



CHAIR

X	Governor Tina Kotek
---	---------------------

MEMBERS

	Angela Uherbelau	X	Annie Valtierra-Sanchez	X	Chi Nguyen-Joyner
X	Cynthia Richardson	X	Danny Jacobs		Enna Helms
X	Felisa Hagins	X	Jan Mason	X	Jenny Pool Radway
X	Jesse Beason		Jessica Price		Joth Ricci
	Khanh Le		Lamar Wise		Lauren Nguyen
X	Marcus Mundy	X	Marin Arreola		Marisa Zapata
	Mark Strong		Michael Alexander	X	Nkenge Harmon Johnson
X	Miriam Vargas Corona	X	Patsy Richards		Reyna Lopez
X	Tiffany Monroe	X	Toc Soneoulay-Gillespie		Josie C.
	De'von B.		Willa L. Powless		

OTHER ATTENDEES

X	Karin Power	X	Representative Sanchez	X	Anegela Uherbelau
X	Jesse Hyatt	X	Lorraine Wilson	X	Kelly Brooks
X	Sen. Rob Wagner	X	Dominique Rossi	X	Speaker Rayfield
X	An Do	X	Tony Lapiz	X	Jenine Gomez
X	Morgan Gratz Weiser	X	Lindsey O'Brien	X	Matthew Tschabold
X	Javier Cervantes	X	Governor Tina Kotek	X	Svetha Ambati
X	Nolan Douglass	X	Melissa Goff	X	Pooja Bhatt
X	5039311492				

Topic/Lead	Notes/Main Points	Decisions/Action Items
Welcome and Introductions		
Re-ground the RJC	Key takeaways:	
Legislative Presentations	<p>House Speaker Rayfield:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our communities are aligned on housing, homelessness, behavioral health, addiction, and early literacy. - We've had many opportunities from the Federal government, through infrastructure dollars or the CHIP act, to find funding. - We've had difficult conversations around gun violence and reproductive health. - The walkout was frustrating for everyone who was involved in the legislature, but when it comes 	

to the big issues that we were hoping to move through, it was challenging how fast everything needed to move. Committees were working on bills and moving along processes. We weren't able to have much of a dialogue, the end of the session became a race to get things across the finish line.

- Caseloads will become more apparent the closer we get to short session.
- A walkout in the short session would be unacceptable.

Big Topic Areas:

- Housing and Homelessness
- Behavioral Health and Addiction Services

Senate President Wagner:

- As legislators, we have the opportunity to introduce bills that are important to us personally.
- I submitted senate bill 1, which allows the department of revenue to collect information and data collection to access taxation.
- Work around equity has become partisan. HB 2167 codified this group and that's interesting because when it passed, there were folks who voted *no*. As we're discussing coming together and racial equity, not everybody starts in the same place with the same shared understanding or definition.

Representative Sanchez:

- We had a great forecast in May, and despite that forecast, my legislative director and co-chair made a huge list of all of the collective asks. It totaled over \$116 billion. The fact is that we've done a monumental job of reducing costs around the state and reduced vacancies.
- We were also able to put together a great state education package, and while we're not part of the negotiations for school budgets, we do the best we can to bring forward great budgets.
- Despite great forecasts, the funding will never be enough. The reason that forecasts were so big, is because wages were increased with inflation. We're also looking at increased taxes coming back and the kicker that we discussed earlier this year.
- We need to move the needle forward while maintaining infrastructure, addiction services, and housing production. We need to manage the work and determine what needs to go first.

Request: Not everyone is grounding in legislative acronyms, can we use the full titles instead of acronyms?

Thank you all for being here, we're all in this together.

Questions for Presenters

Question: During the session we saw many inequities and how CBOs were working to fight the pandemic. Funding came from a few sources, but now it feels that we're reversing, we cannot forget the value of CBOs. They have staff and work that needs resources, I want to make sure that funding and equity remains moving forward. We can't only rely on CBOs when there's a crisis. Nobody is better at working with communities than CBOs. How do you ensure equity and funding is balanced with CBOs in Oregon?

