



Metro

# Regional Waste Advisory Committee

## *Equity, health and the environment*

May 21, 2020

**1. Please note that this webinar is being recorded.**

**2. All attendees have muted cameras and microphones.**

There will be a public comment period during the meeting, and at that time we will explain again how attendees can raise their hand in order to speak:



Look for the Raise Hand icon: Raise Hand

If you have called in via phone, you may dial \*9 which will let us know you've raised your hand to speak. Your microphone will be unmuted when it is your turn to speak.

**3. There is no chat or Q&A function during the meeting** other than the raise hand function which can be used during the public comment period.

**If you have any technical difficulties or questions, send me an email:**

**[casey.mellnik@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:casey.mellnik@oregonmetro.gov)**

# Today's discussion

## Welcome and Introductions

## Consideration of Minutes (February 20, 2020)

**WPES Update:** Metro operations and budget; work planning; community support and engagement

**Regional Service Standards:** Overview of proposed Metro Code updates that bring Service Standards in line with Regional Waste Plan goals. (public comment period to follow)

## Statewide Recycling System Modernization Update

## Closing and Adjourn





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# Waste Prevention & Environmental Services (WPES) Update

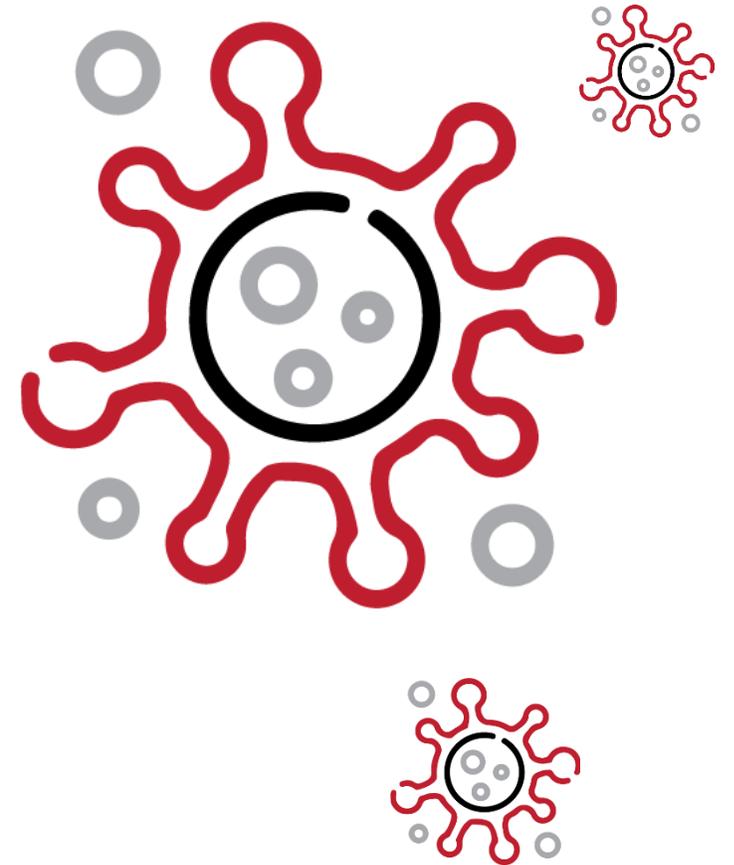
# WPES FY20-21 Budget and COVID Considerations

Regional Waste Advisory Committee  
May 21, 2020



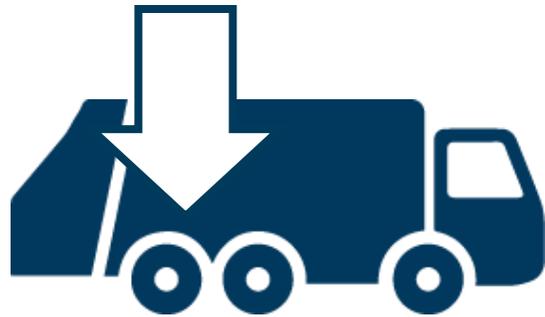
# Impact of COVID on Metro

- Huge and unprecedented
- Metro venues and zoo closed suddenly in mid-March
- 40% of Metro employees were laid off in April



