

# Updating the guiding principles for meaningful public engagement

Evolution of the guiding principles for Metro Council

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# Evolution of the Guiding Principles



# 1997 Guiding principles for citizen involvement

<b>1</b>	Value active citizen involvement as essential to the future of the Metro region.
<b>2</b>	Respect and consider all citizen input.
<b>3</b>	Encourage opportunities that reflect the rich diversity of the region.
<b>4</b>	Promote participation, based on citizen involvement opportunities, of individuals and of community, business, and special interest groups.
<b>5</b>	Provide communications to encourage citizen participation in Metro processes that are understandable, timely and broadly distributed.
<b>6</b>	Provide citizens with an opportunity to be involved early in the process of policy development, planning and projects.
<b>7</b>	Organize involvement activities to make the best use of citizen's time and effort.
<b>8</b>	Provide financial and staff support to Metro's Office of Citizen Involvement.
<b>9</b>	Sustain ongoing networking among citizens, local governments, Metro officials and staff.
<b>10</b>	Respond to citizens' perspectives and insights in a timely manner.
<b>11</b>	Coordinate interdepartmental and interjurisdictional activities.
<b>12</b>	Evaluate the effectiveness of Metro citizen involvement.

## 2013 Guiding Principles (*in Public Engagement Guide*)

1. Value active citizen involvement as essential to the future of the Metro region.
2. Respect and consider all citizen input.
3. Encourage opportunities that reflect the rich diversity of the region.
4. Promote participation, based on citizen involvement opportunities, of individuals and of community, business and special interest groups.
5. Provide communications to encourage citizen participation in Metro processes that are understandable, timely and broadly distributed.
6. Provide citizens with an opportunity to be involved early in the process of policy development, planning and projects.
7. Organize involvement activities to make the best use of citizens' time and effort.
8. Provide financial and staff support to Metro's Office of Citizen Involvement.
9. Sustain ongoing networking among citizens, local governments, Metro officials and staff.
10. Respond to citizens' perspectives and insights in a timely manner.
11. Coordinate interdepartmental and inter-jurisdictional activities.
12. Evaluate the effectiveness of Metro citizen involvement.

# 2019 COVID-19 Policy for Community Engagement

The following guiding principles for community engagement help Metro staff and decision-makers plan for the risk of engaging people most vulnerable to COVID-19 against the risk of losing the voices of those most impacted by the decisions and investments being made.

All engagement activities whether virtual or in-person should meet one or more of the following principles.

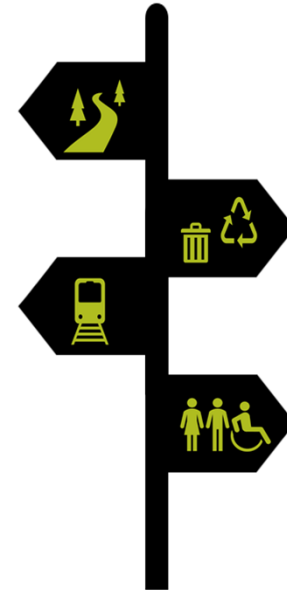
<b>1</b>	Applies equity criteria in resource allocation to increase impact and investment consistency for Black, Indigenous and other communities of color.
<b>2</b>	Facilitates a process for BIPOC to reclaim and use their power.
<b>3</b>	Contributes to the protection, prevention, and repair of harm in the engagement process as well as in the intended outcomes of the project, policy or investment.
<b>4</b>	Strengthens relationship-based engagement with BIPOC to move away from historical power structures of white centered transactional process.
<b>5</b>	Co-creates engagement activities to ensure mutual benefit when partnering with community-based organizations.
<b>6</b>	Considers and revises timelines of proposed policies, projects or plans if meaningful engagement is not feasible during the original timeline.

# Guiding principles definition

*for 2023 update*

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

**Guiding principles for meaningful public engagement** will guide public engagement related to Metro Council decision-making processes for policies, programs, or investments.



# 2023 Guiding principles for meaningful public engagement (Draft 1)

## Titles of proposed guiding principles

1. Prioritize public engagement	8. Accessibility
2. Transparency	9. Partnership and co-creation
3. Equity and inclusion	10. Intergovernmental collaboration
4. Repair and accountability	11. Adaptive project timelines
5. Informed decision-making	12. Process evaluation and improvement
6. Relationship-based engagement	13. Mindful planning
7. Adaptive communication	

Full description found in Attachment 3: Memo to PERC, Draft 1

# Summary of input received about draft 1

*from PERC, Metro Council, Metro staff*

- Ensure all lived experiences and perspectives are included.
- Language in titles, description and “expected benefits” sections don’t always align.
- Consider shortening the list of guiding principles.
- Clarify and simplify the language.
- Clarify if these are commitments, values or beliefs Metro holds.
- Add capacity building for community-based organizations and individuals
- Remove exclusive language “citizen”
- Other feedback included suggestions on how to apply the guiding principles.



# Metro's guiding principles for meaningful public engagement *Draft 2 (as approved by PERC)*

1	Public participation is an essential part of Metro's decision-making.
2	Transparency about decision-making is fundamental to successful public service.
3	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 the rich diversity of lived experiences and perspectives across greater Portland.
5	Collaboration and capacity-building efforts with community-based organizations, groups 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 facilitates growth and process improvement.

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