

[STAFF REPORT FOR USE FOR COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY MEETINGS]

TITLE OF PRESENTATION: REVIEW OF DRAFT UPDATED GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR MEANINGFUL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

Date: 05/11/2023
Department: Communications
Meeting Date: 05/18/2023

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Length:

ISSUE STATEMENT

Metro is in the process of updating the agency's [Public Engagement Guide](#). The first part of the update to this guide will focus on updating the guiding principles which are based on the Principles of Citizen Involvement, Resolution 97-2433 adopted 1997. The update will bring them into alignment with Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, current best practices for meaningful engagement and Metro values. These guiding principles for meaningful public engagement create a foundation to sustain an equitable and democratic culture of collaboration and accountability at Metro.

COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT

The update of the guiding principles for meaningful public engagement will be reviewed and adopted by Metro Council in June 15, 2023.

The update of the Public engagement Guide is expected to be adopted in November of 2023.

Both of these legislative processes include involvement by the Public Engagement Review Committee (PERC) as advisors of Metro Council in regards to public engagement processes.

QUESTION(S) for CORE

1. Do the updated guiding principles reflect CORE values and expectations around community engagement? (specifically Goal B)
2. What does the CORE committee want Metro to consider as they update the Public Engagement Guide?

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Adoption of updated Metro's Guiding Principles for Meaningful Public Engagement will:

- provide a path for updating Metro's Public Engagement Guide
- Create shared agreement around how we want to approach engagement as an agency.

Implementation of the guiding principles will

- support Metro Council in making decisions that are well informed, sustainable and address the needs and priorities of the diverse communities in the greater Portland region.
- support the advancement of goals in Metro’s Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity:
 - Goal A: Metro convenes and supports regional partners to advance racial equity.
 - Goal B: Metro meaningfully engages communities of color.
 - Goal D: Metro creates safe and welcoming services, programs and destinations.
 - Goal E: Metro's resource allocation advances racial equity.
- **What did/will community and stakeholder engagement look like? How did/will you engage with Black, Indigenous and communities of color, immigrant communities and/or members of the disability community?**

The [Public Engagement Review Committee \(PERC\)](#) is a vital part of advising on the update to the Public Engagement Guide. The committee is made up of 9-10 members including three community based organizations, four residents, and three community engagement staff from each county from greater Portland. One member of PERC is blind.

PERC has provided input on two drafts of Guiding Principles for Meaningful Public Engagement. They approved the second draft with some slight edits.

An external engagement plan has not been created yet, but engagement is expected to take place in the summer of 2023. We are currently engaging with staff to understand the needs, opportunities and challenges to achieving meaningful engagement at Metro.

- What are the anticipated racial equity benefits (positive) and impacts (negative) of this project/program?
 - More welcoming and inclusive engagement processes
 - Metro decision-making that addresses the needs of those most impacted by policies, programs or investments.
 - Identification of the barriers and challenges that exist with Metro to achieve meaningful engagement as information for Metro Council to consider in future budget processes.

BACKGROUND

The Public Engagement Guide will be a tool for the public and Metro staff to use. It will include information about how people can connect to Metro engagement opportunities, provide tools for planning and evaluating public engagement, and a glossary with some common words.

The last update to the guide was done in 2013. It is expected that the guide will be reviewed every three years to update appendix or any other outdated language.

The goals for the update to the guide are:

1. Create a tool for the public to better understand how to engage with Metro
2. Provide tools and resources to support staff in practicing meaningful public engagement.
3. Alignment with Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
4. Document barriers and challenges to achieve meaningful public engagement

TIMELINE



Spring Jan-March	Spring March-April	Summer May – July	Summer Aug-Sep	Winter November
Phase 1 – Planning	Phase 2 – Guiding Principles	Phase 3 – Update Guide	Phase 4 – Final update	Phase 5- Adoption
Scope project	Update guiding principles Information gathering	Engagement and update guide content	Final review and update draft 1	Metro Council Adoption

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Memo to PERC darft1_guiding principles

Attachment 2: Memo to PERC_draft 2_guiding principles with approval

Link: [Public engagement guide 2013](#)

Link: [Public Engagement Review Committee \(PERC\)](#)