



EJC ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Department of Land Conservation and Development

Email: sadie.carney@dlcd.oregon.gov

Website: <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/Pages/index.aspx>

Telephone: 503-373-0050

Address: 635 Capitol Street NE, Salem, OR 97301



DLCD

Department of
Land Conservation
& Development

TABLE OF CONTENTS

AGENCY INTRODUCTION _____	4
Agency Mission Statement _____	4
Agency Leadership _____	4
Agency Budget and Revenue Sources _____	6
Agency Introduction: From the Director _____	7
Agency Description _____	10
Agency Programs _____	12
2025 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE HIGHLIGHTS _____	13
Agency Environmental Justice Considerations _____	20
Public Participation and Meaningful Involvement _____	25
Community Engagement Policy and Processes _____	24
Agency Environmental Justice Progress _____	33
Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Involvement _____	35
Environmental Justice Council Engagement 2025 _____	36

AGENCY INTRODUCTION

Agency Mission Statement

The Department of Land Conservation and Development's mission is to help communities plan for, protect, and improve the built and natural systems that provide a high quality of life. In partnership with Oregonians and local governments, we foster sustainable and vibrant communities and protect our natural resources legacy.

The Department of Land Conservation and Development is listed as a natural resource agency under House Bill 4077 (2022).

Agency Guiding Principles

Provide a healthy environment; sustain a prosperous economy; ensure a desirable quality of life; and provide fairness and equity to all Oregonians.

Agency Leadership

Director:	Brenda Ortigoza Bateman, Ph.D.
Deputy Director and Tribal Liaison:	Kirstin Greene, AICP
Assistant Director and Chief Operating Officer:	Josh Hardage
Legislative and Policy Manager:	Alexis Hammer, JD

Land Conservation and Development Commission: Governor Appointed

Chair:	Anyeley Hallová	Portland Metro Area
Vice Chair:	Allan Lazo	Portland Metro Area
Commissioners:	Stuart Warren	Willamette Valley
	Lianne Thompson	Coast
	Barbara Boyer	Willamette Valley
	Mark Bennett	Eastern Oregon
	Ellen Porter	Southern Oregon

Ocean Policy Advisory Council: Governor Appointed

Title	Name	Interest or Affiliation
Chair	Susan Chambers	South Coast Commercial Fisheries (Coos Bay)
Vice Chair:	Tara Brock	Coastal Conservation or Environmental Organization (Portland)
	<i>Vacant</i>	North Coast Commercial Fisheries
	<i>Vacant</i>	North Coast Charter, Sport or Recreational Fisheries

	Richard Heap, Jr.	South Coast Charter, Sport or Recreational Fisheries (Brookings)
	Nicholas Edwards	Ports, Marine Transportation or Navigation (Coos Bay)
	Amelia O'Connor	Coastal Non-Fishing Recreation (Otter Rock)
	Joe Liebezeit	Statewide Conservation or Environmental Organization (Bird Alliance of Oregon (Portland))
	Margaret Corvi	Oregon Coastal Indian Tribes (Tribal Representative)
	Mark Kujala	North Coastal County Commissioner
	<i>Vacant</i>	South Coastal County Commissioner
	Fran Recht	Coastal City Elected Official (Depoe Bay City Councilor)
	Kyle Motley	Public-at-large (Coos Bay)
	Duncan Berry	Public-at-large (Salmon River)
Ex Officio Member	Geoff Huntington	Governor's Natural Resources Sr. Advisor
Ex Officio Member	Rian Hoof	Department of Environmental Quality
Ex Officio Member	Justin Ainsworth	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ex Officio Member	Jonathan Allan	Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Ex Officio Member	Lisa Phipps	Department of Land Conservation and Development
Ex Officio Member	Nataliya Stranadko	Department of State Lands
Ex Officio Member	Laurel Hillmann	Parks and Recreation Dept.
Ex Officio Member	Karina Nielsen	Oregon State University, Sea Grant College
Ex Officio Member	Kris Wall	Federal Agency Liaison (NOAA, Office for Coastal Management)
Ex Officio Member	Lisa Hanson	Department of Agriculture
Ex Officio Member	Ray Monroe	Coastwide Small Ports and Local Government

Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee (CIAC): Commission Appointed

Chair:	Leah Rausch	At-Large
Vice Chair:	Jennifer Eisele	Congressional District 4
	Steve Janakes	Congressional District 1
	Sarah Spansail	Congressional District 2
	Maria Sipin	Congressional District 3
	Megan Tuck	Congressional District 5
	Jimmy Jones	Congressional District 6
	Zechariah Heck	At-Large
	Joey Posada	At-Large
	Fran Warren	At-Large

Local Official Advisory Committee (LOAC): Commission Appointed

Chair:	Nancy Wyse	Chair, Benton County Commissioner
Vice Chair:	Rory Bialostosky	Councilor, City of West Linn
	Elisabeth Adams	Councilor, City of Astoria
	Joe Benetti	Mayor, City of Coos Ba
	Jennifer Euwer	Chair, Hood River County Commission
	Jim Hamsher	Commissioner, Grant County
	Pam VanArsdale	Mayor, City of Rogue River
	Colm Willis	Commissioner, Marion County

Department of Land Conservation and Development: EJ Information

EJ Council Liaison:	Sadie Carney	Communications & Engagement Manager, Policy Office
---------------------	--------------	---

Agency Budget and Revenue Sources

DLCD is funded primarily through the General Fund, while receiving some Federal Funds and Other Funds. Federal Funds come primarily from two agencies: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for administration of the National Flood Insurance Program, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for planning and management of the Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM). Other Funds are mainly derived from two sources: federal transportation funds through the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for integrating land use and transportation planning, and natural hazard mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. DLCD also administers two dedicated funds to offer grant support to local jurisdictions: Community Green Infrastructure Fund and Housing Accountability and Production Fund. The Legislature invested General Fund into each of these funds, which the department carries and spends as Other Funds. The department also collects a small amount of Other Funds revenue from miscellaneous receipts.

