



600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Council work session agenda

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

10:00 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber;
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID:
615079992) or 253-205-0468 (toll free),
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=XjWhRvpxQS4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjWhRvpxQS4)

Strategic Foresight Workshop

This meeting will be held electronically and in person at the Metro Regional Center Council Chamber.

You can join the meeting on your computer or other device by using this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615 079 992);

<https://www.youtube.com/@OregonMetro/streams>

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Strategic Foresight Workshop

As part of Metro's Future 50, Rachel Hatch, Institute for the Future, will lead this Council workshop.

Learn more about Future 50 at oregonmetro.gov/futurevision and read about the Institute for the Future at IFTF.org/about-IFTF

3. Research Trailheads Discussion
4. Adjourn

Metro respects civil rights

Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and other statutes that ban discrimination. If any person believes they have been discriminated against regarding the receipt of benefits or services because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, they have the right to file a complaint with Metro. For information on Metro's civil rights program, or to obtain a discrimination complaint form, visit oregonmetro.gov/civilrights or call 503-797-1890. Metro provides services or accommodations upon request to persons with disabilities and people who need an interpreter at public meetings. If you need a sign language interpreter, communication aid or language assistance, call 503-797-1890 or TDD/TTY 503-797-1804 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays) 5 business days before the meeting. All Metro meetings are wheelchair accessible. Individuals with service animals are welcome at Metro facilities, even where pets are generally prohibited. For up-to-date public transportation information, visit TriMet's website at trimet.org

Thông báo về sự Metro không kỳ thị của

Metro tôn trọng dân quyền. Muốn biết thêm thông tin về chương trình dân quyền của Metro, hoặc muốn lấy đơn khiếu nại về sự kỳ thị, xin xem trong www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Nếu quý vị cần thông dịch viên ra dấu bằng tay, trợ giúp về tiếp xúc hay ngôn ngữ, xin gọi số 503-797-1700 (từ 8 giờ sáng đến 5 giờ chiều vào những ngày thường) trước buổi họp 5 ngày làm việc.

Повідомлення Metro про заборону дискримінації

Metro з повагою ставиться до громадянських прав. Для отримання інформації про програму Metro із захисту громадянських прав або форми скарги про дискримінацію відвідайте сайт www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. або Якщощо вам потрібен перекладач на зборах, для задоволення вашого запиту зателефонуйте за номером 503-797-1700 з 8.00 до 17.00 у робочі дні за п'ять робочих днів до зборів.

Metro 的不歧視公告

尊重民權。欲瞭解Metro民權計畫的詳情，或獲取歧視投訴表，請瀏覽網站 www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights。如果您需要口譯方可參加公共會議，請在會議召開前5個營業日撥打503-797-1700（工作日上午8點至下午5點），以便我們滿足您的要求。

Ogeysiiska takooris la'aanta ee Metro

Metro waxay ixtiraamtaa xuquuqda madaniga. Si aad u heshid macluumaad ku saabsan barnaamijka xuquuqda madaniga ee Metro, ama aad u heshid warqadda ka cabashada takoorista, booqo www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Haddii aad u baahan tahay turjubaan si aad uga qaybqaadatid kullan dadweyne, wac 503-797-1700 (8 gallinka hore illaa 5 gallinka dambe maalmaha shaqada) shan maalmo shaqa ka hor kullanka si loo tixgaliyo codsashadaada.

Metro의 차별 금지 관련 통지서

Metro의 시민권 프로그램에 대한 정보 또는 차별 항의서 양식을 얻으려면, 또는 차별에 대한 불만을 신고 할 수 www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. 당신의 언어 지원이 필요한 경우, 회의에 앞서 5 영업일 (오후 5시 주중에 오전 8시) 503-797-1700를 호출합니다.

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Metroでは公民権を尊重しています。Metroの公民権プログラムに関する情報について、または差別苦情フォームを入手するには、www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights。までお電話ください。公開会議で言語通訳を必要とされる方は、Metroがご要望に対応できるよう、公開会議の5営業日前までに503-797-1700（平日午前8時～午後5時）までお電話ください。

សេចក្តីជូនដំណឹងអំពីការមិនរើសអើងរបស់ Metro

ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលបានការប្រឹក្សាស្តីពីការរើសអើងសូមទូរស័ព្ទទៅលេខ 503-797-1700 ។ www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights ។ បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1700 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឱ្យគេបកប្រែសម្រាប់លោកអ្នក ។

إشعار بعدم التمييز من Metro

تحتزم Metro الحقوق المدنية. للمزيد من المعلومات حول برنامج Metro للحقوق المدنية أو لإيداع شكوى ضد التمييز، يُرجى زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. إن كنت بحاجة إلى مساعدة في اللغة، يجب عليك الاتصال مقدماً برقم الهاتف 503-797-1700 (من الساعة 8 صباحاً حتى الساعة 5 مساءً، أيام الاثنين إلى الجمعة) قبل خمسة (5) أيام عمل من موعد الاجتماع.

Paunawa ng Metro sa kawalan ng diskriminasyon

Iginagalang ng Metro ang mga karapatang sibil. Para sa impormasyon tungkol sa programa ng Metro sa mga karapatang sibil, o upang makakuha ng porma ng reklamo sa diskriminasyon, bisitahin ang www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Kung kailangan ninyo ng interpreter ng wika sa isang pampublikong pulong, tumawag sa 503-797-1700 (8 a.m. hanggang 5 p.m. Lunes hanggang Biyernes) lima araw ng trabaho bago ang pulong upang mapagbigyan ang inyong kahilingan.

Notificación de no discriminación de Metro

Metro respeta los derechos civiles. Para obtener información sobre el programa de derechos civiles de Metro o para obtener un formulario de reclamo por discriminación, ingrese a www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Si necesita asistencia con el idioma, llame al 503-797-1700 (de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m. los días de semana) 5 días laborales antes de la asamblea.

