## Local government concept for modernizing Oregon's Recycling System DRAFT August 24, 2020

#### Vision

The challenges faced by Oregon's local recycling programs are not unique to Oregon, but Oregonians have the opportunity to develop a unique response that is grounded in our state's 2050 Vision for sustainable materials management. It's time for Oregon's local recycling programs to evolve into a modern statewide recycling system that is consistent with Oregon's values and includes defined roles for producer participation and responsibility. We want a recycling system that achieves the Oregon Recycling Steering Committee's desired functions and purpose of optimizing environmental benefits, creating a recovery system that is strong and resilient, and restores and maintains public trust, and that:

- helps us reduce waste, use fewer resources and protect the environment;
- provides clean materials to manufacturers and ensures materials are recycled responsibly in ways that do not burden end-market communities with plastics, air or water pollution;
- is resilient and able to adapt over the at least the next 30 years as economic conditions, manufacturing practices, consumer preferences, and products and packaging change;
- is transparent and accountable to the communities and businesses who support and participate in the system;
- provides convenient and equitable access opportunities for residents and businesses to participate in the system, including those who live in rural communities and multifamily homes;
- advances equity and economic opportunity for local, Oregon and Northwest businesses, and businesses owned by women and people of color;
- supports safe, living wage jobs and opportunities for worker advancement and workforce development; and
- has stable system financing that meets the needs of today and supports the capital investments needed to adapt to change.

#### **Current situation**

Oregon is a national leader when it comes to recycling. Oregonians value the environmental benefits of recycling and established state policies in the 1980s and 1990s that require communities to provide recycling opportunities for residents and businesses.

Oregon's local recycling programs were developed when most products were manufactured in the United States and only a few items were packaged in plastic. This system worked well for many years, but Oregon's local recycling programs now face major challenges, including increasing costs. The items we put in our recycling bins today are part of a complex international manufacturing and supply system. The rapid increase in new types of plastic packaging, often with misleading or inaccurate recycling labels, has made recycling more confusing for the public.

This has led to sorting challenges and plastic packaging contamination in the bales of materials that flow to manufacturers in the U.S. and around the world. Contamination has devastating environmental and social impacts on end market communities who have to deal with plastic trash, and many have closed or restricted their markets in response. Contamination and the demand for cleaner material have resulted in a rapid rise in system costs. This has been particularly hard for communities that also pay to transport the materials they collect to distant processing facilities. Local governments across Oregon have had to raise solid waste rates and/or drop materials from their collection programs in response.

Oregon residents and businesses pay the cost to sort recyclables but have little influence on how those dollars could be used to invest in and modernize the system. Local programs also have no control when it comes to how and where items are recycled. We cannot assure residents and businesses that materials are properly sorted and recycled responsibly when they travel to markets outside the United States.

Finally, while residents can buy less stuff and reuse what they have, consumer brands, packaging producers and plastics manufacturers hold the most power to influence change. Consumer brands have made recent public commitments to invest in recycling infrastructure, address plastic pollution and use more recycled content in their products. However, experience and history have shown that we cannot rely on voluntary industry commitments. There is a clear need to obligate packaging producers to make good on their promises to the public.

#### **CONCEPT ELEMENTS**

The following is a high-level description of a new framework to support modernization of Oregon's recycling system. The document starts with a description of the system design and includes sections on key system elements including public education, collection, processing and marketing. Each section begins with desired outcomes and includes an overview of roles and responsibilities for governments and producers, as well as performance standards.

#### SYSTEM DESIGN

#### **Desired outcomes**

- High functioning statewide system with stable financing that maximizes environmental benefits within
  available resources balanced with economic and social values, decreases the financial risks to local
  government programs when recycling market conditions change, and supports the investments needed to
  update the system over time.
- Statewide collection list that is consistent across the state and has a clear process to add or remove materials that takes environmental benefits and life cycle impacts into account.
- Extended producer responsibility for consumer brands and packaging producers that sell products and packaging in Oregon that include both financial and operational responsibilities.

