

OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

December 12, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Public Meeting Agenda

This public meeting will be conducted in person at the Lloyd 700 Building in Portland, OR in the 3rd Floor Conference Room. Written testimony can be submitted in advance to van.nguyen@deq.oregon.gov.

Register in Advance to Participate Virtually

https://deq-oregon-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_a4BYeFBOQH2aYhaGXZ3xig

The Council makes every attempt to hold strictly to the timing distributed agenda. Topics may move up or be delayed based on the cadence of the meeting.

This agenda is available on the Environmental Justice Council website: <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/pages/environmental-justice-council.aspx>.

10:00 a.m.	Item 1:	Call to Order – Chair Quinn Read
10:10 a.m.	Item 2:	EJC Leadership Updates – Chair Quinn Read Briefing
10:30 a.m.	Item 3:	Public Comment
10:45 a.m.	Item 4:	Listening Session Updates Council Discussion
11:45 p.m.	Item 5:	Break before Working Lunch
12:00 p.m.	Item 6:	Agency Annual Reports Continued Briefing
12:30 p.m.	Item 7:	Annual Reports Reflection and Next Steps Council Discussion
1:00 p.m.	Item 8:	Shared Agency Needs and Strategic Planning Council Discussion
1:30 p.m.	Item 9:	Decision Point 7 (Indicator Selection Orientation) – OHA Eric Main Council Discussion
2:15 p.m.	Item 10:	Public Comment
2:30 p.m.	Item 11:	EJC Upcoming Tasks
3:00 p.m.	Item 12:	Council Adjourn

PLEASE NOTE

AGENDA

The public portion of the Council meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and proceed chronologically through the agenda. Times listed on the agenda are approximate. At the discretion of the chair, the time and order of agenda items—including addition of intermittent breaks—may change to maintain meeting flow. This meeting will be recorded by audio, and the recording will be posted on the Environmental Justice Council website.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. the evening prior to the meeting by emailing van.nguyen@deq.oregon.gov and indicate your comments as EJC Testimony with the meeting date on the subject line. Other testimony will be received during the public comment portions of the meeting which will be after Leadership Updates, prior to the EJC voting on any agenda items, and at the end of the meeting.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION OF DISABILITIES

Please contact us at least three business days prior to the meeting to let us know if you need reasonable accommodation. Contact the Environmental Justice Council Coordinator Hoang-Van Nguyen at van.nguyen@deq.oregon.gov to make your request.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council

From: Matthew Davis, Department of Environmental Quality and
Jen Seamans, Oregon Health Authority

Date: December 2, 2024

Regarding: Agenda Item 4 – Listening Session Updates

Attachment: Public Health Division Equity Office

The Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Leadership Team requests approval to hire Oregon Health Authority to provide project management support and facilitation services for listening sessions informing development of the Environmental Justice Mapping Tool.

Thesis Statement: House Bill 4077 requires the Oregon Environmental Justice Council to host six listening sessions throughout the state to inform development of an environmental justice mapping tool. This workload requires additional support to plan, coordinate, and facilitate the listening sessions and document their findings.

Recommendation: Enter interagency agreement between DEQ and OHA for listening session support.

Rationale: The Oregon Legislature appropriated \$50,000 to support execution of listening sessions required by House Bill 4077 which expires on June 30, 2025. Facilitators were solicited during a period of six months in 2024, and there were not any vendors were interested in contracting with the State of Oregon for this need. Hiring OHA through an interagency agreement provides additional professional support for at least two in person listening sessions with potential options to host virtual listening sessions prior to June 30, 2025. Successful use of the one-time appropriation and demonstrating progress are essential to securing additional funding,

Plan: Oregon Health Authority can lead development and execution of the listening sessions prior to June 30, 2025 and document findings for Environmental Justice Council review and consideration. Environmental Justice Council will provide input during scoping meetings and information sessions that will be hosted monthly. Full listening sessions decision adoption will occur during regularly scheduled Environmental Justice Council meetings. Council member travel arrangements will be coordinated by the Governor's Office.

OHA Equity Office program details are available in *OHA Public Health Division Equity Office*.