DLCD's 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget is \$79,481,190. Of this, \$22,674,021 is dedicated to grant funding. DLCD has 111 legislatively-approved positions.

Agency Introduction: From the Director

Dear Members of the Environmental Justice Council,

As we begin a new year, I am proud to reflect on the work of the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) over the past twelve months. Our agency's mission, to steward Oregon's land use system in ways that advance equity, resilience, and opportunity, continues to provide Oregonians with transparency and assurance. In 2025, we deepened our commitment to environmental justice by ensuring the voices of historically marginalized communities are centered in our planning, rulemaking, and program delivery.

Advancing Housing Solutions with Equity at the Core

Housing remains one of the most pressing equity challenges facing Oregon. In 2024 and 2025, LCDC adopted rules to implement the **Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA)**, a transformative reform that shifts housing planning from a narrow focus on zoning capacity to a comprehensive framework that considers the real needs of Oregonians. This work, guided by House Bill 2001 (2023), is designed to ensure that every community, urban and rural, coastal and high desert, has the tools to produce housing that is affordable, accessible, and equitable.

DLCD also celebrated the establishment of the **Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO)**, a joint office with the Department of Consumer and Business Services. HAPO works with local governments and housing developers to remove barriers to housing development. Support is offered in grants, through technical assistance and model codes, and in permit-ready plans designed to streamline the local permit review and approval processes.

Our staff worked tirelessly with partner agencies, including the Department of Administrative Services and Oregon Housing and Community Services, to establish production benchmarks, equity indicators, and a [statewide dashboard](#) to monitor progress. These tools will help us stay accountable to the principle that housing is not just about units, it is about people, families, and communities having safe, stable places to thrive.

Combined, not hundreds but thousands of hours were invested by staff members, commissioners, community partners, partner agencies, community members, local leaders, and the Governor's office in helping us accomplish the adoption of rules to support the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis. We could not do this important work alone.

Environmental Justice in Rulemaking and Program Delivery

Several rulemakings in 2025 exemplify our commitment to environmental justice:

- **Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Rules:** Adopted with inclusive community engagement requirements, ensuring rural and tribal voices are part of renewable energy siting decisions.

- **Goal 5 Cultural Areas Rules:** A landmark step to protect Indigenous cultural assets and guarantee tribal participation in land development decisions.
- **Coastal Public Access Rulemaking:** Clarifying the implementation of Goal 16: Estuarine Resources to safeguard equitable access to Oregon's coastal resources.
- **Rocky Habitats Management Strategy:** Developed through coastal community workshops, positioning local residents and volunteer groups as stewards of fragile ecosystems.
- **Oregon's Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan:** Ensuring Oregon's eligibility for Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster relief funding, this update process engaged a broad group of state agencies in developing an updated, equity-focused risk assessment and mitigation strategies for all areas of the state.

These efforts demonstrate how environmental justice is not an add-on to our work. It is embedded in the very rules that shape Oregon's future.

Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities

The **Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC)** program continues to be a cornerstone of our equity work. In 2025, Philomath became the first city to meet CFEC standards by rezoning its downtown to increase livability, walkability and climate resilience. Fourteen other communities are on track to complete their zoning work by 2028. DLCD also published new resources, including the **Walkable Design Standards Guidebook** and the **Parking Management Jump Start Guide**, to help cities reduce transportation inequities and create healthier, more affordable communities.

Child Care and Community Infrastructure

Equity in land use extends to economic development as well. Our **Child Care Facilities Report**, delivered to the Legislature, identified barriers that disproportionately affect families with limited resources. By prioritizing solutions to expand child care facilities, DLCD is addressing a critical component of economic and social equity.

Additionally, DLCD awarded **Community Green Infrastructure grants** totaling \$3.6 million to 23 projects statewide. Investments ranging from bioswale revitalization in Tillamook to community schoolyard projects in Riddle, demonstrate how green infrastructure can serve both environmental and social justice goals.

The Strength of Our Staff

None of this work would be possible without the dedication and expertise of DLCD's staff. From GIS and natural resource specialists, housing policy analysts, regional representatives, to natural hazards planners and fiscal analysts, our team embodies the values of service, innovation, and equity. Their ability to synthesize complex policy, engage diverse communities, and deliver practical solutions is the foundation of our agency's success.

I am especially proud of the way our staff have embraced collaboration, whether working with tribes on cultural resource protections, partnering with local governments on housing strategies, or supporting communities in climate resilience planning. Their commitment ensures that our agency's work is not only technically sound but also deeply human-centered.

Looking Ahead

As we enter 2026, DLCD will continue to roll up our sleeves to implement housing production standards and resources, advance natural resource management strategies, and strengthen our partnerships with communities across Oregon. We will do so recognizing that equity is not a destination but a practice, one that requires humility, persistence, and collaboration. Together, with our partner agencies, the Environmental Justice Council, and community members who engage from every corner of our state, we are building a future where every Oregonian, regardless of race, income, or geography, has access to housing, opportunity, and the natural resources that define our state.

With respect and gratitude,

Brenda Ortigoza Bateman, Ph.D.
Director



Agency Description

Oregon's statewide land use planning program – originating in 1973 under [Senate Bill 100](#) – protects farm and forest lands, conserves natural resources, promotes livable communities, facilitates orderly and efficient development, helps coordination among local governments, and enables community engagement.

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) administers the program in partnership with local jurisdictions. A seven-member volunteer board known as the [Land Conservation and Development Commission](#) (LCDC) guides DLCD.

The land use planning program affords Oregonians predictability in the development process and the ability to plan for and invest in long-range outcomes by using a rolling 20-year planning horizon that allocates land for industrial, commercial, and housing development, as well as transportation and farm and forest lands.

Under the program, all cities and counties have adopted comprehensive land use plans that meet mandatory state standards. The standards are based on the [19 Statewide Planning Goals](#) that deal with land use, development, housing, transportation, and conservation of natural resources. Technical assistance in the form of expertise and grants for local jurisdictions are key elements of the program.