#### Scope of legislation to meet outcomes

Legislation defines the following:

- 1. Producer responsibilities and obligations and Oregon DEQ's oversight role
- 2. Scope of covered products will include printed paper and packaging including single use products
- 3. producers will be responsible for covered products they distribute or sell into Oregon through all channels including the internet
- 4. Stewardship plan requirements which describe how producers will carry out their responsibilities (basic plan requirements noted below)
- 5. Establishment of a program advisory committee that represents a range of system stakeholders and provides ongoing feedback to DEQ (see below for more details)
- 6. Establishment of equity goals and standards and methods to track progress towards goals (see below for more details)

- 7. Product packaging truth in labeling requirement related to whether a package should be disposed, recycled or composted in Oregon
- 8. Recycling system feedback mechanisms and standards that address contamination at each stage of the recycling process.
- 9. Framework to permit and certify processing facilities to ensure improved sorting outcomes and advancement of equity for workers and end market communities.
- 10. Process for development and approval of a statewide standardized list of covered products to be recycled.
- 11. Establishment of standards for transparency and responsible exports of any recyclable materials that are shipped out of state for additional processing or end use.
- 12. Establishment of waste prevention and reuse grant program that provides financial support for local governments, schools and businesses to shift to durable reusable alternatives to single use items.
- 13. Includes producer-funded DEQ staff positions to review producer stewardship plans, educational materials and campaigns, system auditing and to support the advisory committee.

#### **DEFINTIONS**

#### Covered products:

- All packaging and printed paper as defined, by function, in legislation. (e.g., plastic containers (excluding beverages already covered by Bottle Bill), OCC boxes, junk mail, brochures.) There will be exemptions for producers based on their size or amount of product they put into the market.
- Legislation will hold producers responsible for the covered products they sell and distribute into Oregon, including via e-commerce. (That responsibility stays the same whatever material they use to make the product.)
- Difficult to recycle \ special identified products and materials:
  - The DEQ, the Advisory Committee and producers will develop a list of covered products that are made of difficult to recycle materials. Producers will describe in their plans how they will manage those products and materials.

#### Collected covered products:

- The DEQ, producers and the Advisory Committee will develop a list of what covered products will be collected for recycling at curbside, what could go to recycling from depots, and what should go to disposal. The DEQ will review and approve the list.
- DEQ will develop that list with considerations of life cycle issues in mind. The list will be aligned with the Truth in Labeling legislation.

#### **Advisory Committee**

Legislation defines establishment of a program advisory committee that represents a range of system stakeholders including but not limited to local governments, community-based organizations that represent equity stakeholders, environmental groups, businesses involved in the recycling system, and solid waste and recycling industry associations. The advisory group will provide feedback to DEQ on the following ongoing functions:

- Producer stewardship plans and annual reporting
- Statewide educational materials and campaigns
- Development of standardized statewide collection list (see attached material assessment tool as example)
- Equity reports and continuous improvement plans

#### **Producer Responsibility Organization/**

#### **Producer Stewardship Plan Requirements**

At a minimum producers will form a non-profit organization and develop stewardship plans per Oregon statute to include the following elements:

- organizational structure and financing approach, performance and convenience standards,
- third party auditing and other reporting requirements,
- how eco-modulated fees will be incorporated to reduce the lifecycle impacts of covered products, level the playing field, and encourage local markets,
- how they will ensure responsible end markets for materials on the standardized statewide list,
- how they will meet truth in labeling requirements,
- how they will meet their obligations to support public education about the standardized list,
- how they will meet their obligations to finance various parts of the system (e.g., reimbursements to state and local governments, funding equipment upgrades, capital improvements at MRFs.).

#### **Equity standards**

State requires advancement of equity in the system through goals and standards, and tracks progress. Producers are responsible for reporting on and implementing continuous improvement plan for advancing equity including conducting baseline measurement of business ownership and worker demographics, wages and benefits State reports back to Oregon Legislature every 3-5 years on improvements and ongoing efforts to continue advancing equity in the system. Specific desired equity outcomes and obligations are identified in subsequent sections.