Potential OHA Listening Session Personnel Biographies

OHA Data Equity Strategist – Pradnya Garud

Pradnya Garud works as a Data Equity Strategist in the Data and Epidemiology Unit of OHA's Environmental Public Health Section. She leads implementation of the CDC-funded Environmental Health Capacity grant. Previously, she worked as a Health Educator for OHA's Assessment Unit. In that role, she planned community engagement and communication strategies for fish consumption advisories related to the Bonneville Dam Superfund Site and the National Priorities-listed J.H. Baxter plant in West Eugene. She has expertise in science translation, science communication, interdisciplinary and qualitative research.

Before joining OHA, Pradnya served as Vice President of the Board of Directors for Beyond Toxics, a Eugene-based environmental justice organization. She holds a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Arizona, specializing in human-environment relations and participatory methodologies. Her dissertation research focused on the health impacts of harmful environmental exposures on agricultural workers using a community science approach.

Pradnya has received multiple research grants, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals grant and the Carson Scholars Fellowship. She has taught undergraduate classes on Environment and Society, World Geography, and Environmental Justice. Pradnya also earned a Master's in Environmental Sciences from the University of Mumbai, India.

OHA Community Centered Health Equity Strategist – Chelsea Zabski

With over a decade of experience in community health, nonprofit leadership, and public health advocacy, Chelsea Zabski is a dedicated public health professional committed to increasing health equity and reducing disparities through person-centered, strength-based approaches. She is highly skilled in cultivating diverse partnerships, managing programs, group facilitation, and building community capacity to address health, social, and economic challenges.

Currently serving as the Community Centered Health Equity Strategist at OHA, Chelsea is building strategy so that all of Oregon residents are heard through equity strategy. Previously, as a Community Liaison for the Missouri Foundation for Health, she worked to amplify rural community voices, foster strategic alliances, and promote innovative health initiatives across Northeast Missouri. Her expertise in understanding community cultures and trends ensures that strategies are equitable and inclusive.

Previously, she led transformative efforts as the Project Director at Connections to Success, where she implemented reentry programs across Central Missouri. As the Rural Mental Health Network Director, she developed a Community Health Worker program to address social determinants of health as barriers to healthcare access. At the Randolph County

Health Department, she spearheaded public health initiatives, coordinated grants, and engaged local stakeholders to tackle pressing health concerns.

Chelsea holds a Master of Science in Human and Social Services with a focus in Nonprofit Administration from Walden University and a Bachelor of Science in Health Science from Truman State University. She is a Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) and is trained in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, and inclusion in healthcare. Her leadership and extensive experience in public health highlight her unwavering dedication to creating healthier, more equitable communities. Chelsea's interests include uplifting community, listening with curiosity, building trusting relationships, value alignment, thriving communities, and dogs.

As the Equity Office We:

Strengthen and expand the Public Health Division’s connection to communities by redistributing power, sharing leadership, and allocating resources to enable communities to address their own health challenges, while embedding equity into operational systems to empower staff, center equity in their work, and elevate best practices across the division.

EO Priorities and Commitment:

A. Our work is driven by three main priorities:

1. Public Health Modernization
2. State Health Improvement Plan
3. Infrastructure Support – CDC Grant

B. We are committed to:

1. Convening marginalized communities
2. Elevating Community Feedback
3. Elevating equity risks and promising practices
4. Distributing funding into community

Our Teams:

A. *Community Engagement Team – Funding & Engagement*

1. Direct point of contact for Public Health Equity Grantees
2. Supports CBOs with grant management.
3. Advocates for resources on behalf of CBOs.
4. Provides technical assistance training for CBOs.
5. Promotes shared leadership with CBOs.
6. Examples of work: Public Health Funding, Engagement, Emerging Health Priorities

B. *Community Specific Strategy Team - Tailored Approach, Connecting and Collaborating*

1. Focuses on supporting non-funded partners across the state.
2. Develops customized strategies for addressing unique community needs.
3. Focuses on culturally relevant solutions to reduce disparities.
4. Facilitates inclusive dialogue to identify community-driven priorities.

