Data Center Advisory Committee

Meeting 1 – Friday February 27, 2026
9 am – 2:35 pm
Roundup Conference Room, Business Oregon
One World Trade Center
121 SW Salmon St, Suite 205
Portland, OR 97204
Webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bAgCYykdTayIVNw8M0hA0g

Topic: Data Center Overview, Economic Development, and Workforce Issues

Purpose of this Process: the Governor has asked the Data Center Advisory Committee to identify ways to better balance the need for new economic opportunities with smart policy choices that will support our clean energy goals and ensure affordable and reliable electricity for all Oregonians. The Committee will conduct an open and public process to understand challenges and opportunities in key policy areas related to the siting of data centers in our state and then recommend actions that the State of Oregon can take" (from Committee Charge). As such, the Committee's goal is to use these public sessions to gather and share credible information from subject matter experts, based on firsthand experiences, real-world data, and diverse perspectives regarding Data Centers in Oregon.

Today s session will focus on issues and ideas to

- Encourage data center policies that support responsible economic development and increase long-term revenue that will strengthen our rural communities; and

- Identify key issue areas that need to be addressed in order to develop a policy framework that will create rewarding jobs and develop our workforce through data centers moving forward in Oregon.

AGENDA

9:00 Welcome and Introduction to the process and the people: Co-Chairs Margaret Hoffman and Michael Jung, Committee members: Dan Dorran, Greg Dotson, Bill Edmonds, Tim Miller, Jean Wilson, and Facilitator Donna Silverberg

- o Committee Introductions - All

- o What is this committee? What is it NOT? – Co-Chairs

- o Agenda review, protocols, and ways for the public to engage - Facilitator

9:20 Data Center Overview (*Note: this committee is addressing issues related to NEW, not existing, data Centers*). This agenda item will provide an overview of the situation in Oregon with a presenter providing insights into at least the following questions:

- What is the current reality in Oregon? What do current data "centers" look like, how do they work, and how do they fit into their communities? How does this compare with potential future data centers?

- What are the prime conditions for siting data centers? When a company looks to develop a center, what do they look for? Who does a company work with to address economic development, affordability, workforce, water, land use, and other issues? How long does it take to develop a new center? What kind of investments and infrastructure may be required? How has the market demand shifted in the last three years?

10-11:30 What are the Economic Development Possibilities and Concerns for Oregon's Rural Communities? A panel of subject matter experts will provide the Committee with insights into the following topics and then engage in discussion with the Committee members:

- What is the current reality in Oregon? How are the economics affecting current rural communities?

- What could a future look like? What would be helpful for rural and other affected communities?

- What are the gaps and barriers to get from here to there, and how could state government assist?

- Discussion with DCAC members

11:30-12:30 pm LUNCH/Break

12:30 - 2 pm What Workforce Benefits and/or Concerns Do Data Centers Present for Oregon? Invited panelists will provide insights and perspectives about workforce issues and opportunities that data centers create in Oregon. The focus will be on:

- What effect do data centers have on Oregon's workforce?

- What could a future look like that improves benefits to Oregon's workforce?

- What are the gaps and barriers to get from here to there and how could state government assist?

- Discussion with DCAC members

2:00 Public Comment/Committee Listening (2-3-minute limit per speaker, depending on level of interest from those who attend).

2:30   Reminder of March 27 Session 2, where the public may provide more written comments, and other public engagement opportunities in the future.

2:35 Adjourn Public Meeting