

# Public Engagement Guide and Guiding principles for meaningful public engagement

General project update *Winter 2023-2024* 

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#### Public Engagement Guide

About the 2024 update

#### A tool for



Members of the public



Metro staff



Metro Council

#### **Considerations**

- Strengthen Metro's engagement practices
- Build shared language
- Focus on meaningful public engagement
  - Inclusion and access to influence
  - Collaboration & Community Partnerships
- Meet federal requirements related to Regional Transportation Planning



### **Project Timeline**

**Updated November 2023** 



**Updated Project Phases** 

Phase I Adopt Basic Guide

Phase II Add Supplemental tools

resources, website expansion

### Words matter: key terms

Metro's guiding principles for meaningful public engagement will strengthen our engagement practices.

A **guiding principle** is a values-based idea that influences behavior and decisions.

**Meaningful public engagement** can impact decision-making, is inclusive of all potentially impacted perspectives, relationship-based, trauma informed, responsive and considerate of the communication and engagement needs of participants.





#### Metro's new guiding principles for meaningful public engagement

Adopted June 15, 2023

- 1. Public participation is an essential part of **Metro's decision-making**.
- 2. Transparency about decision-making is fundamental to successful public service and includes communicating about project outcomes and the impact of community contributions to the process.
- Meaningful public engagement processes apply equity, diversity and inclusion strategies and tools to help identify and address the needs of impacted, underserved, and historically excluded communities.
- **4.** Engagement and communications are accessible, informative, timely and inclusive of a rich diversity of lived experiences and perspectives.

- 5. Collaboration and **capacity-building** efforts with community-based organizations, programs, initiatives and individuals that are impacted, underserved, or historically excluded are essential to address regional issues equitably.
- 6. Intergovernmental **collaboration**, coordination, and consultation are essential to address regional issues holistically and efficiently.
- **7. Evaluation** of engagement activities during and after a project encourages responsiveness, growth and process improvement.
- **8.** Adaptive project timelines allow for meaningful engagement with the most impacted audiences early and throughout the project.

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