



Office of Community Involvement



Multnomah County Charter Review Subcommittee Recommendation Form

Subcommittee name:	Government Accountability Subcommittee
Summary of recommendation:	We recommend giving Katherine the authority to draft a version of the Charter that aligns with the gender neutral language already used in County Code.
What section(s) of the Charter is this recommendation likely to impact?	Applies to the whole Charter.
What does this recommendation aim to accomplish?	To align the charter with the gender neutral language already used in County Code and reflect the County's values in terms of equity and inclusion and access and belonging.
What MCCRC values is this recommendation grounded in?	Inclusive democracy; access and belonging
What potential negative impacts could result from this recommendation? What are potential obstacles to implementation?	None.
What resources did the subcommittee rely on in making this recommendation? (Link or cite documents)	https://www.multco.us/multnomah-county/news/commissioners-vote-make-county-code-gender-inclusive-pronouns-they-them-and https://www.opb.org/article/2020/11/12/portland-gender-language-city-charter/

Multnomah County Charter Review Committee

Shared Values

Justice:

- Healing and justice are central to Multnomah County's government
- Justice extends to all people, and especially people who have been historically marginalized.
- Leading with race is important because of the inequities embedded in governance, with the understanding that it will help create an intersectional approach to this work.

Inclusive democracy:

- Multnomah County's government depends on active participation and representation of the communities people live in.
- People can access and participate in government using their preferred language.
- Outreach is a key value of democracy:
 - Decisions are informed by culturally-specific research and outreach.
 - Relationships should be an authentic, long lasting partnership; they should not be transactional in nature.

Access and belonging:

- People know how to access their leaders and decision-makers.
- People feel that they (and their communities) are a part of decision-making.
- Government reflects the communities it represents.

Transparency:

- People understand how their county government works.
- People are able to be heard by their government, and influence decision-making.
- Communication with the public by the government is clear, and communities are sought out for their input.

Innovation:

- Government is able to change and adapt to address historic and persistent problems.
 - Change is embraced as a way to better serve communities.
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