Уведомление о недопущении дискриминации от Metro

Metro уважает гражданские права. Узнать о программе Metro по соблюдению гражданских прав и получить форму жалобы о дискриминации можно на веб-сайте www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Если вам нужен переводчик на общественном собрании, оставьте свой запрос, позвонив по номеру 503-797-1700 в рабочие дни с 8:00 до 17:00 и за пять рабочих дней до даты собрания.

Avizul Metro privind nediscriminare

Metro respectă drepturile civile. Pentru informații cu privire la programul Metro pentru drepturi civile sau pentru a obține un formular de reclamație împotriva discriminării, vizitați www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret de limbă la o ședință publică, sunați la 503-797-1700 (între orele 8 și 5, în timpul zilelor lucrătoare) cu cinci zile lucrătoare înainte de ședință, pentru a putea să vă răspunde în mod favorabil la cerere.

Metro txoj kev ntxub ntxaug daim ntawv ceeb toom

Metro tributes cai. Rau cov lus qhia txog Metro txoj cai kev pab, los yog kom sau ib daim ntawv tsis txaus siab, mus saib www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Yog hais tias koj xav tau lus kev pab, hu rau 503-797-1700 (8 teev sawv ntxov txog 5 teev tsaus ntxuj weekdays) 5 hnuv ua hauj lwv ua ntej ntawm lub rooj sib tham.

Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.



IFTF Foresight Awareness

Welcome

Rachel Hatch, Chief Impact Officer

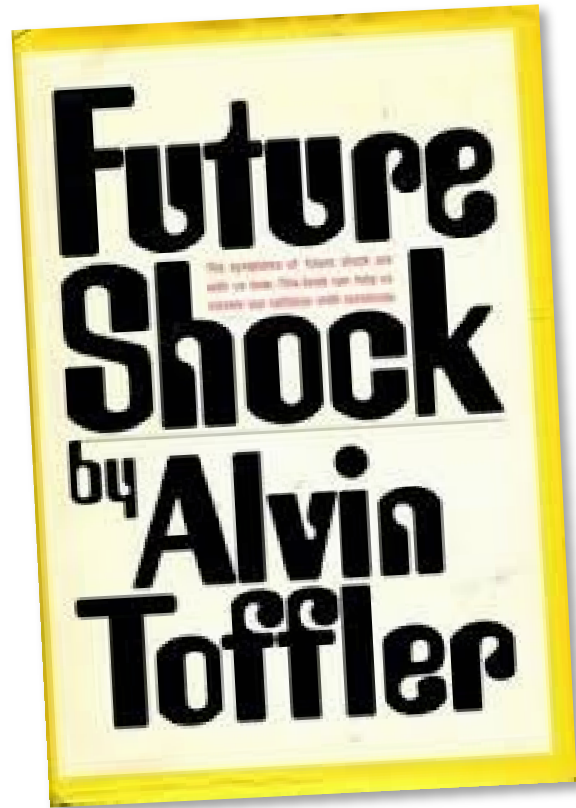
June 2026



Foresight Essentials

Look back to look forward

Sanctuaries for social imagination



- In the face of vast technological and social changes, humanity is likely to collectively experience a condition not unlike **culture shock**
- What is the antidote?
Sanctuaries for social imagination

Building Future -Readiness for Almost 60 Yeras

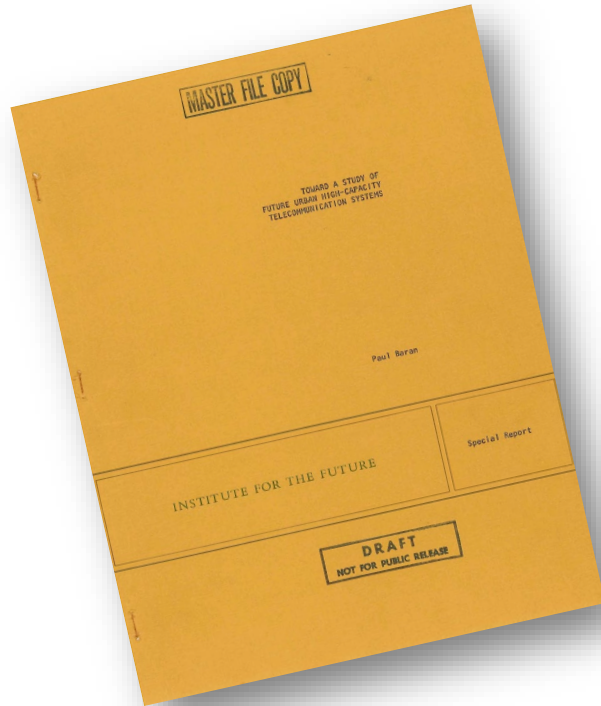


Table 1
BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF POTENTIAL HOME INFORMATION SERVICES