5. Examples of work: Community Specific Outreach and Engagement, Emerging Health Priorities, Development of Culturally Responsive resources/support

C. *Coordination, Operations, Response and Equity Team (CORE) - Systems Change*

1. Provides consultation and TA related to equity initiatives in partnership with PHD Centers.
2. Develops tools and resources to embed equity into daily practices, including health literacy and plain language supports and materials testing and evaluation.
3. Strengthens institutional capacity for equity-focused decision-making.
4. Conducts equity impact analysis and consultation, quality improvement activities, and equity change management support.
5. Examples of Work: Racial Equity Impact Statement Reviews, Community Feedback Model, PHAB Health Equity Framework Workgroup, Vaccine Equity Strategy Meetings, LUBGWMA IMT Support and Coordination, PHD Strategic Plan Priority 4: Organizational Culture Workgroup

D. *Oversight Committee/Search Advocate Program – Equity Hiring, Inclusive Workforce*

1. Ensures fair and transparent hiring practices.
2. Identifies and reduces unnecessary barriers to candidates to create more equitable screening and interview processes.
3. Trains PHD staff to anticipate, mitigate, and reduce bias in recruitment and hiring processes.
4. Drives meaningful change to create standardized and equitable recruitment practices. Champions diversity and inclusion within the workforce.

As the Equity Office we stand for:

- Equity as a Practice – Centering marginalized communities.
- Data – Informed and People Centered – Using evidence to shape actions while prioritizing lived experiences.
- Accountability – Measuring our impact to foster transparency and trust.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council
From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Oregon Environmental Justice Council & Policy Coordinator
Date: December 2, 2024
Regarding: Agenda Item 6 – Agency Annual Reports Continued

Attachment: OWEB Update, Oregon Energy Strategy 2 Pager

State agencies request Environmental Justice Council feedback on agency annual reports submitted for calendar year 2023. This is a continuation of agenda item #8 of the October 2024 EJC meeting.

Oregon has sixteen natural resources agencies listed under House Bill 4077, and all the agencies listed below are required to submit annual reports to the Environmental Justice Council for the previous year in January the following year pursuant to [ORS 182.550](#).

They include:

- Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)
- Department of State Lands (DSL)
- Department of Forestry (ODF)
- Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
- Department of Energy (ODOE)
- Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
- Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)
- Public Utilities Commission (OPUC)*
- State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
- State Marine Board (OSMB)*
- Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)*
- Water Resources Department (WRD)*

Annual reports submitted in January 2024 for calendar year 2023 are available on the [Environmental Justice Council website](#) for review under “Annual Reports”.

The following agencies will present their verbal updates:

1. Public Utilities Commission: Michelle Scala and Kate Ayres
2. State Marine Board: Tony Marin
3. Watershed Enhancement Board: Alexa Schmidt
4. Water Resources Department: Sue Parrish and Danielle Gonzalez



OREGON WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT BOARD

2024 Annual Agency Report to the Environmental Justice Council

September 16, 2024

OWEB Overview

OWEB is a grantmaking agency that partners with watershed councils, non-profit organizations, local governments, schools and universities, and Tribal governments to implement a wide range of watershed restoration activities. Our total biennial budget for 23-25 is \$259M, of which \$235M is funding for grants, with the remainder supporting agency operations. Most of our funding comes from the Oregon Lottery as directed by the Oregon Constitution, but we administer some other funding sources as well. OWEB's staff includes 33 permanent positions and 16 limited duration positions, and we are advised by an 18-member board that includes public members, representatives from other state agencies, and a tribal representative, among others.

Highlights

In July 2024, the OWEB board adopted a [DEI and Environmental Justice Resolution](#). This resolution acknowledges the dispossession of Tribal communities, the disproportionate impacts of climate change, and the historical marginalization of certain communities from environmental processes and decision making. This resolution makes explicit our commitment to integrating and prioritize EJ throughout our work. It is reflected in our [2024 Strategic Plan](#) refresh, which calls out specific activities to improve diversity and inclusion in our grantmaking, include traditional ecological knowledge in our monitoring approach, and expand our grantmaking to more urban areas. The strategic plan also addresses a concern from the council's review around tracking our EJ targets, which will be achieved through shortening the application process, reducing match requirements where possible, building connections with a diversity of new grant partners, and recruiting more diverse expertise for our technical review teams.

