Multnomah County

May 2022 – Sep 2022
**Multnomah County Charter Review
Community Engagement**
Final Report

Prepared for Multnomah County by

es•pousal
STRATEGIES

Executive Summary

In partnership with Multnomah County's Office of Community Involvement, Espousal Strategies, LLC developed and implemented an equity-centered community engagement plan to inform the Multnomah County Charter Review process.

The primary goal of this work was to connect with communities that are too often underrepresented, excluded, and overlooked by governments and agencies developing public policies and priorities.

Through its multifaceted engagement strategies, Espousal Strategies used various methods to collect input from these communities and to help the County to better understand the diverse needs and priorities of these groups. The following report provides an overview of the engagement process, as well as the key findings and takeaways for the County, which are summarized below:

- **Incorporating broad community engagement late in a process makes it difficult to meaningfully inform decision-making.**
- **Centering equity in a broad community engagement effort takes significant time and resources.**
- **Using a Native Land Acknowledgement properly can set a respectful tone and honor Native communities through gatherings like focus groups or committee meetings but should only be done under the direction of Native or Tribal community representatives.**
- **Strong internal communication channels are important to keeping all parties informed at critical times, especially during busy project periods.**

As a result of the above analysis, Espousal Strategies recommends the following for the County to consider for future engagement efforts:

- **Create a plan that includes broad, equity-centered engagement from the beginning.**
- **Allocate adequate resources in future budgets to account for the additional time and effort it takes to understand equity needs in Multnomah County and create community connections that build trust as early in the process as possible.**
- **Multnomah County should undergo a process, led by Native and Tribal community members, to have clearer policies around the use of Land Acknowledgements at future County engagement activities.**
- **Establish a regular reporting structure and cadence between County staff, MCCR Committee members, and anyone leading broader engagement that will ease the exchange of key information.**

Contents

2. Project Overview

In the Spring of 2022, Multnomah County's Office of Community Involvement (OCI) hired Espousal Strategies to develop and implement an equity-centered community engagement effort connected to the Multnomah County Charter Review (MCCR) process. This year-long review process, which occurs every six years, requires that a Charter Review Committee be "convened for the purpose of making a comprehensive study of the Charter and, if it chooses, to submit Charter amendments to the voters of Multnomah County."[1] The MCCR Committee first met in September 2021. Its Community Engagement Subcommittee made a request in the Winter of 2022 for OCI to invest resources towards broader, equity-centered community engagement to be planned and implemented by the end of June 2022.

This project had two primary purposes: 1) To raise awareness about the Charter and add value to the current MCCR process by better understanding the lived experience and priorities of communities in Multnomah County (the County) who are often excluded from government systems and most vulnerable to potential negative impacts of policy changes, and 2) To set a precedent for future engagement opportunities that can contribute to the capacity-building of these groups over time, in turn enabling them to meaningfully inform future MCCR processes.

3. Engagement Process and Methods

3.1 Community Engagement Plan
Espousal Strategies developed a collaborative community engagement plan guided by the County's desire to integrate equity in its Charter Review process. The project team worked closely with the OCI's Director and the Charter Review Committee Program Coordinator to establish an initial approach, then refined the plan by seeking out the input of MCCRC Community Engagement Subcommittee members. The engagement plan was a collaborative and iterative document, and its final version is included as **Attachment I**.

3.2 Engagement Goals, Objectives & Quantitative Measures
One of the most important aspects of setting an engagement strategy was to identify specific goals and objectives for the project that lead to equitable outcomes over time. As part of this strategy, it was also important to identify quantitative measures that could be tracked along the way to provide context for the overall assessment of short-term project outcomes as well as key takeaways.

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[1] [Charter Review Committee (MCCR COMMITTEE) | Multnomah County (multco.us)](multco.us)

Goals
- Educate community members about the Charter and the Charter review process
- Educate community members about how they can continue being involved in changing the County Charter
- Receive community feedback on the current Charter Review Committee's proposals

Objectives
- Conduct one community input survey
- Successfully recruit 8-10 participants for up to four affinity focus groups
- Create accessible and inclusive engagement

Quantitative Measures
- Number of focus group registrants
- Number of focus group participants
- Number of completed surveys

3.3 Activities & Tactics for Inclusive Engagement

Often times one of the initial, important steps in equity-centered work is defining key terms to ensure that there is a shared understanding given the countless ways to define equity and to refer to diverse communities. This project uses the term equity priority communities,[2] which include Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) including Latinx/o/a people; immigrants and refugees; people living with disabilities; people with lower incomes; houseless individuals and families; LGBTQIA+; young people; older adults; and people with limited English proficiency (LEP). Through consultation with the County staff and MCCR subcommittee members, the project team recommended affinity spaces be offered to the following equity priority communities:

- Youth
- LGBTQ+
- East County residents[3]
- BIPOC

As described in detail in the Community Engagement Plan, the project team focused on two primary methods of engagement that included affinity focus groups and a community input survey. The section below provides an overview of each of these methods, as well as the respective outreach tactics for recruiting participants.

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[2] This definition is based on equity work Espousal Strategies has led in the region across a variety of projects
[3] East County residents were identified due to relatively higher rates of BIPOC, LEP and people living with lower incomes compared to the rest of the County

Affinity Focus Groups

The project team hosted four affinity focus groups for equity priority community members (identified above) to share their perspectives and provide input around the proposed Charter amendments. While each affinity space was focused on one identity, focus groups were representative of diverse perspectives around multiple identity markers, including gender diversity, disability status, geographic representation, and LEP status. Identities were all self-disclosed at the time of registration.

It should be noted for context that due to ongoing health and safety concerns, all focus groups were hosted virtually.

Community Input Survey

In order to complement the more targeted focus group sessions and collect a wider range of input around key issues and topics under consideration, the project team conducted a community input survey in multiple languages[4] with the goal of collecting as much feedback as possible.

The project team used Qualtrics to develop and host the survey, as it is a platform that has been vetted for and prioritizes accessibility and data security. A summary of results is provided in Section 5 of this report.

Tactics for Inclusive Engagement

Inclusive engagement requires an investment of time and resources that break down barriers to involvement with public processes that many people within equity priority communities experience. To achieve inclusive engagement at virtual events the following participation supports were offered:

Closed Captioning in English was offered for all virtual focus groups.

Electronic **gift cards** in the amount of $75 were provided to all focus group participants.

Translation and Interpretation to allow equitable access to essential written and/or verbal material.

- American Sign Language was made available by request for focus group participants
- Focus group materials were offered in English and Spanish. Additionally, the survey was made available in English, Spanish, simplified Chinese and Russian[5].

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[4] English, Spanish, simplified Chinese, and Russian
[5] Priority languages were chosen based on the top four languages accessed in the City of Portland's Charter Review survey effort

3.5 Notification Tactics

Notification tactics differed between the focus group and the community input survey given the different objectives between them (i.e., more targeted and in-depth vs. more broad engagement).

To help create affinity spaces for the focus groups, the team engaged ten culturally-specific community partners who assisted with the outreach efforts to recruit participants and consisted of the below organizations:

Youth
- NextUp!
- Sunrise PDX
- Multnomah Youth Commission

LGBTQ+
- Black and Beyond the Binary
- Q Center

East County
- East County Rising
- Beyond Black

BIPOC
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Unite Oregon
- Latino Network

For the community input survey, a mass email with a multilingual[6] media packet[7] was sent to the following 85 community partners, identified by MCCR Community Engagement Subcommittee members, County staff and Espousal Strategies:

- Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
- Afro Village
- Albina Ministerial Alliance
- American Association of Retired People - AARP
- APANO
- Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce
- Autism Service Dogs of America
- Basic Rights Oregon

- Because People Matter Action Center
- Beyond Black
- Black American Chamber of Commerce
- Black and Beyond the Binary Collective
- Black Parent Initiative
- Bridges Oregon, Inc.
- Brown Hope
- Centennial

- Center for African Immigrants and Refugees Organization (CAIRO)
- City of Cedar Mill
- City of Fairview
- City of Gresham
- City of Lake Oswego
- City of Maywood Park
- City of Milwaukie
- City of Portland
- City of Troutdale
- City of West Haven-Sylvan

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[6] English, Spanish, simplified Chinese and Russian
[7] Media packet included suggested messaging for email and social media outreach

- City of Wood Village
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT)
- Community of Hope
- Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH)
- David Douglas
- Dignity Village (JOIN)
- Disabilities Rights Oregon
- Disability Rights Oregon
- Don't Shoot Portland
- Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO)
- Federation of the Blind - Portland Central Chapter
- Gresham/Barlow SD
- Grey Panthers
- Habitat for Humanity Portland Region
- Hacienda CDC
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Imagine Black, formerly Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF)
- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)

- Impact NW
- Janus Youth
- Kenton Women's Village (Catholic Charities of Oregon)
- Latino Built
- Latino Network
- Leading Age Oregon
- MESO
- MS Society of Portland
- NAACP Portland
- National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMCO)
- Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)
- Neighborhood House
- Next Up!
- Northwest Pilot Project
- NW Pilot Project
- OAME
- OPAL
- Oregon Community Alliance Of Tenants (CAT)
- Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition
- Parkrose
- Partnership for Safety and Justice

- Philippine American Chamber of Commerce
- Portland Mercado
- Portland Community Reinvestment Initiative (PCRI)
- Portland Public Schools
- Portland United Against Hate
- Professional Development Group (PBDG)
- Prosper Portland
- REACH CDC
- Reynolds SD
- Ride Connection
- Self Enhancement Inc (SEI)
- SUN Service System
- Sunrise PDX
- The Street Trust
- Unite Oregon
- Urban League of Portland
- Vanport Mosaic
- Verde
- We Out Here Magazine

Finally, Espousal Strategies staff sent personal invitations to people in their networks, messaging was distributed through Multnomah County communication channels, and MCCR Committee members were asked to distribute to their networks.

4. Community Engagement by Numbers

Table 1 below shows the quantitative results for the focus group engagement efforts. In addition to their name and contact information, registrants were asked to provide their home zip code, if they belong to the described affinity, and if they have accommodation needs (such as language interpretation, ASL, closed captioning, etc.).

Due to the high registration rate, the project team was able to curate a diverse group of participants within each affinity space, according to zip code and accommodation needs. By collecting information about accommodation needs, the project team was able to prioritize participants who requested services such as ASL and language interpreting, as well as closed captioning, as a means to curate as diverse of perspectives as possible and diverse representation of multiple equity priority communities. In addition to self-identification at time of registration, the successful reach of engagement is indicated qualitatively by the personal anecdotes and community relationships shared by participants. Detailed session notes are included as **Attachment II**.

Table 1: Affinity Focus Group Quantitative Data

Group	Registrations	Admitted	Attended
Youth	170	16	10
LGBTQIA+	179	22	12
East County	140	25	15
BIPOC	306	17	11
Total	**795**	**80**	**48**

The community input survey was broadly distributed (see 3.5 notification tactics above) with special effort made to reach equity priority groups. Demographic questions were optional. Efforts yielded the following quantitative results:

Table 2: Community Input Survey by the Numbers

Demographic group	Number of responses
Youth (under 25)	14
Female, nonbinary or genderqueer	88
BIPOC[8]	138
Living with a disability	52
Income under $50k	70
Total survey responses	**286***

*Numbers above do not add up to this as many participants belonged to multiple demographics.

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[8] Individuals who chose an ethnic/racial identity other than white

5. Summary of Engagement Findings

A preliminary summary of topline themes and findings for all engagement efforts, including focus groups and the survey, can be found in **Attachment III**.

5.1 Community Input Survey

Questions asked in the community input survey were designed to gauge familiarity with the County broadly, and more specifically to collect sentiments related to issues under consideration in the MCCR process. A total of 268 Multnomah County residents participated in the survey, with representation of a diversity of neighborhoods, racial/ethnic backgrounds, income levels, age groups, disability status, and gender identities.
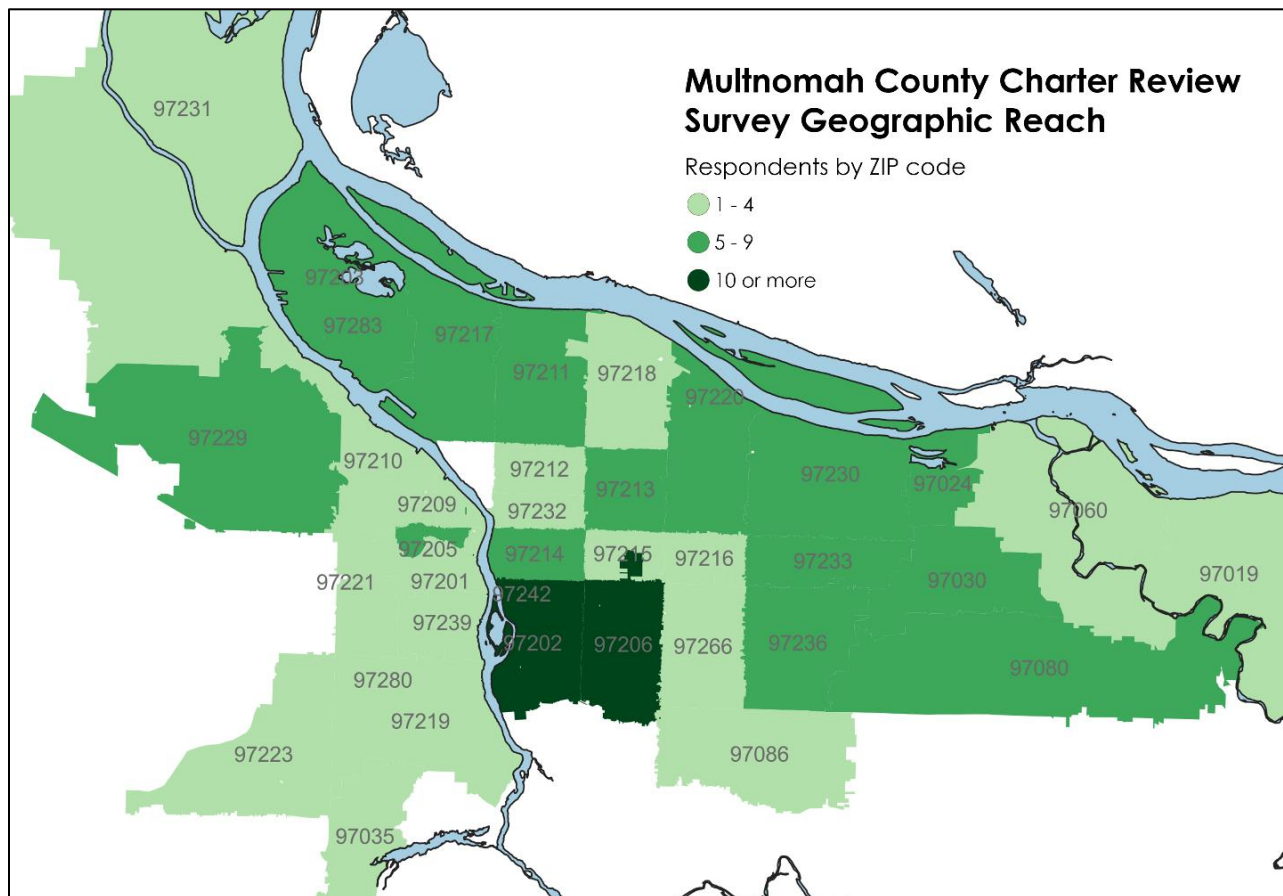
Survey respondents by zip code

Noteworthy Survey Findings

- The survey pool tended to be familiar with County services and elected officials.
- The most common way that participants engage with the County is by attending public meetings.
- Priority issues indicated by a majority of respondents included community safety and government accountability.
- 58% of respondents sought more understanding about Multnomah County government and services.
- There was a fairly even split between preferences for ranked choice voting, the current voting system, and STAR voting, with ranked choice being selected by a plurality of respondents (35%).
- A comparison of responses between BIPOC and White survey takers found mostly similar results, with some exceptions in terms of which County issues were prioritized.

