

FUTURE VISION ENGAGEMENT AND VISION SUMMIT

Date: June 5, 2026
Department: Planning, Development & Research
Meeting date: June 23, 2026
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Presenters: Malu Wilkinson (Deputy Director of Planning, Development & Research, Metro), Jess Zdeb (Principal Regional Planner, Metro), Laura Combs (Associate Regional Planner, Metro)
Length: 45 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

Metro is updating the region's Future Vision, a 50-year vision whose purpose is to guide development of plans, policies and investments throughout the region. It is anticipated that the updated Vision will come before Council for consideration in Spring 2027. The Vision will be developed and recommended by the Future Vision Commission, whom Council appointed last year.

This work session will include two items 1) a brief report-out on the recent round of public engagement (a more robust report will be delivered at the July 23 work session), and 2) Council discussion of desired outcomes for a fall Vision Summit event.

ACTION REQUESTED

Metro Councilors provide input regarding desired outcomes of the October Vision Summit event to guide its planning.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Per Council direction, the Future Vision is intended to be a north star for Metro, jurisdictional partners and others' plans, policies and investments in the region. Updating the Future Vision will lead to implementation actions including policy outcomes related to a future update of Metro's Regional Framework Plan, including the 2040 Growth Concept.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

1. Are there any specific survey analyses you would like to discuss at the July 23 work session?
2. What outcomes would you like to see from the fall Vision Summit event?

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Regional values engagement

This round of engagement sought to identify a core set of regional values that residents of greater Portland want to inform the future. These will serve as the foundation of the vision, ensuring that the interests of our region's people are reflected in the vision.

The key tool for seeking input on values was a low-barrier online survey available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Vietnamese. This survey was open from March 12 to May 31. Metro promoted the survey through many means which were reported on at the April 16 work session. In addition to those, Metro also contracted with Community

Engagement Liaison Services to do targeted outreach in less represented areas of the region and in languages other than English later in the survey window.

Metro also developed a [conversation kit](#) that provides an opportunity for open, thoughtful dialogue about what we value, what we hope for and what we want to pass on to future generations. Responses from these kits will also be included in engagement analysis and development of the draft regional values.

As of writing this worksheet, minimal analysis of the survey results has been completed because it closed five days ago. Staff will report preliminary findings at the June 23 work session along with documentation of outreach activities completed during the engagement period.

Vision Summit

A Vision Summit will be held October 8 as part of the engagement efforts to develop the Future Vision. The fundamental purpose of this half-day event is to start the drafting of a set of aspirations that describe a preferred future for the region; these statements will form the core of the Future Vision.

The Summit is planned to be an invite-based event for cross-sector leaders in the region who will have a role in implementing the Vision once adopted. Metro intends to inspire ownership of and investment in the Vision by bringing these partners into the drafting stage. Invitees will be from government, community-based organizations, philanthropy, the business community, and institutions such as educational and arts-based entities.

Staff have identified a preliminary list of outcomes that Metro would like to see from this event and are seeking Council feedback and input on this list as they develop the event program and invite list. Attendees will:

- Understand the draft guiding principles created from this spring's engagement
- Understand big takeaway findings from drivers of change research from prior expert panels, in-summit expert panel, and research papers
- Start to identify their "preferred future," a set of aspirational statements that describe the future region using the guiding principles within the context of the research
- Use feedback/input from the Youth Summit as an input to drafting aspirations
- Clearly connect to "what's happening next" - people walk away understand where their input/feedback is being used and how they can continue to be involved
- Meet and re-connect with other regional leaders
- Leave feeling invested in Future Vision and desiring to help implement the eventual Vision

BACKGROUND

In 2025, Metro Council provided direction to staff on the scope of the Future Vision update project through several work sessions and the adoption of Resolution 25-5490 which appointed the Future Vision Commission and identified the group's charge. That charge included direction for the Commission to review, thoughtfully consider and incorporate

community values into the Future Vision. The Commission will be provided with results of several engagement phases which it will use to guide Vision development.

Council also gave clear direction that galvanized partners excited to work toward the region's potential together should be a major outcome of the Future Vision process. The Vision Summit is intended to be a key part of the project that helps achieve that outcome.

ATTACHMENTS

None