#### System design roles and responsibilities

State or local government roles	Producer role and performance standards
Oregon DEQ is responsible for the following:	Producers are required to belong to a stewardship
<ul> <li>Review and approve producer stewardship</li> </ul>	organization/PRO that submit stewardship plans to
plans and eco-modulation fee structure.	DEQ for review and approval that describe how they
<ul> <li>Enforce all requirements in legislation</li> </ul>	will meet their responsibilities. Individual producers
<ul> <li>Administer waste prevention and reuse</li> </ul>	will still be held responsible for meeting those
grant program	obligations.
<ul> <li>Set up and provide staff support for the</li> </ul>	
advisory committee	Producers design and distribute their covered
<ul> <li>Oversee the development with stakeholders</li> </ul>	products into the market.
of the statewide recycling list. Review and	
approve final list.	

- Conduct system audits
- Review and approval of producer education materials and campaigns related to the statewide standardized list of covered products to be recycled
- Oversight of equity provisions and reporting.
- Review annual reports.

Producers are responsible for keeping track and reporting their covered products that come in Oregon.

Producers work with the DEQ and advisory committee to develop a statewide standardized list of recyclables.

Producers are required to publish their ecomodulated fee schedule.

Producers are obligated to reimburse DEQ for costs to oversee the program

#### **Producer performance standards**

- Stewardship Plans submitted and approved by DEQ describes how producers will meet the system wide obligations.
- 2. Auditing and reporting requirements are met and this information is made available to the public.
- 3. Equity actions included in the stewardship plan and related reporting.
- 4. Additional standards defined in following sections.

#### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

#### **Desired outcomes**

Strong and continuing role for local governments, who are best positioned to coordinate recycling education with local reuse and waste prevention programs.

Equity standards that ensure educational materials have inclusive designs that meet the needs of people who speak languages other than English and those with disabilities (e.g. decal designs, standardized list outreach materials).

Extended producer responsibility for consumer brands and packaging producers that sell products and packaging in Oregon related to public education and truth in labeling.

#### Public education roles and responsibilities

State or local government roles	Producer role and performance standards
Local governments are primarily responsible for local	Producers are responsible for statewide education
business and resident education about recycling,	and promotion of the statewide standardized
reuse and waste prevention. (No change to statute.)	recycling list. This includes coordination and
	financing the development of statewide education
Local governments ensure that educational materials	materials and campaigns that are reviewed by the
meet the needs of people who speak languages other	program advisory committee and approved by
than English and those with disabilities.	Oregon DEQ. This includes financing at the level

Local governments are required to use the statewide education templates associated with the statewide list

DEQ must review (with program advisory committee) and approve all statewide education materials and campaigns developed by producers.

needed to ensure the information meets the needs of people who speak languages other than English.

#### **Producer performance standards**

- Statewide education activities carried out in accordance with approved stewardship plan and DEQ approvals of marketing materials developed through the plan.
- 2. Packaging labels include accurate information about whether the item should be disposed, recycled or composted in Oregon.

#### **COLLECTION**

#### **Desired outcomes**

Collection provides reliable and cost effective service delivery and is coordinated with collection of other materials streams. Additional collection options, such as depots and mobile collection events, should be included for items that cannot be collected curbside.

Equity standards that ensure convenient access to system services for residents and businesses including those who live in rural communities and multifamily homes. Services have inclusive designs that meet the needs of people who speak languages other than English and those with disabilities (e.g. decal designs, container access for children and people who use wheelchairs)

Equity standards that ensure vulnerable communities experience reduced exposure to harmful air emissions from diesel trucks used in the collection system. Implement standards established in 2010 for increased use of renewable energy and phasing out use of older diesel trucks to attain reduced emission levels.

Extended producer responsibility for consumer brands and packaging producers that sell products and packaging in Oregon to ensure collection of clean materials and equitable access to recycling services.

#### Collection roles and responsibilities

State or local government roles	Producer role and performance standards
Local governments are responsible to ensure collection of the products on the statewide list. Local governments will manage generator-facing contamination feedback programs.	Producers share financial responsibility with local governments to ensure collection systems collect the products on the statewide list; generate clean materials; and provide Oregonians equitable access to recycling services.
The current role of local governments with regards to collection in the system does not change. In accordance with current state statute, local governments can choose to operate collection themselves or use contracts or permits, including franchises, to	Producers will be required to provide the resources needed to ensure those outcomes through activities that include, but are not limited to:  Statewide transportation and reload Generator feedback for all sectors

procure collection and generator feedback services.