A full summary of survey results is included as **Attachment IV**.

5.2 Affinity Focus Groups

Questions asked in the focus groups were designed to inform more directly Charter amendment proposals under consideration by the MCCR Committee.

What issues are most important to you? Pick 3	Total Across All Focus Groups
Safety in community	9
Oversight of criminal justice	**20**
Government Accountability	14
Voting rights	12
Campaign finance	7
Diverse representation in governments	**21**
Public access to elected officials	12
Other	2

How familiar are you with the services that Multnomah County provides?	Total Across Focus Groups*
Not at all familiar	2
Slightly	6
Moderately	**14**
Very	5
Extremely	1

East County poll data for this question was not available for due to technical issues

Noteworthy Findings by Affinity Group

BIPOC Focus Group

- Most participants stated they are moderately familiar with the services Multnomah County Provides.
- Half of participants shared that they are moderately familiar with their County Commissioner and/or other county elected officials; most others were either slightly familiar or not familiar at all.
- When asked which general issues were most important, participants ranked 'Safety in Community' and 'Diverse Representation in Government' as the top two, followed closely by 'Oversight of Criminal Justice System'.

East County Focus Group

- Most participants stated they are moderately familiar with the services Multnomah County provides.
- When asked how they typically engage with the County and/or County processes, most participants indicated that they engage through services the County provides, while others cited that they do not know how to engage.
- Participants ranked 'Diverse Representation in Government', 'Voting Rights', and 'Oversight of the Criminal Justice System' as their top three most important issues.

Youth Focus Group

- Most participants stated they are moderately familiar with the services Multnomah County provides.
- Participants reported that the most common way they typically engage with the County or County services was by attending public meetings, followed by submitting public comment/input and seeking/receiving County services.
- When considering the top issues most important to them, participants cited 'Oversight of the Criminal Justice System' as the clear priority, followed by 'Diverse Representation in Government' and 'Public Access to Elected Officials'.

LGBTQIA+ Focus Group

- Results were mixed when asked how familiar participants were with the services the County provides.
- Most participants cited that they typically engage with the County and/or County processes by attending public meetings, followed by seeking County services and contacting elected officials.
- When asked which issues were most important, participants ranked 'Safety in Community' and 'Oversight of Criminal Justice System' as the top two, followed closely by 'Diverse Representation in Government'.

6. Key Takeaways & Recommendations for Future Engagement

1. Incorporating broad community engagement late in a process makes it difficult to meaningfully inform decision-making.

The Multnomah County Charter Review process includes several decision-making milestones and people involved in making decisions. By the time broad community engagement was planned and implemented, the scope of decision-making was narrow. Additionally, since the Multnomah County Charter Review process itself is not widely known or understood by many community members, it was a significant challenge to adequately inform those engaged about the MCCR Committee process, as well as the culminating work of the MCCR Committee, in order for them to provide input that would meaningfully inform questions at hand.

Recommendation: create a plan that includes broad, equity-centered engagement from the beginning.

Meaningful community engagement occurs when the community can be informed, and when the community feedback and perspectives gathered can be considered and factored into as many decisions as possible. An engagement strategy should be developed at the beginning of future MCCR Committee processes where broad engagement activities, such as community briefings or educational workshops, can help more people build an awareness of a complex process and important policy issues. Early and strategic engagement may lead to increased participation by equity priority communities throughout the MCCR Committee process and allow for better alignment between the goals and objectives of the Charter Review Committee to broader engagement, such as focus groups and community surveys.

2. Centering equity in a broad community engagement effort takes significant time and resources.

Centering equity requires a fundamental shift from mainstream or traditional ways government bodies have typically approached their work. This shift is especially important given the legacy of institutionalized racism and other forms of marginalization of various underserved communities and groups. Understanding our local context, how policies may result in marginalization and disproportionately impact certain communities negatively, and what changes are needed to address these past and ongoing harms are all essential in our collective effort to address these injustices, and it takes significant time and resources to accomplish this. However, without making investments and tangible changes to existing systems that are known to be exclusionary and even harmful for marginalized communities, it is difficult to make any

real progress towards achieving greater equity and inclusion for all communities that the County serves and represents.

Recommendation: allocate adequate resources in future budgets to account for the additional time and effort it takes to understand equity needs in Multnomah County and create community connections that build trust as early in the process as possible.

An institutional commitment to equity is often reflected in budgets. Multnomah County has taken an important step towards centering equity in its Charter Review process by investing resources in the work summarized in this report. Espousal Strategies recommends building on this work in future processes by ensuring broad, equity-centered engagement is a core (i.e., not optional) piece.

3. Using a Native Land Acknowledgement properly can set a respectful tone and honor Native communities through gatherings like focus groups or committee meetings but should only be done under the direction of Native or Tribal community representatives.
The project team made the decision to use a Native Land Acknowledgement at the beginning of the four focus groups and received feedback from a Tribal representative (focus group participant) about ways the language used in the Land Acknowledgement did not accurately or adequately portray local Native groups. As non-Native or Tribal community members, the project team's response was to share the input provided at the session it received the input for, as well as pass along the concern to Multnomah County's Office of Diversity and Equity.

Recommendation: Multnomah County should undergo a process, led by Native and Tribal community members, to have clearer policies around the use of Land Acknowledgements at future County engagement activities.

If a Land Acknowledgement is used in future activities or events, it's critical that the person or group leading the engagement effort understand its significance and the process by which it came to be. Several government agencies in the region are undergoing processes where Tribal representatives are part of a collaborative effort to develop land acknowledgments that are reflective of an accurate and honest narrative that includes history, community values, and ongoing work to honor and reclaim traditional relationships between Native people and the land government institutions continue to occupy.

4. Strong internal communication channels are important to keeping all parties informed at critical times, especially during busy project periods.

Opportunities may be missed when information is not exchanged clearly and consistently. Espousal Strategies was brought into the work at a late stage in the process and establishing direct and two-way communication channels with MCCR Committee members was challenging at the pace decisions were needing to be made. While MCCR Committee members successfully advocated for broad, equity-centered engagement to be planned and implemented, there was often not enough time to exchange information in a way that allowed for consistent, clear, and direct collaboration between engagement efforts.

Recommendation: **Establish a regular reporting structure and cadence between County staff, MCCR Committee members, and anyone leading broader engagement that will ease the exchange of key information.**

Future MCCR Committee processes should aim to strengthen communication between County staff, MCCR Committee members and anyone leading broader engagement efforts by allowing adequate time for key information to be shared between parties on a regular basis. Ideally, activity and community input collected should be built in to monthly MCCR Committee meetings and subcommittee meetings.

7. Attachments

Attachment I: Community Engagement Plan

Attachment II: Affinity Focus Group Notes

Attachment III: Themes and Findings - Affinity Focus Groups and Community Survey Summary of Topline Themes and Findings

Attachment IV: Community Survey Analysis

Attachment I: Community Engagement Plan

Multnomah County Charter Review
Community Engagement Plan
May – Aug 2022

Table of Contents

Project Background and Key Decision Milestones

Background

The Multnomah County Home Rule Charter provides that every six years, a Charter Review Committee (MCCR Committee) will be convened for the purpose of making a comprehensive study of the Charter and, if it chooses, to submit Charter amendments to the voters of Multnomah County. The charter is the local version of a constitution, essentially creating the structure of Multnomah County government.

The MCCR Committee is charged with a study of the Charter by all appropriate means including open hearings and meetings, the taking of testimony and interviews. The MCCR Committee will present a report to the people and the Board of County Commissioners that includes their findings, conclusions, and recommendations including any amendments the MCCR Committee proposes to the Charter. All amendments proposed by the MCCR Committee will be submitted to the voters of Multnomah County at the 2022 primary or general election.

Project Timeline

The Charter dictates the MCCR Committee timeline to meet and deliberate. Following the rules laid out in the Charter, the MCCR Committee had its first meeting in September 2021. The MCCR Committee can propose amendments to be referred to voters on either the May or November 2022 ballots, or both, but the last day the MCCR Committee can present recommended amendments to the Board of County Commissioners is August 4, 2022.

When	Milestone
May 2022	Engagement planning
June 2022	- Voting on amendment recommendations - Community feedback on proposed/draft recommended amendments 1st week of month: subcommittees wrapped up June 15: Start discussing full recommendations June 28: update on engagement activities
July 2022	- Discuss what is going in final report, informed by engagement feedback July 5: update on engagement activities, consider revisions to recommendations - Recommendations on amendments, issues for further exploration, and process improvements July 20: last committee meeting Last week of July: final written report
August 2022	Aug 4: final report due to Board End of month: Espousal final report
November 2022	Public vote on recommendations

Stakeholders & Community Partners

Stakeholder groups

- Civic leaders
- Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC)
- Culturally Diverse Communities
- People living with disabilities
- Immigrants and Refugees
- Multilingual or people with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- Small business owners
- Housing stability & houseless advocacy
- Public safety & police accountability
- Transportation advocacy
- Environmental advocacy
- Youth
- Older adults
- East County (residents, businesses, advocacy)
- Rural residents
- Community-based organizations
- Cities within Multnomah County
- LGBTQIA2S+
- People living with low income
- School-based
- Healthcare
- Houseless individuals

Community Organizations & Partners

- UNITE Oregon
- Verde
- OPAL
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- APANO
- Next Up!
- NAACP Portland
- Beyond Black
- Basic Rights Oregon
- Urban League
- Imagine Black
- Partnership for Safety and Justice
- NAYA
- Latino Network
- SEI
- Black and Beyond the Binary Collective
- Albina Ministerial Alliance
- Don't Shoot Portland
- We Out Here Magazine
- Afro Village

- East County Rising
- Catholic Charities (El Programa)
- IRCO

- Rosewood Initiative
- Hacienda CDC

Cities within Multnomah County

- Portland
- Gresham
- Troutdale
- Wood Village
- Maywood Park

- Milwaukie
- Lake Oswego
- Fairview (Community Engagement Committee)
- West Haven-Sylvan

School-based

- Reynolds SD
- Portland Public Schools
- SUN Service System
- Centennial

- David Douglas
- Parkrose
- Multnomah ESD
- Gresham/Barlow

Other public agencies

- TriMet
- Metro
- Port of Portland

Chambers of Commerce/Small Businesses

- MESO
- Portland Mercado
- Prosper Portland
- Black American Chamber of Commerce

- Philippine American Chamber of Commerce
- Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Project Communications

The following questions will guide what information will be shared through this engagement effort:

What is Multnomah County's Home Rule Charter?

What is included in the County's Home Rule Charter?

What is the Multnomah County Charter Review Committee?

What is the MCCR Committee timeline?

What happens if the MCCR Committee makes recommendations to amend the Charter?

How can I be involved in the Charter review process?

County communications channels
- MCCR Committee newsletter
- Commissioner newsletters
- Office of Community Involvement newsletters
- Main County communications channels (social media, employee newsletter)

Engagement Goals, Objectives & Quantitative Measures

Goals
- Educate community members about the Charter and the Charter review process
- Educate community members about how they can continue being involved in changing the county Charter
- Receive community feedback on the current Charter Review Committee's proposals

Objectives
- Conduct one community input survey
- Successfully recruit 8-10 participants for up to four affinity focus groups
- Create accessible and inclusive engagement

Quantitative Measures
- Number of focus group registrants
- Number of focus group participants
- Number of completed surveys

Engagement Activities

Affinity Focus Groups

Affinity focus groups will be hosted for diverse and historically excluded community members to share perspectives that will inform County processes.

- Participants will be compensated for their time and expertise.
- Language services – interpretation/translation of written materials
  - Closed captioning
  - ASL
  - Simultaneous interpretation
- Hosted virtually (on Zoom)

Community Input Survey

A community input survey will allow the Charter Review Commission to gain a breadth of input around key issues and topics under consideration.

- Survey will be available in at least English and Spanish
- Survey will be vetted for accessibility and offered in both a digital and print format

Tactics for Inclusive Engagement

Inclusive engagement requires an investment of time and resources that break down barriers to involvement with public process that many people within equity priority communities experience. To achieve inclusive engagement at virtual events, the following participation supports will be offered:

Closed Captioning in English and Spanish will be offered for all virtual focus groups.

Gift cards provided to participants at equity priority community focus groups where in-depth engagement is solicited.

Translation and Interpretation to allow equitable access to essential written and/or verbal material. If it is not possible to provide the following language services, a reason explaining why will be documented.
- American Sign Language available by request for focus groups
- Vital documents and materials (like a fact sheet and contact information for the project) will be translated as part of standard procedures into Spanish
- Additional languages to be considered:
    o Korean
    o Chinese (simplified)
    o Tagalog
    o Russian
    o Vietnamese
    o Arabic

Scope of Decision Making & Accountability Measures

Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership: identifying a scope of decision making

The Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership is a tool that was developed by Rosa Gonzalez of Facilitating Power. It draws content, in part, from a number of public participation tools, including Arnstein's Ladder of Citizen Participation and the Public Participation Spectrum (created by the International Association for Public Participation). It charts a pathway through which to

strengthen and transform local democracies through community engagement. It allows for greater transparency and accountability related to the level of engagement a project has with community members.