OWEB's implementation of the Natural and Working Lands funds helps advance the agency's EJ priorities by conducting an initial 4-month engagement process with partners who have to date been less involved in OWEB's funding opportunities. The focus of this funding opportunity on carbon sequestration activities which also have community co-benefits enables OWEB to expand the scope and geography of its projects in line with our strategic plan and EJ resolution. In the future, OWEB hopes to draw on the forthcoming EJ mapping tool to help with EJ outreach and prioritization.

Lastly, OWEB has prioritized a culture where everyone takes responsibility for EJ. In the past year, OWEB has facilitated a book group on *Tribal Histories of the Willamette Valley*, where staff discuss the implications of this history on current land management and how this understanding can inform our work. OWEB leadership have met and exceeded the agency's goal of outreach to at least three non-traditional partners per quarter for each quarter since this goal was adopted in 2022.

Policy & Funding Gaps

Policy: OWEB is exploring alternative options in our lottery-funded land acquisition grants which involve Tribal governments. Currently when OWEB funds land acquisitions, we acquire a conservation easement to protect the state's investment, but this can present a frustration to Tribal governments. We are currently conducting legal research and exploring tools other than conservation easements that would uphold Tribal sovereignty.

Funding & Coordination: As a small agency, OWEB would benefit from collaboration with other state agencies and small agency boards and commissions on training opportunities. Additionally, OWEB shares the concern cited in the review about overburdening Tribes with requests for consultation. Support for cross agency collaboration would help each ensure that Tribal outreach and inclusion is more strategic and streamlined than an agency-by-agency approach. Finally, the EJC review highlighted that OWEB could potentially compensate EJ community members who participate in RACs, focus groups, and advisory councils. OWEB wants to remove barriers to participation and would benefit from guidance on how to compensate people for their contributions in line with what other agencies have done.



The Oregon Department of Energy is developing the [Oregon Energy Strategy](#), which will identify pathways to achieve the state's energy objectives. The Strategy will evaluate benefits and burdens of different pathways and include policy recommendations.

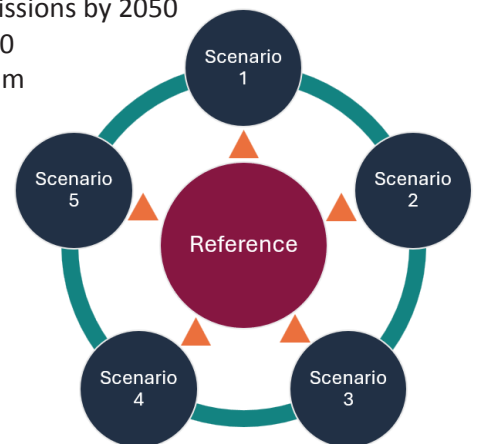
Developing the Oregon Energy Strategy will follow a three-phase process that combines data gathering, technical analysis, scenario modeling, and input from Oregonians with diverse backgrounds and perspectives across the state.

Following public comment on the draft report, the Oregon Energy Strategy will be presented to the Governor and Legislature by November 2025, and the report will inform Oregon's Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.

Achieving Oregon's Energy Policy Objectives

As directed by HB 3630, the strategy will account for the state's energy policy objectives, including its greenhouse gas emission targets:

- Executive Order 20-04: Economy-wide 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050
- HB 2021: 100% clean electricity delivered by investor-owned utilities by 2040
- Climate Protection Program: 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from natural gas, liquid fuels, and propane by 2050



Three-Phase Approach

- Phase 1:** Technical Analysis – Identifying Pathways
- Phase 2:** Policy Discussions – Developing Recommendations
- Phase 3:** Final Report – Recommendations

Phase-One: Identifying Pathways

Technical Analysis

With input from Tribes, the Energy Strategy's Advisory and Working Groups, staff-to-staff conversations with state agencies and participation from the Inter-Agency Steering Group, and comments from the public, ODOE and its technical contractors have developed scenarios that represent the different energy pathways the state could take to achieve its policy objectives by 2050.