DLCD has experienced recent sizable growth in funding and staffing levels. The 2023 and 2024 legislative sessions provided the department with additional staff to meet requirements of the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) and to establish the Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO). Since the 2021-23 biennium, the agency has grown from 68 to 111 positions.



Commission Members (left to right): Barbara Boyer, Vice-Chair Allan Lazo, Stuart Warren, Mark Bennett, Lianne Thompson, Ellen Porter, Chair Anyeley Hallová

Agency Programs

- Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities
- Coastal Management Program
- Community Engagement
- Community Green Infrastructure
- Cultural Resources
- Economic Development
- Farm and Forest Protection
- Grants and Procurement
- Housing
- Housing Accountability and Production Office
- Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning
- Natural Resources and Renewable Energy
- Transportation and Growth Management
- Regional Representation - Technical Assistance

DLCD in Numbers



DLCD
Department of
Land Conservation
& Development

2025 IN REVIEW

19

STATEWIDE LAND USE
PLANNING GOALS



\$76.5 M

BUDGET

Legislatively approved for
the 2025-2027 biennium

130+

GRANTS AND LOCAL
PLANNING ASSISTANCE
Allocated in 2025



111

STAFF MEMBERS

Legislatively approved in 2025

Land Conservation and Development Commission

7

volunteer commissioners

40

advisory committee members

9

rulemakings concluded

~92

hours of commission
meetings

LEARN MORE AT

www.oregon.gov/lcd

2025 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE HIGHLIGHTS

Internal

- The DLCD 2023-2031 Strategic Plan is in its third year of implementation actions. The agency Strategic Plan focuses on:
 - Ensuring Equitable Planning and Engagement
 - Investing in Robust Operations
 - Building Community Resilience
 - Promoting Healthy and Equitable Communities, and
 - Conserving Farm and Forest Lands, Coastal and Natural Areas.
- Land Conservation and Development Commissioners along with DLCD staff toured Church at the Park in Salem, Oregon as part of their January 2025 meeting. Church at the Park aims to create a safe, sanitary, and supportive environment for guests to take the next steps toward housing and employment by providing low-barrier shelter and employment services. The tour included stops at one of their Micro Shelter Communities and their Young Adult Shelter, which provided an incredible example of local efforts taking on the housing crisis.
- The commission adopted rules in 2024 and 2025 under Goal 10: Housing to modernize how local cities and counties plan for housing in a manner that that results in **more affordable, fair, and equitable housing outcomes**. In 2025, DLCD staff began implementing a significant section of these administrative rules to address Oregon's housing crisis with incentives, public resources, and regulation. Staff will implement the remaining rules in 2026 and 2027.
- The Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO) was established under the governor's housing production package, also known as Senate Bill 1537 (2024). HAPO partners with local governments and housing developers to navigate the complexities of state housing laws related to land use and permitting. HAPO services include providing funding, guidance, and technical support to minimize barriers to housing production and ensure compliance with state laws and regulations. For live updates on HAPO's work, visit the [HAPO Resource Hub](#). This tool is a centralized information resource for housing developers, local governments, and other interested parties. It features several tools including progress dashboards, a centralized database of state housing programs, and HAPO's form for receiving inquiries and complaints. To date, HAPO has received 251 inquiries through the Inquiry Form, responding to topics including housing, land use, building codes, and navigating housing related state policies and programs.



Image 1. Commissioner Alan Lazo, HAPO manager Joel Madsen, HR Manager Tyler Potter, and Director Bateman pause at a Micro Shelter Community to listen to a participant's story.

- DLCD staff annually engage graduate level students in Oregon's land use planning programs at **Student Planning Day, which took place on November 7, 2025.** Students from the University of Oregon and Willamette University attended the 2025 event which included presentations from staff and engagement activities such as The Watershed Game. The game, developed by Minnesota Sea Grant, is an interactive tool that helps players understand the connection between land use decisions and water quality, with an emphasis on community collaboration.
- In response to legislatively identified need, DLCD secured position authority and funding to support the agency's growing data needs through the creation of the Data Management and Production Services (DMAPS) division. The primary focus of DMAPS is to coordinate and enhance the agency's capabilities in data governance and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This expansion included the hiring of a Chief Data Officer, GIS Coordinator, Senior GIS Analyst, GIS Technician, and Data Engineer. By managing data as a strategic asset, DLCD is better positioned to support Oregon's communities and residents through intelligent, data-driven decision-making.



Image 2. South Coast Regional Representative Hui Rodomsky leads students through The Watershed Game.

"In the time I have served on the commission, DLCD has made great strides in environmental and climate justice work. Our commission and agency leadership intentionally and aggressively pursue efforts to welcome and value more Oregonians and diverse perspectives in our process and conversations. I cannot overstate the value of this work."

- LCDC Chair, Anyeley Hallová

Equitable Engagement

- To strengthen inclusive participation, the Department of Land Conservation and Development developed an **Equitable Engagement Toolkit** with adaptable resources, frameworks, and training to help governments, consultants, and organizations involve underserved populations in land use planning. DLCD published this guidance document in February 2025. The accompanying Oregon Community Explorer provides users with an interactive dashboard and web map that analyzes and visualizes demographic, economic, and social data across communities. Together, these tools support compliance with state requirements while advancing equitable, data-driven community engagement practices. This resource for local governments and practitioners was developed with support from the MultiCultural Collaborative and Knot Studio.
- To accomplish rulemaking for the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis, DLCD brought together a **historically large and diverse 48-member advisory committee** for rulemaking and three technical advisory committees. Committee members met more than 55 times

between November 2023 and October 2025. The advice of these volunteers and feedback received during dozens of outreach events was central to the process of drafting new rules. LCDC adopted rules in 2024 and 2025.