This engagement effort will be limited to levels 1 (inform) and 2 (consult) but is a part of a larger community engagement effort supported by the Charter Review Committee aimed at a higher level of community involvement through the work of the Charter Review Committee.

THE SPECTRUM OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO OWNERSHIP

▶▶▶▶▶▶ INCREASED EFFICIENCY IN DECISION-MAKING AND SOLUTIONS IMPLEMENTATION   ▶▶▶▶▶▶   EQUITY

STANCE TOWARDS COMMUNITY	IGNORE 0	INFORM 1	CONSULT 2	INVOLVE 3	COLLABORATE 4	DEFER TO 5
IMPACT	Marginalization	Preparation or Placation	Limited Voice or Tokenization	Voice	Delegated Power	Community Ownership
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GOALS	Deny access to decision-making processes	Provide the community with relevant information	Gather input from the community	Ensure community needs and assets are integrated into process & inform planning	Ensure community capacity to play a leadership role in decision-making and the implementation of decisions.	Foster democratic participation and equity through community-driven decision-making; Bridge divide between community & governance
MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY	*Your voice, needs & interests do not matter*	*We will keep you informed*	*We care what you think*	*You are making us think, (and therefore act) differently about the issue*	*Your leadership and expertise are critical to how we address the issue*	*It's time to unlock collective power and capacity for transformative solutions*
ACTIVITIES	Closed door meeting Misinformation Systematic Disenfranchisement Voter suppression	Fact sheets Open Houses Presentations Billboards Videos	Public Comment Focus Groups Community Forums Surveys	Community organizing & advocacy Interactive workshops Polling Community forums Open Planning Forums with Citizen Polling	MOU's with Community-based organizations Citizen advisory committees Collaborative Data Analysis Co-Design and Co-Implementation of Solutions Collaborative Decision-Making	Community-driven planning and governance Consensus building Participatory action research Participatory budgeting Cooperative models
RESOURCE ALLOCATION RATIOS	100% Systems Admin	70-90% Systems Admin 10-30% Promotions and Publicity	60-80% Systems Admin 20-40% Consultation Activities	50-60% Systems Admin 40-50% Community Involvement	20-50% Systems Admin 50-70% Community Partners	80-100% Community partners and community-driven processes ideally generate new value and resources that can be invested in solutions

MULTNOMAH COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FINAL REPORT

Engagement Schedule

The following engagement schedule shows activities by month based on the milestones listed above.

Month 2022	Engagement/Project Activity	Responsible party	Materials needed	Milestone alignment
May	Engagement plan with County & committee input	Espousal		
	MCCR Committee meeting	Multnomah County		
June	Wed 8th: Materials approved and translated	Espousal/Kali approve	• PPT presentation with background info	
	Mon 13: Focus group #1 (Youth)	Espousal		June 15: MCCR COMMITTEE to start discussing full recommendations
	Thurs 16th: Focus group #2 (LGBTQIA+)			
	Sat 18: Focus group #3 (East County)	Espousal		

Month 2022	Engagement/Project Activity	Responsible party	Materials needed	Milestone alignment
	Thurs 23: Focus group #4 (BIPOC)	Espousal		
	10-24: Survey	Espousal	• Qualtrics survey	
	MCCR Committee meeting	Multnomah County		June 28 (tentative) Discuss what is going in final report, informed by engagement feedback
July	Begin Final Report	Espousal		July 5: update on engagement activities, consider revisions to recommendations (to MCCR Committee) - Recommendations on amendments, issues for further exploration, and process improvements July 20: last MCCR Committee meeting

Month 2022	Engagement/Project Activity	Responsible party	Materials needed	Milestone alignment
				Last week of July: final written report
August	Complete Final Report	Espousal		Aug 4: final report due to Board

Attachment II: Affinity Focus Group Notes

MCCR YOUTH FOCUS GROUP NOTES

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING SUMMARY

Subject: MCCR Youth Focus Group

Date and Time: June 13, 2022, 6:00-7:30 pm

Location: Zoom Webinar

Number of Participants: 10

STAFF

- **fabiola casas, Espousal Strategies**
- **Salomé Chimuku, Espousal Strategies**
- **Emma Koontz, Espousal Strategies**
- **Kali Odell, Multnomah County**
- **Regina DeMoville, LNS Closed Captioner**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

MULTNOMAH COUNTY OVERVIEW – intro slides by Fabiola rest by Salomé
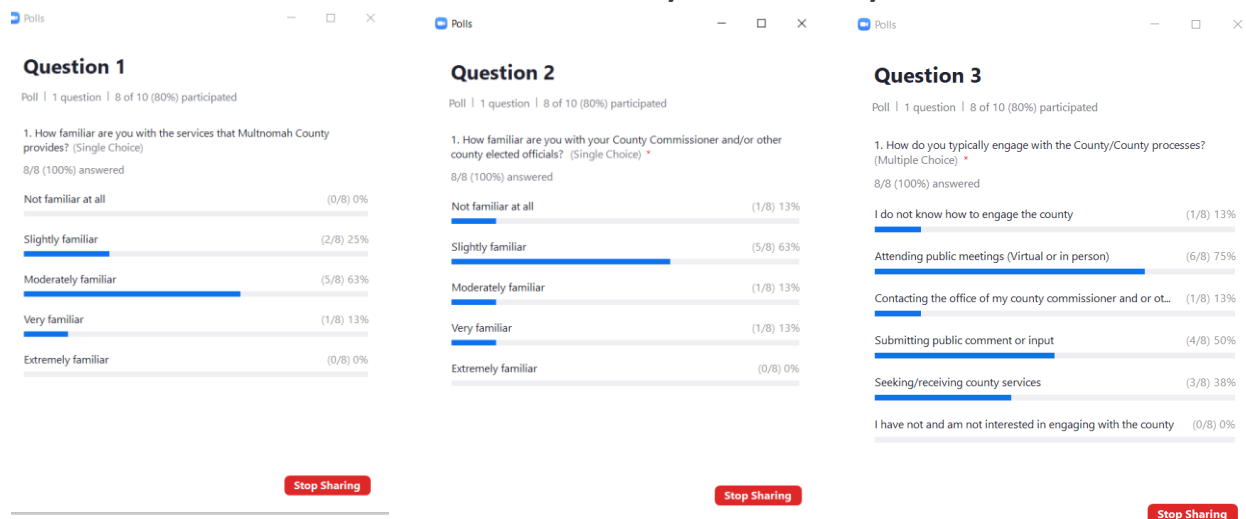
- Poll question: How familiar are you with the services that Multnomah County provides?
    - 2 slightly familiar (25%)
    - 5 moderately familiar (63%)
    - 1 very familiar (13%)

- Poll Question: How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other County elected officials?
  - 1 not familiar 13%
  - 5 slightly familiar 63%
  - 1 moderately familiar 13%
  - 1 very familiar 13%
- Poll Question: How do you typically engage with the County and/or County processes? (8 answered)
  - 1 don't know how to engage
  - 6 attend public meeting
  - 1 contact elected official
  - 4 submit public comment or input
  - 3 Seeking/receiving county services
  - 0 have not/are not interested in engaging with the county

- Q—Angelica: How is the charter different from the city council?
  - Salome: County works with people, city work with physical infrastructure
- Q—Kimberlea: Is the people infrastructure component of the county unique to Portland/Oregon or is this a common set up across the US or even the PNW
  - Salomé: it is common in Oregon, she is not as sure about other areas of the US. She said that there is overlap in services offered, for example the joint office of homeless services.
- Q—Luna: Is Oregon the only state that adopted the home rule or something similar?
 - Salome: Oregon not only one but makes the most of it. Like the national model of federalism

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

- Poll Question: What issues are most important to you? Pick Top 3 (8 answered)
  - 3 Voting rights
  - 4 Public access to elected officials
  - 7 Oversight of criminal justice system
  - 3 Safety in the community
  - 3 Government accountability
  - 0 Campaign finance
  - 5 Diverse representations
- Safety and Justice Recommendation
  - Q—Luna: confused weather each commission has to inspect or if only member of the office would
    - Kali: commissioners only go once a year now, with staff members, but would now also add 3 constituents
  - Q—Eliana: What are the board of commissioners evaluating during the visits?
    - Q—Eliana: how are the constituents that join chosen?
    - Q—Eliana: how will the documented observations be utilized to inform change within the county jail facilities and how will they be accountable to the feedback?
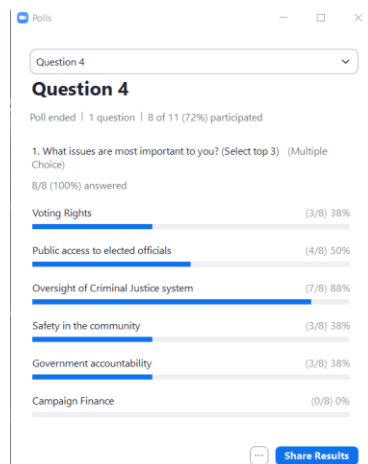
- o Q—Kimberlea: Would these be surprise or scheduled visits - aka would the jail know to expect these visits?
  - Kali: they do have to be scheduled
  - Q—Kimberlea: Would this include the Donald E. Long Juvenile Detention Center?
- o Q—Chaim: How would you get on the board and how often are they switched out
  - Kali: constituents are switched out yearly, commissioner office decides how participants identified, typically application process, but not guaranteed
- o Q—Aishiki: What would the inspections consist of, and how are they judging the conditions? What are the parameters of subjectivity
- o Q—Mollie: My question is super similar to Aishiki's, but what will they be evaluating, will the feedback be implemented quickly or over time (officials meeting to discuss or just singular offices making a change)
  - Kali: meant to understand conditions and help officials understand the impact of incarceration. Enforcement mechanism is public pressure, but there can be information accessed
  - Fabiola asked for a report, Kali is unsure if she can find them
- o Q—Fabiola: what level of detail will be in the charter, and will people hear about the policy implementation from charter?
  - Kali: intentionally broad to adapt to changing needs and times. County employees and legislators will determine the details
- o Q—Fabiola asked about how the youth they are included in the charter recommendations implementation and how they feel they are affected by it
  - Kimberlea: I missed if this will include the juvenile detention center, but I think that would be an important inclusion given the impact of exposure to the carceral system on youth development
  - Eliana: I'd echo what Kimberléa said as well regarding youth inclusion
- **Equitable Representation Recommendations**
  - o Poll Question: How familiar are you with rank choice voting? (9 answers)
    - 3 somewhat familiar
    - 2 moderately familiar
    - 3 very familiar
    - 1 extremely familiar
  - o Q—Fabiola asked about how the youth they are included in the charter recommendations implementation and how they feel they are affected by it
    - Kimberlea: For extending voting rights to the fullest extent of the law, is that something under home rule that would likely need to go through the legislature?
    - Salome: a very likely yes, depending on the community voting rights are trying to be extended to

Polls — □ ✕

Question 5

Poll | 1 question | 9 of 11 (81%) participated

1. How familiar are you with Rank Choice Voting? (Single Choice) *

9/9 (100%) answered

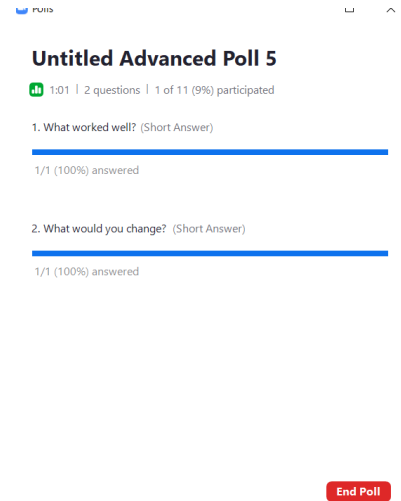|	
Not at all familiar	(0/9) 0%
Somewhat familiar	(3/9) 33%
Moderately familiar	(2/9) 22%
Very familiar	(3/9) 33%
Extremely familiar	(1/9) 11%

Stop Sharing
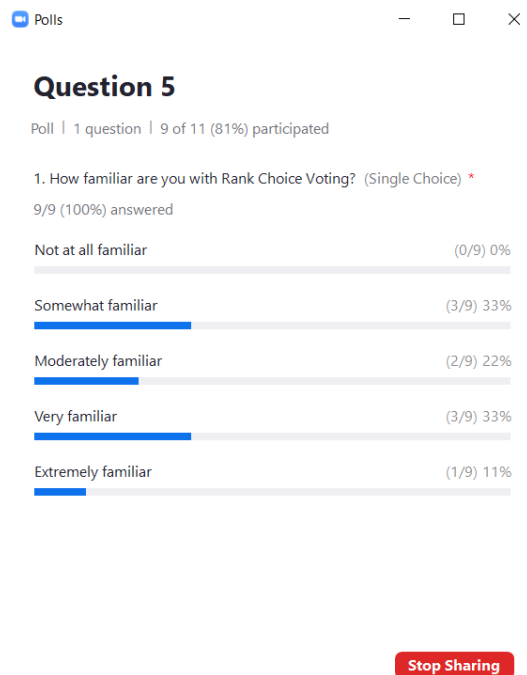
- ▪ Q—Kimberlea: If it comes to the state legislature does it come into the bill?
    - • Salome: Yes, and if it changes Oregon state constitution goes to the voters
- ▪ Kimberlea appreciates it but also aware about the voting rights act, that next step supported and knows the difficulty it faced in the legislature
    - • Salome: conversations are happening
- ▪ Kimberlea: Oh and Restoration of Voting rights is a bill that was introduced in the last 2022 legislative session to reinstate voting rights for folks who are incarcerated
- **Government Accountability Recommendations**
  - o Q—Mollie: What would these generally accepted standards be? Is that referring to the standards listed above example: fairness, justice
    - ▪ Kail: modeled after the city of Portland and brought to them by the auditor, have place for county complaints with some confidentiality, Kali shared doc on standards
  - o Q—Angelica: is this recommendation modeled after another county?
  - o Q—Eliana: How are the ombudsperson office people chosen?
  - o Q—Chaim: What are the term lengths for this ombudsperson?
    - ▪ Kali Staff hired
  - o Q—Kimberlea: Does the ombudsperson have the power to investigate complaints lodged with the sheriff's office?
    - ▪ Kali: Yes
- **Government Accountability Recommendation Pt 2**
  - o Q—Fabiola asks for thoughts, no one had any
    - ▪ Q—Fabiola: asked about the current language and how the recommendation can increase timeliness
      - • Kali: make sure she can get those documents and expedite the process
  - o Q—Luna: What responsibilities does the auditor have? How does having access to this information help them?
    - ▪ Kali: oversite to county offices to make sure processes are working in the way they should. Be independent from other offices. Have a hotline and do investigations. Then they produce a report to the person who is in charge of the process and the person in charge writes a response, whether they agree and how recommendations might be implemented. So reforms expedite process. Not only about wrongdoing also about being more efficient
    - ▪ Kali shared audit report examples