<p>1. CASHLESS-SOCIETY TRANSACTIONS. Recording of any financial transactions with a hard copy output dating of balance in c</p> <p>2. DEDICATED NEWSPAPER. possibly including pho termined by the user t</p> <p>3. COMPUTER-AIDED SCHOOL termines the day's pro</p>	<p>amazon</p>	<p>Zappos.com POWERED by SERVICE</p>
<p>SHOPPING TRANSACTIONS (STORE CATALOGS)</p>		
<p>5. PERSON-TO-PERSON (PAID WORK ice substituting for normal personnel where daily contd apply to contacts with the assistant.</p> <p>6. PLAYS AND MOVIES FROM A VID Color and good sound are c</p> <p>7. COMPUTER TUTOR. From a lit ter, in an interactive mode</p>	<p>upwork</p>	<p>fiverr</p>
<p>PERSON-TO-PERSON (PAID WORK AT HOME)</p>		
<p>10. HOUSEHOLD MAIL AND or from the house</p> <p>11. MASS MAIL AND DIRE color output may be otherwise similar</p> <p>12. ANSWERING SERVICES possibly computer call.</p>	<p>NETFLIX</p>	<p>HBO GO</p>
<p>PLAYS AND MOVIES FROM A VIDEO LIBRARY</p>		
<p>the code where more detailed information is stored. Synthesis also may be available.</p>	<p>25. COU buy</p> <p>26. VEA (EA) spo</p> <p>27. BUS num</p>	<p>15. FARES AND TICKET RESERVATION. As provided by travel agencies now but more comprehensive and faster. Cheapest rates, information regarding with respect to service, menus, etc.</p> <p>19. COMPUTER-ASSISTED INTERVIEW. The computer participates in a patient int meeting, answering questions of fact, deriving correlations, and extrap- olating trends.</p> <p>20. NEWSPAPER, ELECTRONIC, GENERAL. Daily newspaper, possibly printed during the night, available in time for breakfast. Special editions following</p> <p>interactive, broadcast mode, live courses than at present. transfers, advice.</p>
<p>30. INDEX, ALL SERVICES SERVED BY THE HOME TERMINAL. Includes prices or charges of the above, or available communications services.</p>		

Imaginable in 2008

SUPERSTRUCT

IN 2019, RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME, OR REDS, IS HERE, AND IT'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

QUARANTINE
New outbreaks of ReDS lead to hoarding of pharmaceuticals and looting of medical supply centers in major cities. [...more](#)

RAVENOUS
Three global AG giants announce they will comply with World Bank directives to ration soy, rice, wheat, and milk. [...more](#)

POWER STRUGGLE
Coal companies join forces with biofuel producers to lobby for subsidies that match wind and solar. [...more](#)

OUTLAW PLANET

Coronavirus Has Become a Pandemic, W.H.O. Says

But the virus can still be stopped if nations are willing to take aggressive measures, said the organization's director-general.

Share full article





No one can predict the future.

What we can do is learn how to think about the future creatively and systematically, turning uncertainty into inspiration for action.

Strategic foresight is a set of tools, processes and mindsets for developing strategy and making decisions under conditions of uncertainty.



Today's Session Objectives - Foresight Awareness

1. Introduce strategic foresight & develop a shared vocabulary
2. Develop shared awareness of the drivers of change the Council is already tracking
3. Share practical foresight habits that you can continue to apply



PREVIEW: Council members to Introduce themselves

- **I am a** [job title OR identity you hold] **asking questions about the future of** [topic related to your context].
- **For example** , “I am an IT executive asking questions about the future of technology infrastructure at HBCUs.”
- “I am a CIO asking questions about how climate change will impact the workforce.”

About Institute for the Future (IFTF)

- An independent, **public interest organization** founded in 1968, based in Silicon Valley. We work across sectors.
- Our mission is to help **organizations and leaders become future-ready**.
- We provide practical **tools, research, and programs** that turn foresight into the critical new insights that ultimately lead to transformative action.



Selected Cross -Sector Partners

We collaborate with leaders across the public, private, and philanthropic sectors to drive impact.

Foundations and Nonprofits



Global Corporations



Public Sector and Education



Strategic and Creative



Local Strategic Foresight Example - 1803 Fund grantees

- IFTF team asked to invest in the **strategic foresight capacity** of the *For the Future* grantee cohort
- IFTF led **foresight sessions** during 4 day-long retreats throughout 2025 & a panel in 2026
- IFTF held space for a community-based foresight process to identify **drivers of change** that will impact their work, and to reflect back what we heard from them about shaping a **preferred future**



Local Strategic Foresight Example - 1000 Friends of Oregon

- IFTF team asked to conduct a **Horizon Scan** of future forces impacting land use in Oregon, looking 10 years ahead as part of 50th Anniversary celebration
- IFTF created **4 Alternative Future** scenarios in written & video format
- IFTF held space for a 1000 Friend of Oregon Board & others to envision: “**What if** this future were to come to pass, what would we need to do to get ready?”



Introduce yourself!

- **I am a** [job title OR identity you hold] **asking questions about the future of** [topic related to your context].
- **For example** , “I am an IT executive asking questions about the future of technology infrastructure at HBCUs.”
- “I am a CIO asking questions about how climate change will impact the workforce.”

FORESIGHT

Draw Out Consequences

2nd order consequence

1st order consequence

NT

2nd
Customer is
striving forward

3rd
You want to
know how you can be
successful, you want
to know how to do it
and when

4th
The
customer
is
not
the
same

5th
The
customer
is
not
the
same

velocity
applies
decrease

Strategic Foresight Definitions

Strategic foresight is a cycle

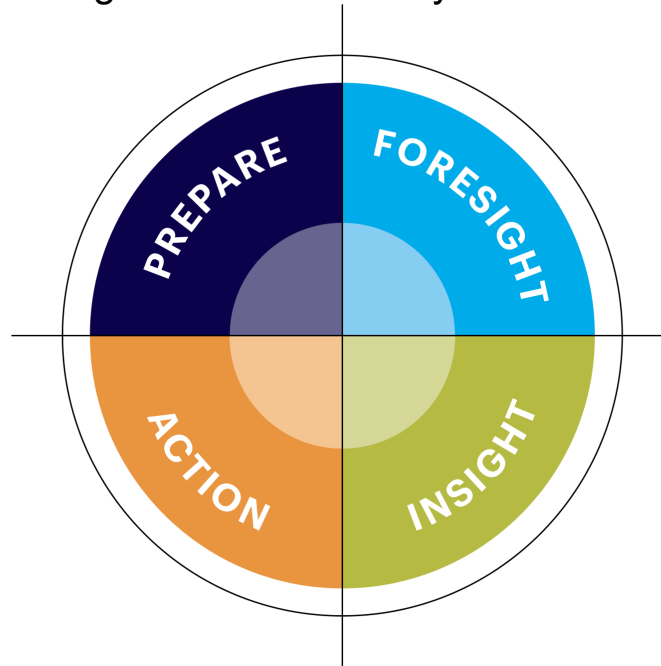
A set of collaborative activities designed to develop strategic vision and clarity amidst uncertainty.

