



# Equity and Mobility Advisory Committee

Meeting #22  
April 5, 2023



# Welcome and Technical Info

- This meeting is being hosted in person, via Zoom webinar and being live-streamed on YouTube.
- EMAC Members are participating virtually and in person.
- For all others watching virtually, video and chat are disabled, and attendees are muted.

*What you say is part of the public record and open to public records requests through the Oregon Public Records and Meetings Law.*

# Centering Exercise



# Working Together Agreements



# EMAC Statement of Purpose



- Neighborhood health and safety
- Low-income
- Transit and multimodal

*Providing input directly to the Oregon Transportation Commission, EMAC was convened in 2020 to ensure equitable toll project processes and outcomes.*

# **Where We've Been and Where We're Going**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**EMAC Members**

# Recent EMAC Meetings

- February 1: EMAC Meeting #21
  - 2022-2025 EMAC Work Plan
  - Visioning for the ODOT-EMAC Accountability Workshop #1
  - Update from ODOT on advancing equity
- March 21: EMAC Briefing on the I-205 Toll Project Draft Environmental Assessment
- March 23: EMAC Subcommittee: Accountability

# Our Plan for Today

- Review case studies and discuss innovative ideas for engaging ODOT in creating a process to develop and sustain accountability.
- Review plan for advancing EMAC's Work Plan priorities in 2023.
- Update the committee on advancing process and outcome equity through ODOT's operationalization of EMAC's previous recommendations.



# Agenda

- Where We've Been and Where We're Going
- Preparing for the ODOT-EMAC Accountability Workshop #1
- 2023 Work Plan Forecast
- Update from ODOT on Advancing Equity
- Public Comment
- Going Forward

# OTC Liaison to EMAC

Commissioner Sharon Smith, Oregon  
Transportation Commission (OTC) Liaison  
to EMAC



# **Preparing for the ODOT-EMAC Accountability Workshop #1**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**Perla Solis, Project Team**

**EMAC Members**

# What We've Heard

## EMAC's key themes for building accountability between ODOT and Equity Framework Communities:

- Equitable engagement
- Transparency
- Performance metrics and evaluation process
- Long-term oversight
- Resolve barriers to commitments



# EMAC Subcommittee: Accountability Overview

On Thursday, March 23, EMAC convened to **define the purpose and outcomes for the upcoming EMAC-ODOT Accountability Workshop #1:**

- Brief presentation on what we heard in Meeting #21
- Discussion about EMAC's vision for the Accountability Workshop

# EMAC Subcommittee: Accountability

## Purpose, Outcomes, Objectives

*Subcommittee meeting was held virtually on Thursday, March 23, from 10 – 11 a.m.*

**Purpose:** Recommend and co-create a structure or process to sustain equity.

**Outcome:** Initial draft or direction for an accountable structure or process.

### **Objectives:**

- Present EMAC's recommendation for sustaining long-term accountability.
- Discuss metrics needed to measure equitable outcomes and processes.
- Discuss ODOT's lessons learned for reporting; workshop innovative methods to resolving barriers to sustaining equity.

# EMAC-ODOT Accountability Workshop #1

## Meeting Outline

- Welcome, Introductions, Objectives
- **Presentation 1:** EMAC's Recommendation for Sustained Accountability
- **Presentation 2:** ODOT's Lessons Learned in Transparency and Reporting
- **Lunch and Conversation**
- **Workshop:** Developing a Plan to Sustain Equitable Outcomes and Processes
- Closing and Next Steps