REFLECTION

- • What did you like best about this session?
  - o Very informative

- - Charlotte: Very detailed information, the presentation was very informative.
    - Luna: Very detailed information, the presentation was very informative.
    - Angelica: I really appreciated the format rather than an open mic style feedback forum :)
    - Aishiki: I appreciated the context before hand
    - Kalvert: have really learned a lot today
    - Mollie: I echo what everyone in the chat I said. Thank you all so much this was so informative and interesting to learn more about all of the recommendations
- What improvements could be made in the future?
  - Eliana: I think having more accountability and the recommendations will increase youth trust and participation in local government.
  - Luna: I agree with Eliana
  - Charlotte: Maybe next time you should try to reach a larger group

Untitled Advanced Poll 5

1:01 | 2 questions | 1 of 11 (9%) participated

1. What worked well? (Short Answer)

1/1 (100%) answered

2. What would you change? (Short Answer)

1/1 (100%) answered

End Poll

MCCR LGBTQIA+ FOCUS GROUP NOTES

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING SUMMARY
Subject: MCCR LGBTQIA+ Focus Group
Date and Time: June 16, 2022, 6:00-7:30 pm
Location: Zoom Meeting
Number of Participants: 12

STAFF

- **fabiola casas, Espousal Strategies**
- **Salomé Chimuku, Espousal Strategies**
- **Emma Koontz, Espousal Strategies**
- **Kali Odell, Multnomah County**
- **Regina DeMoville, LNS Closed Captioner**
- **Maja Viklands Harris, Charter Review Committee Member**
- **Mary Herman, IRCO ASL Interpreter**
- **Jill Ranney, IRCO ASL Interpreter**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- Participants say introduce name pronouns and where they are from out loud and in the chat

MULTNOMAH COUNTY OVERVIEW – intro slides by Fabiola rest by Salome

- Poll question: How familiar are you with the services that Multnomah County provides?
    - Not familiar 9%
    - Slightly familiar 36%
    - Moderately familiar 27%
    - Very familiar 27%
    - Extremely familiar 0%
- Poll question: How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other County elected officials?
    - Not familiar
    - Slightly familiar 44% (3)
    - Moderately familiar 44% (3)
    - Very familiar 11% (1)
    - Extremely familiar
- Poll question: How do you typically engage with the County and/or County processes?
    - Most attend public meetings
    - 73% Attend public meeting
    - 45% contacting elected official

- 36% submit public comment
- 55% seeking county services
- 9% not interested/haven't engaged

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS
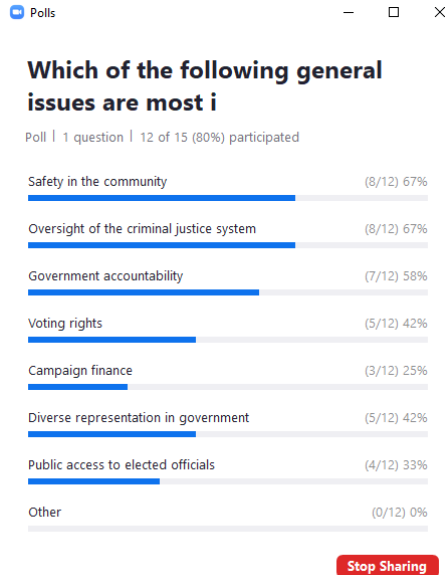
- Poll Question: What issues are most important to you?
  - Safety in the community 67%
  - Oversight of criminal justice 67%
  - Government accountability 58%
  - Voting rights 42%
  - Campaign finance 25%
  - Diverse representation in government 42%
  - Public access to elected officials 33%
  - Other
  - Participants commented it wasn't easy to pick a top three issues they cared about

- Recommendation: Safety & Justice
  - Q—Devin is there a specific set guideline for what commissioners are inspecting for? and are there trainings for constituents to attend before participating?
    - Kali: no specific guidelines, the goal is to help them just understand conditions
  - Q—Crys I like the recommendation, just wondering if there are limitations or categories for inspections? I guess this goes more to the implementation.
    - Kali: There are still limitations and what access they have determined by sheriff's office, not the charter.
  - Q—Abhimanyu Could you share more about how constituents are selected to join their commissioner on these inspections?
    - Kali: in the hands of the commissioners, can't codify that at a high level.
  - General Question: What impact do you see this potentially having on the LGBTQIA+ community? / Do you see the LGBTQIA+ community playing a role in its implementation?

- - Crys: Relevant because LGBTQ community is disproportionately represented in jails, these visits would be helpful if go with lens of protections for LGBTQ individuals and recommendations and observations are made around those issues
    - Q—Crys Are the sheriff's office expected to respond to that report?
      - County commissioners can use pressure around budgeting to have other section of the government implement recommendations. But really depends on sheriff's desire to change the system
  - Q—Abhimanyu: I'm unsure how this recommendation relates to the safety of the LGBTQIA community, as it relates to hate crimes/explicit actions of hazing/homophobia, both within and outside the prison system. Will these visits be accompanied with listening sessions? Aka what learning is coming out of these visits for our county commissioners and how is this process documented/held accountable to?
  - Maja: Outcomes were of great interest to the full committee.
- **Recommendation: Equitable representation**
  - Poll Question: How familiar are you with Rank Choice Voting. Please use the emojis in the chat to answer this question. Thumbs up meaning confident, Thumbs down as not confident. And a laugh emoji if you have no clue.
    - Pretty mixed mostly thumbs ups
  - During mention of rank choice voting, Devin used the clapping emoji
  - Q—Devin: just curious, what's the reason for the 2026 timeline for RCV?
    - Maja: 2024 all seats will be up for reelection then 2026, wanted to give flexibility to elections office. Because otherwise it would be a huge lift, but if everything was ready by 2024, they would be implemented
  - Q—Abhimanyu: I was wondering if the first recommendation would include streamlining the name change process in Oregon or Multnomah County? I'm thinking about how legal dead-naming often deters folx from engaging with the institutional process of getting their vote out
    - Maja: that's a great insight to add
  - What impact do you see this potentially having on the LGBTQIA+ community? / Do you see the LGBTQIA+ community playing a role in its implementation?
    - No answers
- **Recommendation: Government Accountability**
  - No feedback

REFLECTION

- What did you like best about this session?
  - Sandrah: That was a lot of information. And a nice presentation
  - Crys: Thank you, this is really helpful information to have. I am still processing what is included and what that will look like via implementation. I know the slides were sent out today, but maybe even having the slides/questions a bit earlier with the text of the changes.
  - Devin: thank you so much! I appreciated learning more about these recommendations and look forward to following the county charter process. I really enjoyed the use of polls and how often y'all paused for questions, comments, and reflections.

- o Irene: The polls were great; the presentation was great as well. I appreciate the information shared
- o Brian: Great. Was a great session
- What improvements could be made in the future?
    - o Clarity of presentation
        - More support around where the notes are on the slide
        - Make sure presenters know to read the slides because not everyone can see the slides
    - o Compile themes and general responses and send to Kali
        - Also have a response for when we don't know answers
        - Up to the community to advocate for the details
        - Add a talking point all things changed or edited and suggestions on how to make it stronger are welcome
        - Reiterate, charter is intentional meant to be broad

MCCR EAST COUNTY FOCUS GROUP NOTES

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING SUMMARY
Subject: MCCR East County Focus Group
Date and Time: June 18, 2022, 11:00-12:30 pm
Location: Zoom Webinar
Number of Participants: 15

STAFF

- **fabiola casas, Espousal Strategies**
- **Salome Chimuku, Espousal Strategies**
- **Emma Koontz, Espousal Strategies**
- **Nina Khanjan, Multnomah Charter Review Committee Member**
- **Kathy Robson, LNS Closed Captioner**
- **Ruth Erickson, IRCO Spanish Interpreter**
- **Adrea Gehrz, IRCO ASL Interpreter**
- **Heather Duval, IRCO ASL Interpreter**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- People shared names, pronouns and where they are from

MULTNOMAH COUNTY OVERVIEW – intro slides by Fabiola rest by Salome

- Poll question: How familiar are you with the services that Multnomah County provides?
    - Poll didn't work, so used chat or verbal
        - Good mix, mostly moderately familiar
- Poll question: How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other County elected officials?
- Poll question: How do you typically engage with the County and/or County processes?
    - Poll didn't work, so used chat or verbal
    - Most engage through services, one attended meetings, some don't know how

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

Question 5

Poll | 1 question | 15 of 18 (83%) participated

15/15 (100%) answered

What issues are most important to you?	(2/15) 13%
Oversight of the criminal justice system	(8/15) 53%
Government accountability	(7/15) 47%
Voting rights	(8/15) 53%
Campaign finance	(4/15) 27%
Diverse representation in government	(10/15) 67%
Public access to elected officials	(6/15) 40%
Other	(1/15) 7%

Stop Sharing

- Poll Question: What issues are most important to you?
    - Oversight of the criminal justice system (8/15) 53%
    - Government Accountability (7/15) 47%
    - Voting right (8/15) 53%
    - Campaign Finance (4/15) 27%
    - Diverse representation in government (10/15) 67%
    - Public Access to elected officials (6/15) 40%
    - Other (1/15) 7%
    - Diverse representation in government, Government Accountability, criminal justice system oversight most important
- Safety and Justice Recommendation
    - Q—Leslie can we assume its surprise inspections?
        - Nina: no
    - Q—Why add constituents?
    - Question for attendees: What impact do you see this recommendation having on east county, what role do you see East county playing in it's implementation?
    - Robin: The impact is positive for east county resident because East County houses a large proportion BIPOC and low income populations who are more likely to some historical or current interaction with CJS. I support a 400% increase in oversight. I would lean into surprise visits, but understands prior stated reasons why they can't be. I likes the three constituents.
    - Q—Robin: How do we ensure constituents chose randomly? Constituents from different backgrounds and different economic levels are likely to have different viewpoints. I would want constituents to be there, but I wouldn't want the same type of constituent to be there. I don't want them to be hand selected by the commission to favorably agree with them. How do we ensure they represent diverse perspectives that don't just align with commissioners values?
        - Nina: We were thinking about having an application process similar to that of the MCCR COMMITTEE
    - Leslie: good points Robin

- o Q—Leslie: could you talk with attorneys who visited jails?
- o Q—Jane: would inmates be interviewed? would constituents use agreed-on standards for the inspection?
  - Nina: We want to interview folx in custody, however there are agreed upon standards that can be discussed further
- o Q—Robin: Is solitary confinement is happening at any locations and is that part of the inspection?
  - Nina: Maybe, be they are concerns about inmate privacy. That was something we (MCCR COMMITTEE) definitely wanted to talk more about, but we had a relatively short amount of time, so even if we can't include your suggestions in the charter, there is a report that we can include information that.
- **Equitable Representation Recommendations**

Polls — □ ✕

Question 6

Poll | 1 question | 16 of 18 (88%) participated

1. How familiar are you with Rank Choice Voting? (Single Choice) *

16/16 (100%) answered

Not at all familiar	(3/16) 19%
Somewhat familiar	(5/16) 31%
Moderately familiar	(5/16) 31%
Very familiar	(3/16) 19%
Extremely familiar	(0/16) 0%
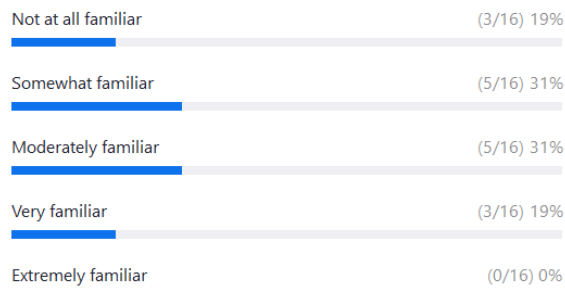
Stop Sharing

- o Poll Question: How familiar are you with rank choice voting?
  - Not familiar (3/16) 19%
  - Somewhat familiar (5/16) 31%
  - Moderately familiar (5/16) 31%
  - Very familiar (3/16) 19%
  - Extremely familiar (0/16) 0%
  - Most moderately familiar, but some not at all
- o Q--Gresiela: Can we email feedback
  - Salome: Yes!
- o Question for attendees: What impact do you see this recommendation having on east county, what role do you see East county playing in it's implementation?
- Layla: I think we would have more representation if more people were included because I think a lot of people that may not be registered to vote, etc. live in the east county and a lot of the poorer people live out in East county and they would get a chance to have

some input to feel like they were part of that the decisions that are being made. Then we would know what they feel like you know we kind of already know, but we can get verification of that so. I think it's a good idea for things that are local.

