

## Council work session agenda

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**Tuesday, June 11, 2019**

**2:00 PM**

**Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber**

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**2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call**

**2:05 Safety Briefing**

**Work Session Topics:**

2:10 Regional Solid Waste System Infrastructure

[19-5237](#)

Presenter(s): Roy Brower, Metro

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)

**2:55 Legislative Update**

**3:25 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

**3:30 Councilor Communication**

**3:35 Adjourn**

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ការការពារសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ១ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬស្នើសុំទទួលបានកាតបណ្តឹងរើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាគេហទំព័រ [www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights)។ បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1700 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឲ្យគេសម្រួលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក។

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## **Regional Solid Waste System Infrastructure**

*Work Session Topics*

Metro Council Work Session  
Tuesday, June 11, 2019  
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

## REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

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Date: June 4, 2019

Prepared by: Roy Brower, x1657

[roy.brower@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:roy.brower@oregonmetro.gov)

Department: PES

Presenters: Roy Brower

Meeting Date: June 11, 2019

Length: 45 minutes

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### **ISSUE STATEMENT**

Metro Council adopted the 2030 Regional Waste Plan in March 2019. A key outcome of the plan is to improve the garbage and recycling system to be more adaptable, resilient and meet the needs of all residents. To accomplish this, investment is needed in the capital infrastructure of the region's garbage and recycling system. A once state-of-the-art system is now more than 40 years old, stressed and in need of modernization. An aging system coupled with increasing population growth and shifting commodity markets for recyclable materials created gaps in the system leading to inequitable services and less recovery. With the region expected to continue to grow in population and size, investments are necessary to serve the community today and into the future.

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Staff requests Council input and guidance on the regional investment strategy for improving the garbage and recycling system and addressing immediate capital needs.

Staff plans to provide a broad overview of the current state-of-the-system on June 11 followed by a review of current projects and properties under consideration and review of financing options at an executive work session on June 18.

### **IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES**

The 2030 Regional Waste Plan was developed through extensive community engagement and creates a framework for action over the next 12 years. The current suite of Metro's garbage and recycling capital projects is guided by the Regional Waste Plan values of:

- Protecting the environment and human health
- Conserving natural resources
- Advancing environmental literacy
- Fostering economic well-being for all
- Ensuring resilience of our garbage and recycling system
- Providing excellent and equitable service

The goals of the Regional Waste Plan further inform the regional garbage and recycling system in important ways. Such as by recognizing that the region should be:

- Investing in communities so that those communities regard solid waste facilities as assets (Goal 13)

- Improving the system for recovery of recyclables, food scraps, and yard debris and meet changing market and evolving community needs (Goal 15)
- Maintaining a system of facilities to ensure equitable distribution of and access to services (Goal 16)
- Ensuring the routine garbage and recycling system can be restored quickly following a disruption (Goal 18)
- Specifically addressing critical needs associated with the Metro South Station as well as a service gaps on the westside of the region (Goals 16.5 and 16.6)

### **POLICY QUESTION(S)**

- Does Council direct staff to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to modernize the regional garbage and recycling system as outlined in the staff presentation at work session?
- Does Council wish to make any changes to the priorities or strategy based on its review?
- Is there other information needed by Council to be informed on this topic?

### **POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER**

1. Direct staff to develop and implement the comprehensive system infrastructure modernization strategy outlined at the work session.
2. Direct staff to develop and implement a system infrastructure strategy with different priorities, projects or timelines that better achieve Council objectives.

### **STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

The Metro Charter, the Oregon Constitution and Oregon Statutes grant Metro broad authority for planning, managing and overseeing the regional solid waste system to protect public health and safeguard the environment. As a part of these responsibilities, Metro is responsible for developing a regional plan that sets direction for programs, services and facilities. The 2030 Regional Waste Plan lays out a very aggressive agenda that encompasses the entire life cycle of the products we use, from design to production to use, until they go to a recycler, landfill or thrift store.

The system that is intended to deliver many of these recycling and waste services is aging and fragile. Many parts of the region have very limited access to services. Very modest investment has been made in the last two decades and Metro has not built any new facilities in more than 30 years. At one time, the regional system was considered state-of-the-art, but has significantly fallen behind in technology, investment and innovation. The region is at a critical juncture that requires a significant investment of public resources to modernize and upgrade the regional system. New and expanded public services are needed to meet the needs of a growing population and achieve Metro Council's environmental and racial equity objectives. The system must also be prepared for the ongoing impacts of weather-related climate change and potentially disruptive disasters.

