

# WPES 2021 legislative priorities, process & Equity principle

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Metro Regional Waste Advisory Committee

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# Objectives

Common understanding of Metro Council 2021 legislative principles, priorities and process

Committee feedback on a draft Metro Council legislative principle: *Equity in the solid waste system*

# **Metro Council**

## **Legislative Principles & Priorities**

Metro Council regularly reviews its legislative principles and establishes its priorities.

Process starts in the fall, finalized by resolution in January before session starts.

# Metro Council

## Legislative Principles & Priorities

Efforts led by Metro Government Affairs and Policy Development staff.

Done in consultation with the Metro Council and Metro departments' legislative liaisons and other staff.

# Metro Council

## Legislative Principles & Priorities

Legislative principles have been developed over several years and added to or revised on an ongoing basis.

– *A new principle being brought forward here today*

Legislative priorities change from year to year – though many bills don't pass first time through!

# Metro Council

## Legislative Principles

Some legislative principles are intended to cover a range of Metro responsibilities

- For example: Climate Change; Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Other principles are more specific:

- For example: Affordable Housing; Integration of Land Use and Transportation

# Metro Council

## Legislative Principles

Solid Waste principles currently include:

- Support for a Life Cycle Approach when managing solid waste
- Support adoption of Producer Responsibility legislation

*Newly proposed – Equity in the Solid Waste System* 7

# Metro Council Legislative Priorities

Metro Government Affairs and Policy Development staff bring issues to Council

- Discussions cover policy goals, support and opposition, legislative history
- Council sets priorities – directs Government Affairs staff what issues (bills) to spend time and efforts on



# Metro Council

## Legislative Priorities

### Legislative Priorities \ Agenda

- Priorities – new or emerging (Covid relief; Racial Justice); continuing issues (housing);
- WPES priorities – Solid Waste & Recycling related issues

# Metro Council - WPES Legislative Priorities - 2021

Recycling System Modernization

Producer responsibility for Mattresses

Producer responsibility for Household Hazardous  
Wastes

# WPES Legislative Watch - 2021

Expected:

- Producer Responsibility for Medical Sharps
- Bottle Bill – study (e.g., add wine & liquor)
- Single use plastics
- “Right to Repair”

Possible: Recreation vehicles, carpet

# **Equity in the solid waste system proposed legislative principle**

Intended to highlight and condense the 2030 Regional Waste Plan Guiding Principles along with the actions within the plan that advance racial equity.

# Questions for the committee

Would you recommend adding or changing any of the ideas in the principle? Why?

Would you recommend removing any of the ideas in the principle? Why?

# Equity in the solid waste system

DRAFT 2021 legislative principle

“The Regional Waste Plan aims to eliminate disparities experienced by people of color and historically marginalized communities from the full life cycle of products and packaging used and disposed in the region...

# Equity in the solid waste system

DRAFT 2021 legislative principle (cont.)

Metro supports legislation that achieves this by advancing:

1. community restoration, community partnerships and community investment;
2. access to recycling, waste and reuse services and information;
3. good jobs with improved worker health and safety, compensation and career pathways;

# Equity in the solid waste system

DRAFT 2021 legislative principle (cont.)

4. business opportunities in the local economy; and
5. community health through minimized impacts from system operations - locally and in end markets - and from toxic chemicals in products and packaging. ...



# Equity in the solid waste system

DRAFT 2021 legislative principle (cont.)

Legislation should require the establishment of targets, standards and compliance processes, as appropriate, to ensure progress toward equity goals.”

# Discussion questions

Would you recommend adding or changing any of the ideas in the principle? Why?

Would you recommend removing any of the ideas in the principle? Why?

*Thank you*

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