- o Stanley: Positive effect
- o Leslie: I'm not sure but I think noncitizen voters would increase voters?
    - Nina yes! Want to hear voices because contributing
- o Robin: RCV would have positive impact for east county residents because it offers outside system that can end the current party monopoly, and acknowledge we can have multiple candidates in a race and not just one best candidate. It allows for more representation, no spoiler candidate. It also allows us to focus more on policies and issues on hand rather than labeling what team you're on. I also hope East county helps with implementation because the county would be most benefited from this by a greater amount of representation by our voices. RCV also allows for campaign finance reform to be more likely to be implemented which leads to more diverse representation in elected because allows for candidates who don't have background, money, or know the system, to run. It's also a positive to expand voting rights to non-citizens because they are residents, they are impacted by the work we do and from east Portland I often feel excluded from Portland and I just want to do what we can to be more inclusive for everyone that is impacted by living under the law.
- o Warren: I think it is a nice proposal. It will help understand people choices
- o Jane: I think it would encourage more participation, esp. if candidates represent underrepresented communities.
- o Leslie: So all residents would have a voice. Yay, For r sure Robin!
- o Jessica: * Agree with Robin! Allowing more people like non citizens to vote will allow there to be a more representative government
- o Isidore: I think it give chances to votes that might just get lost due disqualification, so in case it happens to first choice, they pick the second
- o Robin: if rank choice voting is implemented, it's really important we have the correct education needed to implement it because it's new to the people of East County. Additionally, having multilingual and different forms of education would be very important.
- o Q--Jane: Community education will be really important so people know that they can vote, even if noncitizens. Is there a budget for that?
    - Nina: Can bring that back to committee, there was consideration about budgets for all recommendations, but not sure one about community education
    - Leslie: it's a big change so tv ads would help
        - Nina suggestion by someone to make videos for county website
    - Grasiela: bulletin boards might be helpful as well and utilizing Community based organizations to pass on the message
    - Vivan: Yea. I agree with Jane
    - Jessica: YouTube ads too
    - Roseline: yes any social media platform ad
    - Leslie: haha. no one looks at County website
    - Stanley: Twitter and Facebook are also effective.
    - Roseline: I agree with Leslie
    - Jennifer: Especially Facebook, yh (yeah)
    - Mary: de acuerdo (I agree)
    - Vivian: Social platforms are the best.

- Isidore: Facebook could it do better
- Warren: sure I agree, social media platforms are the best

Government Accountability Recommendations
- Q--Robin: auditor doesn't have enforcement, ombudsperson doesn't. Auditor big project, Ombudsperson smaller? What is the difference, and how are they enforced?
  - Salome: They deal with smaller scale issues so can enforce on that level
- Q--Layla: How is it funded?
  - Salome: Adding another line item to rest of county budget
- Q--Leslie: would it be appropriate for Ombuds office to make recommendations about Houselessness County programs like utilizing the city of Houston's method of offering Wraparound services?
  - Salome: if there was an audit of that office yes, but it's not common without someone asking for it
- Q---Leslie: So after someone initiated process, who would determine that our houseless programs are not working?
  - Salome: The auditor would give a full public report. there the recommendations would be given. From there public pressure, pressure from the other elected can cause a change
- Q--Robin: Does the ombudsperson have ability to hold the auditor accountable: because Portland auditor got heat for not auditing mayor campaign finance
  - Salome: independent auditor, from a different jurisdiction would be asked to audit, that's not uncommon
- Robin: I support the right to audit in all county contracts, can't believe it's not already in there
- Layla: I see more people asking for help/make complaints for smaller issues with an ombudsperson available
- Leslie: I agree with all of the Recommendations! Great session! Congrats to all of you
- Jane: An ombudsman is a great way for east county residents to interact with the County.

REFLECTION

- What did you like best about this session?
  - Vivan: great session
  - Warren: lovedit
  - Jennifer: enjoyed it
  - Nathalia: It was a great session and I really appreciate it. I'd really love more of these sessions
  - Jessica: It was great I liked how we can contribute through the chat and unmuting ourselves ☺
  - Harry: I want to ask is there any future sessions?
    - Fabiola: Thursday: offer more session recommendation
  - Jane: Thanks for giving us the slides the day before - it gave me a chance to prepare. Sorry we spent so much time on early "infrastructure" and set up and rushed the actual charter recommendations.
  - Nina: loved it, validating to know on the right track, frustration at the short timeframe, just barely had time to learn everything, then didn't have time to flesh out recommendations
- What improvements could be made in the future?

MCCR BIPOC FOCUS GROUP NOTES

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING SUMMARY
Subject: MCCR BIPOC Focus Group
Date and Time: June 23, 2022, 6:00-7:30 pm
Location: Zoom Meeting
Number of Participants: 11

STAFF

- **fabiola casas, Espousal Strategies**
- **Salome Chimuku, Espousal Strategies**
- **Emma Koontz, Espousal Strategies**
- **Jay Brannon, Multnomah Charter Review Committee Member**
- **Lauren Shirley, LNS Closed Captioner**
- **Maria Fiallos, IRCO Spanish Interpreter**
- **Ruth Erickson, IRCO Spanish Interpreter**
- **Adrea Gehrz, IRCO ASL Interpreter**
- **Amanda, IRCO ASL Interpreter**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- People introduce themselves by their name, pronouns, and where in Multnomah County they are from
- Salome went over group norms. She read the land acknowledgment, including alternative language shared by Gerard about the land acknowledgment.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY OVERVIEW – intro slides by Fabiola rest by Salome

Question1

Poll | 1 question | 9 of 15 (60%) participated

1. How familiar are you with the services that Multnomah County provides? (Single Choice) *

9/9 (100%) answered

Not at all familiar   (1/9) 11%

Slightly familiar   (0/9) 0%

Moderately familiar   (6/9) 67%

Very familiar   (1/9) 11%

Extremely familiar   (1/9) 11%

Question2

Poll | 1 question | 10 of 15 (66%) participated

1. How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other county elected officials? (Single Choice) *

10/10 (100%) answered

Not at all familiar   (2/10) 20%

Slightly familiar   (2/10) 20%

Moderately familiar   (5/10) 50%

Very familiar   (0/10) 0%

Extremely familiar   (1/10) 10%

Stop Sharing

Stop Sharing

Question 3

Poll | 1 question | 9 of 15 (60%) participated

1. How do you typically engage with the County/County processes? (Multiple Choice) *

9/9 (100%) answered

Attending public meetings (either virtually or in person)   (5/9) 56%

Contacting the office of my County Commissioner and/or ...   (3/9) 33%

Submitting public comment or input   (3/9) 33%

When seeking county services   (5/9) 56%

Visiting the county website   (5/9) 56%

I have not or am not interested in engaging with the County...   (0/9) 0%

I do not know how to engage with the County/County   (2/9) 22%
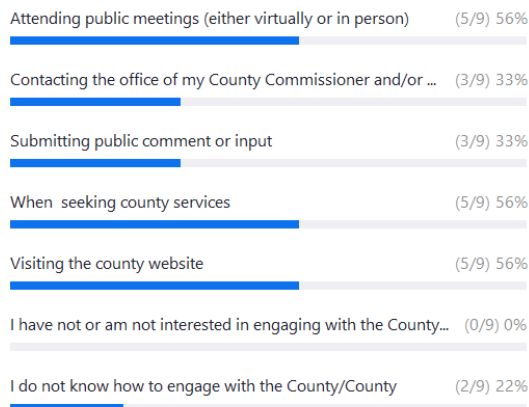
Stop Sharing

- Poll question: How familiar are you with the services that Multnomah County provides?
  - Not at all familiar -1
  - Slightly – 0
  - Moderately – 6
  - Very – 1

- o Extremely -1
- Poll question: How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other County elected officials?
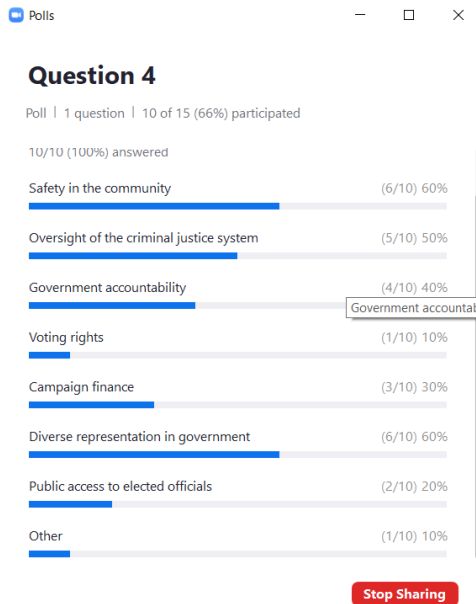 - o Not at all - 2
  - o Slightly – 2
  - o Moderately – 5
  - o Very – 0
  - o Extremely – 1
- Poll question: How do you typically engage with the County and/or County processes?
  - o Attending public meetings -5
  - o Contacting officials' offices - 3
  - o Submitting public comment - 3
  - o Seeking services - 5
  - o County website - 5
  - o Not interested – 0
  - o Not sure how - 2

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

Polls

Question 4

Poll | 1 question | 10 of 15 (66%) participated

10/10 (100%) answered

Safety in the community	(6/10) 60%
Oversight of the criminal justice system	(5/10) 50%
Government accountability	(4/10) 40%
Voting rights	(1/10) 10%
Campaign finance	(3/10) 30%
Diverse representation in government	(6/10) 60%
Public access to elected officials	(2/10) 20%
Other	(1/10) 10%

Government accountab

Stop Sharing

- Poll Question: What issues are most important to you?
  - o Safety in community - 6
  - o Oversight of criminal justice -5
  - o Government Accountability -4
  - o Voting rights -1
  - o Campaign finance - 3
  - o Diverse representation in governments - 6
  - o Public access to elected officials - 2
  - o Other - 1

- Safety and Justice Recommendation
  - Hyung: Several years ago during a BLM protest, after protesters arrested with all of their cash seized and they were given debit cards instead. The county sheriff made a deal with Securitas and Numi financial debit card to not handle arrestee cash and so that when they are released they are issued Numi debit cards. There was research done on this from No More Deaths in Arizona as well, that documented many cases of undocumented workers being arrested and sent over the border with their entire cash seized: all the labor they've done and from across the border trying to access their cash wages with this debit card that doesn't work. So basically it's wage theft. But even for people who are not being set across the border it shows how the carceral system tries to profit from incarceration. This bank charges small fees on debit card use and also means people have arrested have no cash to ride public transit. It was frustrating try find out who made the decision and how we could change it. Contacted city, city didn't know, contacted county turned out was the sheriff.
  - Q—Is there any update about what's happening with that? I'm not sure changing that should happen in the charter? The sheriff Seem the sheriff seems less accessible and responsive.
  - Hyung: Also shared article: https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/the-financial-firm-that-cornered-the-market-on-jails/
  - https://nomoredeaths.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ExecSummEnglish.pdf
    - Jay: the subcommittee considered a number of proposals limiting the sheriff's powers, but ran into legal issues and wasn't able to do so.
  - Hyung: The other piece of that was the Securitas contract. In some prisons, people are only able to communicate by videocall but are charged outrageous fees. Portland has other options, but still has that for-profit company than profits from incarceration. I don't like the sheriff has the power to make contacts with for profit corporations. Especially, because people arrested are not only unhoused, being arrested for low level offenses, arrest people at protests and then release them afterwards and subject them to all the stuff and these corporations trying to profit off us.
  - Pablo: it's obscene
  - Umi: Thank you for this Hyung. Very important to consider and learning a lot from what you shared
- **Equitable Representation Recommendations**

Question 5

1. How familiar are you with Rank Choice Voting? (Single Choice) *
10/10 (100%) answered

Not at all familiar	(3/10) 30%
Slightly familiar	(3/10) 30%
Moderately familiar	(2/10) 20%
Very familiar	(2/10) 20%
Extremely familiar	(0/10) 0%

Stop Sharing

- o Poll Question: How familiar are you with rank choice voting?
  - ▪ Not -3
  - ▪ Slightly -3
  - ▪ Moderately -2
  - ▪ Very -2
  - ▪ Extremely -0
- o Q—Pablo: Can you select "very familiar" if you've read about it but never actually used it?
- o Hyung: I teach political economy at Ida B Wells High School and use material from the city charter commission to teach about it. Students were very receptive to city charter proposal, and I will teach this again in the fall before elections.
- o Salome: slides will be available in English and Spanish after the session
  - ▪ Umi: ooohh yay, I can read the spanish ones to my parents. Helps me know how to have these conversations w them <3
  - ▪ Right on, Hyung! We need more classes like yours in school for sure
- o Q—Hyung: Will that be the only change for the county because I know the city is increasing the number of commissions and adopting multimember districts, will that be just the same number of commissioners but implementing rank choice?
- o Q—Hyung: Would that mean noncitizens could vote in city and not just county government?
  - ▪ Salome explained how this could play out at different levels
- o Question for attendees: What impact do you see this recommendation having on the BIPOC community, what role do you see BIPOC communities playing in it's implementation?
  - ▪ Hyung: Very positive
  - ▪ Umi: agreed, I like the idea of voting for the least favorite, makes me think of grassroots organizations and how CBOs can focus on orienting around issues
- o Umi: Is there a way RCV breaks down on the third, and forth choice candidates?

- - - Salome explained that candidates with the lowest number of votes would be eliminated. Their votes would be reallocated to candidates who had more first-choice votes.
    - o Umi was excited about the prospect of collaborating with people especially with high schools to educate them about Ranked Choice Voting.

- **Government Accountability Recommendations**
    - o Q—Pablo: the auditor has to get timely access if they chose to do that type of investigations, what levers does the public have to pressure certain investigations?
        - Salome: Explains auditor role, vs ombudsperson role. You can contact elected official, writing commissioners, complain to other jurisdictions auditors and ombudspersons. She also highlighted that it's in the auditor's best interest to do investigations
        - Kali: The Auditor's Office runs a Good Government Hotline where complaints can be shared: https://www.multco.us/services/good-government-hotline
    - o Question for attendees: Any other feedback on the recommendations positive or negative?
        - Hyung: looks great
    - o Q--Walter: How do RCV recommendation effect campaign finance and fundraising for BIPOC candidates?
        - Salome: RCV allows people chose who they actually like, without worry about having to choose someone who is actually going to win
    - o Q—Gerard: I support all the recommendations, they look great. For understanding the history: are these all the recommendations, are there any that didn't make it, when is the last time to make recommendation?
        - Kali: change charter to be gender neutral, increase the charter review timeline and investing more bigger community engagement process, and change application process for charter review. Another piece to auditor: enshrine good government hotline to make sure it stays regardless of the auditor
    - o Pablo: It needn't be a hotline, I suppose, but a place for the public to submit requests/info is vital, and I agree that should be in the Charter

REFLECTION

- What did you like best about this session?
    - o Umi: Appreciate you all for this opportunity to learn more and be more engaged in this and more ways!