- The Community Involvement Advisory Committee¹ (or CIAC) is a statutorily mandated advisory committee that is focused on the implementation of Goal 1: Community Involvement and supports **equitable community engagement** for the LCDC and department. The committee is currently developing new Community Engagement Guidelines that will align with the language and commitments in the Equitable Engagement Toolkit mentioned above.
- Each year, the CIAC accepts applications for the [Achievement in Community Engagement \(ACE\) Awards](#). The ACE Awards recognize excellence in engaging communities in the land use planning process at the local level. In 2025, two of six applicants were recognized with an ACE Award for their thoughtful engagement. Envision Sandy 2050 and the tumwata Village Master Plan are two examples of land use planning that benefitted from successfully connecting with and gaining feedback from their local communities.
- The Oregon King Tides Project, now in its fifteenth year, is a community science driven effort to document the impacts of the highest high tides of the year, known colloquially as “king tides,” on our coastal communities as well as educate the public about beach safety. The project is a partnership between the Oregon Coastal Management Program and Oregon Shores Coastal Conservation, as well as other groups such as Oregon Coast Visitors Association, Oregon Sea Grant, and Surfrider. A photo contest is held each year with various categories, such as coastal flooding and erosion, designed to help researchers and planners better understand what future sea level rise may look like along the Oregon Coast. 134 photos were submitted during the 2024-2025 season.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration awarded the Oregon Coastal Management Program at DLCD a Project of Special Merit grant to build capacity in coastal communities for rocky habitat stewardship projects. The project engaged diverse communities in a series of public workshops in 2024 and 2025, from Cannon Beach to Port Orford, that focused on the development of area-based management strategies. Oregon’s rocky coastline provides critical habitats for marine species, abundant educational opportunities for the public, accessible research grounds for scientists, and rich landscapes that have supported traditional lifeways for indigenous communities since time immemorial.



Image 3. Community members chat with each other between presentations at a Rocky Habitat Management Workshop for Coquille Point.

¹ Statutorily authorized as the Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee under ORS 197.030, conducting business as the “Community Involvement Advisory Committee.”

- In partnership with a rulemaking advisory committee, DLCD developed rules to decrease land use conflicts when developing large-scale solar developments in Eastern Oregon. The new rules balance the desire for clean energy and the responsibility to protect farmland, wildlife, and cultural heritage. Key rule updates include an emphasis on community benefits for impacted communities and protection for tribal archeological, historical and cultural areas.
- DLCD submitted a report to the legislature in December 2024 on **improving permitting for childcare facilities** in Oregon. The experience of child care providers was intentionally sought and centered in the findings included in the report.

Tribal Engagement

In 2025, DLCD staff coordinated with or requested consultation on the following 15 rulemaking and major policy initiatives. These projects have involved one or more of all nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon.

1. Community Green Infrastructure Fund
2. Goal 5 Cultural Areas Rulemaking
3. Goal 5 Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Update
4. Natural Hazards Mitigation Plans and Risk Assessment Updates
5. Local Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans
6. Coastal Zone Management Habitat Protection and Restoration Program
7. Coastal Access Rulemaking
8. Offshore Wind Energy and Roadmap Roundtable
9. Oregon Coastal Management Program 309 Assessment
10. Oregon Coastal Management Act Federal Consistency
11. Oregon Housing Needs Analysis
12. Rocky Habitat Site Management
13. Wetlands Rulemaking
14. Coastal Access Rulemaking
15. 2025-2027 Policy Agenda

DLCD's Director and Deputy Director were honored to participate in the Governor's Annual Government-to-Government Summit at the Ko-Kwel Casino and Resort in October 2025.

External & Policy Development

- DLCD awarded more than \$7 million in Housing Planning Assistance Grants to 82 cities and counties and four federally recognized tribes through the Housing Division and the Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO). These funds will support efforts to plan for and address housing needs, helping to lay the groundwork for more affordable, accessible, and diverse housing. The agency prioritized communities facing the greatest housing challenges and those working to meet statutory housing obligations. A full list of award recipients and project descriptions is available on the [DLCD website](#).

- House Bill 4080 (2024) directed DLCD to create an Offshore Wind Energy Roadmap, setting standards for offshore wind energy development and approval processes. DLCD has been intentionally **seeking the guidance of and centering the needs of historically marginalized communities** in the development of the Offshore Wind Roadmap. Engagement so far has included four focus groups, a survey administered in English and Spanish, and virtual and in-person community meetings. The Offshore Wind Roadmap development process will be sharing a draft roadmap for community comment before submitting a report and recommendations to the legislature in June 2025.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) awarded the Oregon Coastal Management Program, housed within DLCD's Coastal Division, a \$4.8 million grant to provide the funding necessary for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians to acquire a 42-acre stretch of undeveloped beachfront in Lincoln County, Oregon. In a landmark achievement for coastal conservation and resilience, this acquisition protects an ecologically rich property, featuring a diverse community of native plants and animals in addition to multiple creek and wetland systems that flow directly into the Pacific Ocean. The land holds deep cultural significance, located within the original reservation boundaries of the Siletz Tribe and encompassing areas of historic tribal villages and settlements.
- As part of the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities 2023-25 program implementation, the department invested \$3 million, supporting 26 cities and counties and sponsoring 50 projects focused on reducing climate pollution and improving outcomes for environmental justice communities. The department funded projects that include climate-friendly zoning reform, equitable engagement, urban design, and transportation planning. In January 2025, DLCD published the [Walkable Design Standards Guidebook](#) to provide resources and guidance for local jurisdictions to comply with Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities standards.
- Local governments with a population greater than 10,000 are now required to submit a **Housing Production Strategy (HPS)** to DLCD for review and approval. The HPS must contain specific and meaningful plans, tools, actions, and policies to address housing needs identified in the city's Housing Capacity Analysis, along with a timeline for adopting and executing each strategy. DLCD reviews each city's HPS to ensure it effectively meets local housing needs, encourages necessary housing production, and **promotes fair and equitable housing outcomes**. In 2025, DLCD approved ten Housing Production Strategies with conditions and remanded two.
- Climate change is disrupting Oregon's natural and built environments, the health of its residents, their livelihoods, and their sense of place. Effective climate adaptation actions are as diverse and complex as the communities they serve. Funded by the legislature in 2021, the **Climate Change Social Vulnerability Assessment** team held workshops in Oregon's eight emergency management regions where residents shared their climate change concerns. Each community reported different impacts, but all regions were worried about rising living costs and the physical and mental health effects of climate change. Resulting recommendations focus on actions that would deliver coordinated, place-based climate change adaptation to Oregon communities.