# Case Studies

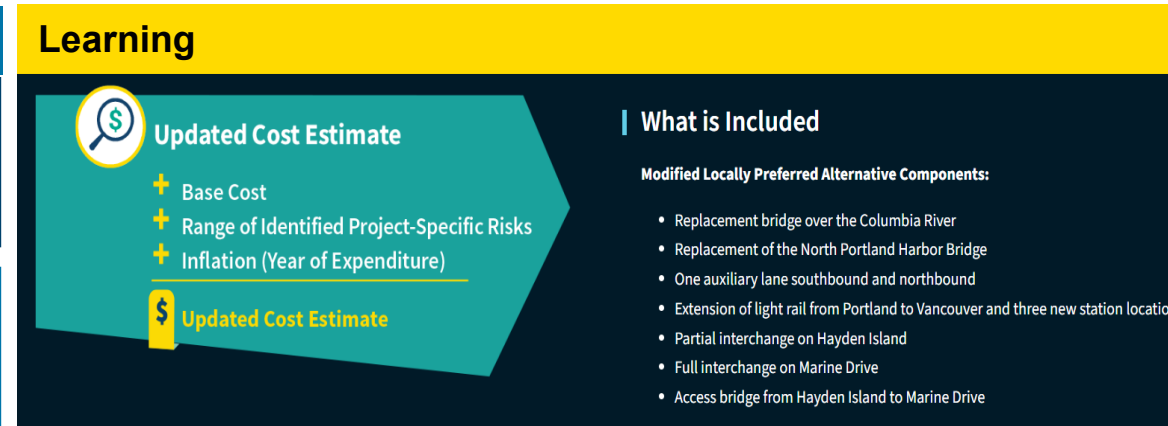
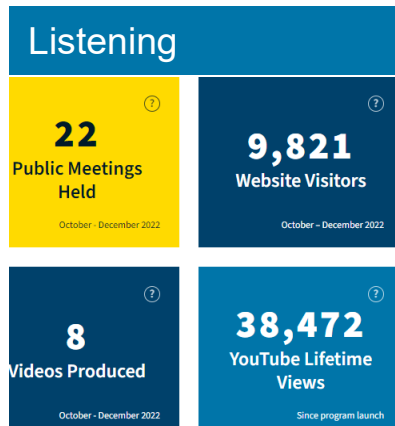
- Interstate Bridge Replacement Program (IBR) Accountability Dashboard
- City of Seattle Race and Social Justice Initiative
- Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Accountability
- Prosper Portland
- I-205 Improvements Projects Accountability Dashboard





# Case Study: Interstate Bridge Replacement

- Online dashboard focusing on three components of accountability:
  - **Listening** – Quantitative engagement metrics
  - **Learning** – Changes to the project in response to community feedback
  - **Reporting** – Legislative process reports and financial information



## What we've heard and how we're responding

We've heard the community values low-barrier engagement options and the opportunity to have meaningful conversations with the program.

WHAT WE'RE DOING →

We've heard the community is interested in learning more about how the program will impact them.

WHAT WE'RE DOING →

We've heard social media is one of the preferred ways our community would like to be engaged.

WHAT WE'RE DOING →

# Case Study: City of Seattle Race and Social Justice Initiative

- City Racial Equity Actions database to increase transparency and interdepartmental coordination
- Each selected project provides:
  - What will be delivered
  - Strategies for engaging the community
  - Strategies for addressing race and social justice
  - Desired outcomes
  - Metrics for measuring each outcome
  - Contact info

## City Racial Equity Actions

For transparency and accountability, we're sharing the actions we're taking towards racial equity. See who to contact, what we'll deliver, and how we plan on meeting our desired outcomes.

### Featured topics

- [Environment](#)
- [Equitable Development](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Jobs & Economic Justice](#)
- [Service Equity](#)

### All Filters

Keyword

Funding, Rainier Beach, etc.

