



Equity Advisory Committee Draft Charter

Climate Protection Program

Objectives

The Community Climate Investment (CCI) Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) will assist DEQ in determining what types of greenhouse gas emission reduction projects are supported by community climate investments and where those projects are in Oregon. The committee will help ensure that projects reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote benefits to environmental justice communities, and accelerate the transition from fossil fuel to low carbon energy sources in Oregon.

Committee members are asked to provide feedback and suggestions to DEQ as individuals, but also on behalf of their respective organizations, or communities. Committee members will review, provide feedback, and make recommendations on:

- CCI entity (recipients of community climate investments) applications.
- CCI entity work plan development to support environmental justice communities in Oregon.
- Additional submittals by CCI entities such as annual reports or amended workplans.
- Community outreach and engagement with environmental justice communities.

Environmental justice communities are defined as communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal communities, rural communities, remote communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth and persons with disabilities.

Guiding Principles

Committee members are committed to:

- Fostering accountability and transparency for community climate investments.
- Prioritizing and centering our traditionally underrepresented and marginalized communities.
- Reducing climate pollution and other types of air pollution in our communities.
- Building energy resiliency by improving access to cleaner, renewable fuels in Oregon.
- Improving health in our communities.

Membership

The committee is made up of individuals and organizations who submitted interest and were selected by DEQ from across the state. DEQ may open a recruitment for additional committee members at any time. Members represent multiple regions with lived experience, expertise and/or interest in the following areas:

- Reducing climate and air pollution from fossil fuels.
- Climate and air pollution impacts and experience.

Translation or other formats

[Español](#) | [한국어](#) | [繁體中文](#) | [Русский](#) | [Tiếng Việt](#) | [العربية](#)

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- Environmental or economic justice.
- Energy efficiency, clean or renewable energy.
- Residential, commercial, or industrial decarbonization.
- Transportation decarbonization.
- Community outreach, engagement, and/or advocacy.

2025 – 2026 Equity Advisory Committee Members	
Name	Organization
Ashley Audycki	Rogue Climate
Shelley Beaulieu	Dragonfly Consulting
Charity Fain	Community Energy Project
Kyna Harris	Oregon Public Health Institute
Mark Healy	Coquille Climate Resilience Task Force Member
Kevin Howard	Climate Changes Everything LLC
Jamie Pang	Oregon Just Transition Alliance
Metzin Rodriguez	Unite Oregon
Xitlali Torres	Verde
Donald Williams	From the Light LLC

Responsibilities

Committee members are public officials and are serving a one-year term. Committee members can serve up to three years. Members are asked to disclose any potential or actual conflicts of interest. Each committee member is responsible for updating any potential or actual conflict of interest as needed via an online form.

Members are expected to attend each meeting to maximize engagement. If the member is unable to attend a meeting, an alternate may be considered, if appropriate. It is the responsibility of each member to prepare their alternate of any relevant issues and committee discussions to achieve the meeting goals.

Members agree to the following:

Operational agreements: (procedures or structures the committee agrees to use)

- Prepare for and set aside time for the meetings to be as present as possible.
- Try and arrive 10 minutes early so we can start on time and address any technical issues.
- Communicate with DEQ staff if you are unable to make the meeting.
- Connect regularly with communities, membership, partners, etc. to inform them and gather input on community climate investments process, potential projects, and opportunities for engagement.
- Avoid representing to the public or media the views of any other committee members or on behalf of the committee.

Relational agreements: (how the committee agrees to engage with one another)

- Be curious, open, and respectful.
- Take space/make space – if you are usually quiet challenge yourself to take more space, and if you usually talk a lot be mindful to make space for others to speak.
- Avoid jargon, acronyms, and industry language – use inclusive language that is accessible for people with varying inside knowledge.
- Speak from your own experience – use I statements rather than generalizations.

Decision Making

DEQ will seek to find consensus from committee members whenever possible when reviewing and providing recommendations on program decisions and materials, but all members will be encouraged to share their individual opinions. The committee's discussions will help inform DEQ staff as they make the final decisions related to CCI entities, workplans, projects, reports, and other submittals.

DEQ

DEQ is committed to making the most effective use of committee members' time by:

- Establishing clear committee member goals, meeting goals, timelines, and agendas.
- Providing materials for meetings as soon as they become available online.
- Starting and ending meetings on time and ensuring the committee stay focused on intended outcomes.
- Encouraging robust dialogue while ensuring that all perspectives are heard.
- Ensuring participants adhere to meeting agreements.
- Providing support and any resources members need to be prepared and empowered to represent themselves and any community of which they belong.
- Conducting outreach and engaging with environmental justice communities and supporting members with community outreach and engagement if so desired.

Meetings

The committee will meet approximately 6 – 8 times over the course of the year, primarily on Zoom. It is possible that 1 – 2 meetings be held in person, located at various locations throughout the state. Meeting materials will be posted on the [Equity Advisory Committee](#) webpage. When new materials are posted, email notifications are sent to people who are signed up for [Climate Protection Program updates](#).

The public is welcome to attend and listen to committee meetings. Committee members will determine if public comment will be requested at meetings.

Public Records and Confidentiality

Committee communications and records, such as formal documents, discussion drafts, meeting summaries and exhibits are public records and are available for public inspection and copying. DEQ does not assume responsibility for protecting proprietary or confidential business information shared during committee or subcommittee meetings. However, the private documents of individual committee members generally are not considered public records if DEQ does not have copies.

Contact

Climate Protection Program: CPP.INFO@deq.oregon.gov

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities. Visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).