Local governments will work with their respective franchised or licensed haulers to prioritize what financial resources they will require from producers to fulfill their collection responsibilities.

Local governments are responsible to ensure that people who live in multifamily homes have access to recycling services.

\*Local governments, Oregon DEQ, producers and the program advisory committee work together to determine what covered products are not suitable for curbside collection but should be included in a depot or mobile collection event system.

- Multifamily collection system upgrades to address equity in access to service.
- Plastic litter collection
- Other collection system improvements as determined by local governments

Producers finance and potentially operate depots and/or mobile collection events.

\* Depot locations and mobile collection plans provide convenient access for residents and businesses including those who live in rural communities and multifamily homes. Depot and mobile collection services and any related educational materials have inclusive designs that meet the needs of people who speak languages other than English and those with disabilities (e.g. decal designs, depot/mobile collection container access for children and people who use wheelchairs)

#### **Producer performance standards**

- Demonstrate continuous improvement in access to recycling for multifamily residents and to communities currently lacking service
- 2. Utilize the agreed upon distribution system when providing resources and funding to local governments
- Producers operating depots and/or mobile collection events need to meet collection targets by product and convenience standards for accessibility

#### PROCESSING AND MARKETING

#### **Desired outcomes**

Processing and marketing standards to ensure materials are sorted appropriately and handled responsibly and to provide transparency and accountability to those who use and pay for the system.

Equity standards that ensure workers in the system are paid living wages and benefits, and worker safety is a priority for system investments.

Equity standards that ensure access to business opportunities in the system that level the playing field and provide fair opportunities regardless of owner ethnicity, gender, disability, or firm size (see: http://www.oregon4biz.com/How-We-Can-Help/COBID/)

Equity standards that ensure end market communities are not burdened with plastics, air or water pollution or other negative impacts as a result of receiving materials from Oregon's recycling system.

Equity standards that ensure vulnerable communities experience reduced exposure to harmful air emissions from processing equipment used at facilities in the recycling system. Increased use of renewable energy and phasing out use of older diesel equipment will be undertaken to attain reduced emission levels.

Extended producer responsibility obligations for consumer brands and packaging producers that sell products and packaging in or into Oregon to ensure materials are recycled responsibly and have guaranteed markets.

#### State or local government roles

Local governments are responsible for requiring that *collected covered products* are sent to certified processors.

State government is responsible for certifying/permitting MRFs and establishing equity standards as part of the permitting or certification process related to worker wages, benefits, and safety, impacts on host communities, and opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses to remove barriers to ownership.

State government is responsible for reviewing and approving producers' plans for ensuring *collected* covered products are responsibly recycled (sent to acceptable markets).

State sets criteria to define acceptable markets and includes equity criteria that ensure end market communities are not burdened with plastics, air or water pollution or other negative impacts as a result of receiving materials from Oregon's recycling system. State could utilize a third party certification program to ensure responsible recycling.

Responsible recycling means processing collected materials at certified/permitted processors, transparently sending materials to responsible markets, ensuring that end market communities are not burdened with plastics, air or water pollution or other negative impacts. Optimal End of Life pathways and Life Cycle Assessment will inform decisions to support maximizing environmental benefits.

#### **Producer role and performance standards**

Producers are obligated to ensure all "collected covered products" go to responsible markets. Producers will finance processing improvements where needed to achieve this. This could be implemented in a variety of ways and will be part of the stewardship plans submitted to the DEQ. This does not prescribe what arrangements parties (local governments, haulers, processors) must make to have that happen – only that the producers must put forth a plan that shows how that outcome is achieved. For example, if the producers submit a plan to the DEQ that demonstrates the "status quo" is working fine in meeting the required outcome, the DEQ would approve that plan. If the status quo won't achieve the required outcome, producers will have to take actions to make those happen. Those actions could include makings investments in processors, or working with processors to find new, but responsible, markets. The intent of the concept is that existing infrastructure be maximized.