The Reference Scenario includes "aggressive but achievable" assumptions on the adoption of technologies such as energy efficiency and electrification, which numerous studies indicate are key to decarbonizing the energy sector. Alternative scenarios that each contain a different mix of assumptions about technologies and fuels will then be tested against the Reference Scenario.

The technical analysis will also evaluate effects on energy burden for different households in Oregon, air quality and public health, and employment. Geospatial mapping will provide additional context for the modeling results. The results of this analysis will inform the next phase of Oregon Energy Strategy. ODOE's technical contractors will be completing the modeling calculations through the end of 2024.



Phase Two: Policy Discussions

Developing Recommendations

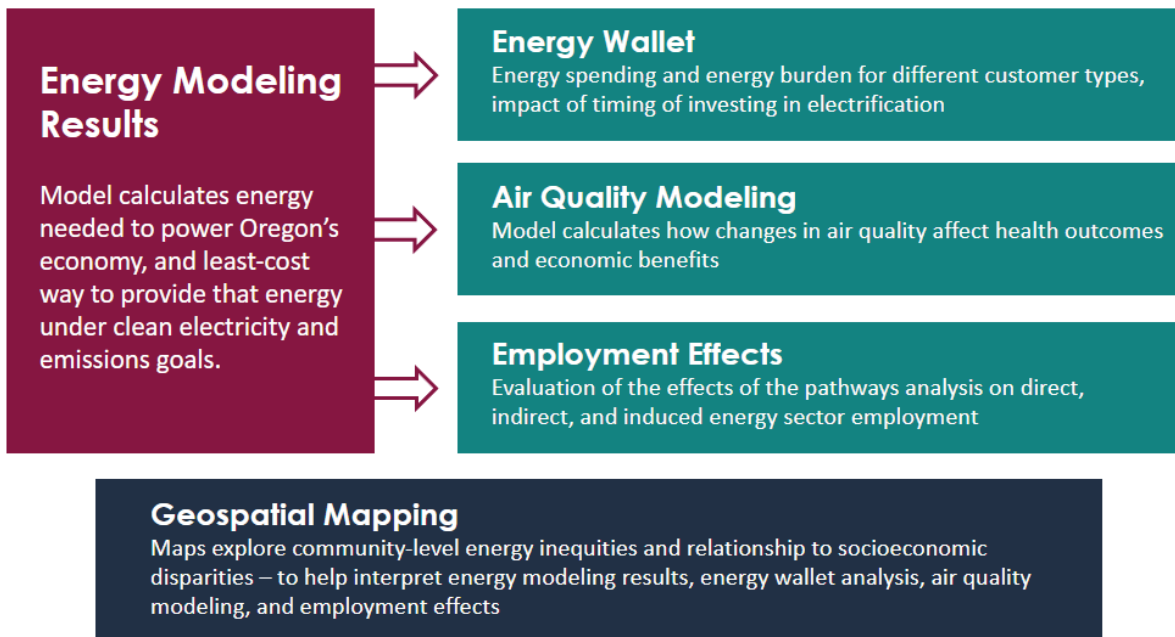
With the input of Tribes, the Advisory Group, Working Groups, state agencies, and the public, ODOE will evaluate the information gained from the technical analysis in Phase One. The evaluation will be utilized to look at different costs and benefits of the pathways that Oregon could take to achieve our policy objectives and develop recommendations for legislative or policy actions, programs and funding, or recommendations on areas requiring further study. The policy discussions will begin in early 2025 and continue through the spring.

Phase Three: Final Report

Recommendations and Summary of Engagement

Once the technical analysis and policy discussions are complete, the Energy Strategy project team will develop a final report to summarize the process and share recommendations for meeting our greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements through legislative or policy actions, programs and funding, or recommendations on areas requiring further study. ODOE expects to share the draft report with Tribes, the Advisory Group, Working Groups, state agencies, the public for comment before finalizing the findings.

The final report will be presented to the Governor and Legislature by the legislative deadline of November 1, 2025. It will also be included as part of Oregon’s Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, which includes other important work that the state is undertaking through ODOE, DEQ, and other agencies in 2024 and 2025.