Topic

- Arts & Culture
- Criminal Justice

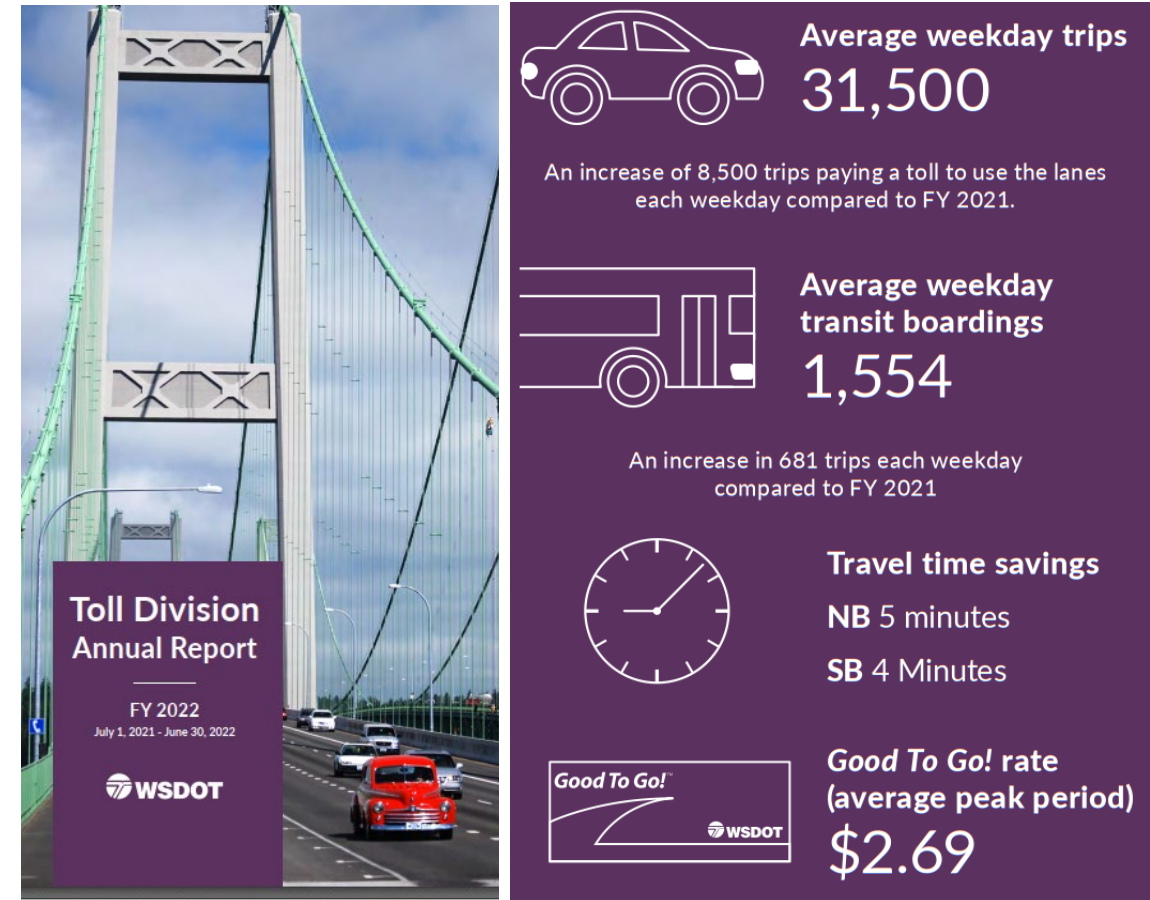
### 421 Actions

- [Launch People, Culture, & Community Branch Equity Team](#)  
To skill up coworkers to identify, address, and eliminate institutional racism  
Planned for 2021
- [King Conservation District Community Partnership Grants](#)  
Partner with King Conservation District to ensure 100% of the funding benefits EEl communities  
Planned for 2021
- [Expand the Fresh Bucks Retailer Network](#)  
Up to 3 new supermarket/large grocery stores and up to 8 new small food retailers  
Planned for 2021-2022