Garbage, recycling and related sectors make up a significant part of the region's economy, employing thousands of people and generating more that \$537 million in economic activity

each year. Investments in the region's garbage and recycling infrastructure will also help advance the racial equity strategic plan for Metro to advance economic opportunities for communities of color by providing new jobs and working to increase the pay and benefits of system jobs (Goal E). These upgrades will also increase opportunities for recovery, reuse and recycling with a positive impact on minimization of greenhouse gases.

## **BACKGROUND**

Metro has been evaluating system investments and upgrades over the last several years. Top priorities include expansion of Metro South Station in Oregon City to alleviate congestion, traffic and long lines. Improvements at Metro Central Station are necessary to create nearby commercial food waste processing. During the development of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan, significant service gaps on the west side of the region were identified, including self-haul drop off for garage cleanouts, construction debris, recyclables and household hazardous waste. In contrast to the central and east side of greater Portland, the west side of the region has no public transfer option which has resulted in inequitable access to services and higher rates paid by residents.

Garbage and recycling have a substantial impact on every resident, business and organization in the region. Over the years, a collaborative approach to planning for the future has helped make the region one of the most livable areas on the county. The 2030 Regional Waste Plan and the direction laid out with the current suite of projects continues this tradition – and builds on it with a focus on equity, health and the environment.

The garbage and recycling system creates jobs, supports families, spurs economic activity and strengthens industries. When residents and businesses in the region pay for garbage and recycling services, their payment has direct and indirect impacts on our region's economy – totaling more than \$537 million each year. This investment pays salaries, purchases goods and services and boosts local businesses. Over the history of the region's garbage and recycling system, only some have benefited financially from participation in the system. The 2030 Regional Waste Plan lays the foundation for not only ensuring that services provided throughout the region are equitable and accessible, but that there are opportunities for those who have historically not been engaged in the system to participate. Investing in our current and future facilities will provide an opportunity for expanding participation for all members of our community.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

To be provided at meeting on June 11 and June 18.

- Is legislation required for Council action? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- If yes, is draft legislation attached? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- What other materials are you presenting today?

Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.

# Part 1

## Regional Solid Waste System: Preparing for the Future

Council Work Session  
June 11, 2019





# Preparing for the Future

**Part 1:** Review current state of the system

Review service options and improvements under consideration

**Part 2:** Review current projects and properties (June 18<sup>th</sup>)

**Part 3:** Review financing options (June 18<sup>th</sup>)

**Next Steps ...**

# Why are we here today?



Review the state of the regional waste system (utility)



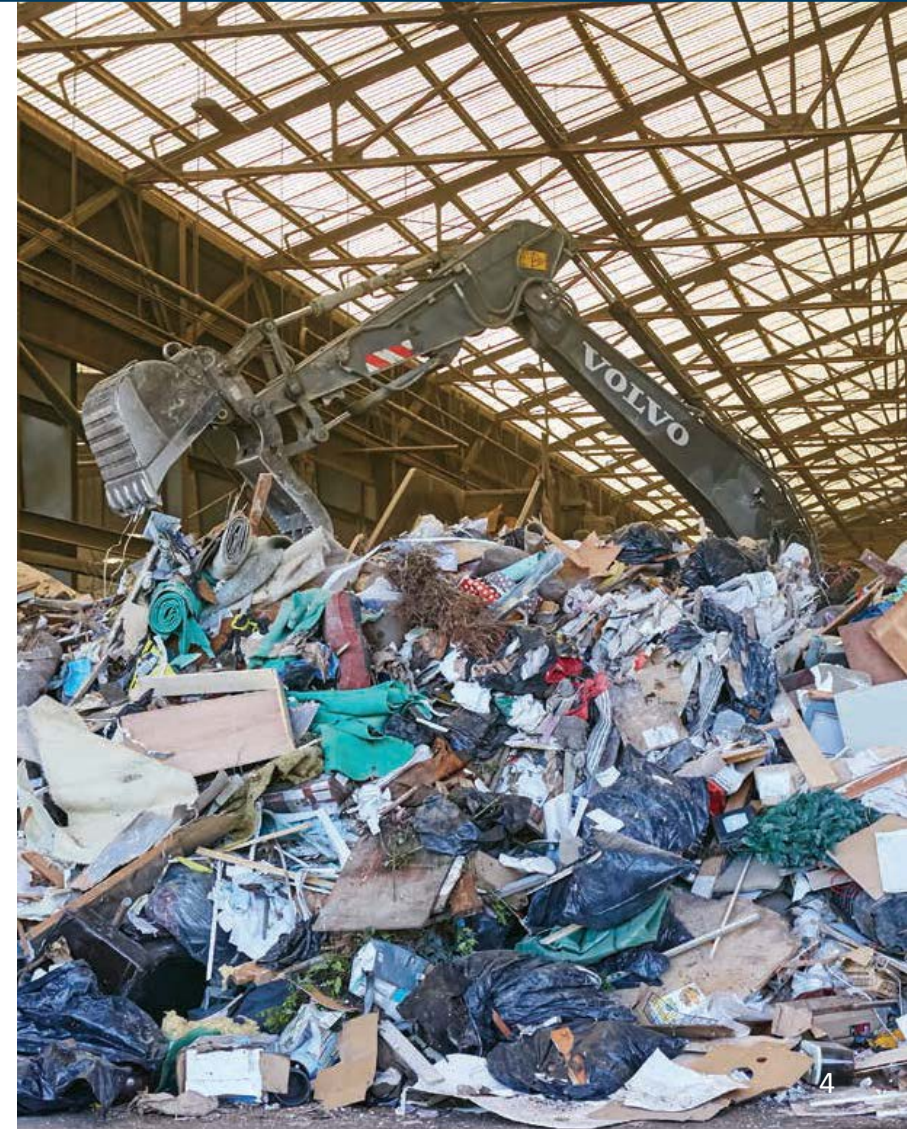
Highlight challenges and opportunities with the system