1 | PREPARE

Gather “building block” evidence (signals and drivers), frame futures questions, orient your mind to the next decade.

4 | ACTION

Based on your insights, frame and prioritize preferred futures and possible actions for near- and mid-term strategy.



2 | FORESIGHT

Use your prepared evidence to develop plausible, compelling, provocative narratives and visions of multiple futures.

3 | INSIGHT

Use your foresight to generate meaningful implications for partners, employees, grantees, communities, and others across your ecosystem.

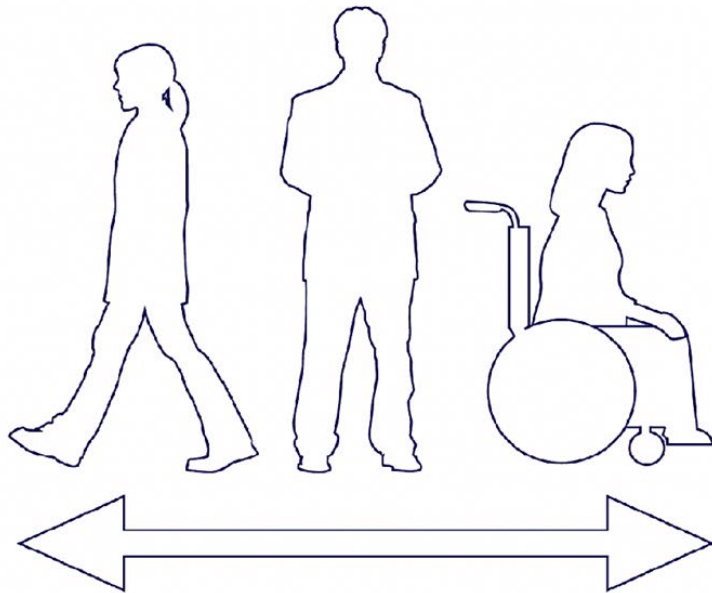


PREPARE

ORIENT TO THE FUTURE

People have different relationships to the future. Some think the future looks bright, while others think it looks worrying. Some find it's a place filled with great opportunity, while others feel frightened. Making these differences visible will help team members get a wider perspective and become aware of their own internal assumptions about the future.

IFTF Foresight Essentials Toolkit

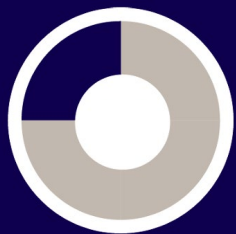


WHY THIS TOOL?

- **Take** the pulse of the group's attitudes about the future. If they are feeling pessimistic, you may need to address it directly and honestly.
- **Provoke** meaningful, respectful discussion about differences.

WHEN TO USE:

- **At beginning of an event**, to get people talking right away.
- **With strangers**, to get to know each other, or with a team, to learn new things about each other.



Over the next decade, technology will bring us...

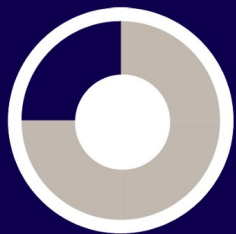


Closer
together

1

Further
apart

10



Over the next decade, the impact of climate change
on my daily life will be . . .



Very little
1

Huge
10



How to Develop a Foresight Mindset

Four traps that keep us stuck in the present

From our research with foresight strategists at the world's largest organizations, we've identified four common traps that often prevent people from seeing beyond the present.

The four traps are:

- A bias toward precision metrics
- Official futures
- Anxiety about change
- Your future self is a stranger



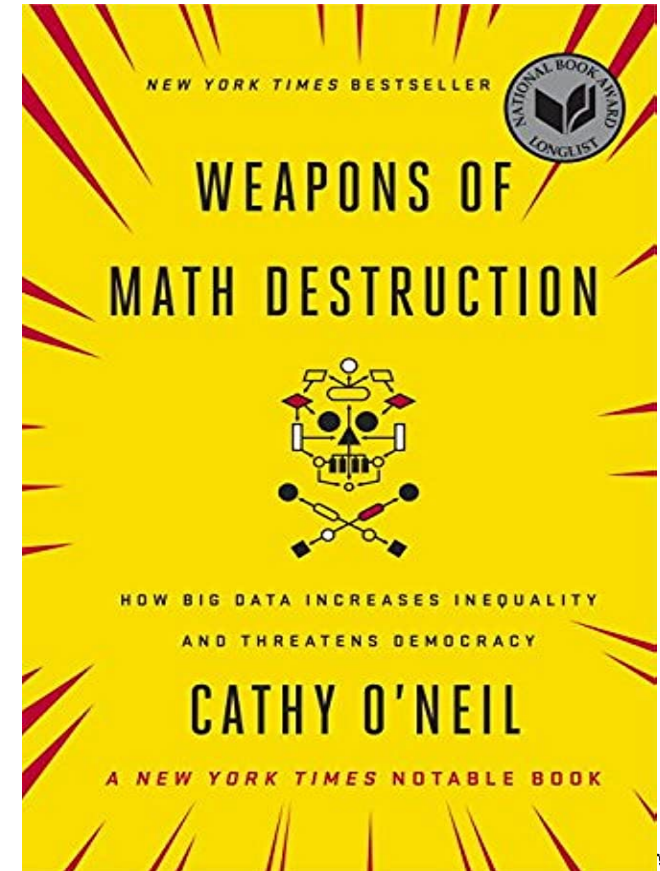
TRAP 1: A bias toward precision metrics

The more precise the numbers, the more persuasive they seem, for many of us.

As we seek certainty in the face of change, it's easy to rely on growing amounts of increasingly precise quantitative data..

Ironically, more precision and more data can make you overly confident, leaving you blindsided if a different result occurs.