# Case Study: Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Accountability

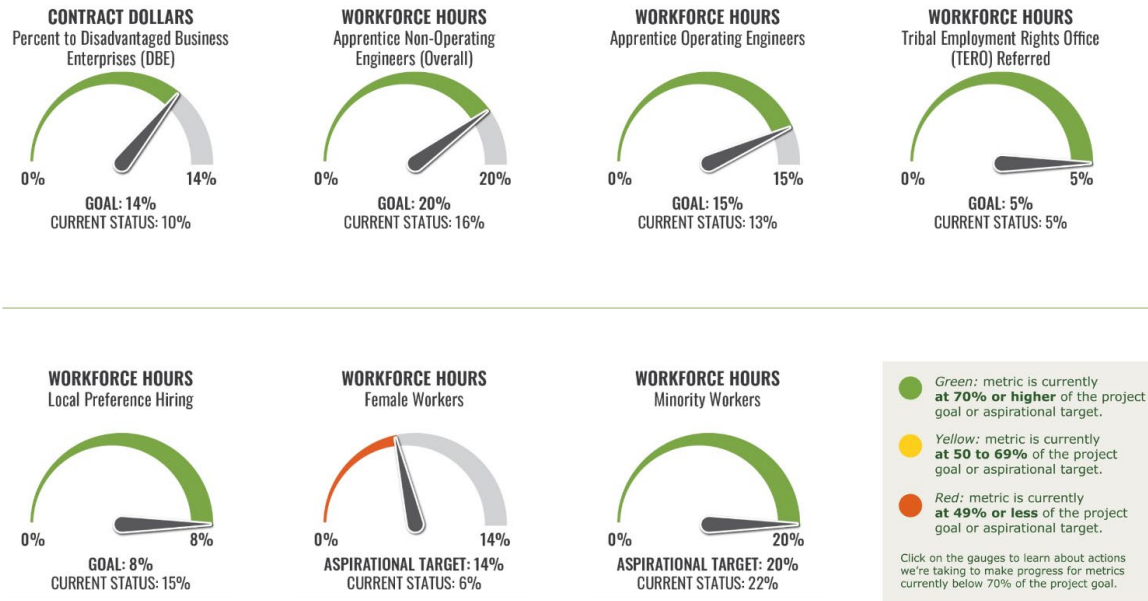
## Accountability portal hosting multi-disciplinary reports

- Toll Division Report (annual)
  - Traffic volumes
  - Average weekday trips
  - Revenue and expenses
  - Operations and maintenance
  - Good to Go! performance
  - Good to Go! rate per project

