



Agenda/Notes
Office of Governor Kotek — Environmental Equity Committee (RJC)
6/26/2024 – Zoom
1:00-2:30 p.m.

CHAIR

	Governor Tina Kotek
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CO-CHAIR

x	Ana Molina

MEMBERS

x	Bob Komoto	x	Janet Komoto		
x	Chandra Ferrari	x	Clara Soh		
x	Jill Fuglister				

OTHER ATTENDEES

	Andre Bealer		Karin Power	x	Sarah Moehrke (ODOE)
x	Javier Cervantes	x	Sione Filimochala (DAS, CFO)		
x	Susana Sandoval	x	Lauren Rosenstein (ODOE)		
x	Chandra Ferrari	x	Ruchi Sadhir (ODOE)		

Topic/Lead	Notes/Main Points	Decisions/Action Items
Welcome and Introductions	Welcome and Introductions Overview of the agenda.	
Agency Presentation: Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) re. solar energy	ODOE Would like to come back and talk about our many programs that ODOE has. Current ODOE Incentive Programs: The 2023 HB 3630 Community Navigator Program has the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community education• Equitable access• Clean and affordable energy promotion• Grant identification and outreach• Resilience planning• Capacity building• Partnership and collaboration	

These programs are divided into six main categories for eligible entities:

Programs for Individuals:

Solar & Storage Rebate Program: In 2023, this program provided \$5.3 million in rebates. It was issued in 29 out of 36 counties. Currently, funding is fully reserved and not open for new applications.

Rental Home Heat Pump Program: Although it ran out of funding, an additional \$4 million was allocated in 2024. It will become available again sometime in July.

Energy Efficient Wildfire Rebuilding Incentive: There's still a significant amount of money left in this program. It's exclusively for 2020 Labor Day wildfire survivors.

Programs for Organizations:

Community Heat Pump Deployment Program: Designed for regional solutions, this program covers a region map and 9 federally recognized tribes. Seven out of the nine tribes didn't apply for various reasons. In 2024, they requested support for rental housing, and that process will occur in July.

Community Renewable Energy Program (C-REP): This program offers \$11.7 million in grants for selected projects. Another round of funding is planned for 2025.

County Energy Resilience Planning Grants: A new program that opened last month. It's currently accepting applications and will close in February 2025. Counties can apply individually or as a cohort.

Oregon State Energy Strategy:

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) is developing a comprehensive State Energy Strategy. This strategy aims to identify pathways for achieving Oregon's energy policy objectives.

It draws insights from external community organizations and relies on existing resource plans, energy-related studies, and analyses.

The project timeline spans two and a half years, starting in July 2023, with a final report due to the Governor and Legislature by November 2025.

Key steps in the process include public listening/work groups (July–August), technical analysis (end of August), and a stakeholder feedback webinar (September).

One Stop Shop:

HB 3630 directed ODOE to create a single resource—a “One Stop Shop”—that provides information about available energy efficiency programs.

This resource helps individuals reduce energy costs and enhance home resilience.

More questions Lauren can take them down and forward to expert on the one stop shop program.

	<p>Question: Is the Solar for All award in Oregon connected to existing programs?</p> <p>Answer: The Solar for All program received \$86 million, although the initial request was for \$140 million. Currently, it hasn't reached the received phase. Internally, planning and coordination are underway with partners such as the Energy Trust and environmental organizations. They have a full year to establish contacts with communities that will assist in implementing the program.</p> <p>Comment: There's hope that the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) will provide additional support through solar energy rebates.</p> <p>Comment: Currently, the focus is on serving low-income and rural communities. To meet the requirements of the Justice 40 initiative, a climate economic screening tool will be utilized.</p> <p>Question: We have a community center that needs updates.</p> <p>Answer: Unfortunately, all heat pump programs are designed for residential properties and not community centers.</p> <p>Comment: However, it's worth exploring whether the Energy Trust territory or local energy companies offer any incentive programs.</p>	
Budget Engagement Process and high-level forecast of realities of agency recommended budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSL (Current Service Level): This refers to the calculation of what it takes to maintain our current operations. It's essentially the baseline for continuing existing services. • DAS (Dept of Administrative Services): This department oversees administrative functions within the organization. • POPs (Policy Option Packages): These are how agencies request additional funds for specific programs or initiatives. <p>Here are the key points: Total Funds: The available budget is \$124.7 billion. Allocation: Health and Human Services and Education sectors together account for 60% of the entire budget.</p> <p>General Funds allocate 75% to health and human services, while Natural Resources receive 3%. Revenue Outlook (2025-27): Revenues are expected to increase during this period.</p> <p>However, there's concern that the current service level might outpace revenue growth.</p> <p>The health and human services sector faces significant case loads. Growth Limitation: To manage this, growth in service levels is limited to 1%.</p> <p>Fortunately, revenue remains stable. Natural Resources: Phasing out one-time funds is a priority.</p> <p>Efforts have been made to avoid adding costs to those one-time funds. Agency Submissions: Agencies are currently submitting their current service levels.</p> <p>The budget process involves committee engagement, context overview, ARB POP preview, and updates in July and August.</p> <p>Question: Are all agencies submitting Policy Option Packages (POPs), and will there be a "final" list after a review? Is that when committees can preview</p>	