Get Council guidance as we plan for the future

# Challenges we face

- Outdated 40 year old system that needs modernization – no longer state-of-the-art
- Lack of serious public or private investment in the last 20 years in infrastructure
- Over capacity at already stressed and aging facilities
- Overburdened system makes recovery more difficult
- Longer wait times for servicing customers





# Challenges we face

- Population growth/shifts and transportation infrastructure have made providing equitable services more challenging
- Global and local markets for recyclables will continue to impact the system
- Cheap rates at transfer stations make it more difficult for MRFs to make investment in recovery



# Preparing for the Future

The Regional Waste Plan serves as the framework for the next 12 years and is now in place

- The future is not about garbage – but about jobs, equitable access, health, environment, GHG reduction, resilience, and public services
- In a similar time as when St. Johns landfill closed and there was a need to build a regional landfill and system of transfer stations
- Time for Metro to build a system for the future in the next 10 years





# Regional Waste Plan Community Engagement



## “By The Numbers”

15	Equity work group meetings
37	Community conversations
3,989	Survey submissions
3	Leadership forums
2,370	Online comments
24	Technical group meetings

# Regional Waste Plan

System future is guided by Regional Waste Plan values:



**PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT  
AND HUMAN HEALTH**



**CONSERVING  
NATURAL RESOURCES**



**ADVANCING  
ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY**



**FOSTERING ECONOMIC  
WELL-BEING FOR ALL**



**ENSURING RESILIENCE OF OUR  
GARBAGE & RECYCLING SYSTEM**



**PROVIDING EXCELLENT  
AND EQUITABLE SERVICE**

# Regional Waste Plan: Framework for the Future

## Goals:

- 13** Invest in communities so that those communities regard solid waste facilities as assets
- 15 Improve the system for recovery (food, recyclables, and yard debris) and to meet changing markets and evolving community needs
- 16 Maintain a system of facilities to ensure geographic distribution of services and more equitable access to them
- 18 Ensure routine garbage and recycling system can be restored quickly following a disruption