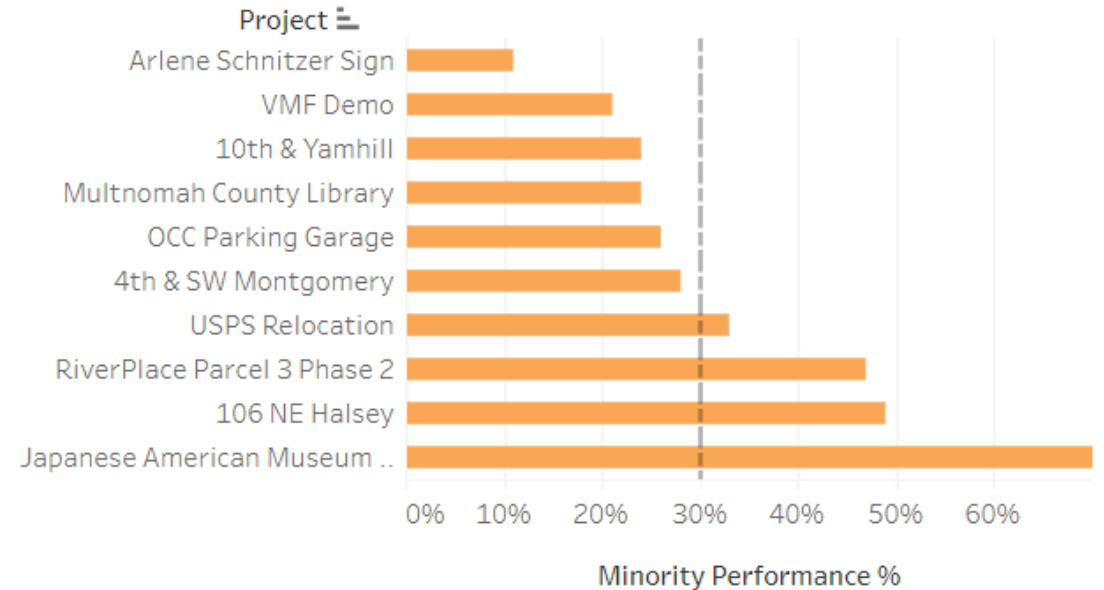


# Case Study: I-205 Improvements Project & Prosper Portland Accountability Dashboards

## Accountability dashboards focused on tracking DBE Goals



I-205 Improvements Project  
Diversity and workforce dashboard



Prosper Portland  
Business and workforce equity dashboard

# Case Study Reflections

## What works well:

- Commitment to continuous equitable engagement
- Prevalence of transparency and “information out”
- Monitoring and communicating progress effectively and accurately
- Online Accountability Dashboards that illustrate metrics
- Establishing internal and/or external oversight bodies
- Developing strategies for resolution

# Questions

Do you have clarifying questions about these accountability case studies?





## Poll for EMAC Members

**Which of these case studies feels most applicable to building sustained accountability with ODOT?**

- A. IBR Accountability Dashboard
- B. City of Seattle Racial Equity Actions Database
- C. WSDOT Quarterly Reporting (Gray Notebook)
- D. Prosper Portland Workforce Equity Dashboard
- E. I-205 Diversity & Workforce Dashboard
- F. Other



# Poll Instructions

## Join by Web

1. Go to **PolIEV.com**
2. Enter **INPUT**
3. Respond to poll

## Join by Text

1. Text **INPUT** to **22333**
2. Text your poll response



🌐 When poll is active, respond at [pollev.com/input](https://pollev.com/input)

📱 Text **INPUT** to **22333** once to join

# Which of these case studies feels most applicable to building accountability with ODOT?

Interstate Bridge Replacement Program  
Accountability Dashboard

City of Seattle Racial Equity Actions Database

WSDOT Quarterly Reporting (Gray Notebook)

Prosper Portland Construction Business &  
Workforce Equity Dashboard

I-205 Construction Diversity & Workforce  
Dashboard

Other

# Discussion 1

What accountability method do you recommend for the Oregon Toll Program?



# Case Study Metrics

Here are **examples of metrics** from the case studies:

- Number of public meetings held
- Tracking how community input shapes project approach
- Percentage of public investment dollars spent in equity communities
- Percentage change of air pollution exposure
- Average weekday transit boardings
- Percentage of dollars spent on DBE contracts

# Discussion 2

What data do we need to measure ODOT's equity performance?



**BREAK**

**10 minutes**

# **Confirming the EMAC Work Plan**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**Rochelle Brahalla, Project Team**

**EMAC Members**

# What We've Heard

## **EMAC's priorities for the 2022-2025 Work Plan:**

- Accountability
- Engagement
- Rate-Setting and the Low-Income Toll Program
- Revenue Allocation

# Proposed Meeting Calendar – Spring/Summer 2023

- April: Engagement Subcommittee
- May: Prepare for Accountability Workshop #1
- June: Finalize meeting plan for Accountability Workshop #1
- July\*: **ODOT-EMAC Accountability Workshop #1**
- July: **EMAC invited to STRAC meeting**

\*Full committee meeting



# Proposed Meeting Calendar – Fall/Winter 2023-2024

- September: Recap and follow-up from Accountability Workshop #1
- October\*: Advancing EMAC's Accountability work in 2024
- November: TBD
- Fall/Winter 2023-2024: **Input to RTAC on revenue allocation**
- January 2024\*: **Input to ODOT on Low-Income Toll Program**

\*Full committee meeting



## Poll for EMAC Members

**How close are we to EMAC's final work plan?**

- A. 50%
- B. 60%
- C. 80%
- D. 100%

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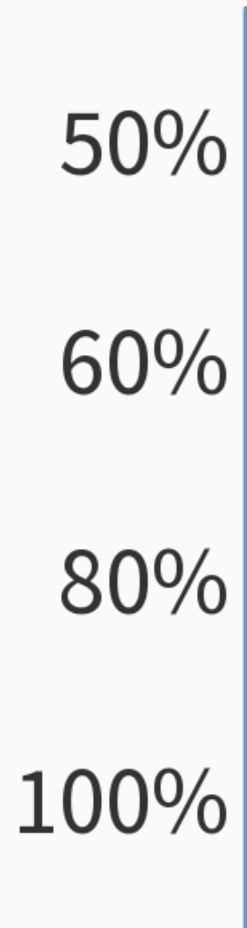
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## How close are we to EMAC's final work plan?