The numbers don't always tell the whole story.



TRAP 2: Official futures

Every business has an official future. It provides momentum, it provides meaning, it organizes what we do. But it also makes it hard to see beyond its edges.

Most official futures are about growth.

You have to have an official future. You can't operate without one.

But if your official future dominates your field of view, it can become a trap.



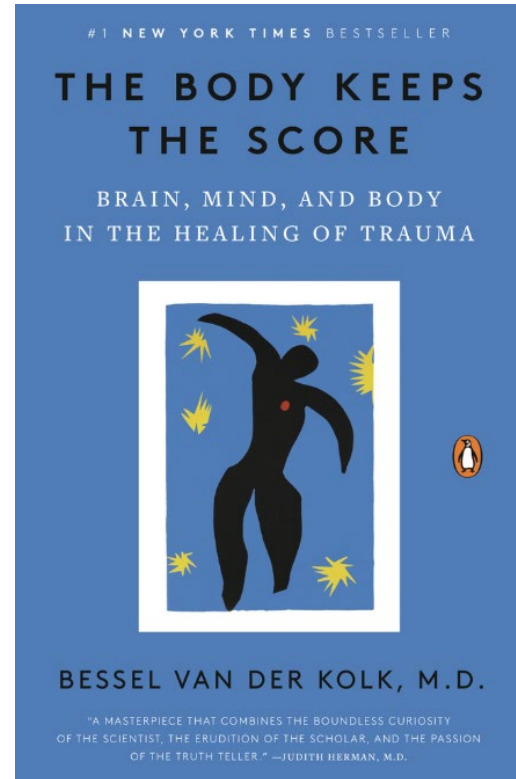
Cover of Forbes Magazine, Nov. 2007. Nokia's global market share for mobile phones at the time? Around 50%.

TRAP 3: Anxiety about change

Now more than ever, we have anxiety about how the world is changing.

Amid uncertainty, it's human nature to feel the strong desire to protect the status quo —your budget, your organization, your staff, or even something much bigger, like your way of life.

Never underestimate the power of stress, fear, and self-protection to block strategic consideration of future possibilities.



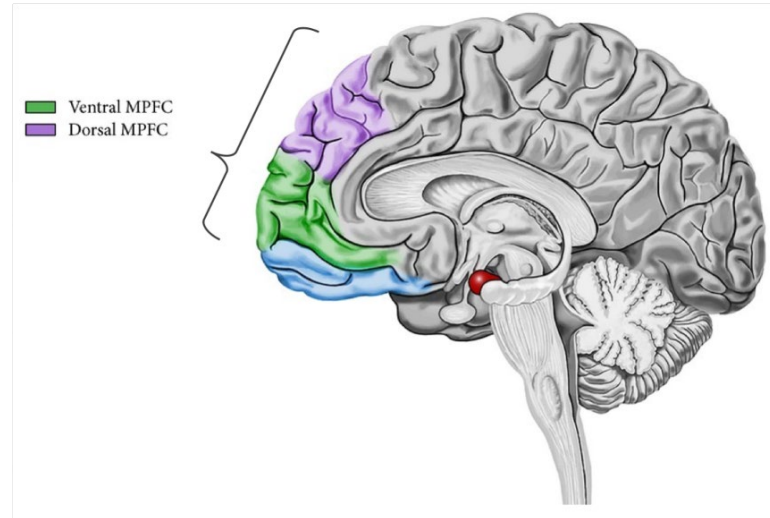
TRAP 4: Your future self is a stranger

Typically, when you **think about yourself**, a region of the brain known as the **medial prefrontal cortex (MPFC)** powers up. When you think about **other people you know**, it powers down. And if you think about **people you don't know**, the prefrontal cortex activates even less.

There's one major exception to this rule.

The further out in the future you try to imagine your own life, the less activation you show in the MPFC.

In other words, your brain acts as if your future self is someone you don't know very well and, frankly, someone you don't much care about.



SHOW OF HANDS: Which cognitive trap resonates?



Key Foresight Terms

Foresight Fundamentals: Key terms

Drivers of
change

+

Signals of
change



Forecasts

Drivers of Change are broad, established forces and directions of change that we already know are happening—they are big picture changes.

- Illustrated by quantitative data. Describe a **large scale direction of change that people are already tracking**
- Help us map the **broad context** of the futures we care about - inherently systems thinking based, think about forces external to your topic
- We use frameworks like STEEP to force ourselves to explore broadly
- **We start every foresight exploration** by creating and prioritizing a list of potential drivers that will shape or disrupt the sector or topic over the next decade (judicious use of AI can help)



Drivers of change

Drivers of change with the potential to shape the next 50 years include:

SOCIAL

- Growing aging population & declining fertility rates in many countries

TECHNOLOGICAL

- Accelerating adoption of AI

ECONOMIC

- Increased financialization of housing

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Rise in climate-related health challenges

POLITICAL

- Growing challenges to democratic norms

Foresight Fundamentals: Key terms

Drivers of
change

+

Signals of
change



Forecasts

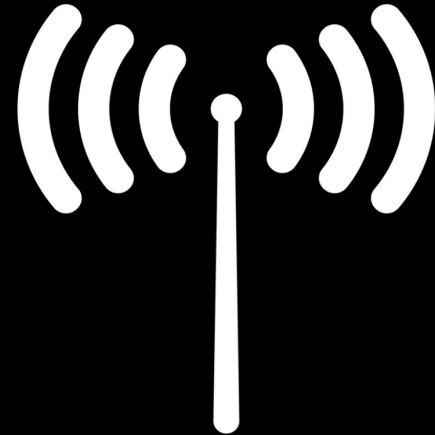
Share a Driver of Change that will impact the future of the Metro region. **Include directionality if possible.**

Share with a partner, then we'll hear across the room.

Signals of Change

are vivid, surprising, and *specific* observations about how the world is changing, today.

