

REGIONAL WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Worksheet

PRESENTATION DATE: December 17, 2020 **LENGTH:** 40 minutes

PRESENTATION TITLE: WPES legislative priorities and Equity principle

DECISION TYPE: Advisory

RELATED REGIONAL WASTE PLAN GOALS: All

PRESENTER(S): Scott Klag and Carl Grimm

PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

- Overview of key bills, issues and procedures of interest to WPES in the 2021 Oregon legislative session.
- Request for committee input on a draft Metro Council legislative principle on Equity in the solid waste system.

ACTION REQUESTED

- The committee's feedback is requested on the content of the draft Metro Council legislative principle on Equity in the solid waste system.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the Metro Council produces an agenda for the Oregon legislative session that directs staff to pursue legislative outcomes consistent with the Council's policy priorities and principles. The priorities and principles are prepared by Metro Government Affairs and Policy Development staff in consultation with the Metro Council and Metro departments' legislative liaisons and other staff.

Waste Prevention and Environmental Services staff are preparing to support Metro's pursuit of priority recycling and disposal legislative outcomes in the 2021 Oregon legislative session. A proposed Metro Council legislative principle on *Equity in the solid waste system* is in the process of development to help ensure outcomes are consistent with the 2030 Regional Waste Plan guiding principles.

How is the draft *Equity in the solid waste system* principle being developed?

The draft legislative principle is based on the Guiding Principles of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan that the Metro Council adopted in March, 2019. The legislative principle is intended to highlight and condense the Guiding Principles along with the actions within the plan that advance racial equity. Input will be gathered from the Regional Waste Advisory Committee and from the Committee on Racial Equity.

What are the key elements of the draft *Equity in the solid waste system* principle?

The following key elements form the draft *Equity in the solid waste system* principle. They are not necessarily written with the exact wording that will be proposed to Government Affairs and Policy Development staff and Council, but rather they are the basic ideas that will be expressed.

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

- *To this end, Metro supports legislation that achieves this by advancing:*
 - *community restoration, community partnerships and community investment;*
 - *access to recycling, waste and reuse services and information;*
 - *good jobs with improved worker health and safety, compensation and career pathways;*
 - *business opportunities in the local economy; and*
 - *community health through minimized impacts from system operations - locally and in end markets - and from toxic chemicals in products and packaging.*
- *Legislation should require the establishment of targets, standards and compliance processes, as appropriate, to ensure progress toward equity goals.*

QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Thinking about the 2030 Regional Waste Plan Principles and equity-related actions, we'd like the committee's feedback on what is included in the elements listed above and what could be improved. Questions for consideration include:

- Do you recommend adding or changing any of the ideas in the list of elements? Why?
- Do you recommend removing any of the ideas in the list of elements? Why?

NEXT STEPS

- The committee's recommendations will be carefully considered and the draft principle edited accordingly. The final draft will be submitted to Government Affairs and Policy Development staff.
- Government Affairs and Policy Development staff will work with the Metro Council to determine if the principle reflects the desired outcomes of the Council and to make improvements as needed.
- Contingent Council member support during Council work sessions, the principle may be included in the Council's 2021 Legislative Package for the Oregon legislative session that starts in February, 2021, and adopted by resolution.
- WPES staff will return to the committee in January or February to share how committee feedback was used, as well as the outcome of the Council's decision on the Equity in the solid waste system principle, and any related developments and activities.

ATTACHMENTS

- None