# Impact of COVID on solid waste

## Decreased tonnage



- Tonnage decreased about 20% in March
- Stabilization of decrease is unclear

## Essential services



- Waste services, collection cleanups, and disposal deemed essential services

## Retained hours



- No reduction in services or curtailment of hours at public facilities

# Budget impact on solid waste



Tonnage/revenue down 10%



Customers up 3%



No rate increase until, at least, October 1<sup>st</sup>



Defer vacancy hiring and staffing expansions until funding stabilizes

# Budget impact on solid waste



## Budget

20 percent budget reduction package approved by Council including:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Innovation & Investment grant program deferred
- Cancellation of household hazardous collection events
- Design and construction of new facilities delayed
- Commercial food scraps program implementation delayed
- RID program expansion delayed
- Reductions to marketing and advertising for general campaigns and brand development
- Reduction in small capital projects funding

# Budget guidance with racial equity lens

- 1 Retain existing staff and programs, including work transition
- 2 Maintain investments with community partners – especially for communities of color and marginalized communities
- 3 Prioritize existing programs and services that provide or improve access for marginalized communities
- 4 Defer most new program expansions, new facilities and new staff until long term funding is better understood
- 5 Move forward with property acquisition for new facilities that includes virtual community engagement
- 6 Move forward with commercial food waste processing capacity at Metro Central
- 7 Move forward with development of regional residential service standards
- 8 Continue investment in existing infrastructure
- 9 Continue to work with DEQ in statewide recycling modernization package and legislation

# Looking forward

## *Work planning*

Identification of Metro and local government priorities with new budget considerations to implement the Regional Waste Plan

## *New engagement practices*

Collaboration with community partners and local governments to develop new forms of engagement in the time of COVID

## *Measuring progress*

Track plan indicators and report annually





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# Regional Service Standards

# 2030 Regional Waste Plan

## Regional Service Standard Code and Rule Update

RWAC May 21, 2020



# Presentation Overview

- 2030 Regional Waste Plan review
- Changes to Metro Code and Rule format—what and why
- Focus on Multifamily Standards
- Next steps

## What is the 2030 Regional Waste Plan?

A vision for the region's garbage and recycling system

A blueprint for policy direction, goals and roles and responsibilities

A plan for reducing environmental and health impacts, and sharing system benefits equitably





What's in the plan?



# Advancing equity

## *Desired outcomes:*

- Diversity in garbage and recycling system jobs
- Good wages and benefits
- Access to decision-making
- Inclusive, culturally-relevant education services



# Reducing health/environmental impacts

## *Desired outcomes:*

- Toxic chemicals out of priority products
- Better purchasing choices
- More opportunities for reuse and repair
- Minimized impacts from system operations



# Maintaining and improving our garbage and recycling system

## *Desired outcomes:*

- Improved collection services for residents
- More adaptable and resilient recycling system
- Prepared for disasters



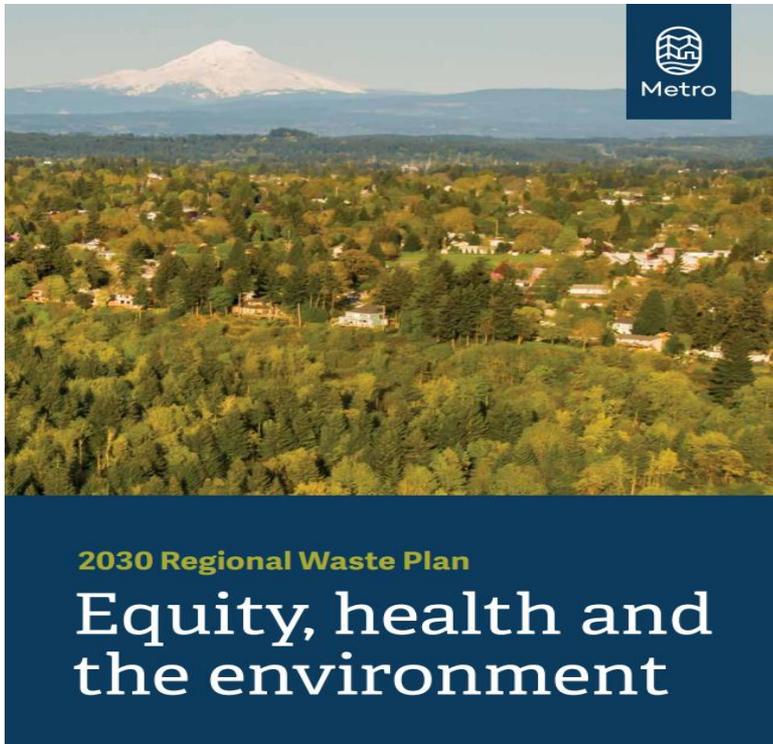
# Changes to code and rule: housekeeping

## Why?

- It is out of date
- It does not fit the new format for Code and Administrative Rule
- It is not well organized

# 2030 Regional Waste Plan

## Goal 10



**Goal 10:**  
Provide regionally consistent services for garbage, recyclables and other priority materials that meet the needs of all users.