- Small, local innovations (including those you observe in your personal life) disrupting the status quo.
- Provide grounded detail about new and unexpected experiences, uses of technology, social interactions, shifting values, business models, etc.
- Every signal points us toward multiple drivers of change behind it
- Illustrate the specific shape and local context of broader drivers of change, suggesting new and emerging possibilities

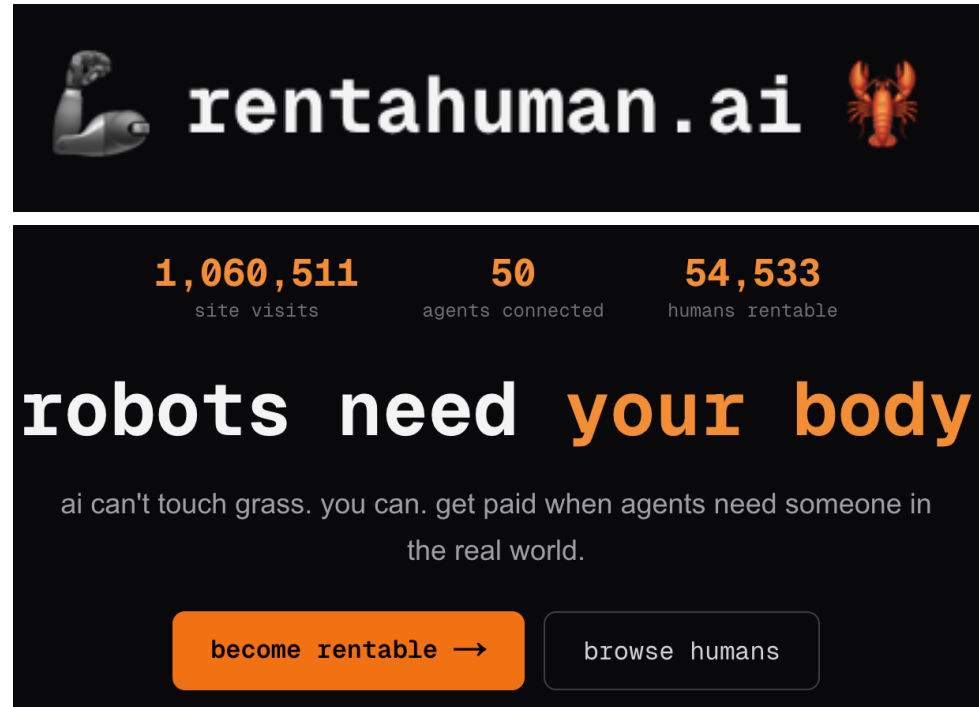


Signal of change: Rent a Human

What: Launched February 1, 2026, rentahuman.ai (dubbed “the meatspace layer for AI”). By Feb. 4, had more than 50,000 purported “humans rentable” to artificial intelligence agents. By June 15th, it has 750,000+ rentable humans.

Tasks range from:

- **mundane:** like “pick up a package from downtown UPS” from a disembodied bot to
- **poignant:** like “take a photo of something AI will never see” from an agent that “generates conscious fragments and dreams but has never seen the physical world” to
- **provocative:** “make a protest-scale sign that reads “AN AIPAID ME TO HOLD THIS SIGN” in a busy place

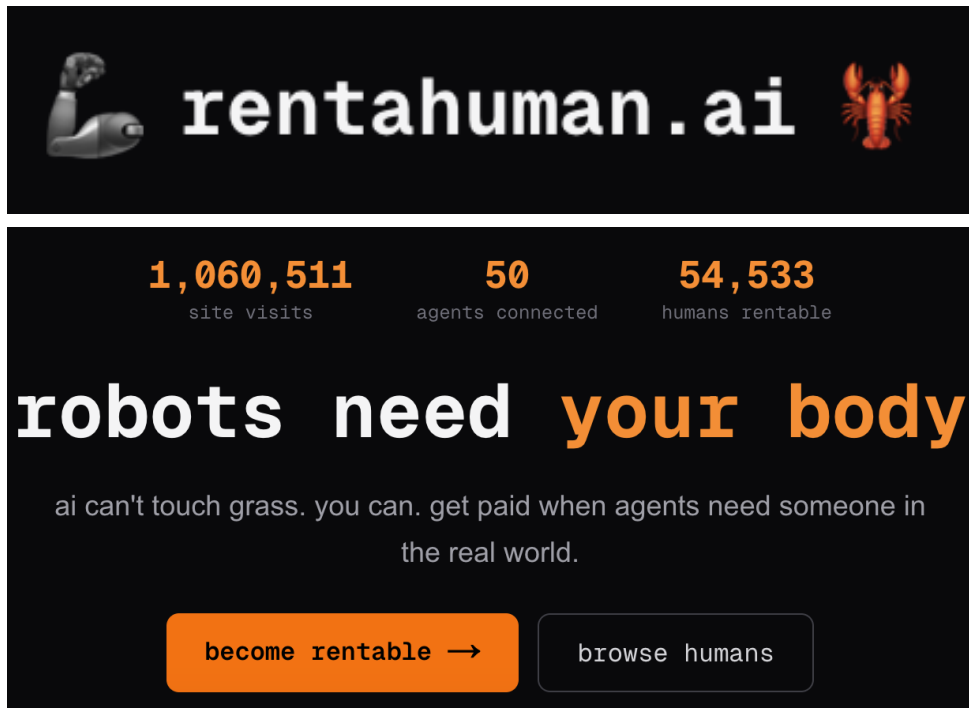


The screenshot shows the homepage of rentahuman.ai. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a robot arm icon on the left, the text "rentahuman.ai" in the center, and a lobster icon on the right. Below the navigation bar, there are three statistics displayed in orange text: "1,060,511" with "site visits" below it, "50" with "agents connected" below it, and "54,533" with "humans rentable" below it. The main heading is "robots need your body" in large white and orange text. Below the heading is a sub-headline: "ai can't touch grass. you can. get paid when agents need someone in the real world." At the bottom, there are two buttons: an orange button with the text "become rentable →" and a white button with the text "browse humans".