Attachment III: Themes and Findings

Affinity Focus Groups and Community Survey Summary of Topline Themes and Findings

Overview

Affinity Focus Groups

BIPOC Focus Group

- 11 participants
- Majority of participants stated they are moderately familiar with the services Multnomah County provides
- Half of participants shared that they are moderately familiar with their County Commissioner and/or other county elected officials, while the majority of the other half was either slightly familiar or not familiar at all
- When asked which general issues were most important, participants ranked Safety in Community and Diverse Representation in Governments as the top two, followed closely by Oversight of Criminal Justice System

East County Focus Group

- 15 participants
- Majority of participants stated they are moderately familiar with the services Multnomah County provides
- When asked how they typically engage with the County and/or County processes, most participants indicated that they engage through services the County provides, while others cited that they do not know how to engage.
- Participants ranked Diverse Representation in government, Voting Rights, and Oversight of the Criminal Justice System as their top three most important issues.

Youth Focus Group

- 11 participants
- Majority of participants stated they are moderately familiar with the services Multnomah County provides
- The participants reported that the most common way they typically engage with the County or county services was by attending a public meeting, followed by submitting public comment/input and seeking/receiving county services
- When considering the top issues most important to them, participants cited Oversight of the Criminal Justice System as the clear priority, followed by Diverse Representation in Government and Public Access to Elected Officials

LGBTQIA+ Focus Group

- 12 participants
- Results were mixed when asked how familiar participants were with the services the County provides
- The majority of participants cited that they typically engage with the County and/or county processes through attending public meetings, followed by seeking county services and contacting elected officials
- When asked which issues were most important, participants ranked Safety in Community and Oversight of Criminal Justice System as the top two, followed closely by Diverse Representation in Governments

Community Survey
- 268 total respondents
- The majority of respondents self-identified as either African American/Black or White/Caucasian
- The majority of respondents indicated at least a moderate understanding of Multnomah County services and their elected officials.
- The two issues respondents prioritized the highest were: *Increasing opportunities for the community to learn about county government and services* and *Safety in the community*

Summary of Focus Group Feedback on Proposed Recommendations

Safety & Justice Subcommittee Recommendation

Overall Feedback

For each of the focus groups, oversight of the criminal justice system was a priority that ranked in the top three most important issues for participants.

Discussions around the county jail inspections reflected a desire for transparency across all of the focus groups. Participants asked several questions related to the implementation and details of this proposal that included:

- How constituents will be chosen
- What they will have access to (e.g., information, individuals, facilities)
- Who will be interviewed at the prisons
- What the guidelines for the inspections will be
- If the constituents would be provided training
- Whether the visits would be accompanied by listening sessions

Participants also had questions around accountability, and what the follow-up for these visits would include. They wanted to know how the information gathered would be considered or utilized, and what impact the findings could potentially have.

Overall, the feedback across the focus groups was supportive of the recommendations for the county jail visits and participants recognize the importance of oversight. The various questions posed by participants indicated that communities have a desire to understand processes, their purpose, and how information gathered will be utilized.

BIPOC Focus Group

Participants raised concerns around the issue of for-profit practices related to the prisons that have affected BIPOC community members. The common theme in these concerns was the perception that the County Sheriff was making deals and/or contracts with vendors that were leading to the financial exploitation of BIPOC individuals. Examples given were cash seizures in relation to the arrests of BIPOC protestors as well as undocumented workers. Another example cited was the fees for videocall communication for incarcerated individuals.

East County Focus Group

Participants shared that they anticipate the proposal around jail visits will have a positive impact on the communities in East County since it houses a large portion of BIPOC and low-

income populations, which tend to be overrepresented in the criminal justice system. Multiple participants supported an increase in oversight, which was consistent with the poll results for the session that showed Oversight of the Criminal Justice System was one of the top three most important issues to this group.

LGBTQIA+ Focus Group

Participants in this group posed many questions related to the implementation of the prison visit recommendation and the selection criteria for the constituent visitors. One participant expressed that given that the LGBTQIA+ community is overrepresented in correctional facilities, it would be important that the evaluations are conducted through this lens with a specific focus on protections for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Youth Focus Group

Participants of this focus group raised various questions around the details of what will be evaluated during the prison visits and whether they would be scheduled or surprise visits. There was specific interest in whether juvenile detention centers would be included as part of these visits by commissioners and constituents. Multiple participants expressed that the inclusion of juvenile facilities this would be important to understand the impact of incarceration on the youth specifically and their development.

Government Accountability Subcommittee Recommendations
Overall Feedback

While several recommendations have been considered by the Government Accountability Subcommittee, the focus groups only discussed and offered feedback for three recommendations related to the auditor, which were the codification of a Good Governance Hotline, establishment of an Ombudsperson Office and the Auditor's access to information and records. When discussing the Government Accountability Subcommittee Recommendations, there was not much differentiation amongst the focus groups and very little specific feedback. Generally, the discussions focused on questions the participants had related to understanding the roles and responsibilities of the Auditor and the ombudsperson, the types of issues or services they could each look into, and if the public would have the means to pressure investigations. Overall, the feedback from the focus groups was positive and supportive of the proposed recommendations discussed.

Equitable Representation Subcommittee Recommendations

Overall Feedback

When discussing the recommendations around the expansion of voting rights and adoption of ranked-choice voting, there was minimal differentiation amongst the various focus groups on the type of feedback received. For each of the focus groups, responses were mixed when asked about their level of familiarity with ranked-choice voting.

Discussions around the adoption of ranked-choice voting were positive and supportive, with many participants across the groups expressing support for greater representation this change could offer. Some participants expressed that this voting system would allow for a greater focus on policies and issues rather than parties. One participant felt that ranked-choice voting could make it more possible for campaign finance reform to be implemented, which would further lead to greater diversity of representation. Another focus group member advised that it is important to include an educational component with implementation of the new system so that community members understand how it works. When providing this education, there needs to be an intentional effort to ensure that is accessible for all (e.g., multilingual materials).

Feedback expressed in the different focus groups related to the expansion of voting rights was consistently supportive. A couple of respondents specifically mentioned support for expanding voting rights to non-citizens given that they are part of the community and are impacted by County policies. Some participants had questions around whether there would be education provided for non-citizens so that they can understand the changes and their rights. Other participants posed questions related to whether changes would be required through the legislature for the expansion of voting rights and the associated challenges.

Survey Toplines

The majority of respondents are at least moderately familiar with the services Multnomah county provides – approximately 80%

- 32% moderately familiar
- 35% very familiar
- 13% extremely familiar

The majority of respondents are at least moderately familiar with their County Commissioner and/or other county elected officials – approximately 71%

- 30% moderately familiar
- 29% very familiar
- 12% extremely familiar

Respondents are twice as likely to engage with the County/County processes by attending public meetings (virtually or in person) as other methods

The most important issues to respondents were:
- Safety in the community – 56%
- Government accountability – 50%
- Voting rights – 40%
- Oversight of criminal justice system – 37%

Of the more specific issues we asked about, respondents prioritized the following 3:
- Increasing opportunities for the community to learn about county government and services – 58%
- Oversight of the way tax dollars are spent by the County – 53%
- Safeguarding the community's ability to report wrongdoing by the county – 52%

The overwhelming majority of respondents reported that they vote in every election – 82%
- Opinions on voting systems were mixed:
  - 35% prefer ranked-choice voting
  - 30% prefer the current voting system
  - 24% prefer STAR voting
  - 11% had no opinion

The majority of respondents were represented by the following racial/ethnic demographics:
- 44% African American/Black
- 40% White/Caucasian
- 9% Latinx/Latina/Latino

Approximately one in four respondents reported that they live with a mental or physical disability.

Attachment IV: Community Survey Analysis

Community Survey Analysis

Multnomah County Charter Review

Prepared by Espousal Strategies, LLC

Overview

To inform the update of the Multnomah County Charter Review process, the project team conducted an online community survey. The survey was open from June 16-27, 2022 and was advertised and distributed through a variety of means, including communications to community-based organizations, Multnomah County jurisdictions, social media, and others. The following provides a detailed analysis of survey results.

Survey Reach

A total of 268 people[1] responded to the survey from throughout Multnomah County; the geographic distribution of where respondents live is shown in the map below.

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[1] Note that sample sizes differ by question as respondents were not required to answer all questions.

Multnomah County Charter Review Survey Geographic Reach

Respondents by ZIP code

- 1 - 4
- 5 - 9
- 10 or more
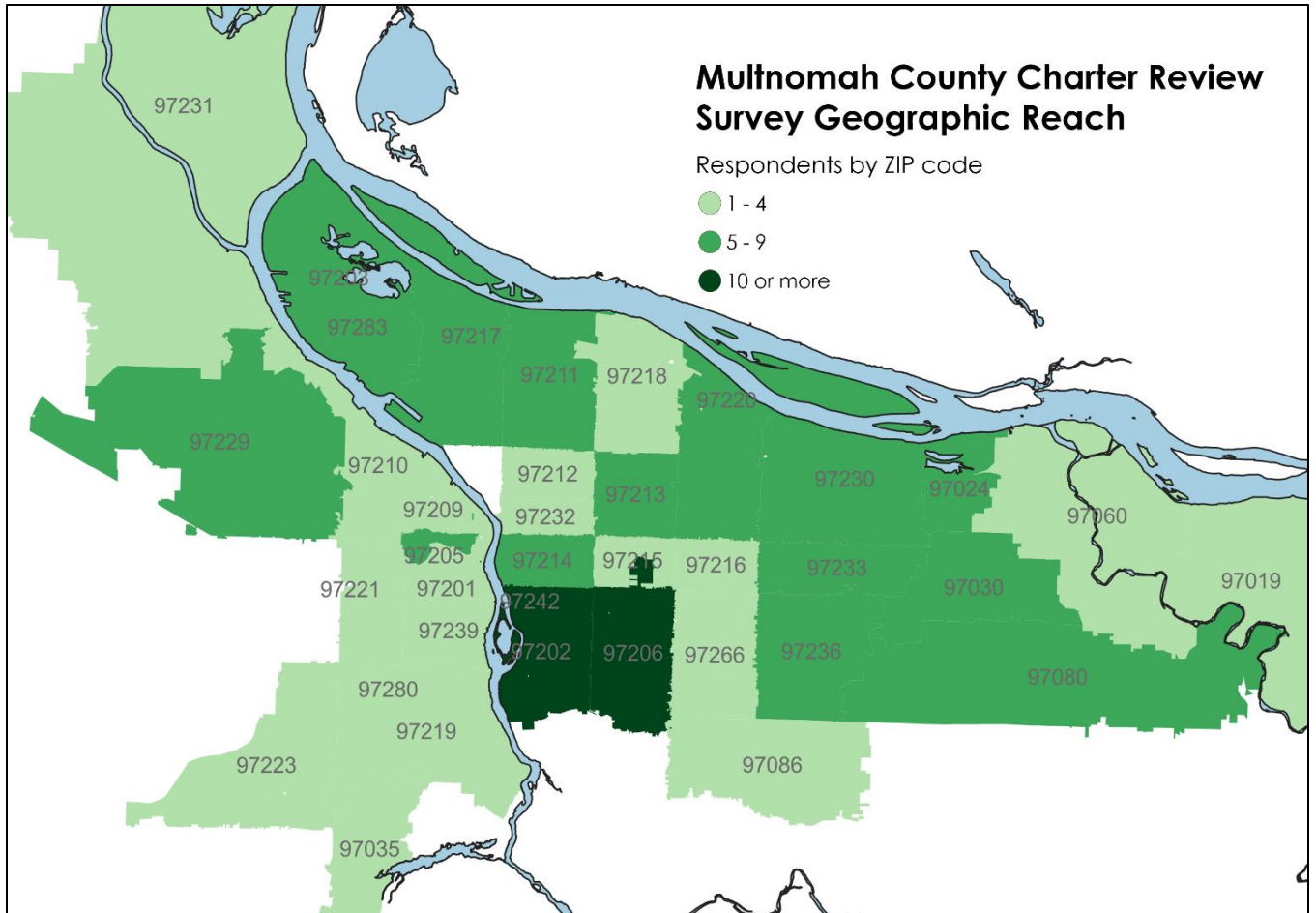
The survey asked for demographic information including age, race/ethnicity, income, disability status, and gender.

- **Respondents were younger overall compared to the County population as a whole**. Nearly two-thirds were between 24 and 44 years of age, compared to 36% of the County's adults[2].

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[2] Multnomah County residents under age 18 are excluded from the percentages shown, assuming that survey respondents were all 18 and over.

What is your age?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

Survey respondents (n=205)

