and the item on which you wish to testify to [carly.tabert@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:carly.tabert@oregonmetro.gov).

Those requesting to comment during the meeting can do so by using the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom or emailing Carly Tabert at [carly.tabert@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:carly.tabert@oregonmetro.gov). Individuals will have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated at the meeting.

**5. Adjourn (4:00PM)**

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### សេចក្តីជូនដំណឹងអំពីការមិនរើសអើងរបស់ Metro

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# REGIONAL WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Worksheet

**PRESENTATION DATE:** June 26, 2025      **LENGTH:** 30 mins

**PRESENTATION TITLE:** Recycling Modernization Act

**DECISION TYPE:** Informational

**RELATED REGIONAL WASTE PLAN GOALS:** 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15

**PRESENTER(S):** Thomas Egleston, policy and program development manager; Jill Hrycyk, senior policy planner

### ISSUE STATEMENT

Waste Prevention and Environmental Services staff are working closely with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), cities and counties, service providers, community partners and the producer responsibility organization, Circular Action Alliance, to prepare for implementation of the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act. This has included participating in rulemaking advisory bodies, providing feedback on the Producer Responsibility Organization Program Plan, updating our Regional Service Standards to reflect state law, and preparing for communication and outreach in greater Portland.

### ACTION REQUESTED

This is an informational update as program changes start on July 1, 2025.

### BACKGROUND

The Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act was passed by the Oregon State Legislature in 2021, and recycling program changes will begin in July 2025. The Act is an exciting step forward for Oregon as it will make it easier for people across the state to recycle and put shared responsibility on producers to ensure that recyclable materials are sent to environmentally and socially responsible end markets.

Producer responsibility is a big part of what makes the Recycling Modernization Act so impactful. The Act brings businesses that produce and sell packaging, paper products and food serviceware into the recycling system as partners, requiring that they share recycling costs alongside local governments, recycling facilities and people who pay garbage and recycling fees.

Metro is a collaborator on the Recycling Modernization Act. While contributing to the Act's development, Metro staff advocated for Council's priority targets for meeting climate and resilience goals as well as growing a resilient economy for all. The Recycling Modernization Act supports Metro's priority targets and 2030 Regional Waste Plan goals through efforts to reduce plastic pollution, ensure recyclable materials are sent to responsible end markets with proven environmental benefits, and create more jobs with living wages.

Waste Prevention and Environmental Services staff have been preparing for program implementation by ensuring:

- Regional Service Standards are updated to align with the Act,
- regional coordination with education and outreach staff to communicate to the public,

- interdepartmental coordination to prepare for updates at our transfer stations, and
- continued participation on the Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council, which includes representatives from local governments, community-based organizations, small business, environmental nonprofit organizations, the recycling industry, service providers, processors and producers of covered products to advise on program implementation.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- July 1, 2025 – official program launch
  - Funding streams become available to upgrade recycling processing facilities and implement contamination reduction programming
- Summer 2025 – Regional Service Standard update
  - June 2025 – Regional Waste Advisory Committee discussion and feedback on proposed service standard updates
  - May 29 – July 8, 2025 - Public comment period
  - Summer 2025 – Metro Council update
  - Summer 2025 – Administrative rules considered by Metro Chief Operating Officer
- Summer – Fall 2025 – Metro Central and Metro South contract discussions with Circular Action Alliance for recycling drop-off
- Winter 2025 – anticipated third rulemaking process

# REGIONAL WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Worksheet

**PRESENTATION DATE:** June 26, 2025      **LENGTH:** 45 mins

**PRESENTATION TITLE:** The Regional Service Standards proposed updates

**DECISION TYPE:** Advisory

**RELATED REGIONAL WASTE PLAN GOALS:** 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15

**PRESENTER(S):** Thomas Egleston, policy and program development manager; Sara Kirby, senior policy planner

### ISSUE STATEMENT

Updates to the Regional Service Standards in Metro's administrative rules support regional waste management goals by aligning with new state requirements and improving services for residents of multifamily housing. These rules must undergo a public comment period and are approved by the Chief Operating Officer. The Regional Waste Advisory Committee will provide input that will be shared with the Chief Operating Officer to help inform final rule approval.