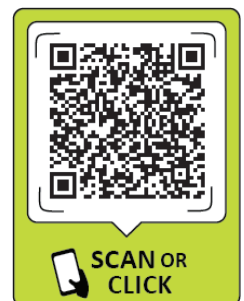


Accessibility

Advisory and Working Group meetings, as well as Listening Sessions and other public forums, will include closed captioning, and ODOE can provide other resources, translation services, or other accommodations. Contact energy.strategy@energy.oregon.gov with requests.

Connect

ODOE maintains a project webpage with the latest information about the Oregon Energy Strategy where you can also sign-up to receive the email updates about the project. Learn more at by visiting www.tinyurl.com/OregonEnergyStrategy.



Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council
From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Oregon Environmental Justice Council & Policy Coordinator
Date: December 2, 2024

Regarding: Agenda Item 7 – Annual Reports Reflections and Next Steps

State agencies request overall feedback regarding agency 2023 annual reports and requests for additional guidance for 2025 agency annual reports.

Due Date for 2024 Agency Annual Reports: January 17, 2025

Goals from Discussion:

1. Assign Environmental Justice Council reviewers for the 2024 Agency Annual Reports that will be submitted on January 17, 2025.
2. Assign agencies to provide verbal reports during February 2025 and April 2025 Environmental Justice Council meetings.
3. Discuss content desired for development of 2025 Agency Annual Reports due January 2026.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council
From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Oregon Environmental Justice Council & Policy Coordinator
Date: December 2, 2024
Regarding: Agenda Item 8 – Shared Agency Needs and Strategic Planning

Attachments: Executive Summary Advancing Environmental Justice in Oregon: Summary of Agency Needs

The Environmental Justice Council & Policy Coordinator requests adoption of the document *Executive Summary Advancing Environmental Justice in Oregon: Summary of Agency Needs* and strategic direction on the areas of focus for calendar year 2025.

Thesis Statement: State agencies collaborated with the Environmental Justice Council and Policy Coordinator on the *Executive Summary Advancing Environmental Justice in Oregon: Summary of Agency Needs* to highlight themes of needs from most state agencies from their agency annual reports submitted in February 2024 for calendar year 2023. Adoption of Summary of Agency Needs can provide needed direction for 2025 strategic planning.

Recommendation: Adoption of Summary of Agency Needs from *Executive Summary Advancing Environmental Justice in Oregon: Summary of Agency Needs*.

Rationale: Adoption of Summary of Agency Needs provides the following clarification for the Environmental Justice Council and Policy Coordinator

Potential Clarification Outcomes:

1. Focus for state agency collaboration
2. Opportunities for state agencies to seek additional resources to assist with EJC goals
3. Measurable goals for reflection at the end of 2025

The following themes arose from annual reports submitted for calendar year 2023.

- Increase Funding and Budget Support
- Bolster Staff Capacity and Training
- Develop Enterprise-wide Policies and Guidance
- Provide Leadership and Facilitate Interagency Collaboration on Tools and Resources

This list identifies potential topics within the themes:

1. Justice focused community engagement (Develop Enterprise-wide Policies and Guidance and/or Provide Leadership and Facilitate Interagency Collaboration on Tools and Resources)
2. Language accessibility (Develop Enterprise-wide Policies and Guidance)
3. Participant Compensation (Develop Enterprise-wide Policies and Guidance)
4. Environmental Justice Training (Bolster Staff Capacity and Training)
5. Event Coordination (Develop Enterprise-wide Policies and Guidance)

Moving into 2025, the following list shows potential strategic planning goals.

1. Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Indicator Selection and Sensitivity Analysis
2. Listening Session Planning and execution of the first two listening sessions
3. State agency strategic plan focus

Related Indicator Processes

1. Indicator Criteria Selection (December 2024)
2. Preliminary Domain Candidates Selection (April 2025)
3. Domain Candidates Refinement (June 2025-October 2025)
4. Domain Candidates Adoption (December 2025)

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council

From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Environmental Justice Council & Policy Coordinator,
Eric Main, Oregon Health Authority, and
Melissa Foltz, Department of Administrative Services

Date: December 2, 2024

Regarding: Agenda Item 9 – EJ Mapping Decision Point 7 Orientation

The EJ Mapping Tool Leadership Team requests adoption of the proposed criteria for Oregon EJ Mapping Tool indicator selection.