Producers will consult with certified processors in the development of their stewardship plans re: processing improvements needed to meet outcomes.

Producer stewardship plans approved by DEQ describe how they will ensure their materials go to responsible markets exist.

#### **Producer performance standards**

- 1. All materials on the statewide collection list have a guaranteed responsible end market.
- Recovery targets for plastics, cartons/aseptics, and any other materials that would benefit from a recovery goal to drive additional processing investments are met.
- Required 3rd party certification for environmental and social sustainability for materials that go to markets outside of US
- 4. Required reporting on where materials are recycled the name of the manufacturer and geographic location
- Required reporting on final disposition of materials

#### Attachments:

- 1. Connection to Desired Functions (Sarah)
- 2. TBD- ad hoc consensus agreements that will/may include:
  - PCR content (consensus)
  - o Truth in labeling (still under development)
  - Generator facing anti contamination requirements (still under development)
  - o Processing certification principles and requirements (consensus)
  - Equity principles standards (consensus)
  - Material selection process and criteria (option discussed)
  - O Eco-modulation / OSP option (under discussion)

## Attachment I: (STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Desired Functions Crosswalk with Local Government Concept

Recycling Steering Committee – Key Functions	How LG concept supports this function
WHOLE SYSTEM DESIGN	
Optimizes the benefits of recycling considering life cycle impacts and costs	<ul> <li>Eco-modulated fees</li> <li>Standardized statewide collection list</li> <li>Responsible Markets requirement</li> </ul>
Resiliently adapts to changes in material supply and end market demand	<ul> <li>Sustainable system financing through producer funding obligations</li> <li>Standardized statewide collection list</li> <li>Agreed upon process for updating the list</li> <li>Producers obligated to finance education and equipment upgrades needed to adapt to changes</li> </ul>
Provides sustainable and equitable financing for stable operations and capital investments	<ul> <li>Sustainable system financing through producer funding obligations</li> </ul>
Integrates system components to achieve overall system goals	<ul> <li>State Oversight and &amp; Enforcement</li> <li>Statewide education materials</li> <li>Collection remains integrated with other collection systems (yard debris, etc.)</li> </ul>

	Producer obligation of financing and markets
UPSTREAM	
Includes mechanisms to reduce upstream impacts of materials	Eco-modulated fees
	Statewide collection list selection
EQUITY AND INCLUSION	
Designs for equity – examining the burdens and benefits across the state	Equity continuous improvement plan reports results periodically
	<ul> <li>MRF certification system will have equity standards re: wages, safety, community impacts, business opportunities</li> </ul>
	Education materials meets needs of diverse populations
	Depot and Mobile collections signs and equipment meet needs (language, height, for example)
EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT	
Educates and encourages residents and businesses to use	Producers finance upgrades
the system properly	<ul> <li>Producers meet Truth in Labeling requirements</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Local gov. uses statewide ed.</li> <li>Materials</li> </ul>
	Required direct feedback mechanism
Engages the public to understand the benefits and the costs of recycling, preventing waste and reducing impacts of materials throughout their life cycles	Local Gov't. retains control of education
	Producers finance upgrades
	<ul> <li>Advisory Committee/DEQ review/ approve Producer's stewardship plan and education materials</li> </ul>
MATERIALS COLLECTED	
Identifies beneficial materials acceptable for collection programs	Selection criteria for additions to Collection list
	<ul> <li>Advisory Committee/DEQ oversight of Stewardship Plan</li> </ul>