- DLCD led Oregon's Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) five-year update in close collaboration with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management and with collaboration, support, and contributions from many state agencies. The NHMP's primary functions are to assess the potential impacts of natural hazard events and establish mitigation strategies. The plan also discusses ways the state can support local and tribal governments with natural hazards mitigation planning. For this Oregon NHMP Update, DLCD developed a more rigorous method of identifying the areas most vulnerable to each natural hazard statewide and the most vulnerable people and assets in those areas. DLCD is now refining the tool and developing a user interface for local and tribal governments. Oregon's Environmental Justice Council has referred to DLCD's methodology and indicators in their developments of a statewide environmental justice mapping tool. Approximately 230 individuals – including experts in hazards, vulnerable populations, and underserved communities; representatives from the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon; and professionals from related fields and sectors – contributed to the Risk Assessment upgrade.
- The Oregon legislature passed House Bill 2727 in 2023 to **help meet the critical need for childcare access in the state**. The bill required DLCD to convene a work group to examine strategies for reducing the regulatory barriers to expanding early learning and care facilities. The work group delivered [the final report and recommendations](#) to the legislature in December 2024. Some of the barriers to childcare facility siting identified in the report inspired legislation during the 2025 Legislative Session. Notably, House Bill 3650 will help combat childcare deserts by **removing zoning barriers to childcare facility siting** across Oregon. This includes expanding areas where a childcare facility can be sited and relocating existing statutory language relating to childcare facility zoning requirements into the land use section of Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS Chapter 197).
- House Bill 3409 (2023) directed DLCD to conduct rulemaking related to the siting of solar energy facilities in Eastern Oregon. DLCD **coordinated closely with tribes** throughout the rule drafting process to both protect resources and determine impacts to tribal cultural assets related to solar development. DLCD adopted the final rules at its June 2025 meeting, which went into effect January 1, 2026. These new rules aim to make the process of siting photovoltaic solar facilities easier for counties and developers while protecting farmland, wildlife habitat, and important cultural resources. Key updates include:
 - New "solar area" designations for Eastern Oregon counties (OAR 660-023-0195)
 - The ability for Eastern Oregon counties to review individual solar applications on farmland (OAR 660-033-0130(44))
 - An emphasis on community benefits for Eastern Oregon communities
 - Protections for wildlife habitat, high-value farmland, and archaeological, historical, and cultural resources
- House Bill 3409 (2023) created DLCD's Community Green Infrastructure (CGI) program, which the agency launched in late 2024. The CGI program supports nature-based solutions that increase community resilience. In early 2025, DLCD announced the first round of CGI grant recipients, awarding approximately \$3.6 million in grants to 23 projects across the state. The agency opened a second round of grant applications, and the grant

recipients will be announced early 2026. The CGI Program **prioritizes projects that benefit environmental justice communities.**

- At its December 2025 meeting, LCDC revised a state rule on cultural areas. In the four years prior, DLCD staff worked closely with Oregon's federally recognized tribes to better understand and represent their interests in preserving cultural areas. The new rule defines cultural areas as archaeological sites or landscape features of cultural interest. Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 5 has always recognized cultural areas as important resources in Oregon but did not provide specific direction on how to consider these areas when planning for future development. The passage of these rules provides a better process for federally recognized Tribes in Oregon to work with local governments to protect areas that are significant to their long history in Oregon. DLCD is collaborating with Tribal representatives to determine best implementation strategies. The rule will go into effect January 1, 2027.

"Partnering with Tribal Nations more formally in the Oregon land use program is a long time coming. We are grateful for the leadership and guidance of representatives of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon, and for the city and county expertise on the rulemaking advisory committee."

- LCDC Chair, Anyeley Hallová

- DLCD's Farm and Forest program updates included statewide protections of Oregon's Farms and Forests in a set of amended rules that were adopted in December 2024. The updated rules make it easier for local governments to implement state rules and make decisions with the assurance that relevant caselaw and standards are considered. This improvement of the state's zoning-based farm and forest land conservation program will **help preserve Oregon's working lands and the employment supported by them.**

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONSIDERATIONS

How does your agency define environmental justice communities?

DLCD relies upon federal and state definitions for environmental justice communities. Unless federal grants requirements stipulate the use of a federal definition of Environmental Justice, state definitions are used.

- **Environmental Justice:** (ORS 182.535 Section 3)
“Environmental justice” means the equal protection from environmental and health risks, fair treatment and meaningful involvement in decision making of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, immigration status, income or other identities with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies that affect the environment in which people live, work, learn and practice spirituality and culture.
- **Environmental Justice Community:** (ORS 182.535 Section 4 and HB 3409 (2023))
“Environmental justice community” includes 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.
- **Underserved Communities:**
Refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life. The barriers to opportunity and participation these communities face have occurred throughout history and continue today.
- **Social Vulnerability:**
The potential for loss within an individual or social group, recognizing that there are characteristics that influence an individual or group’s ability to prepare, respond, cope, or recover from an event. These characteristics can overlap within populations to create heightened vulnerability, which may be compounded by deficiencies in infrastructure within communities and historic or existing discriminatory government policies.

What tools does your agency use to identify and prioritize environmental justice communities?

DLCD takes the opportunity to reflect on environmental justice successes and challenges annually, through the completion of the Environmental Justice Council's annual report. The DLCD Strategic Plan is updated to reflect necessary changes every two years.

ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES (ORS 182.550 SECTION 1);

Environmental Justice Consideration Process

Does the agency have a defined process for incorporating environmental justice factors into agency operations and decision-making?

