Universal Goal: Food Climate Justice Plan



Every community member has access to nutritious, culturally-specific food and can participate in traditional food practices.



Purpose of Today's Meeting



- Review Strategies: Ensure strategies are S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely) and effectively balance recommendations.
- Review Metrics: Ensure the metrics are effective, measurable, and clearly aligned with key environmental justice indicators.
- Deepen Collaboration: Ensure the process of the Climate Justice Plan is inclusive of diverse perspectives
- **Gather Technical Input:** Gather specific and technical feedback on proposed metrics and strategies.

Core Values



- Climate change is real and driven by fossil fuel combustion.
- Climate change impacts public health and well-being.
- Climate justice links the climate crisis to social, racial, and environmental equity.
- We must center frontline communities—those most impacted—to drive efficient and equitable solutions.

Shared Agreements



- Tell us your name and affiliation (if any) when talking
- Respect each other
- Listen to understand, not to respond. Don't interrupt.
- Make space, take space/share airtime. Balance participation in the room.
- Expect and accept discomfort (and joy!)
- Practice community and self-care
- "Bike rack" to capture off topic or detailed questions or ideas that arise
- Never a failure, always a lesson
- Others?

Where this came from where we are going

- Laying the Foundation Vision & Values (2020 2023)
 - Climate Justice Earth Day Convening
 - Environmental Justice (EJ) Indicators Storytelling Zine
 - Vision & Values Framework: Climate Justice Framework
- Phase 1 Frontline Community Engagement (2023 2025)
 - Launched Steering Committee
 - Prioritized non-transactional conversations with communities typically excluded from government planning
- Phase 2 Public Comment Period (2025)
 - Significant Feedback Gathered (webinars, survey responses, written comment)
- Phase 3 Refinement & Finalization (2025-2026)
 - Community Forums on each Universal Goal
 - Collaboration to finalize a plan that is both technically effective and equitably centered, serving as a comprehensive government action plan and community toolkit.

Multnomah County's existing work on this goal

- Benefits navigation for food assistance programs SNAP & WIC
- Women Infant and Children (WIC) Programs, e.g. breastfeeding program
- REACH Nutrition Program
 - The People's Market in Rockwood, Gresham
 - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program
 - Culturally specific nutrition education
- CROPS Farm in Troutdale Oregon
- Future Generations Collaborative Food Sovereignty Project
- SUN Community School Food Pantries
- Hands of Wonder Garden youth restorative justice program
- Support for Oregon State Extension Service
- Convene MultCo Child & Family Food Security Coalition



What we have heard so far

General feedback:

- Comments uniformly supportive of the food goal and its strategies
- Food sovereignty seen as an important part of a "compelling and holistic vision of climate justice"

Recommendations/Concerns:

- Consider reduction of "food deserts" over time as an metric
- Expand use of public lands for food forests and community gardens
- Expand strategy supporting Indigenous control of culturally important lands to include formally returning ownership of unceded lands
- Support ongoing educational forums for "Indigenous people to share their wisdom about living in right relationship to Earth and its inhabitants"
- Need for greater clarity/nuance about herbicide/pesticide elimination, as they are seen as critical tools for addressing invasive species



Outcome Metrics - what are they for?

- Metrics are meant to gauge progress toward the specific climate justice goal
- Metrics will be used to produce regular and recurring reports so that progress towards goals can be tracked over time
- Metrics should measure both overall progress and be disaggregated to identify if disparities exist across demographic groups
- Community data is important to capture



Outcome Metrics - Guiding Questions

- Do you have questions about these metrics?
- Do these metrics look adequate in terms of measuring progress toward outcomes?
- Any adjustments you would offer?
- What other metrics would you add? What is the source of data?



Strategies - Guiding Questions

- Which strategies would you like to discuss today? Are there any strategies that you would modify?
- Do the draft strategies align with county or community priorities as you see them?
- Which strategy, from the ones that are listed, should be a priority for Multnomah County?
- Are there any other strategies you would like to see in order to help achieve this goal?
- Other considerations: cost, feasibility, and barriers



Submit Feedback & Next Steps

- To ensure your feedback is considered for this goal, please provide your goal-specific comments within 14 days
- Submit your goal specific comments via email to <u>sustainability@multco.us</u>
- Invite staff to present or participate in a community discussion or workspace
- Revised draft of the Climate Justice Plan in the early 2026
 - The revised draft will be published online
 - Staff will present the revised draft to the Board of County Commissioners in a work session
 - Use feedback from the Board and Steering Committee to finalize the draft
 - Get Board approval for the final plan