# **Update from ODOT on Advancing Equity**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**Rochelle Brahalla, Project Team**

**MJ Jackson, Project Team**

**Sylvia Ciborowski, Project Team**

**Garet Prior, ODOT**

**James Paulson, RTAC Liaison**

**Dr. Phil Wu, STRAC Liaison**

# I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment: EMAC Briefing Presentation

On Tuesday, March 21, EMAC received a **briefing on the I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)**:

- EMAC's influence in the I-205 Toll Project
- Key EA findings
- Impacts and benefits to Equity Framework Communities.

# I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment: EMAC Briefing Discussion

*Subcommittee meeting was held virtually on Tuesday, March 21, from 9 – 10 a.m.*

During this briefing, we heard the following from EMAC members:

- Tolling on I-205 must be **affordable** for those with the least ability to pay.
- Tolling could limit **access to community resources** on impacted corridors.
- Expanding **access to transit and improving multimodal infrastructure** must be integral to the I-205 Toll Project.

# I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment: EMAC's Comment

- Include a toll discount or benefit for individuals and households up to **400% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL)** in the project scope.
- Discuss how tolling could impact **access to community resources** on affected corridors.
- Expand discussion about **existing barriers** to transit and multimodal infrastructure and **expand mitigations** to improve accessibility.
- Include **affordability and accessibility** impacts as short-term effects.



# I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment: Equitable Engagement Update

- Public comment period open February 21 – April 21.
- Advancing process equity through tactical engagement:
  - In-language information sharing online and at community events
  - Community drop-ins and tabling
  - In-language and community-specific discussion groups
  - Community-based organization discussion group on March 23

# How to comment on the environmental assessment

- Provide clear and specific comments – share your feedback about the possible benefits, impacts, and mitigation
- Comments accepted via:
  - Comment form at our website [OregonTolling.org](http://OregonTolling.org)
  - Paper comment form mailed or submitted at an in-person event
  - Emails to [I205TollEA@odot.oregon.gov](mailto:I205TollEA@odot.oregon.gov)
  - Voicemails left at 503-837-3536
  - Comments shared at an online public hearing and in-person comment opportunity



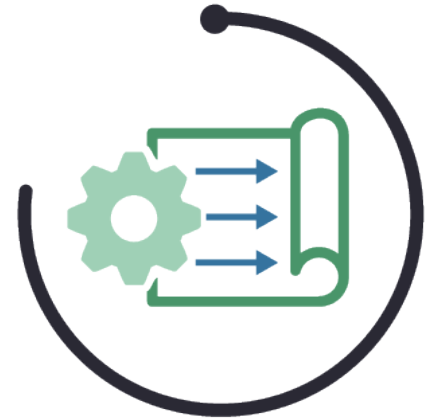
**We want to  
hear from you!**

60-day public comment period on the  
Environmental Assessment

***Feb. 21 – April 21***

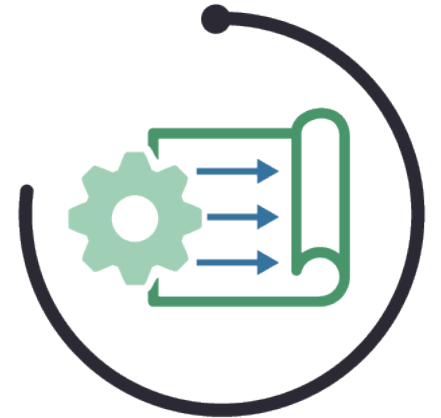
# Regional Mobility Pricing Project: Scoping Period Public Comments