	<p>and provide feedback?</p> <p>Answer: Agencies have already submitted their initial lists at the end of April and early May. The final list, produced after budgeting exercises, will be available for committee preview in August.</p> <p>Comment: Throughout this process, there are due dates, and each step provides an opportunity for readjustment.</p> <p>Upcoming Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ By September, all Agency Request Budgets (ARBs) will include racial equity analysis questions. ○ Feedback on scaling ARBs for a balanced Governor’s Budget (GRB) will be incorporated and reported back based on input from the Racial Justice Council (RJC). <p>Budget Considerations for 2025-27:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The 2023-25 budget included significant one-time investments. ○ Current service levels are being evaluated. ○ Service levels for 2025-27 will be finalized in about a month (mid-summer). <p>Critical Meeting Times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ August and October meetings are crucial for discussing these matters. <p>Natural Resources Agencies and Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Many natural resources agencies face persistent challenges. ○ Despite representing only 3% of the budget, they deal with 97% of the challenges. ○ Efforts are being made to convey the holistic story behind their need for budget increases. ○ These agencies actively engage the public. <p>Budget Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A 1% change amounts to \$7 million, which is distributed among the 14 agencies under the Natural Resources umbrella. ○ The goal is to intentionally advance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) plans. <p>Perception of 3%:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While 3% may seem small, it can be a significant challenge. ○ The context matters, and addressing this issue requires a deeper understanding. <p>Comment: Interesting 3% sounds a little amount of money and that might be the problem. I don’t know what you mean by the comment 3% of the budget but 97% of the problem.</p>	
EEC Priority Development	<p>Question: How can we position ourselves meaningfully for engagement as they progress further?</p> <p>Answer: Advisors play a crucial role in highlighting priorities and identifying opportunities. We can create spaces to foster meaningful connections.</p> <p>Comment: Existing tools valuable to underrepresented communities should be emphasized. We can expand resource connections or preserve existing ones. Additionally, reviewing the previously shared Jam board can help align with available programs and resources.</p> <p>Comment: We should examine current Policy Option Packages (POPs) that intersect with our priorities. This will help us focus on relevant areas.</p> <p>Question: I recently learned about pesticides near farmworkers. Why isn’t the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and pesticide mitigation for farmworkers on our list?</p> <p>Answer: Addressing workforce safety issues related to pesticides might fall outside the scope of Natural Resources. We could explore creating partnerships to tackle this concern.</p> <p>Legislative Interest and Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We need to assess legislative interest, particularly regarding energy affordability. 	<p>Ana to draft email for priorities and -Javier to send on behalf of Ana.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Even if it's not directly in the budget, we should scope out strategies for this topic. ○ Other priorities include water management and impacts, ODOE programs (such as rental heat pumps, Healthy Homes, and the Climate Change fund), and addressing farmworker exposure in Eastern Oregon. <p>Narrowing Down Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Let's identify the top three areas we want to focus on. ○ Karin and Chandra can review the list, considering current developments and anticipated changes. ○ It's crucial to leave room for capacity. <p>Committee Composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The committee consists of eight members, including co-chairs. <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ana could craft an email asking committee members to identify their top three priorities in writing. ○ A half-hour dedicated to thoughtful consideration would be valuable. ○ Set a deadline for submission (within the next two weeks) to allow Chandra and Karin to provide feedback. 	
<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Next Meeting June 21, 1:00 PM</p>	Adjourned at 2:30p.	

Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODOE Program Highlights for Racial Justice Council presentation • Racial Justice Committee Budget Engagement presentation 	
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