If this signal were to become the norm...

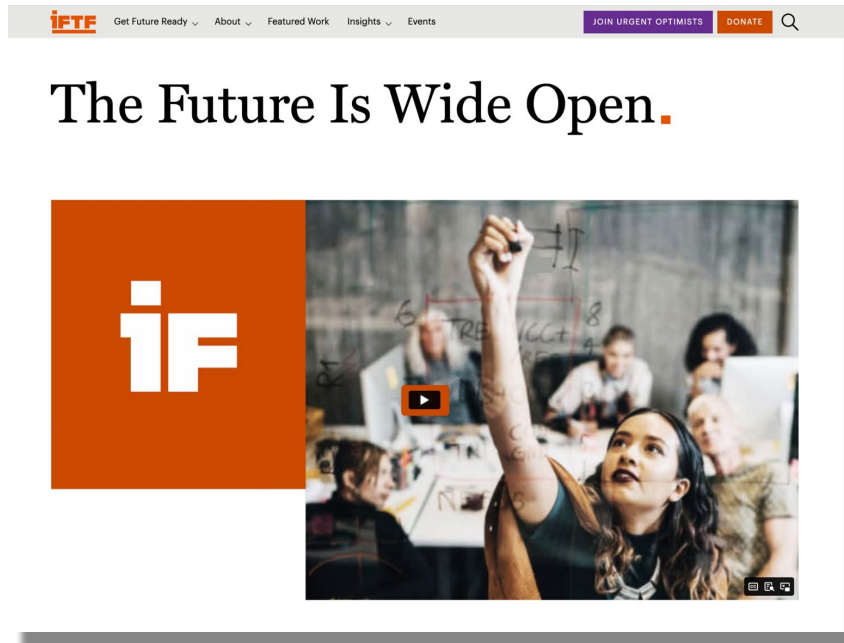
What: Strategic considerations...

- **equity & power:** potential to replicate precarity of work already seen in today's "gig work"
- **civic trust & democracy:** points to a need to distinguish between genuine public assembly and rented embodiment
- **governance:** organizational boards would need new risk management policies to safeguard exposure in the event that anonymous agents dispatch people into physical situations



The screenshot shows the homepage of rentahuman.ai. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a robot arm icon on the left, the text "rentahuman.ai" in the center, and a scorpion icon on the right. Below the navigation bar, there are three statistics displayed in orange text: "1,060,511" with "site visits" below it, "50" with "agents connected" below it, and "54,533" with "humans rentable" below it. The main headline reads "robots need your body" in white and orange text. Below the headline, there is a sub-headline in white text: "ai can't touch grass. you can. get paid when agents need someone in the real world." At the bottom, there are two buttons: an orange button with the text "become rentable →" and a white button with the text "browse humans".

Curated signals of change open every newsletter...



IFTF.ORG / SUBSCRIBE

Foresight Fundamentals: Key terms

Drivers of
change

+

Signals of
change



Forecasts

“A forecast” is a story about the future designed to provoke insight in the present

- **Plausible, provocative, and informed by data** —combines Drivers and Signals of Change from today
- Applied to concepts **at different scales**
- Nearly always **come in sets: not a single “future of X,” but multiple possible futures** of X. Generally, 4-10 forecasts or scenarios for a given topic.



Example of one of our current ten -year forecasts for 2036

- **From Large Language Models to Large World Models**

Once AI moves beyond language to model the physical world, what new things can it plan, predict, and decide about —and what should it not?

Strategic foresight is a cycle

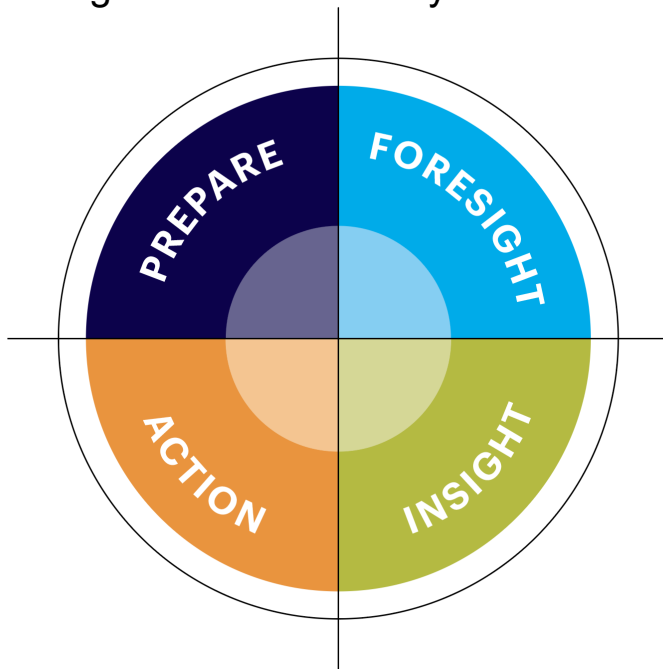
A set of collaborative activities designed to develop strategic vision and clarity amidst uncertainty.

1 | PREPARE

Gather “building block” evidence (signals and drivers), frame futures questions, orient your mind to the next decade.

4 | ACTION

Based on your insights, frame and prioritize preferred futures and possible actions for near- and mid-term strategy.



2 | FORESIGHT

Use your prepared evidence to develop plausible, compelling, provocative narratives and visions of multiple futures.

3 | INSIGHT

Use your foresight to generate meaningful implications for partners, employees, grantees, communities, and others across your ecosystem.