COLLECTION SYSTEM	
Collects clean, acceptable materials for processing	Standardized collection list
	Generator feedback in all sectors
	Statewide education
	Producers finance needed upgrades
	Depot or mobile collections
SHARED RESPONSIBILITY	
Shares responsibility for the system among players including residents and businesses, producers, state and local governments, and recycling industry	<ul> <li>Extended producer responsibility obligations for consumer brands and packaging producers that sell products and packaging in Oregon including financing system modernization improvements and helping to ensure collected covered products are responsibly recycled.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Direct feedback to the generator at each stage: curbside, inbound at reload or MRF, and outbound MRF bales.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Eco modulated fees share responsibility equitably according to impact of material type</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Advisory Committee contains representation of all stakeholders</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Processors obligated to help ensure access to responsible markets</li> </ul>
MATERIAL PROCESSING	
Ensures processing facilities receive clean materials and in sufficient volumes	<ul> <li>Mobile and Depot collections of contaminating recyclables (pls. bags)</li> <li>Producers finance needed upgrades</li> </ul>
Produces quality materials that reach end markets	<ul> <li>Certification system standards</li> <li>Producers finance needed capital improvements/equipment</li> </ul>

GOALS AND MEASURES	
Uses goals and metrics to measure progress and support ongoing improvement	<ul> <li>Generator feedback systems based on measure and respond</li> <li>Producer Plan tracks/reports covered</li> </ul>
	products, fees, etc.
TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY	
Ensures materials are managed responsibly from collection through end markets	<ul> <li>Producers reimburse DEQ for staff positions overseeing MRF certifications and 3<sup>rd</sup> party end market auditing</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Advisory Committee representing all stakeholders</li> </ul>
	Equity Standards ensure end market locations not burdened with polluting contaminants
Ensures all players in the system perform responsibly	<ul> <li>Producers reimburse DEQ staff positions</li> </ul>
	Advisory Committee monitors
	Generator feedback at all stages
	MRF certification standards



# **REFRESHER:** RSC Vision

Our challenges are not unique to Oregon, but we have a once in a generation opportunity to develop a unique response that is grounded in **Oregon's 2050 Vision** for responsible materials management, a recycling system that:

Helps us **reduce waste**, use fewer resources and protect the environment

Provides clean materials to manufacturers and ensures materials are recycled responsibly in ways that do not burden end-market communities with plastics, air, or water pollution

Is resilient and able to adapt over the next 30 years as economic conditions, manufacturing practices, consumer preferences, and products and packaging change

Is transparent and accountable to communities across the state

Provides convenient and equitable access opportunities for residents to participate in the system, including those who live in rural communities and multifamily homes

Supports **safe, living wage jobs** and opportunities for worker advancement and workforce development, and

Advances equity and economic opportunity for local, Oregon and Northwest businesses, and businesses owned by people of color

Has stable system financing that meets the needs of today and supports the capital investments needed to adapt to change.

## Recycling Steering Committee Local Government Representatives

Sarah Grimm
Lane County

Scott Keller
League of Oregon Cities

Pam Peck Metro

Timm Schimke
Association of Oregon Counties

Bruce Walker
City of Portland

# **High Level Intentions**

- Local government vision for a modernized system.
- 2. Worked to incorporate all RSC perspectives into the concept
- 3. Recognize risk and uncertainties around details (for all of us)
- **4. EPR model** with a key goal for stable/sustainable funding and relieve burden/risk to ratepayers.
- 5. Strong state oversight with an advisory committee and details in a stewardship plan. The PRO is responsible to execute the Stewardship Plan.

# **Process & Next Steps**

- Local government group supports this framework concept
- This presentation: highlight areas for clarity and rationale
- Revisions?
  - Open to minor changes, if intent does not shift.
  - If major rewrites/changes are proposed, then additional discussion would be needed.





# Roles of Producers in Collection & Processing COLLECTION

- LG role is not changed / LG oversee franchised & licensed collection companies
- LG work with haulers to prioritize what financial resources they will require from producers to make improvements
- Producers submit stewardship plan to Advisory Committee and DEQ



# **Producers Required To Provide Resources For:**

### **COLLECTION**

- Statewide transportation and reload
- Generator feedback for all sectors
- Multifamily collection system upgrades for equity in access to service
- Plastic litter collection
- Other collection system improvements as determined by LG
- Operational support of depots as needed



## **Roles of Producers**

### **PROCESSING**

- LG require collected covered products be sent to certified processors
- Producers obligated to ensure collected covered products go to responsible markets
- Intent is existing processing infrastructure is maximized
- Producers will consult with certified processors in development of their stewardship plans re: needed processing upgrades
- Producers finance these processing improvements

## **Statewide education**

**Intent**: Maximize the effectiveness of education and outreach in reducing contamination

- Local Government retain all obligations for local education and outreach as defined in rules, which will need updates when a new statewide list is developed.
- Producers pay for and develop tools/collateral that support the statewide standardized recycling list
- Coordinated statewide broad-based advertising campaign that supports and compliments local government efforts
- DEQ /Advisory committee approval. Ensuring ongoing access for educators and stakeholders to the statewide educational materials.