Operations:

- DLCD employs a racial equity framework for decision making that requires project managers to consider historical inequities, benefits and burdens, data equity and data justice, community engagement and empowerment, restorative justice, accountability of decision makers and government, and continuous improvement.
- DLCD's agency strategic plan incorporates our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plan.
- Staff training is planned for the coming year to continue to expand our internal capacity and understanding of DEI and Environmental Justice issues.
- DLCD strives to provide early and ongoing opportunities for meaningful Tribal consultation and guidance in policy development efforts.
- All DLCD technical assistance grant applicants are required to propose outreach and community engagement participation plans that reflect inclusion of historically marginalized or excluded populations and to incorporate grant deliverables related to more equitable outcomes.

Meaningful engagement of tribes, community-based organizations and traditional under-served and under-represented communities is a DLCD priority that is reflected in our everyday work, strategic plan, and commission decision making.

- DLCD regularly engages external experts in seeking to understand and enact promising and best practices around equitable outcomes. Recent examples include policy development related to housing production and cultural areas.
- Each state agency is required to prepare a State Agency Coordination (SAC) program to ensure that its "rules and programs affecting land use" comply with all statewide planning goals and are compatible with local comprehensive plans per ORS 197.180. DLCD and several agency partners have committed to updating their SAC programs in 2026. This will allow us to ensure that these programs reflect emerging issues such as climate change

and equity (including tribal consultations), remain legally relevant, and provide better transparency and involvement in community engagement processes.

Decision-making:

- DLCD's racial equity framework for decision making is used when reporting to the Land Conservation and Development Commission on draft administrative rules.
- The Community Involvement Advisory Committee is consulted by staff in the development of rulemaking charges, composition of rulemaking advisory committees, and communications and community engagement plans.
- DLCD invites tribal consultation on all policy and rule development issues. All nine federally recognized Tribal governments in Oregon (tribes) are invited to consult on policy development work and the agency policy agenda. DLCD's Regional Representatives are actively working to establish stronger relationships with tribal councils in their various regions.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT (ORS 182.535 SECTION 2)

ORS 182.550 Section 2: Increase public participation of individuals and communities affected by agencies' decisions;

Community Engagement Policy and Processes

Does your agency have a public engagement process for promoting community participation in agency decision-making processes?

Community engagement is a required part of land use planning in Oregon and central to the work conducted at DLCD. The requirement extends to local implementation of the land use planning program and is written in the first goal of nineteen in the statewide land use planning system.

Goal 1 calls for the opportunity for community members to be involved in all phases of the planning process. It requires the department, along with each city and county responsible for implementing Oregon's land use planning program, to have a community involvement program that addresses:

- Opportunities for widespread community engagement,
- Effective two-way communication with community members,
- The ability for the community to be involved in all phases of the planning process,
- Making technical information easy to understand,
- Feedback mechanisms for policy-makers to respond to public input, and
- Adequate financial support for community engagement efforts.

DLCD provides a staff liaison to the commission's statutorily required Community Involvement Advisory Committee (CIAC). The Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) also provides a commissioner liaison. The CIAC advises the commission on matters related to equitable community engagement and Goal 1. DLCD also provides staff to answer questions about public participation in the land use planning process for members of the public and local governments as they implement the land use planning program at a local level.

While the name of the goal is rightly criticized for being out of date, based on our contemporary understanding and use of the word "citizen," the intent of the goal is to provide for broad, equitable community engagement in decision making. DLCD routinely refers

Oregonians to the Department of Justice definition of “citizen,” which is “Any individual within the planning area; any public or private entity or association within the planning area, including corporations, governmental and private agencies, associations, firms, partnerships, joint stock companies and any group of citizens.” To equitably involve Oregonians, the Land Conservation and Development Commission provides community members and interested parties opportunities to participate in, and potentially influence, decisions about proposed policy changes, guidance documents, or program outcome that will affect their community, environment and/or health. DLCD staff and decision makers proactively seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

- The Land Conservation and Development Commission aligns work to adopted Public Participation Guidelines.
- DLCD staff routinely review demographic information for advisory committee applicants during the application process and increase outreach to underrepresented communities.
- The CIAC and commission have a joint meeting once a year to review agency accomplishments in community engagement, promising practices, and to create a work plan for the CIAC moving forward, as they develop resources and guidance for the department and local governments.
- The CIAC annually accepts applications for Achievement in Community Engagement **awards. The Achievement in Community Engagement (ACE) Award recognizes** organizations and individuals who have actively promoted and implemented the values of Oregon’s Statewide Planning Goal 1 through an outstanding community engagement strategy.

Current level and quality of public participation

The level and quality of community engagement in DLCD and LCDC decision making is substantial for a relatively small agency. Our agency and commission are committed to governmental transparency and engaging community members. The updated DLCD 2023-2031 Strategic Plan includes providing training for staff and local governments on tools including Equitable Engagement Toolkit, Community Explorer, Risk Assessment layers, and Community Assets and Harms mapping tools.



Selecting Audiences

Has the agency performed analysis to determine the groups impacted by agency decisions?

DLCD consults census demographics from the American Community Survey and US Census Quickfacts to understand the demographics of the state or a region of the state. Due to the nature, scope, and diversity of land use rulemaking and projects, lists of impacted groups are developed and considered at a project level. Each DLCD project team and policy development effort has a unique set of impacted groups. Some “impacted groups” are predetermined by the legislature. When applicable, DLCD carries out legislative direction in determining RAC and workgroup membership.

DLCD’s recently adopted rules for local governments to follow when conducting planning for housing, furthering the audience identification practice by requiring local governments to “ground truth” their data findings. To improve outcomes from the statewide land use planning program, local investment, participation, and deep community engagement is essential.

DLCD follows federal and state Title VI guidance to determine Title VI and EJ populations to be addressed.

Title VI (per Title VI and “related authorities”)

- Race/color/national origin
- Age
- Sex
- Disabilities (mental and physical)
- Limited English Proficiency
- Minority (Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander)
- Low-income (median housing income at or below poverty level)

With which Oregonians, groups, or organizations does your agency engage?