This presentation is part two of a two-part engagement process to gather input on proposed updates to the Regional Service Standards.

### Meeting 1: May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Advanced briefing for June advisory

The first meeting included an overview of the Regional Service Standards—what they are, how they support the goals of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan, and why they are being updated. Current work is focused on improving the collection of bulky items like furniture across the region. The presentation also covered lessons learned from recently implemented multifamily standards, clarified the roles of Metro, cities, and counties, and highlighted key findings from a recent bulky waste collection study.

Committee discussion question:

- Do you have questions about bulky waste collection services, the Regional Service Standards or the role of Metro and local governments in implementing the Regional Service Standards?

### Meeting 2: June 26<sup>th</sup> - Advisory

The second meeting will include a presentation on the Recycling Modernization Act followed by a review of proposed updates to the Regional Service Standards. It will provide an overview of the proposed changes to the Regional Service Standards related to both the Recycling Modernization Act and bulky waste services.

Committee discussion question:

- Do you have any input on proposed updates to Metro's Regional Service Standards related to the updates for the Recycling Modernization Act and bulky waste services?

## ACTION REQUESTED

Advisory – At this meeting, committee members will have the opportunity to provide formal input on the proposed updates, which will be shared with the Chief Operating Officer.

## BACKGROUND

### Regional Service Standards

As the regional solid waste authority, Metro sets Regional Service Standards to ensure consistent minimum service levels for garbage and recycling for residents and businesses across Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. The standards help align local collection programs with statewide requirements (ORS 459A). The standards are detailed in Metro Code Title V and accompanying administrative rules. While cities and counties implement the standards, Metro monitors compliance and provides technical support or enforcement when needed. The key components of the residential standards are outlined below.

<b>Residential Service Standards</b>	<b>Single-Family Homes:</b> Metro mandates weekly collection of recyclables, yard debris, and glass. Minimum container capacities are specified—for example, at least 60 gallons for mixed recyclables and yard debris, and at least 5 gallons for glass. Food scraps may be collected weekly or every other week, depending on local program approvals. Bulky waste collection service is required to be provided.
	<b>Multifamily Housing:</b> Properties with five or more units must be provided weekly collection services with minimum volumes of 20 gallons per unit for both garbage and recyclables, and 1 gallon per unit for glass. Standardized container colors and labeling are mandated to ensure clarity and consistency. By July 1, 2025, these properties are also required to be provided regularly occurring bulky waste collection services.

### Proposed Updates

The proposed updates to the Regional Service Standards for multifamily bulky waste include:

- A clear, regional definition of bulky waste.
- A service expectation that collection must be available within two weeks of a request.
- Transparent, upfront pricing so customers know what they will pay before service is provided.
- Adding bulky waste to the annual general education standard.

These updates are designed to make services more accessible, predictable, and easier to use. When costs and collection schedules are clear, property managers and residents are more likely to take advantage of services. This supports cleaner, safer shared spaces, reduces illegal dumping, and ensures that all residents—regardless of income or housing type—have access to consistent waste services.

The updates identify bulky waste as a line of service to be provided by property owners and managers as part of the garbage and recycling services offered to tenants and create a foundation that allows for cities and counties to implement different service formats depending on the needs of their jurisdiction. Metro will continue to use the Multifamily Indicator to measure progress of multifamily Regional Service Standard implementation. Metro, cities and counties remain committed to collaborating on garbage and recycling services for people living in multifamily homes.

In addition, updates are needed to support implementation of the Recycling Modernization Act, which creates a statewide framework for recycling services. The proposed changes include aligning the definition of acceptable recyclable material in Metro administrative rule with the Uniform

Statewide Collection List and allowing flexibility in single-family glass collection (weekly or every-other-week).

The proposed update also includes some housekeeping changes, removing implementation dates that have passed and reordering some rules.

#### **Previous Regional Waste Advisory Committee engagements**

- May 2025, Regional Service Standard and bulky waste
- June 2024, Bulky waste collection study results
- October 2023, Bulky waste planning update and next steps
- March 2023 Recycling Modernization Act update

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- May 29 – July 8, 2025 - Public comment period
- Summer 2025 – Metro Council update
- Summer 2025 – Administrative rules considered by Metro Chief Operating Officer