Thesis Statement: Indicator selection criteria will provide guidance to state staff to collect the supporting data necessary to display the indicator candidates selected by the Environmental Justice Council. This also provides a consistent framework for Council decision making when determining which indicator candidates belong in the Environmental Justice Mapping Tool.

Recommendation 1:

Table 1. Proposed Indicator Selection Criteria

Criteria for Indicator Selection	HB4077 Subsection Interpretation
Indicators should provide a measure that is relevant to the subdomain it represents, in the context of “Environmental Burden”, “Environmental Justice”, and “Environmental Justice Community” definitions in HB4077.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11(2)• 11(3)• 11(4)
Indicators should represent community concerns related to pollution burden, climate change risks, environmental conditions, human health, or social factors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12(A)
Community input and feedback should be considered. Indicators proposed and accepted during the community engagement process should be prioritized.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12(2)
Indicators should be linkable to policy and other actions with measurable goals for reducing environmental disparities across Oregon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13(1)(d)
The mapping tool should include data from Oregon natural resources agencies or data compatible with environmental justice mapping tools developed by other state agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12(3)(d)
If a health-related measure, the health outcome should be associated with environmental exposures or known to be exacerbated by environmental conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High priority

The presence or absence of the environmental characteristics represented by the indicator has a quantifiable negative effect on human health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High priority
Data for each indicator should be available for the entire state or community designation at the census tract level or be translatable to the census tract level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High priority
Data should be of sufficient quality and be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Complete 2) Current 3) Accurate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12(3)(b) • 12(4)
Data should be accessible to the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12(3)(e)
The office of Enterprise Information Services shall recommend data quality standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12(4)

Rationale 1: The Methodology WG evaluated the requirements of HB 4077 and environmental justice mapping tools available federally and in other states. They matrixed the specific requirements from HB 4077 in the table above and they identified complementary criteria from other tools that could benefit data collection for the Oregon Environmental Justice Mapping Tool. Adoption of the criteria will allow state agencies to begin data collection for indicator candidates identified for the EJC.

Recommendation 2:

Table 2. Expected Indicator Selection Process

Estimated Timeline	Category	Task	EJC Vote
Dec 2024	Define Indicator Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodology WG to present recommended criteria for indicators to EJC. • EJC Survey #1 - Prioritize themes within subdomain. 	EJC to discuss and refine indicator criteria requirements and themes.
Jan 2025	Agency Focus Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency focus groups discussions on environmental exposures, climate change, built environment, human health, and social factors. 	
Feb - Mar 2025	Data Inventory and Prepare for Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory WG to deliver inventory of existing state data to EJC. • Methodology WG and Inventory WG to define and document workflow for converting statewide data to census tract boundaries. 	
Mar - Apr 2025	Listening Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Listening Session 1 (March 2025) • Community Listening Session 2 (April 2025) 	

May- Jun 2025	Preliminary Indicator Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology WG to provide comprehensive list of indicators to EJC based on examples from other state and federal tools. EJC Survey #2 - Select preliminary indicators. (Suggested Maximum 10-15 each domain) 	EJC to identify preliminary candidates for each domain.
Jul 2025	Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology WG to review EJ Inventory to identify data that support preliminary indicators. Inventory WG to work with agencies to collect data (and documentation) for all datasets selected. 	
Aug - Nov 2025	Sensitivity Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology WG to perform sensitivity analysis and report findings to the EJC. EJC Survey #3 - Determine Community Designations 	EJC to narrow indicators based on community feedback and sensitivity analysis findings.
Dec 2025	Final Indicator Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology WG to report findings on final draft of indicators for discussion. 	EJC to vote on final indicators.

Rationale 2:

The Inventory and Methodology WGs coordinated to document the expected Indicator Selection Process and identify key EJC votes as the selection progresses. The indicator selection process outlined in Table 1 is expected to take a full calendar year to complete and includes soliciting feedback from agency focus groups, community listening sessions, and EJC discussions.