- Received about **4,500 comments** during 50-day comment period from Nov. 18, 2022-Jan. 6, 2023.
- Approximately **700 comments related to equity**. The most common topics related to:
  - **Financial impacts** on people experiencing low incomes, older adults and seniors on fixed incomes
  - **Concerns about air pollution and safety impacts from rerouting** on historically and currently excluded and underserved communities living near priced roadways
  - Desire for more details about who would qualify for a **Low-Income Toll Program**



# Regional Mobility Pricing Project: Closing the Feedback Loop

- **Share full comment summary** in April.
- **Consider input received** to inform updates to the Draft Purpose and Need Statement, Proposed Action, and study methods for the Environmental Assessment.
- Later this year, **share responses to top questions and concerns heard** through communications and direct outreach in multiple languages.
- **Publish Draft Environmental Assessment** for public review and comment, currently expected in late 2023.



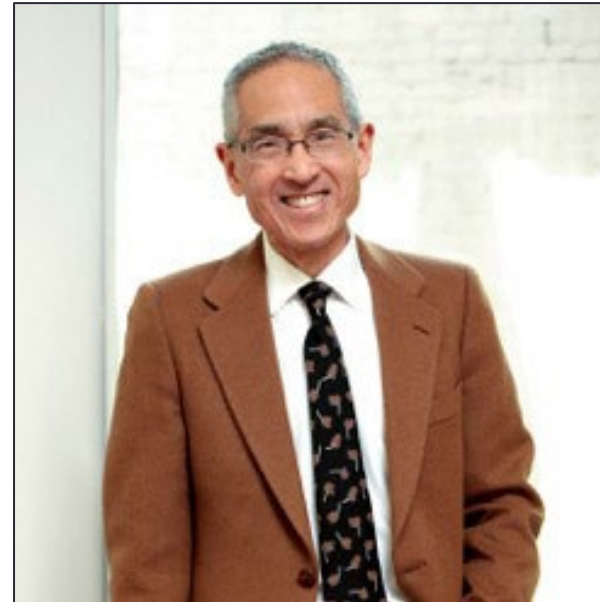
# Low-Income Toll Program Updates

- Regular discussions with toll operations teams on how to deliver an equity-informed program on opening day
- Conducting research on inclusive enrollment and verification processes
- Establishing plans for analysis and engagement, which will support State Toll Rulemaking Advisory Committee (STRAC) conversations in July – November
- EMAC is invited to STRAC's July 21 meeting

