

ATTACHMENT A

Climate Justice and Resilience Vision, Values, and Principles

Introduction

The following vision statement, values and principles were inspired by feedback provided by the Climate Justice and Resilience Task Force and serves as a snapshot of our aspirations and will continue to evolve with future engagement and refinement.

Draft vision statement

- In 2040, Greater Portland will be widely recognized as a leader in simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving livability. The Portland region will have managed the impacts of climate change with a focus on justice, collaboration, and equity – and have created new opportunity and stability for those who bear the greatest burdens of climate change. It will be a place with clean water, clean air, and abundant nature for generations to come.

Values that guide our climate justice and resilience work

- Racial, environmental, and climate justice.
- Community safety and resiliency from environmental hazards.
- A livable climate for all.
- Economy based on non-polluting technologies.

Additional details

- Metro values co-creating and prioritizing solutions with impacted communities in recognition of the disproportionate negative impact of climate change on BIPOC and low-income communities.
- Metro values sustained community safety and resilience from environmental hazards, whether human caused or natural.
- Metro values a livable environment and climate for all in which current and future generations have access to clean air, clean water and a healthy ecosystem.
- Metro values the guiding principles of a Just Transition economy in which reliance on a fossil-fuel based economy is replaced by equitable, regenerative, renewable energy-based systems.

Guiding principles

- Recognize the disproportionate impact of climate change on Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, as well as people with lower incomes, and prioritize actions accordingly.
- Increase community capacity to respond to climate stresses and disruptions.
- Build knowledge about the intersection of equity and climate within Metro and with partners.
- Establish a practice of policy-making that rewards actions that move the region closer to our climate goals.

What success and accountability looks like

- Regional convener
 - Metro will use its role as a regional convener to work with partners and community to create coordinated strategies, policy, programs and investments that strengthen the community's ability to anticipate, prepare for, mitigate, adapt to and recover from disturbances caused by natural and human-created climate hazards.
- Agency leadership
 - As an agency, Metro staff should be able to see themselves as champions and contributors in applying a climate justice and resilience lens to the work of Metro.
 - Metro leadership will prioritize climate justice and resilience strategies and program implementation by building and maintaining the resources and capacity to support a long-term climate program including developing and sustaining cross-departmental coordination and collaboration.
 - Metro will center the voices of low-income communities and communities of color in co-creating strategies and implementing solutions to build capacity, well-being, livability, and equitable community benefits.
 - Metro honors and draws upon Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity which identifies six strategies as inspiration for the development of a decision-making framework when implementing regional and agency wide climate justice and resilience strategies and programming. These strategies include:
 - Focusing on eliminating the disparities that people of color experience in all aspects of social well-being, especially in those related to Metro's policies, programs, services, and public spaces.
 - Addressing the disparities that affect the most marginalized to generate solutions that address the needs of all other historically marginalized groups.
 - Building a structure for Metro leaders, staff and region partners including community to engage in conversations about race, make concrete and measurable institutional changes and create a foundation for on-going reflection and needed change within the organization and Portland region.
 - Ensuring that members of these communities are involved in Metro's equity efforts to create greater trust and accountability.
 - Measuring and recognizing milestones and improvements to increase and maintain momentum along the route to greater racial equity and change.