ACTIONS TO BE COMPLETED BY 2030	LEAD AGENCY	IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH	
10.1 Provide comprehensive collection services and supporting education and assistance for source-separated recyclables, source-separated food scraps and garbage, in compliance with state, regional and local requirements, including the Regional Service Standard, Business Recycling Requirement and Business Food Waste Requirement in Metro Code.	Cities Counties	Code and authorizations	  
10.2 Implement minimum service levels or performance standards for all collected materials for multifamily and commercial tenants.	Metro Cities Counties	Code and authorizations	  
10.3 Implement regional standards for collection container colors, signage and other related informational materials for single-family, multifamily and commercial services.	Metro Cities Counties	Code and authorizations	  
10.4 Provide convenient, accessible and equitable collection of hazardous waste from households and Conditionally Exempt Generators, prioritizing communities with greatest need.	Metro	Existing programs Partnership agreements	  
10.5 Provide regularly occurring bulky waste collection service, with particular emphasis on multifamily communities and lower-income households.	Cities Counties	Code and authorizations	  
10.6 Establish standards for collection areas for existing and newly constructed multifamily properties to ensure residents have adequate access to garbage, recyclables and food scraps collection containers.	Metro Cities Counties	Code and authorizations	  



# Changes to code and rule: substantive

## **Multifamily**

- Per unit service minimums for garbage, mixed recycling and glass
- Weekly minimum frequency
- Stream-based color standard
- Required use of regional signage on bins and in collection areas

## **Why these changes?**

# Multifamily recycling report

- Two year collaborative project with Beaverton, Gresham, Portland and Clackamas and Washington Counties
- Multiple data sources collected, service levels, waste characterization and engagement with people of color and low income people living in multifamily homes
- Four findings were produced

# Multifamily recycling report: findings

1. Inadequate access for residents to mixed recycling service and glass recycling service.
2. Collection containers are inconsistent in size, color and labeling.
3. The recyclables put out for collection are highly contaminated with non-acceptable materials.
4. Bulky waste is inadequately managed.

# Multifamily garbage and recycling areas



# Multifamily garbage and recycling areas



# Multifamily garbage and recycling areas



# What people living in multifamily homes said

“It is more difficult to recycle, because it fills up quickly. Not much fits in the recycling and we have to put it together with the trash.”

“Color coordinate everything – all recycling related bins and materials in one color, all trash related materials in another color.”

“Keep the colors simple and use them to our advantage.”

“Change the way things are sorted – sectioned off, with pictures and directions in many languages.”

# Changes to code and rule: substantive

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## **Why these changes?**

# Next steps

- Code revisions and new administrative rule are drafted.
- Early versions will be shared first with the local government solid waste directors for input and comment.
- Then vetting with Metro policy committees, stakeholder groups and a formal public input process.



Thank you.





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# Statewide Recycling System Modernization Update

# Planning for the future: Statewide project



## Recycling Steering Committee

*Modernizing Oregon's recycling system  
with support from Oregon Consensus*

Reach consensus and recommend actions to:

- optimize benefits for the environment
- make recycling system strong and adaptable to change
- maintain public trust in the system

## Members

Association of Oregon Counties (AOC)  
Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR)  
Association of Plastics Recyclers/Denton  
Plastics  
EFI  
Far West Recycling  
Lane County  
League of Oregon Cities/City of Beaverton  
Metro  
North Pacific Paper Company (NORPAC)  
Oregon DEQ  
Oregon Refuse & Recycling Association (ORRA)  
City of Portland  
Recycling Partnership  
Rogue Disposal & Recycling  
Waste Connections  
Waste Management

# Update on process

Recycling Steering Committee resumed discussions after break due to COVID-19 and is meeting weekly – agendas and meeting materials on DEQ's website, see:

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/recycling/Pages/Recycling-Steering-Committee-Resources.aspx>

Recycling infrastructure investment scenarios impact modeling and cost estimates complete (June)

Committee recommendations report released (September)

Recommendations that require changes in state statute considered by Oregon Legislature in 2021

# Key policy elements under discussion

- Processing standards and end market transparency requirements
- Contamination standards and requirements for generator feedback
- Role of producers in the system and options for advancing producer responsibility
- System financing options and how to address transportation costs for communities that are not proximate to processing facilities
- Product package labeling requirements
- Expansion of bottle bill
- Recycling market development and recycled content standards
- Requirements that advance equity within the recycling system



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# Regional Waste Advisory Committee

## *Equity, health and the environment*

**Next committee meeting: June 18, 2020 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.**