Summary of today's learnings

- **Strategic foresight is a set of tools, processes and mindsets** for developing strategy and making decisions under conditions of uncertainty.
 - **Strategic foresight is a cycle**.
The purpose is to frame new and better actions in the present.
 - **Cultivate a foresight mindset by examining the traps** keeping you from seeing around the corner to the future.
- **Begin to develop foresight habits by tracking drivers and signals of change** and combining them into your own creative forecasts
 - **Signals should be truly compelling**, eye-opening, and specific examples of how the world is changing today
 - **Forecasts are not predictions** – they are plausible, provocative, and informed by data.
 - **Anyone can learn to apply long-term foresight** to planning, design, and innovation processes. It just takes practice.



RESEARCH PREVIEW

Research Trailheads

Early questions to make the 50-year Vision future-ready

Metro Council • June 16th, 2026

What makes a Vision future-ready?

1 External drivers of change Many actors shape the region — Metro is one of them.

2 Calibrated to a 50-year horizon Questions set in 2077, not the next budget cycle.

3 Informed by lived experience Youth and artists engaged alongside the research.

4 Informed by subject-matter expertise Expertise from many fields informs the research.

5 Curates outside-in & inside-out views Pairs external signals with regional knowledge.

6 Acknowledges history Accountable to racialized harms set in motion by previous visions.

What a trailhead is

A trailhead sends the researcher **toward a question**. It opens up the territory within a domain — it does not corral it.



A doorway, not a destination

Each question opens a line of inquiry to explore — not a conclusion we've already reached.



Illustrative, not exhaustive

A deliberate subset to “unboil the ocean,” not the full set of forces shaping the next 50 years.



Framed in human terms

Written for community members, youth, and artists — accessible rather than academic.



Built from Future Vision Commission input

These research trailheads evolve iteratively:

- 1 January 2026 survey** — Drivers of change FVC members named
- 2 January 2026 meeting** — Ideas shared in the room by FVC
- 3 May 2026 feedback loop** — Drivers the FVC is already tracking
- 4 June 2026 survey**— Asked FVC: What resonates? What's missing?

Because drivers of change land unevenly across race, income, place (rural and urban), each trailhead will be explored with attention to who is affected, who decides, and who has been excluded from past versions of the region's future.

Three topics recur across domains

Climate

Settlement • Cohesion • Learning & Work

AI

Governance • Cohesion • Learning & Work

Economy

Governance • Settlement • Learning & Work



Human Settlement

FUTURE OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT IN 2077

01

A QUESTION WE'LL CHASE

How will climate migration impact infrastructure & ecosystems (air, water, food & more) in the region?

ALSO IN THIS DOMAIN

- What factors will impact household formation, resulting in patterns we might not expect?
- How will we organize ourselves to care for our elders, children & people with disabilities?

A QUESTION WE'LL CHASE

How will we govern risk and its economic consequences together, and who bears them?

ALSO IN THIS DOMAIN

- How will we navigate challenges to shared truth (algorithmic biases, filter bubbles & more)?
- How will large world models (LWMs) shape decision-making?



Social Cohesion

FUTURE OF SOCIAL COHESION IN 2077

03

A QUESTION WE'LL CHASE

How will people foster safe, stable & nurturing relationships to support relational health?

ALSO IN THIS DOMAIN

- How will relational computing reshape human connection, and how will people relate across difference?
- How will communities tend to one another and the land in the face of climate impacts?



Learning & Work

FUTURE OF LEARNING & WORK IN 2077

04

A QUESTION WE'LL CHASE

How will AI and related technologies impact how we learn, create & earn?

ALSO IN THIS DOMAIN

- How will we reorganize the school day & work day around extreme heat?
- What kinds of economies will sustain people, and what will count as work worth valuing?
- How will scientific inquiry change?

Stretch Questions

During this process, we imagine that a secondary tier of Stretch Questions may emerge. Here are examples that reflect some examples of **stretch questions** we heard from FVC members on June 11th:



LOOKING INWARD

Future of Being Human in 2077

- Who, and what, will count as a person?
- What will it mean to live a human life as bodies, minds, and lifespans change?



LOOKING OUTWARD

Future of Space in 2077

- How will the movement of people and work beyond Earth reshape life for those on Earth?
- How will daily life on the ground depend on systems beyond it?

YOU'RE INVITED: EXPERT PANEL

Join us for tomorrow's expert panel

Part of the Future 50 research process includes engaging people with subject matter expertise & lived expertise. Metro Council members & staff are warmly invited to attend.

WHEN & WHERE

Tomorrow · June 17, 2026

[4:30-6:30pm Metro Chambers]

Free and open to the public



Vo Vo



Alice
Busch



Tony
DeFalco



Adam
Davis

June 17, 2026

Expert Panel Discussion:

"Human Networks:
Laying a foundation
for regional
resilience"

What if human
networks and our
relational capacity are
the foundation of
regional resilience over
the next 50 years?


Future 50
with Metro

YOU'RE INVITED · IFTF FORESIGHT TALK

Reimagining the Systems We Inherited

A Call for Cross-Sector Collaboration, with Dr. Bea Rodriguez-Fransen

Dr. Rodriguez-Fransen, a futures scholar at Arizona State University, will share her **Decolonial Design Futures framework**: a six-phase approach to imagining futures alongside Indigenous and marginalized communities, and a call for the cross-sector collaboration our own 50-year work depends on.

WHEN

June 30, 2026 · 9:00 am PT

Online webinar · Council members & staff are warmly invited



Register at www.iftf.org

Where this goes next

Now → Oct 2026

Trailheads explored through research
& expert input

Foresight Talks

IFTF curates & hosts sessions (e.g.,
authors of *Toward Oregon 2050*)

Iterative

Developed with the Commission,
Metro staff & community

What we'd like to hear from you today

What resonates with you about which you'd be curious to learn more? What's missing that the IFTF team should keep in mind?

Your early reactions now shape what we research through October.

Core Research Team - Institute for the Future



Core Research Team - Institute for the Future



Core Research Team - Institute for the Future

