

# Oregon EJ Mapping Tool Info Session

Welcome Package

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## Welcome!

By Environmental Justice Mapping Team: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Eric Main, Melissa Foltz, Pradnya Garud, and Chelsea Zabski

**Welcome Environmental Justice Council to your information session with the EJ Mapping Tool Leadership Team!**

**We look forward to sharing updates regarding the EJ Mapping Tool project, listening sessions, and prepare you for the April 17, 2024 EJC meeting.**

**Let's learn together!**

## INSIDE

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### OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

How will this help with future Environmental Justice Council decisions?

### UPDATES

Listening Sessions, Community Surveys, Data Inventory, Indicator Candidates, and Indicator Development Process

# Objectives & Outcomes

**We organized these appointments with the following objectives and outcomes in mind, and we look forward to helping you better prepare for future meetings.**

**Objective:**

- Status updates for listening sessions, indicator candidates, and data inventory.

**Outcome:**

- Prepare the EJC for the April 17, 2025 EJC meeting.



# Listening Session Updates

By Chelsea Zabski

**House Bill 4077 (2022) requires the Environmental Justice Council (EJC) host six listening sessions in Oregon communities to inform development of Oregon's Environmental Justice Mapping Tool.**

## Confirmed Dates:

1. April 16, 2025 in Astoria, Oregon from 5:30-7:30 PM
2. May 7, 2025 in Woodburn, Oregon from 5:30-7:30 PM

## CBO/LPHA Collaborations:

- Marion County LPHA referrals to CBOs supporting Hispanic and farm worker communities.
- Astoria CBO serving predominately Hispanic communities is unable to assist based on current timeline.
- LPHAs and CBOs suggested cohosting future events where something is already happening instead of hosting a separate event.

## Communications & Logistics

- Flyers are being reviewed and will be sent for translation services.
- Staffing and EJC participation will ideally include 10 or less individuals.

# Community Survey

By Pradnya Garud

House Bill 4077 requires providing appropriate public opportunities to participate in decisions that will affect their environment or health and seeking out and facilitating the involvement of members of vulnerable populations.

To achieve the objectives outlined in HB 4077, EJC has approved an online community survey as one of the three strategies to solicit community feedback.

## **Updates:**

The OHA team has developed an online community survey, which is included in the agenda packet. We will present the survey draft to the OHA Science and Epidemiology Council (SEC) on March 19th to gather feedback.

# Data Inventory Workgroup Updates

By Melissa Foltz

## Oregon Environmental Justice Inventory

Enterprise Information Services (EIS), in collaboration with natural resource agencies, has created a comprehensive inventory of existing datasets related to the Environmental Justice Mapping Tool outlined in HB 4077. This inventory is intended to provide the Environmental Justice Council and the Environmental Justice Mapping Tool team a comprehensive understanding of the current data landscape. The inventory also identifies the organizations that maintain these datasets, providing a foundational resource for future discussions and planning on environmental justice.

The Data Inventory Workgroup collaborated with the Environmental Justice Liaisons to request all natural resource agencies listed in HB 4077 submit an inventory of data elements their agency create, use, or rely on for environmental justice purposes.

In total 20 agencies and academic partners participated in completing a statewide environmental justice inventory, including all agencies listed in HB 4077.

## Next Steps

The Data Inventory WG will collaborate with the Methodology WG to define a standardized workflow for agencies to submit data indicators. This workflow will cover several key areas including file formats, data schemas and attributes, documentation requirements, recommendations for best practices, and indicator submission details.

The work of the Data Inventory Workgroup is expected to conclude with the finalization of this standardized workflow.

## Oregon Environmental Justice Data Inventory Deliverables

By Melissa Foltz

Deliverables for Oregon's Environmental Justice Data Inventory are listed below will be made available on the [Environmental Justice Council's website](#).

**Staff Report** - The staff report, prepared by EIS staff, documents the process, timeline, participation, identified data gaps and field definitions used throughout the development of Oregon's Environmental Justice Data Inventory.

**Simplified Version** - The simplified version is intended to be an easy-to-read list providing a high-level overview of existing data potentially relevant to Oregon's Environmental Justice Mapping Tool outlined in HB 4077.

**Extended Version** - The extended version includes the same list of data with additional attributes such as data extent, value, update schedule and lifecycle information.

## Enterprise Information Services (EIS)

By Melissa Foltz

EIS will continue to provide guidance and best practices for data quality, metadata, and submission guidelines as needed throughout development of Oregon's Environmental Justice Mapping Tool.

# Indicator Candidates

By Eric Main

## Agency EJ indicator Recommendations

- Agency EJ indicator submission closed on March 6th, 2025.
- The goal for this stage is to prioritize no more than 15 indicators per subdomain for the EJC to review.
- All agency indicator recommendations will be shared with the EJC. The overall goal is to include no more than 7 indicators per subdomain in the Oregon EJ Mapping Tool.
- Some indicators were recategorized to fit the subdomains they most closely align with.