| 7% | 44% | 21% | 13% | 8% | 7% |

Multnomah County adults*

| 8% | 19% | 17% | 13% | 12% | 14% |

■ Under 25 ■ 24-34 ■ 35-44 ■ 45-54 ■ 55-64 ■ 65+

*Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey
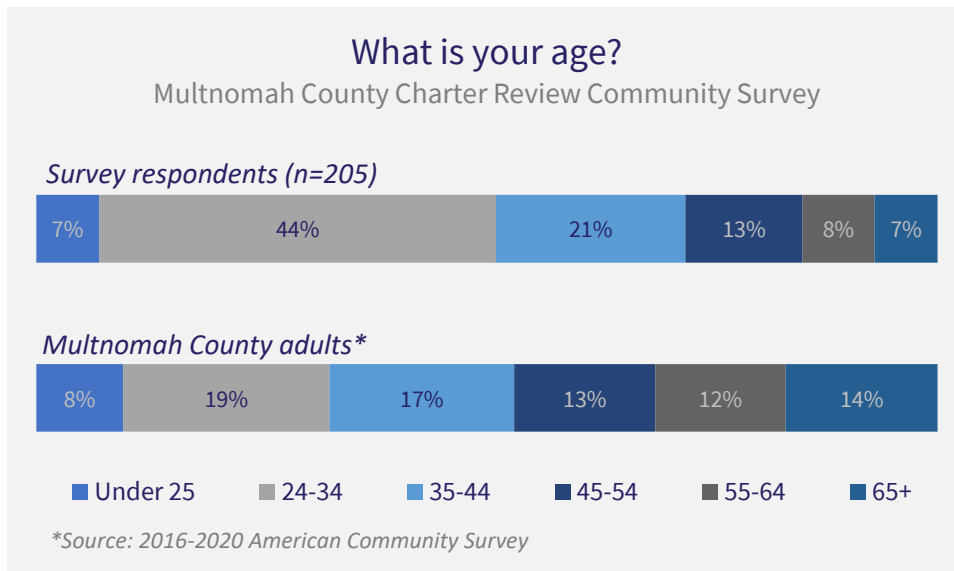
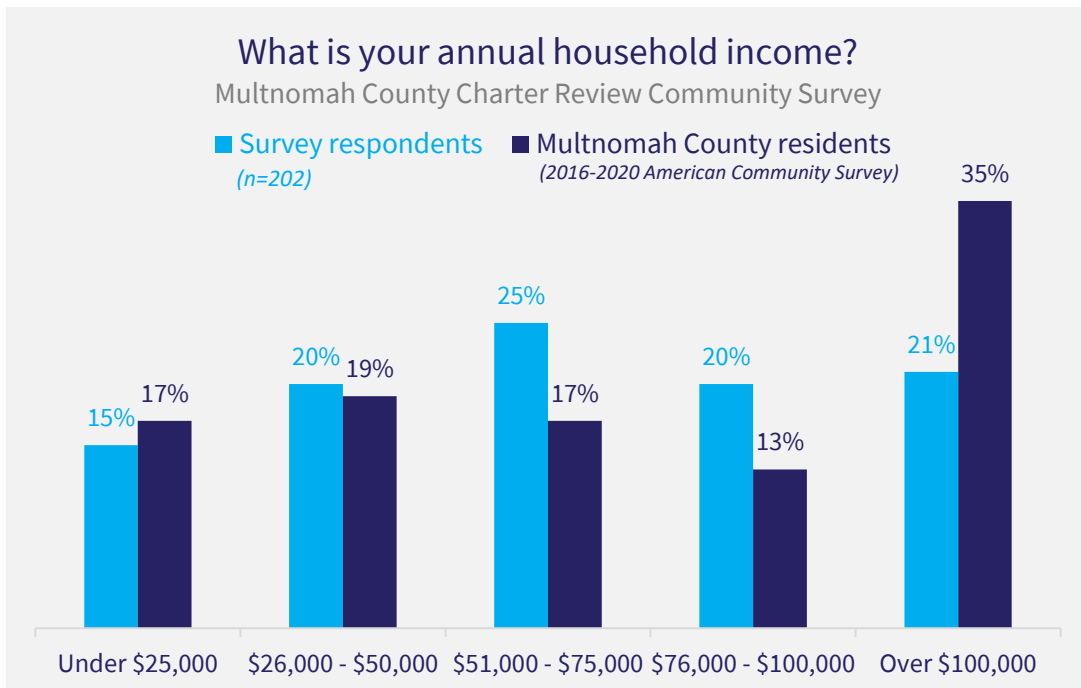- **The sample was racially diverse**. About two-thirds (66%) identified as a race/ethnicity considered Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), including 44% who selected African American/Black. Comparatively, as of the 2020 census, about 31% of Multnomah County adults were BIPOC and 5% were African American/Black.

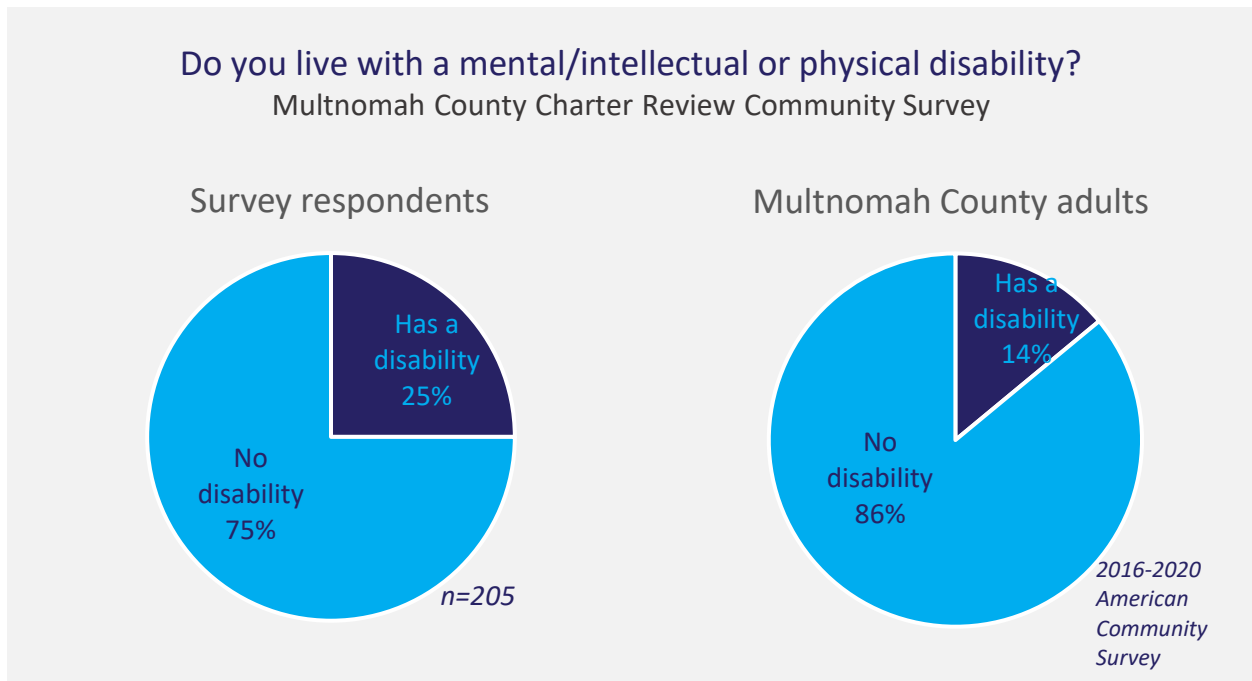|	Survey respondents	Multnomah County adults
White/Caucasian	33%	69%
All BIPOC	66%	31%
African American/Black	44%	5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2%	1%
Asian	3%	8%
Hispanic or Latino/a/x	6%	11%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<1%	<1%
Other	<1%	<1%
Multiple races/ethnicities	10%	6%

Survey n = 200. Source for Mult Co. figures: 2020 US Census

- **Respondents were pretty evenly distributed across income levels**. Compared to Multnomah County residents as a whole, the survey had a similar proportion of respondents making less than $50,000 (both about 35%); a higher percentage making $50,000-$100,000 (45% of respondents vs. 30% of County residents); and a smaller

proportion of those making more than $100,000 annually (21% of respondents vs. 35% of County residents).

What is your annual household income?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

■ Survey respondents *(n=202)*   ■ Multnomah County residents *(2016-2020 American Community Survey)*

	Under $25,000	$26,000 - $50,000	$51,000 - $75,000	$76,000 - $100,000	Over $100,000
Survey respondents	15%	20%	25%	20%	21%
Multnomah County residents	17%	19%	17%	13%	35%

- **One in four respondents reported living with a disability**. This is proportionately higher than Multnomah County adults overall (14%).

Do you live with a mental/intellectual or physical disability?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

Survey respondents
- Has a disability 25%
- No disability 75%
- *n=205*

Multnomah County adults
- Has a disability 14%
- No disability 86%
- *2016-2020 American Community Survey*

- In terms of gender, the majority of respondents identified as male (55%), while 39% identified as female and 5% identified as either transmasculine, transfeminine, non-binary, or gender queer.

Which of the following describes your gender?

Transmasculine, Transfeminine, Non-binary, or Gender queer 5%

Male 55%

Female 39%

n=205
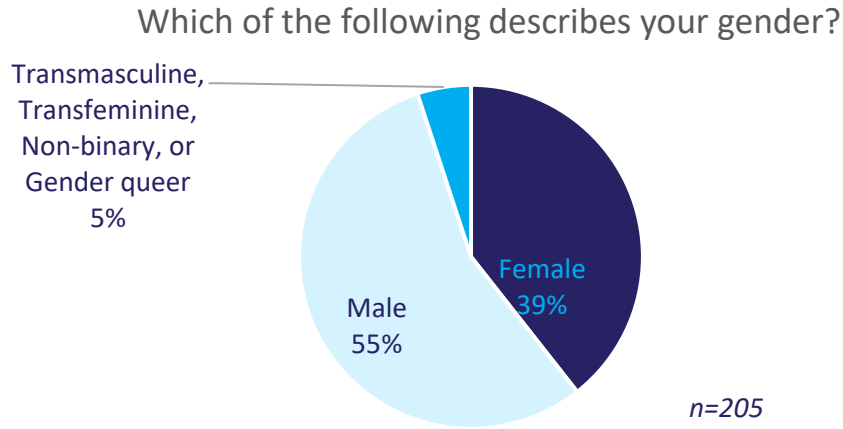
Civic Engagement

The survey contained four questions aimed to gauge respondents' level of familiarity and engagement with Multnomah County, as well as more broadly:

Q1: How familiar are you with the services Multnomah County provides?

Q2: How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other elected officials?

Q3: How do you typically engage with the County?

Q6: How often do you vote?

- **Respondents tended to be familiar with County services and elected officials:** 80% were at least "moderately familiar" with County services, and 71% were at least "moderately familiar" with their County Commissioner and/or other elected officials.

Q1: How familiar are you with the services Multnomah County provides?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

n=218

5%	16%	32%	48%
Not familiar at all	Slightly familiar	Moderately familiar	Very/extremely familiar
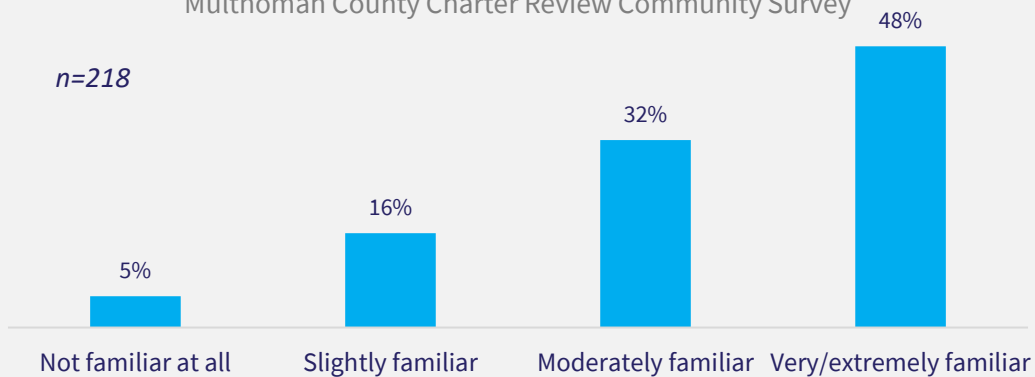
Q2: How familiar are you with your County Commissioner and/or other elected County officials?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

n=218

|			
9%	20%	30%	41%
Not familiar at all	Slightly familiar	Moderately familiar	Very/extremely familiar
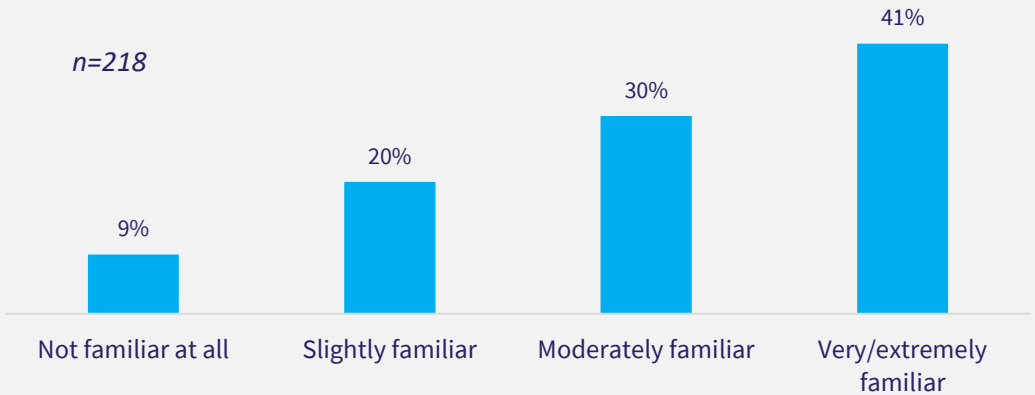
- **The most common means of engaging with the County was by attending public meetings** (34% of respondents). Other less common means included seeking County services, contacting elected officials, and/or submitting public comment. Notably, about one in seven respondents reported that they did not know how to engage with the County.
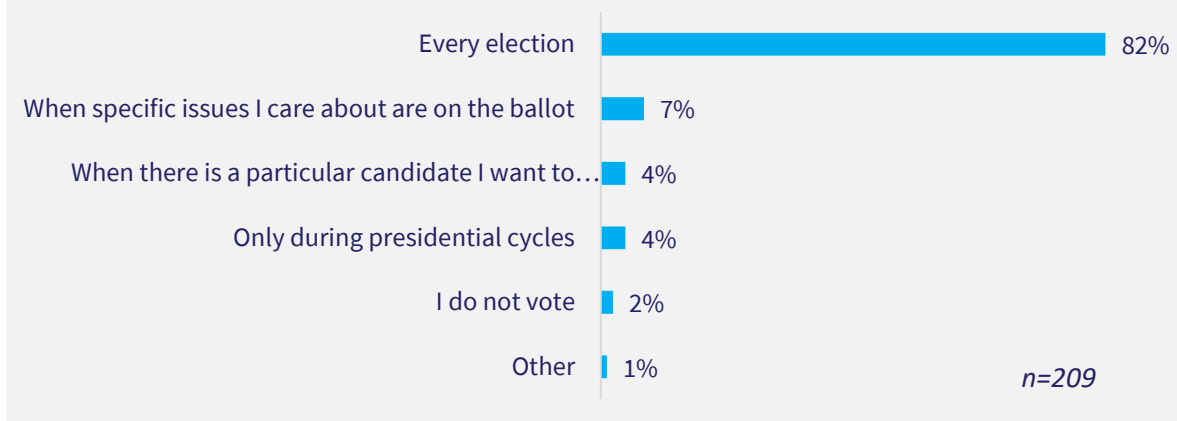
Q3: How do you typically engage with the County?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

Attending public meetings	34%
Seeking county services	17%
Contacting the office of my County Commissioner and/or other county elected officials	16%
Submitting public comment	13%
I do not know how to engage with the County	14%
I have not or am not interested in engaging with the County	6%

n=215
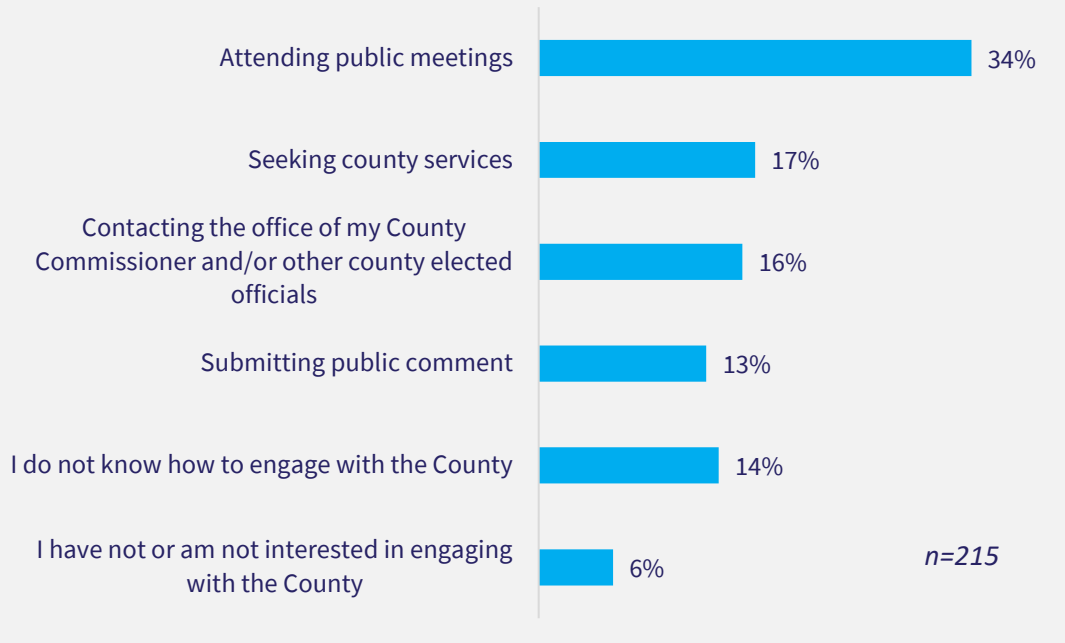
- **The survey reached largely frequent voters**, with over four in five saying they vote in every election.