# **Equity – Intent and Desired Outcomes**

Heard support for equity elements as framework was discussed with RSC members

- Support and expand access to recycling collection services for rural communities and people who live in apartments and other types of multifamily homes
  - o Key aspect of this is producer financing for transportation and reload of materials from communities to processing facilities
- Support safe, living wage jobs and opportunities for worker advancement
- Advance economic opportunities for local for local, Oregon and Northwest businesses, and businesses owned by women and people of color



# **Equity – Intent and Desired Outcomes**

LG group wants to clarify intent around equity outcomes related to air pollution

- Addresses issues raised by disadvantaged communities that live closer to facilities and transportation corridors and are more exposed to harmful emissions
- Diesel emissions are a known health hazard and one step we can take is to acknowledge the issue with some mitigating actions
- Framework is referencing 2010 federal EPA diesel emission standards

## **Additional Consensus Recommendations**

The LG group appreciate and worked hard to include/address the various recommendations and comments, of ad hoc committees and RSC members. Many of these received approval through the RSC consensus process including -

- PCR content requirements where appropriate,
- Use of LCA database for informing future decisions,
- Processing group recommendations (inbound, outbound, equity),
- Anti-contamination programming requirements, truth in labeling,
- (tentative) Oregon surcharge on the use of virgin materials.



## Conclusion

- Objective: Consensus on a bold, new concept for Oregon
- Oregon's recycling system worked for many years because of the commitment of the people in this room, the groups we represent, and the general support of the public.
- But, it's time to consider a new, hybrid framework for Oregon that will stabilize and enhance our system.
  - ✓ It's time to be bold.
  - ✓ It's time to align our work with Oregon's 2050 Vision.
  - ✓ It's time to enhance service to the underserved.
  - ✓ It's time to do our part to preserve and improve our global environment.



# END OF SLIDESHOW

## SYSTEM FRAMEWORK CONCEPT (Slide 1)

1. High Functioning Statewide System

2. Statewide Collection List

3. Public Education

4. Collection

5. Processing and Marketing Standards

with stable financing that maximizes environmental benefits

with a **clear process** to add or remove materials that considers environmental benefits and life cycle impacts, such as the draft ORRA curbside assessment tool

with a strong and continuing role for local governments to coordinate recycling education with local reuse and waste prevention programs, and to address generator contamination.

with reliable and cost-effective service delivery and is coordinated with collection of other materials streams.

to ensure materials are **sorted appropriately** and handled responsibly and to **provide transparency** and accountability to system users.

## SYSTEM FRAMEWORK CONCEPT (Slide 2)

6. Equity standards

- 7. System Oversight and Enforcement
  - 8. Extended Producer Responsibility

#### That ensure:

- Convenient access to services for residents and businesses including those who live in rural communities and multi-family homes, with inclusive education and outreach materials.
- Workers in the system are paid **living wages and benefits**, and worker safety is a priority for system investments.
- Access to business opportunities that level the playing field and provide fair opportunities regardless of owner ethnicity, gender, disability, or firm size
- Vulnerable communities experience reduced exposure to harmful air emissions from processing equipment used at solid waste and recycling facilities and diesel trucks used in the collection system.
- End market communities are not burdened with plastics, air or water pollution or other impacts as a result of receiving materials from our recycling system.

that is strong, efficient, and effective, and includes meaningful opportunities for system stakeholders to engage in key system decisions.

for consumer brands and packaging producers that sell products and packaging in Oregon, including financing system modernization improvements and helping to ensure collected covered products are responsibly recycled.