# Regional System: Basic Solid Waste Services



Public self-haul



Recycling depot



HHW drop off



Commercial transfer





# Regional System: Expanded Public Services



Education and  
learning center



Resale/repair store



Community meeting  
space and asset



Public park/trail



# Regional System: Other Improvements



GHG reduction



Flexible space for future



Disaster debris staging/resilience



RNG fueling



Electrification of fleet



Potential rail option to  
move waste to landfills



# Regional System Needs

## Basic Solid Waste Services



Public self-haul



Recycling depot



HHW drop off



Commercial transfer

## Expanded Public Services



Education and learning center



Resale/repair store



Community meeting space and asset



Public park/trail

## Other Improvements



GHG reduction



Flexible space for future



Disaster debris staging and resilience



RNG fueling



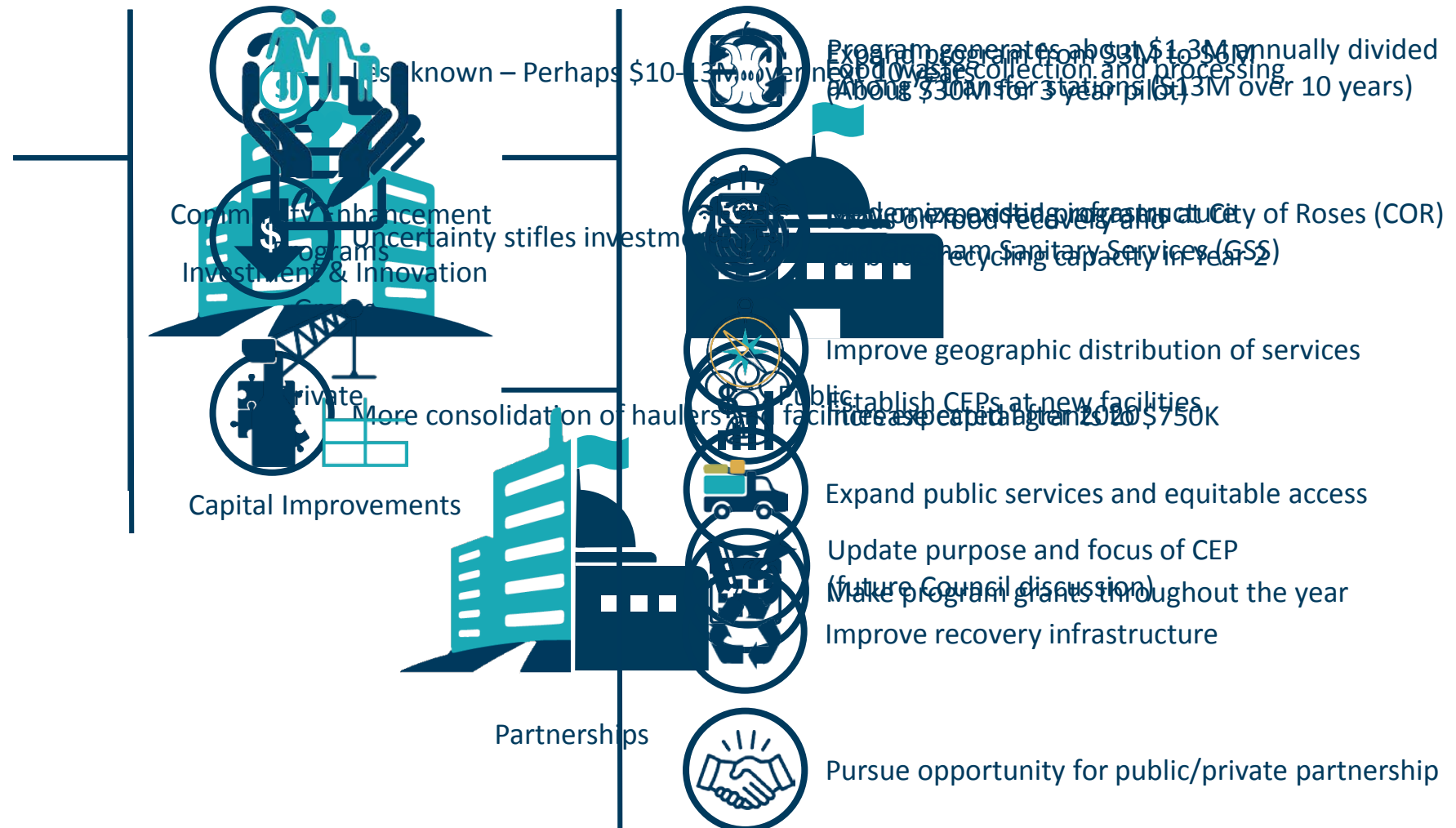
Electrification of fleet



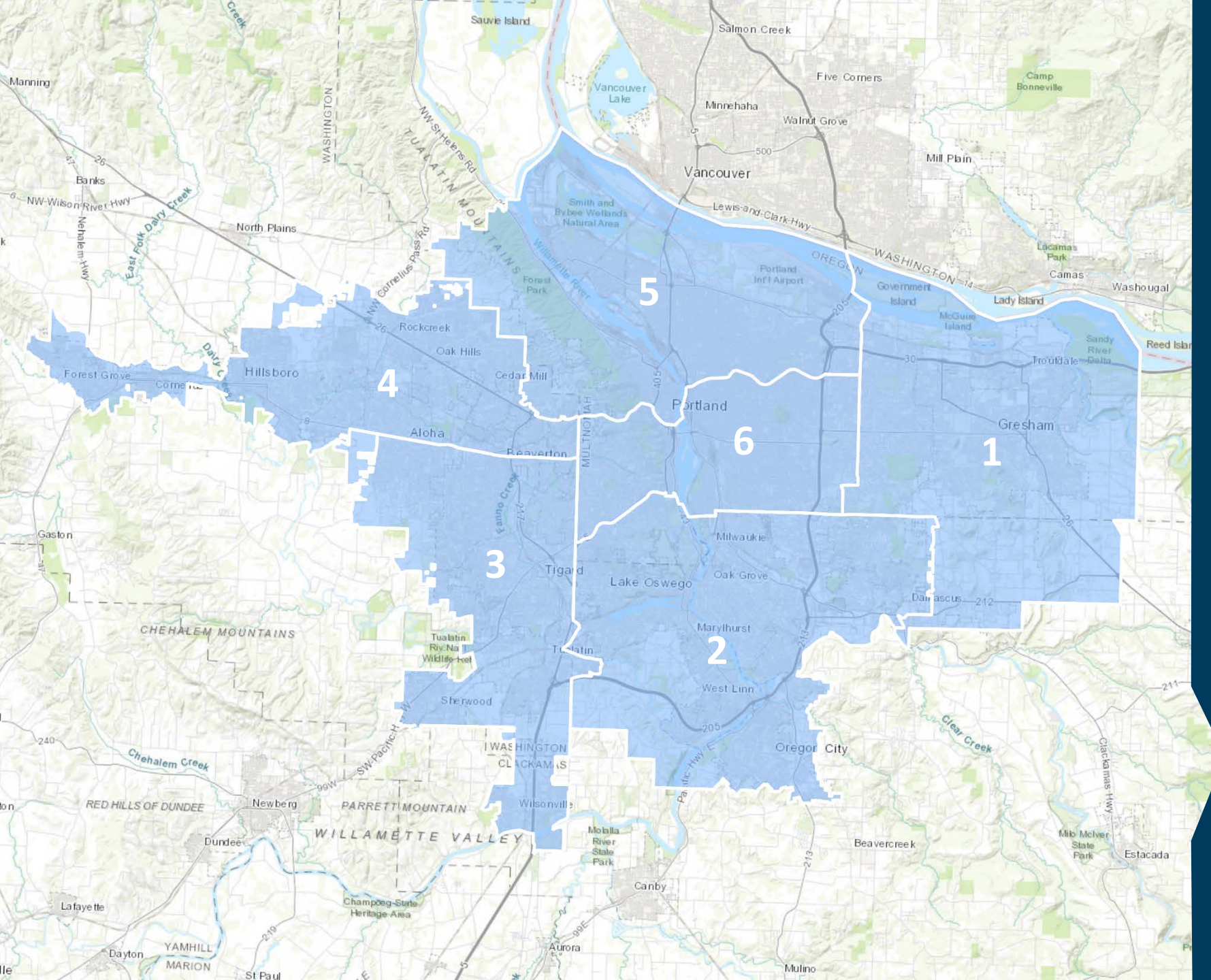
Potential rail option to move waste to landfills



# Regional Priority Outcome Programs



# 10 Year Regional Investment Overview



**\$30M**  
3 YEARS

PRIVATE

**\$13M**

(\$1.3M ANNUALLY)

METRO

**\$13M**

?

PRIVATE  
INVESTMENT

I & I  
GRANTS

COMMUNITY  
ENHANCEMENT  
PROGRAM

METRO  
INVESTMENT

# Questions?

- Does Council have a common understanding of the problem?
- Are there other services or improvements that should be considered as the system is built out or upgraded?
- Does Council agree with the general regional priorities?

# Next Week

- Review current projects and properties
- Review financing options
- Next steps



# Regional System Needs

## Basic Solid Waste Services



Public self-haul



Recycling depot



HHW drop off



Commercial transfer

## Expanded Public Services



Education and learning center



Resale/repair store



Community meeting space and asset



Public park/trail

## Other Improvements



GHG reduction



Flexible space for future



Disaster debris staging and resilience



RNG fueling



Electrification of fleet



Potential rail option to move waste to landfills

# Regional Priority Outcomes



Public



Private



Partnerships



Community Enhancement  
Programs



Capital Improvements



Food waste collection and processing



Modernize existing infrastructure



Improve geographic distribution of services



Expand public services and equitable access



Improve recovery infrastructure



Pursue opportunity for public/private partnership