DLCD engages with a unique and diverse group of interested parties, advocacy organizations, professional groups, and scholars for each policy development effort. The

agency also maintains a list of community-based organizations with whom we seek regular contact. In 2025, the following groups were among those represented on advisory committees and work groups for the agency:

- Tribal Governments
- Affordable Housing Financial Organizations
- Agricultural Land Advocates
- Architects
- Association of Oregon Counties
- Chambers of Commerce
- City Governments
- Climate Advocates
- Coastal Community Members
- Commercial Fishing Industries
- Community Renewable Energy Developers
- Consulting Firms
- County Governments
- Culturally Responsive Organizations (Community-Based Organizations)
- Developers/Homebuilders
- Disability Advocates
- Economic Development Professionals
- Economic Development Districts
- Economists
- Electric Companies
- Emerging Planners
- Engineers
- Environmental and Social Justice Advocates
- Fair Housing and Civil Rights Advocates
- Farmstand Operators (small, medium, and large farmstands)
- Farmworker Advocates
- Firewise Advocates
- Frontline Workers Advocates
- Habitat Conservation Advocates
- Homelessness Advocates
- Housing Equity Advocates
- Indigenous support community organizations
- Industrial Forestland Management Organizations
- Labor Unions
- Land and Water Use Experts
- Land Use Law Practitioners
- Land Use Planning Advocates
- Landowners
- Large-scale Renewable Energy Developers

- League of Oregon Cities
- Local Businesses
- Local Land Use Planners
- Low-Income Advocates
- Manufacturing Industries
- Metro
- Natural Resource Conservation Organizations
- Organizations Representing Clean Energy Labor Interests
- Planning Professionals
- Policy Research Organizations
- Port Authorities
- Property Rights Organizations
- Public Transportation Providers
- Public Works Providers
- Realtors
- Renewable Energy Advocates
- Senior or Older Adult Advocates
- Small Woodlands Advocates
- Special/Utility Districts
- State Agency Representatives
- Tenant Advocates
- Tourism Organizations
- Trade Councils
- Trail Users
- Transmission Siting Experts
- Transportation and Transit Planners
- Youth
- Youth Serving Organizations

Public Engagement Policy

The Land Conservation and Development Commission has adopted [Public Participation Guidelines](#) that aim to provide and promote clear guidance for community engagement in the development of policy at DLCD. The Public Participation Guidelines provide guidance that is consistent with and in some cases beyond the legal requirements of the Attorney General's Model Rules of Procedure, state law, land use goals, and the Commission's administrative rules. The commission and department follow these guidelines to the extent practicable in the development of new or amended statewide planning goals and related administrative rules, and in other significant policy development activities related to the statewide land use program.

Meaningful Engagement

All land use decisions in the State of Oregon, including those made by the LCDC, are subject to Goal 1: Community Engagement. DLCD staff complete a communications and community engagement plan for each policy development effort which includes incorporation of guidance principles and practice included in [Putting the People in Planning](#) and the [Equitable Engagement Toolkit](#).

Criteria

What criteria triggers public participation?

All land use decisions in the State of Oregon, including those made by the LCDC, are subject to Goal 1: Community Engagement.

Follow-up

Does your agency follow-up with participants after decisions are made?

When capacity exists within a consultant contract, RAC members are invited to evaluate the engagement process. DLCD also maintains ongoing relationships with several community-based organizations, interested parties and advocacy organizations. These relationships include candid conversations on process improvement related to community engagement.

“It is with great pride that I present the work of the department and commission as a model for fostering equitable and sustainable land use policy nationwide.” - Anyeley Hallová, LCDC Chair

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACTS (ORS 182.550 SECTION 3)

ORS 182.550 Section 3: Determine the effect of agencies' decisions on environmental justice communities.

The landscapes we inherit, where and how our built and natural environment exists, are a result of deliberate planning and policy decisions. Organizations like the DLCD play a pivotal role in laying the groundwork for a more just future. Our strategic plan, rule development, and policy decisions prioritize health, racial equity, income equality, transportation equity, and quality of life for Oregonians.

The work carried out by the department and the decisions made by LCDC impact elements of the built and natural environments that fall within all nineteen statewide land use planning goals:

- Goal 1 - Community Engagement
- Goal 2 - Land Use Planning
- Goal 3 - Agricultural Lands
- Goal 4 - Forest Lands
- Goal 5 - Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Spaces
- Goal 6 - Air, Water and Land Resources Quality
- Goal 7 - Areas Subject to Natural Hazards
- Goal 8 - Recreational Needs
- Goal 9 - Economic Development
- Goal 10 - Housing
- Goal 11 - Public Facilities and Services
- Goal 12 - Transportation
- Goal 13 - Energy Conservation
- Goal 14 - Urbanization
- Goal 15 - Willamette River Greenway
- Goal 16 - Estuarine Resources
- Goal 17 - Coastal Shorelands
- Goal 18 - Beaches and Dunes
- Goal 19 - Ocean Resources

Local government accountability is crucial in achieving our housing and environmental justice goals. The newly-established Housing Accountability and Production Office began working with local governments and developers in 2025 to establish accountability for development of needed housing and ensuring all housing statutes are being appropriately applied at a local

level. In coordination with the Department of Administrative Services, Oregon Housing and Community Services, and the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs Building Codes Division, DLCD works closely with municipalities, establishing benchmarks and targets to ensure they are meeting state-set objectives. By providing technical resources, grant funding, guidance, and support, we empower these entities to adopt policies that facilitate the development of affordable housing, protect natural resources, and create vibrant and sustainable communities.

Transportation plays a pivotal role in shaping the accessibility and affordability of housing and its environmental impact. DLCD is dedicated to bolstering transportation options, including public transit, biking infrastructure, and pedestrian-friendly pathways. This not only reduces carbon emissions but also enhances mobility for residents, particularly those in underserved areas. By integrating housing with well-connected transportation systems, we aim to reduce dependency on cars, mitigate traffic congestion, and enhance overall livability.

Promoting walkable, mixed-use communities is a cornerstone of our strategy. We have established zoning and urban planning policies that encourage the development of neighborhoods where residents can live, work, shop, and access amenities within close proximity. This approach not only fosters a sense of community but reduces driving and commuting distances, promoting a more sustainable lifestyle while fostering economic vibrancy.