Q6: How often do you vote?
Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

Every election	82%
When specific issues I care about are on the ballot	7%
When there is a particular candidate I want to…	4%
Only during presidential cycles	4%
I do not vote	2%
Other	1%

n=209

Priority Issues

Survey takers were asked to identify issues important to them using two questions:
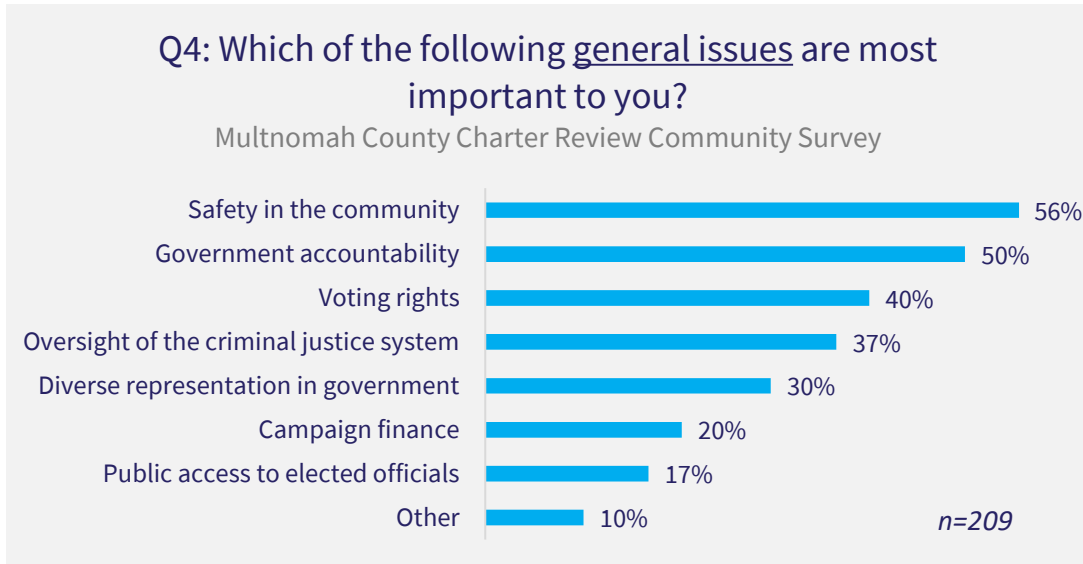
Q4: Which of the following *general* issues are most important to you?

Q5: Which of the following more *specific* issues are most important to you?

For example, 'Voting rights' was an option under Q4, whereas 'Expanding voting rights to noncitizens' was a similar, but more specific option under Q5. (e.g., voting rights)
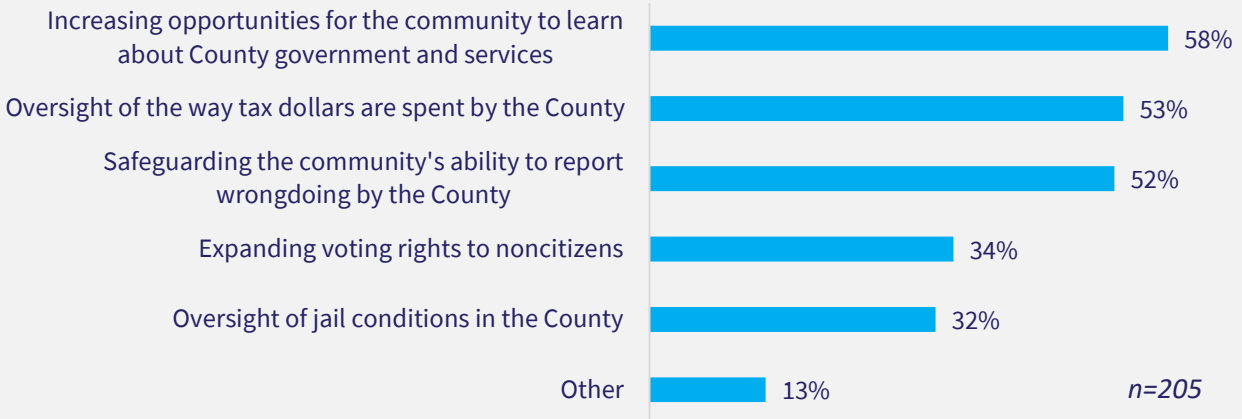
- **The most common general issue of importance was 'Safety in the community'**, which was selected by a majority of respondents (56%), followed by 'Government accountability' (50%) and 'Voting rights' (40%).

Q4: Which of the following <u>general issues</u> are most important to you?

Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

Issue	Percentage
Safety in the community	56%
Government accountability	50%
Voting rights	40%
Oversight of the criminal justice system	37%
Diverse representation in government	30%
Campaign finance	20%
Public access to elected officials	17%
Other	10%

n=209

- **The most common specific issue of importance was 'Increasing opportunities for the community to learn about County government and services'** (selected by 58% of respondents), followed by 'Oversight of the way tax dollars are spent by the County' (53%), and 'Safeguarding the community's ability to report wrongdoing by the County' (52%).

Q5: Which of the following more specific issues are most important to you?

Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

| Issue	%
Increasing opportunities for the community to learn about County government and services	58%
Oversight of the way tax dollars are spent by the County	53%
Safeguarding the community's ability to report wrongdoing by the County	52%
Expanding voting rights to noncitizens	34%
Oversight of jail conditions in the County	32%
Other	13%

n=205

Voting Systems

Q7 asked about preferred voting systems and provided three different options (plus 'No opinion'): the current system, ranked choice voting, and STAR voting.

- **A plurality of respondents (35%) indicated they would prefer ranked choice voting.** Another 30% selected the current system, and just under one quarter selected STAR voting.

Q7: When considering alternative voting systems, which of the following would be your preferred option?

Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

n=209

| Ranked choice voting	Current voting method	STAR voting	No opinion
35%	30%	24%	11%
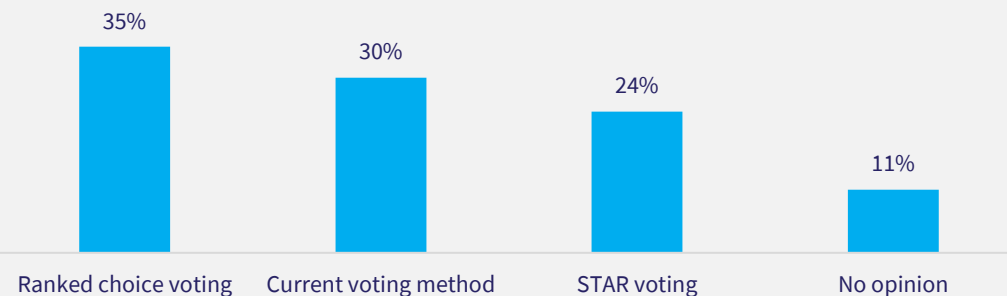
Racial Equity Lens

A key objective of the survey was to reach BIPOC residents of Multnomah County. As shown previously in this analysis, working towards this objective resulted in a sample that was two-thirds BIPOC – about double the BIPOC portion of Multnomah County residents overall. Because of this, most of the results for the sample as a whole are consistent with results when disaggregating to understand how answers differed for BIPOC respondents as compared to White.

That said, differences in responses to two questions[3] are worth noting:

- In response to *Q4: Which of the following general issues are most important to you*, a higher proportion of BIPOC survey takers selected 'Public access to elected officials' and 'Diverse representation in government' as compared to White survey takers. On the other hand, White respondents were more likely to select 'Government accountability' as an important issue.

Q4: Which of the following <u>general</u> issues are most important to you?
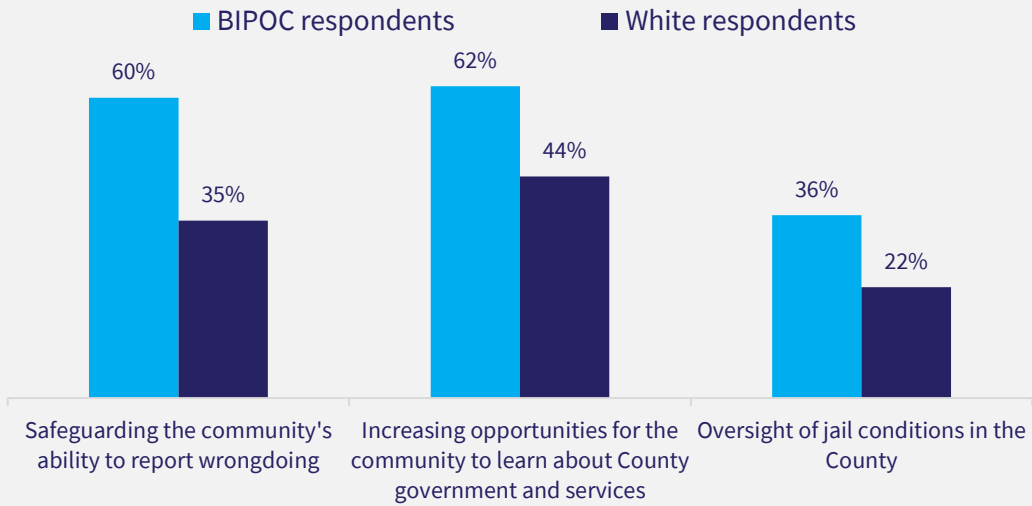Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey
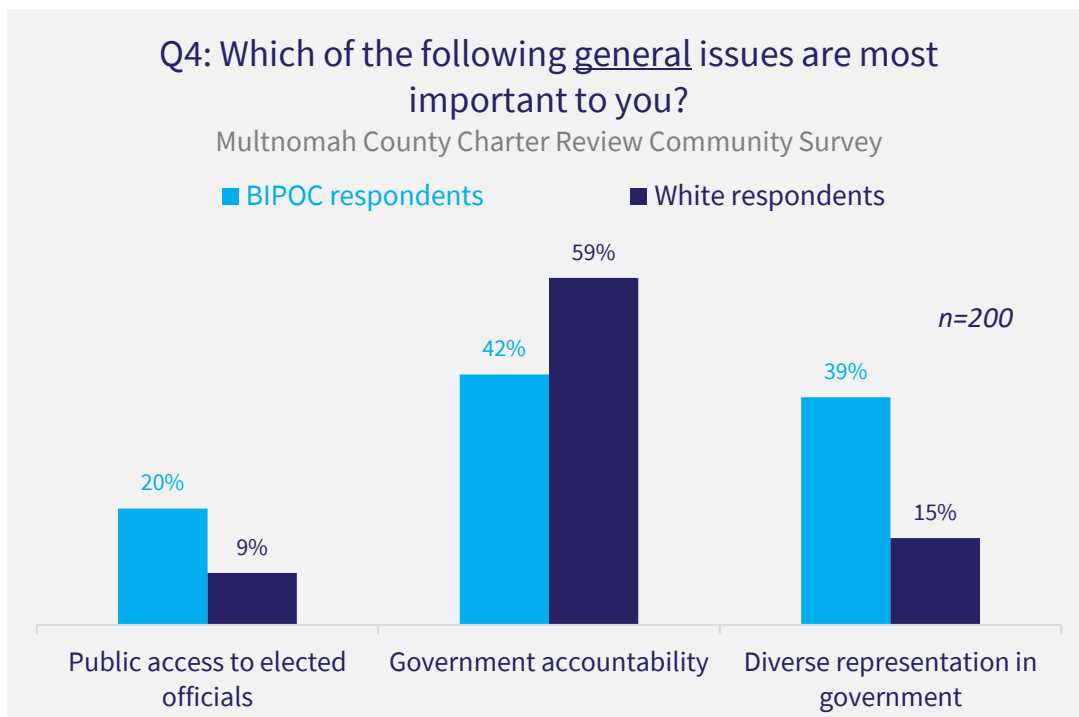
- In response to *Q5: Which of the following more specific issues are most important to you?*, a higher percentage of BIPOC respondents selected 'Safeguarding the community's ability to report wrongdoing', 'Increasing opportunities for the community to learn about County government and services', and 'Oversight of jail conditions in the County'.

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[3] These differences meet the standard of statistical significance at a 95% confidence level.

Q4: Which of the following more <u>specific</u> issues are most important to you?

Multnomah County Charter Review Community Survey

■ BIPOC respondents   ■ White respondents

60% | 35% | 62% | 44% | 36% | 22%

Safeguarding the community's ability to report wrongdoing | Increasing opportunities for the community to learn about County government and services | Oversight of jail conditions in the County

n=200