### Next Steps:

- Agency indicator recommendations will be shared with the EJC on March 18th.
- The EJC will share feedback on indicator candidates with the EJ Mapping Tool Leadership Team during the April 17th EJ Council Meeting.
- Deprioritized indicators will not be included in the sensitivity analysis.
- The EJC can request deprioritized indicators be moved to the priority list for evaluation in the sensitivity analysis.
- The EJC is encouraged to recommend additional indicators not submitted in the agency indicator recommendations as indicator gaps.
- The tentative deadline for agencies to submit the first round of indicators for the sensitivity analysis is June 1st, 2025.
- The EJ Mapping Tool Leadership Team will begin working with the EJC to address priority indicators and indicator gaps in March 2025. The discussion will continue until into 2026.

# Recommendations by the Numbers

By Eric Main

Fifteen state and local agencies, and academic partners participated in EJ indicator recommendations:

- Department of Environmental Quality
- State Fire Marshal via DEQ
- Water Resources Department
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Forestry
- Department of Transportation
- Oregon Health Authority
- Housing and Community Services
- Department of Land Conservation and Development
- Department of Geology and Mineral Industries via DLCD
- Department of Energy
- Multnomah County
- Portland State University - Population Research Center
- Oregon State University - Oregon Climate Change Research Institute

We received 108 EJ indicator recommendations including:

- Environmental Exposures (8)
- Environmental Hazards (12)
- Climate Change Risks (18)
- Built Environment (35)
- Human Health Disparities (9)
- Social Factors (26).

# EJC Decision Points

By Eric Main

**The 10 decision points for the Environmental Justice Council are based on best practices for building composite indices used to identify communities experiencing disproportionate environmental burdens, health and social disparities, and community benefits and opportunities.**

The decision points include:

1. Domain selection
2. Geographic units
3. Geographic comparisons & community designations
4. Domain/indicator weighting
5. Domain aggregation
6. Data standardization
7. Indicator selection
8. Sensitivity analysis
9. EJ community threshold
10. Visualizations/Reporting

Indicator selection and sensitivity analysis activities are expected to continue until December 31, 2025.

EJ community thresholds are expected to be determined in the first half of 2026 and visualization and reporting work is expected to start around 3rd quarter 2026 and continue through 2nd quarter 2027.

# Current EJC Decision Points

By Eric Main

**The EJC will be providing iterative feedback related to Decision Point 7 (indicator selection) and Decision Point 8 (sensitivity analysis) in 2025.**

EJC 2025 feedback opportunities include:

1. Review Indicator Recommendation Inventory developed by state agencies.
2. Determine initial core environmental justice indicators from the Indicator Recommendation Inventory during April 2025 EJC meeting.
3. Review community surveys report to inform indicator selection decision making.
4. Review listening session report to inform indicator selection decision making.
5. Evaluate core environmental justice indicators during sensitivity analysis.
6. Determine final core environmental justice indicators.

## EJC Indicator Feedback Impact

By Eric Main

The April 17<sup>th</sup> EJC meeting is critical the EJ Mapping Tool development because this meeting will identify the top indicators requiring further state agency development.

EJC members also can submit potential indicators through monthly EJC information sessions or **potential indicator submission** form for state staff evaluation until October 31, 2025.



# Indicator Development Process

By Eric Main & Melissa Foltz

Tasks remaining throughout the indicator development process are listed below with timeline and status updates.

- State agencies are encouraged to use state data whenever possible due to recent disruptions to the availability of federal data.
- All indicators will be aggregated to 2020 Census tracts for the Oregon EJ Mapping Tool version 1.
- The Data Inventory Workgroup will provide a Census Tract template for agencies to populate with indicator names, scores, and units.
- Some agencies will need to share data (e.g., Department of Environmental Quality and the Oregon State Fire Marshal).
- State agencies are encouraged to collaborate on indicator development as needed.
- State agencies are encouraged to share non-sensitive data on the ArcGIS Online Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Workspace.
- The Methodology Workgroup will provide examples of indicator development processes from other
- EJ mapping tools and best practices when requested.

## Draft Timeline Update

Timeline	Category	Task	Status
March 2025	Data Inventory	Data Inventory	Complete
	Indicator Inventory	Indicator Inventory	In Progress
	Standardize Workflow	Indicator Submission Workflow	In Progress
April-May 2025	Preliminary Indicator Selection	<b>EJC Survey</b> Select preliminary indicators. (Max. 10-15 each domain)	In Progress
		Determine Initial Core EJ Index Indicators <b>EJC Vote</b> <b>April 17, 2025 EJC Meeting</b>	Task not started
Apr-May 2025	Listening Sessions	LS 1 April 16, 2025 in Astoria	In Progress
		LS 2 May 6, 2025 in Woodburn	In Progress
May-Jun 2025	Data Collection	Agencies to submit preliminary indicators to Methodology WG.	Task not Started
Aug - Nov 2025	Sensitivity Analysis	Methodology WG to perform sensitivity analysis and report findings to EJC.	Task not Started
Dec 2025	Final Indicator Selection	<b>EJC Vote</b> required to finalize indicator selection.	Task not Started

# REFERENCE

Placeholder