



**Every community member has
access to clean water that supports
their needs and all living systems.**



Community Forum #1
October 23, 2025



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

- 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 - Deep 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.



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?



Multnomah County's existing work on this goal

- Providing education to help you reduce pollution in our rivers
 - The River Starts Here (Instagram, Facebook, Website)
 - Follow the Water (Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Website)
- Reducing Harmful Algal Blooms for safe swimming in the Willamette River
- Reducing the toxic tire dust (6PPD-quinone) that cause salmon die-offs
- Removing barriers to returning salmon in the Sandy River watershed
- Promoting lead test kits for water in your home
- Testing for bacteria in mobile home parks, marinas, churches, and schools that have their own small drinking water system



Public Comment - what we have heard so far

General feedback:

- Comments broadly supportive of the water goal and its strategies
- Strong support for investments in water management and ecological restoration
- Strong support for water education and bill discount programs, and ensuring access to emergency supplies during disasters
- Appreciation that many of the strategies align/support existing efforts

Concerns/Recommendations:

- Need for greater alignment between the strategies and other existing programs
- Some strategies will face resource gaps at both the County and identified partners
- Concerns that some strategies across the CJP may be in tension with each other
- Recommend additional emphasis on reduction and management of toxic runoff



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 sustainability@multco.us
- Invite MultCo staff to present or participate in a community discussion or workspace
- Revised draft of the Climate Justice Plan based on feedback
 - The revised draft will be published online in early 2026
 - Staff will present the revised draft to the Board of County Commissioners in a work session
 - Use feedback from the Board of County Commissioners to finalise the draft
 - Get steering committee and Board of County Commissioners approval for the final plan