



Metro Concept Oregon Recycling System Modernization

**Recycling Steering Committee
May 7, 2020**

Background

Metro's high level concept and feedback on elements is a starting point for deeper conversation.

Metro engaged with area local governments to get feedback on policy elements under discussion by the RSC and incorporated this feedback into our concept and responses on policy elements.

Modernizing Oregon's recycling system

Policy elements we support

1. Advance producer responsibility in system
2. Local and/or state processing facility and end market requirements
3. Contamination standards and requirements for generator feedback
4. Labeling requirements
5. Expanded bottle bill –(e.g., wine and spirits)
6. Recycled content standards
7. Disposal bans – study options
8. Market development – responsibility of producers

Modernizing Oregon's recycling system

Metro supports a modernized integrated EPR recycling system for Oregon:

- Producers fully fund the system and are held to high standards of performance, accountability and transparency
- Fulfills Oregon's 2050 Vision and Framework for Materials Management
- Includes elements that help reduce materials life cycle impacts
- Advances equitable outcomes and services elements.

What is the concept trying to achieve?

Metro's concept supports the "Key Functions of a Future System" as identified by the RSC:

- Whole system design that integrates system components to achieve system goals and supports stable financing, ability to adapt to market changes, and reduced upstream impacts
- Shared responsibility that includes producers
- Collects clean acceptable materials and produces quality materials that reach end markets
- Transparency and accountability

What is the concept trying to achieve?

We believe the proposed concept will:

- Deal successfully with current problems of fragmentation and lack of incentives for cleaner materials.
- Ensure that producers are engaged in all parts of the system.
- Enable system integration and broad participation to achieve environmental benefits, equity, transparency, certainty, and efficiency and effectiveness.

Key EPR concept elements

Prescribes how government can direct and oversee the program to ensure it operates in the public interest

Provides the DEQ with necessary approval, oversight and enforcement tools

Covers all packaging and printed materials

Uses a standardized statewide recycling list that dictates how covered materials are managed

Includes all generator sectors (residential, commercial and public spaces)

Key EPR concept elements

Requires producers to fully fund and operate the system from collection to processing to marketing

Allows local governments to continue to provide recycling collection services.

Education is coordinated by local governments and paid for by producers.

Includes requirements for access to services and advances equitable outcomes

Includes measures to reduce life cycle impacts:

Questions?

Pam Peck

Pam.Peck@oregonmetro.gov

Metro

Summary of DEQ's DRAFT Framework Concept

Recycling Steering Committee

07 May 2020



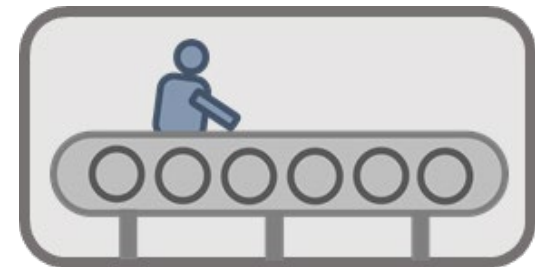
Collection elements

- Local governments continue to manage collection
- New obligations:
 - Parallel access (collect recyclables wherever garbage is collected)
 - Collect materials from a uniform statewide list
 - Implement contamination reduction programming



Processing and end-market elements

- Even playing field for all processors: outbound quality standards
 - Processors allowed to impose contamination upcharges, reject badly contaminated loads
- Producers obligated to provide for end-markets
 - Strong preference for mechanical recycling



Processing and end-market elements

- New requirements: disposition transparency, restriction on transfer
- Producer contracts with MRFs
- Policy to address stranded assets, require infrastructure redundancy



Why Extended Producer Responsibility?

- Help to finance collection and processing elements
- Provide markets and shelter generators, local governments, collectors and processors from market volatility
- Provide for regulatory mechanisms to achieve desired outcomes



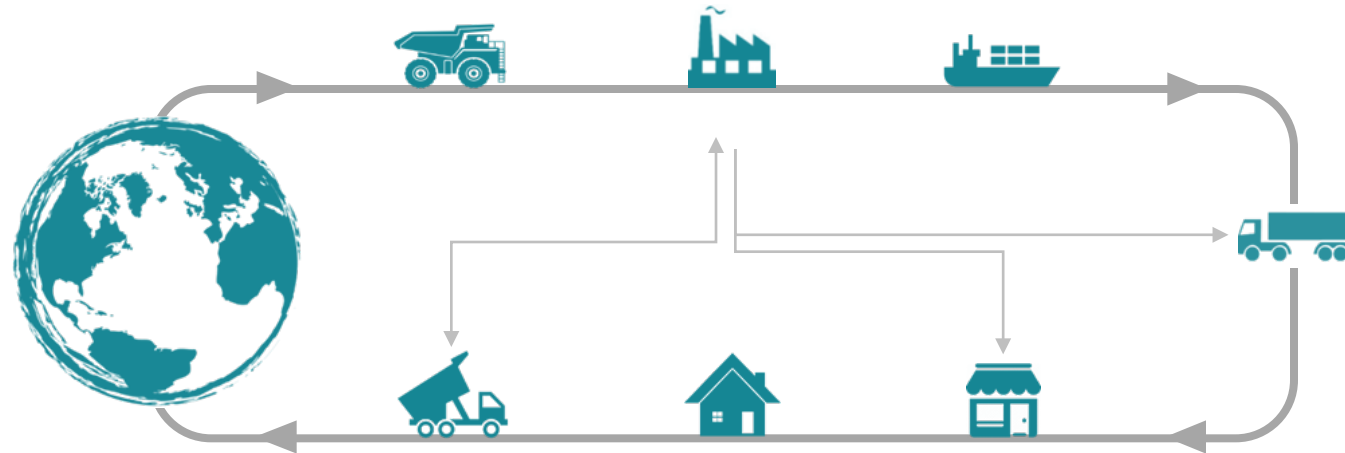
Why Extended Producer Responsibility?

- Create feedback loops to reduce contamination (labels, design)
- Ability to address the larger life cycle of materials (eco-modulation, waste prevention, etc.)
- Create a stronger linkage between those who benefit and those who pay



Other elements

- Support Bottle Bill expansion
- “Truth in labeling” (recyclability claims)
- Continuous improvement in social equity
- Continue use of life cycle thinking to inform best practices



Potential Elements for Early Initial Consensus-Seeking (DRAFT)

Recycling Steering Committee

07 May 2020



Elements that may be “alignment ready” and relatively simple to confirm

- a. Material-specific LCA database
- b. Defined optimal end-of-life pathways
- c. Required contamination reduction programming (if funded)
- d. End-market transparency/accountability
- e. End-market specifications/requirements (environment, health, safety)
- f. Support bottle bill expansion
- g. Labeling requirements, “truth in advertising”



Updated RSC Roadmap

Recycling Steering Committee

07 May 2020



May

June

July

August

September

Initial consensus seeking around individual elements

Infrastructure research results

Integration, final consensus-seeking & report

**Optional information sessions
(LCA, equity, RRS research?)**

