## **DAS** Sustainability Quarterly

Sustainability news and updates from Oregon state government



OFFICE OF SUSTANABILITY Oregon Department of Administrative Services



# Sustainability Board in Transition

As we step into 2024, the <u>Oregon Sustainability Board</u> remains in a state of transition – but with exciting changes on the way. In 2023, several long-serving Board members either termed out or resigned, opening several vacancies for new applicants seeking to serve the state. The Office of Sustainability has been coordinating with the Governor's office to recruit and fill these positions. Expect to see the faces of several new individuals enthusiastic about supporting state sustainability on the Board in the first quarter of 2024. Candidates must be recommended by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.



Oregon Department of Transportation Charging Community Rebate Program

Thanks to the Oregon

Department of Transportation's Community Charging Rebates Program, Oregon will see approximately 370 new electric vehicle charging ports throughout 23 Oregon counties in 2024. The program reimburses a portion of the project costs of buying and installing Level 2 EV chargers at multifamily

#### February 2024

# About the DAS Office of Sustainability

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Office of Sustainability supports efforts within DAS and across Oregon state government. We do so with technical, policy and staffing support. Visit the DAS Office of Sustainability pages for more information. You may reach out to the Office of Sustainability at DAS.Sustainability@das.oregon.gov

### About the Oregon Sustainability Board

The <u>Oregon Sustainability Board</u> (<u>OSB</u>) was created in 2001 and encourages activities that best sustain, protect and enhance the environment, economy and community for the present and future benefit of Oregonians. Appointed by the Governor, members represent a variety of stakeholders across the state of Oregon.

The Board, which meets quarterly, is actively involved in the oversight of agency sustainability plans and initiatives, as well as statewide projects working to enhance the environment, economy and community. homes and publicly accessible parking areas. The program requires each project location to have a minimum of two charging ports, which can charge up two EVs simultaneously.

Level 2 chargers take roughly 6-8 hours to charge an EV. This makes them the ideal and most cost-effective choice for places where EVs will be parked for longer durations, like apartment complexes or public parking areas near shopping, work or recreation.

Oregon's goal is 250,000 registered electric vehicles by 2025. The goal is part of the state's push to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation; about 35% of total greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon come from the transportation sector.

As of September 2023, there were about 80,000 registered electric vehicles in Oregon.



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### Agencies Act on Climate Change

DAS, ODOT and the Oregon Sustainability Board partnered with Good Company to create a Climate Action Planning Tool and companion Guide for state agencies to measure and manage their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. To date, approximately 15 agencies have reported to DAS their GHG emissions and priority actions to reduce emissions in agency operations. This allows agencies to lead by example; reduce costs through greater efficiencies; and respond to Executive Order 20-04 to prioritize climate change in planning, budgeting, capital planning and operations

#### ODOE Zero Emission Vehicle Report

The 2023 Biennial Zero Emission Vehicle Report examines Oregon's general progress on its electric vehicle adoption goals, identifies industry and consumer trends influencing EV ownership and provides an overview of policies that support the state's EV adoption goals. It also examines the effects EVs have on the state's climate and energy goals.



#### DAS Updating Green Chemistry Policy

In 2024, DAS is working to update its statewide policies to reflect current knowledge and best practices. One policy slated for update is the 2014 <u>Green Chemistry</u> <u>Procurement Guidelines policy (1070-009-0080)</u>. This policy, driven by statute and EO 12-05, is intended to reduce toxic chemicals of concern in state procurement of goods and realize the economic, environment and public health benefits of green chemistry. Some of the product categories it covers are janitorial, pest management, laboratory chemicals, furniture, among others. Agencies can review the <u>2014 FAQ</u> <u>document</u> prepared for the original policy in 2014.

Since the original policy was drafted, there have been changes to both toxic chemicals of concern, and the product certifications and standards that cover them. The intent of the update is to bring this policy into alignment with current best practices and knowledge. In 2024, DAS will be working on reviewing the product lists, criteria, and certification standards in the policy with DEQ, other stakeholders, and agencies. If your agency has any comments on the current policy, please forward them to Dave Wortman, david.wortman@das.oregon.gov.

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Binny Joins Dept of Environmental Quality

**Binny Joins the Materials Management Team** 

Binny, the Recycling Modernization Act's new mascot, joined Materials Management staff at the Association of Oregon Recycler's 2023 Sustainable Oregon Conference in October. Curious about how recycling in Oregon will change over the next few years? Check out Binny's collection of videos on the RMA web page.



#### Cruz Cuevas Appointed to EPA's 2024 NEJAC

Ximena Cruz Cuevas of DEQ's Materials Management team has been named to the Environmental Protection Agency's 2024 <u>National</u> <u>Environmental Justice Council</u> (NEJAC). Established in 1993, the NEJAC is comprised of 26 total representatives across multiple sectors and aims to provide advice and recommendations on integrating environmental justice considerations into the agency's programs, policies, and day-today activities. Cruz Cuevas, who currently coordinates the agency's Environmental Justice workgroup, hopes that her participation on the NEJAC, especially as the only representative from Oregon, will create new opportunities for the agency to engage at a national level.

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