Equitable outcomes are at the core of our efforts. DLCD is striving to dismantle systemic barriers and address historical injustices by ensuring that our initiatives prioritize marginalized and vulnerable communities. By engaging with community members and interested groups, listening to their needs, and incorporating their perspectives into our policies and programs, we aim to create lasting, positive impacts that uplift all individuals.

Does your agency measure the impacts of agency decisions on environmental justice in Oregon communities? Why or why not?

The impact of agency decisions are carried out at a local government level, often over a course of decades. Anecdotally, we take the measure of program impacts on Oregon communities via public comment and bi-annual 360° surveys of director's performance. However, DLCD currently lacks the funding, capacity, and tools that would make it possible to track implementation of agency decisions at a meaningful scale.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRESS (ORS 182.550 SECTION 4)

ORS 182.550 Section 4: Improve plans to further improve environmental justice in Oregon;

How is EJ built into agency strategic plans?

Focus Areas 1 and 2 of the [DLCD Strategic Plan](#) also serve as the agency's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Plan, which addresses issues that include environmental justice. Focus Area 1: Ensuring Equitable Planning and Engagement includes training staff and local governments on tools including Equitable Engagement Toolkit, Community Explorer, Risk Assessment layers, Community Assets and Harms mapping tools; training to support all staff familiarity and comfort with implementing racial equity concepts and best practices to help inform daily work; and increasing culturally responsive engagement, access to opportunity, and understanding of racial equity and DEI concepts and strategies.

DLCD takes a programmatic approach that centers on race. Research shows that when investments focus on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, these benefits also accrue to low-income community members. Low-income community members also include a greater share of Oregonians who identify as living with a disability than the population as a whole. Accordingly, DLCD takes an intersectional approach that centers on race.

Black, Indigenous, and People of color share similar barriers with other historically marginalized groups such as people with extremely low income, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA2S+ communities, women, older adults, and young people (this concept is known as intersectionality). People of color also tend to experience those barriers more deeply due to the pervasive and systemic nature of racism. They experience the most disparate outcomes in nearly every category of social well-being, including housing, transportation, climate, access to nature, education, and health.²

DLCD recognizes that by addressing barriers experienced by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and centering their wisdom, voice, and experience in the statewide planning process, the agency can effectively identify equitable solutions that also remove barriers for other marginalized groups. DLCD commits to practicing racial equity approaches that intersect with other historically underserved communities in our work so that all Oregonians can thrive.

² [DLCD 2023-2031 Strategic Plan](#)

What does your agency need to further develop and implement environmental justice policies at the agency?

- Increased staff capacity.
- A staff position explicitly focused on environmental justice work and tribal partnership.
- Additional tools to identify and connect with environmental justice communities.
- Budget support for environmental justice efforts.
- Access to and support for translation services.
- Enterprise provision of communications platforms and tools.
- DAS guidance on compensated participation.
- Financial support on legal costs.
- Updated State Agency Coordination Programs.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAPPING TOOL INVOLVEMENT (ORS 182.550 SECTION 5)

ORS 182.550 Section 5: Utilize the environmental justice mapping tool developed under section 12 of this 2022 Act.

How is your agency participating in the development of the environmental justice mapping tool?

DLCD has a designated staff member participating in meetings associated with the environmental justice mapping tool. Staff have been present at methodology-specific and Environmental Justice Council meetings to stay informed of the mapping tool's progress.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT 2025

How would your agency like to engage with the EJC in 2025?

At this time, based on DLCD's legislative assignments and [2025-27 Policy Agenda](#), there are no obvious or required rulemakings, reports, or projects that require coordination with or feedback from the Environmental Justice Council. That said, DLCD is willing and eager to share relevant work with the Environmental Justice Council at their request.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL LEGISLATION CITATIONS

Please share agency impacted legislation from the last legislative session where Environmental Justice Council or Environmental Justice Task Force engagement is cited in the legislation.

None

AGENCY MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT RELATED LEGISLATION

Please share agency impacted legislation that includes language regarding meaningful engagement.

SB 1537 (2024) - Governor Kotek's Housing Production Framework

HB 4080 (2024) - Offshore Wind Energy Roadmap

HB 3409 (2023) - Community Green Infrastructure

HB 3409 (2023) - Reduced Conflict Solar Siting in Eastern Oregon

HB 2727 (2023) - Evaluating Permitting Barriers and Strategies Affecting New and Expanded Child Care Facilities in Oregon

How does DLCD collaborate when multiple agencies are listed?

DLCD partners closely with agencies across the enterprise. Subject matter experts across the agency work closely with partner agencies to establish work plans, coordinate with interested parties and advisory committees, and develop solutions.

Recent legislation related to housing has created joint efforts between the Department of Administrative Services, Oregon Housing and Community Services, and DLCD to jointly steward the implementation of the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA). This multi-agency collaboration will decrease the burden on local governments to calculate housing needs and offer support in realizing new development. The Housing Accountability and Production Office is also a joint agency effort, coordinating the work of the Department of Consumer and Business Services Building Codes Division and DLCD to create state oversight on local implementation of housing laws.

In Oregon, every state agency must create a State Agency Coordination (SAC) program to ensure their "rules and programs affecting land use" align with the state's planning goals and are compatible with city and county comprehensive plans and land use regulations. Recognizing that many SAC programs haven't been updated since the 1990s, DLCD is aware of the need to modernize. Modernizing SAC would help state agencies support local governments in a more coordinated way and align the programs with emerging issues such as climate change and changing technologies. DLCD drafted a white paper analyzing the current state of these agreements, outlining a path forward. We also developed a template to guide agencies in updating SAC programs.

DLCD hopes to pilot this new approach with a partner agency in the next biennium. A real-world test will allow DLCD to refine the process and demonstrate the value of modernized SACs.

Modernizing SAC programs aims to:

- Better coordinate state agency work across the state.
- Foster more efficient, effective, and collaborative land use outcomes.
- Make better use of available resources.
- Improve community engagement outcomes.
- Advance equity and inclusion statewide.