# Toll Program Committees



**James Paulson**  
Regional Toll Advisory Committee  
(RTAC)



**Dr. Philip Wu**  
Statewide Toll Rulemaking Advisory  
Committee (STRAC)

# Regional Toll Advisory Committee (RTAC) Updates

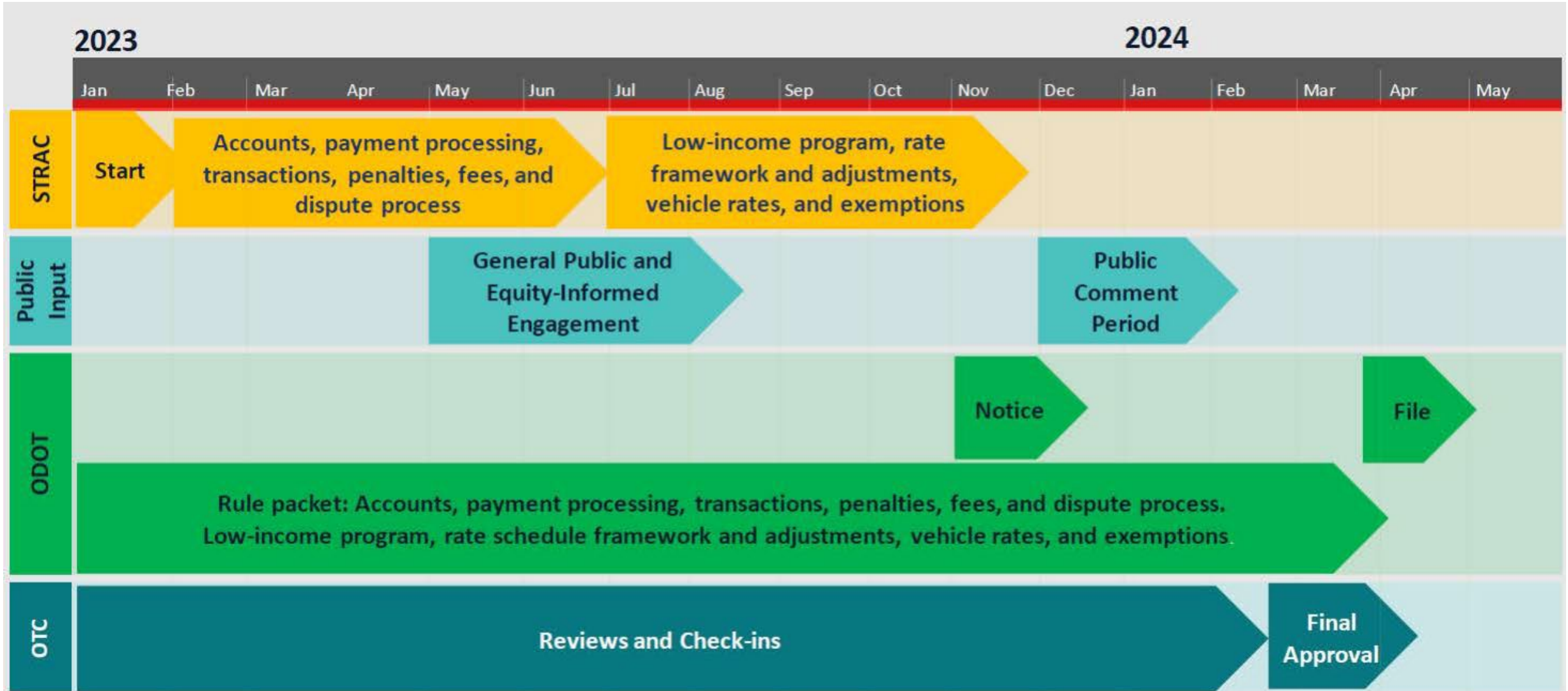
- **Purpose:** Providing regional input for toll projects and partnerships to address diversion, transit-multimodal options, alignment of projects with policies, and toll revenue allocation.
- Key questions relating to EMAC work:
  - Criteria for **allocation of toll revenue**
  - Mitigation and **monitoring framework**
- **Next Meeting:** April 24, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
  - **Case studies on monitoring**

# Statewide Toll Rulemaking Advisory Committee (STRAC) Updates

- **Purpose:** Provide feedback on the rules that guide toll operations and the process for rate setting and adjustment
- Centering **equity and affordability** in toll operations
- Customer **accounts and payment** processing for low-income users
- Guiding ODOT and STRAC to **discern for equity in toll discounts**
- **Next Meeting:** April 28, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



# STRAC & Rulemaking Work Plan



# **Public Comment & Discussion**

# Public Comment



- We will start with those who are providing public comment in person. Then we will move to those who have raised their hands to comment virtually.



- We will call on you when it is your turn to speak. Please **raise your virtual hand** so the Project Team can unmute you when they call on you.

## To provide comments at any time:

**Email** [oregontolling@odot.oregon.gov](mailto:oregontolling@odot.oregon.gov) with “EMAC Public Comment” in subject line to provide written comments.

**Call** 503-837-3536 and state “EMAC Public Comment” in your message to provide verbal comments.

Thank you for your participation.

# Public Comment Discussion



Is there anything you are hearing in your communities or in the public comments that you want to discuss?

Do you have any questions for ODOT about toll project status updates?

# Next Steps

- Work plan next steps
- Future EMAC meetings
- Meeting evaluation
- Closing



**Urban Mobility**  
STRATEGY

**THANK YOU!**