- Community Partnership Outreach Program with the Oregon Health Authority.
- I don't know how we balance those resources, but that's something that we are having discussions about and will address across the state moving forward.
- The massive revenue as a state, the billions of dollars won't go away. Whether we're discussing childcare, caseloads, etc. there is a lot of funding and resources coming from the state. Some of the staffing gets overwhelmed. These are real people doing real work, but every session as a legislature, there's always a ball that gets dropped or a priority that doesn't make it across the finish line.
- We need to be hearing what the people need and what our underserved communities need. These aren't additional asks; they're essential funding asks.

Question: This conversation is designed around SB 918, a bill that the RJC supported, and we were successful moving through the legislature. I want to talk about SPAs and the budgeting process. Everything that has been presented makes a lot of sense, but we can also advocate for other organizations. What is the impact of Spas(?) and how do we plan for funding that might take much longer than we anticipate? While the state moves a lot of money, it goes through the SPAs, why are we using them and what are the pros of using them?

- SPA stands for Special Purpose Appropriation. Some SPAs are used for hiring public defenders. While the public defense office is in a state of fluctuation, we use SPAs to hold the money until the organizations are being held accountable and the funding will rollout as it's needed. When money goes to a SPA, it will be distributed to that single agency and funding will only be released once we know how it's going to be used. SPAs are used when we don't feel comfortable just giving a large amount of funding to areas that we

don't have accountability.

- Most legislators are not on the ground and in the weeds of these individual funding policies. Every SPA has a different reason, and we have fewer SPAs now than we had previously used. Usually, we'll just have a few caseload SPAs since those are essential services. Sometimes, the values are there, and we want to do it, but we can't move on it yet. Other times, it shows that we are reserving the money, setting it aside until we can build a plan for its use.
- When we get to the end of June and the budget is set in stone, we can reserve the money and move it when folks are ready.

Question: If we have specific questions about SPAs, who should we follow up with?

- House Speaker Rayfield or Representative Sanchez.

Question: As a member of the RJC who actively advocates on behalf of the RJC and my organization, there's a definite disconnect between where we think we are and where the legislature actually is. What are you going to do to make sure agencies are getting contracts out in an orderly fashion?

- We have to figure out how to get funding and get the contracts out, but the issue is how to split the money.
- I'm pretty sure the \$10 million was funded by the legislature, I will go back and check that this did occur. I don't know the discrepancy or the disconnect between the proposed funds and the real funding, but we can follow up with folks.

Question: The hard work isn't passing bills, it's the work that follows. Implementation is often a brick wall. What feedback do you have for us to make sure legislative intent is followed by state agencies? I'm very appreciative of folks who were supportive of these bills and funding, but we still have schools who show numbers of illiteracy. It looks like we might be waiting months for guidance from ODE even though money can be spent on October 1st. How are state agencies being held accountable?

- Being a legislator, we hear things from advocates about why things are or aren't happening. The truth is, there is a disconnect between the information that is being sent out and the information that is actually being heard. The concern from the legislature is that there is a partnership but it's also accountability.
- Our approach is raise intent and values to a shared understanding. When things are brought to

	<p>our attention, we will bring it to the attention of the Governor’s team. We want to stay up to date with how things are going, and the reality is that some agencies are in a great place and others need some more work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You have to watch agencies closely and how they implement the bills that we pass. This is the only way to make sure these things get implemented and that the programs will work. We need to find a better way to hold agencies accountable, and we need to do things differently. We can’t just pass a bill and pretend that it’s good enough. <p>Comment: When considering infrastructure, we need to consider direct and indirect impacts to socioeconomics and health.</p> <p>Question: The opening comments were very helpful in setting the stage for this conversation. We are approaching our cap on reserves that the state has and we have another revenue forecast that has come out with an enormous kicker. I don’t know what legislators are thinking and I appreciate being fiscally conservative, but why aren’t we spending money now to move forward and make things better? How do you suggest we change our infrastructure and reframe the conversation from a scarcity to a productive approach mentality?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The huge revenue forecast in May was directly tied to how much money we put into the system and into our programs. There’s nothing that costs the same as it did a few years ago. Every cost that we have is going up, building, salary, etc. We need to be not fiscally scarce, but fiscally responsible. <p>Comment: I second everything that Marin said and is asking. CBOs did a huge undertaking over the pandemic and before and after to fill in the gaps that have been there.</p>	
Close	The Governor acknowledges the incredible work of the council and announces an in-person meeting and reception for September.	

Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I) Agenda II) 2023 Oregon Disparity Study 	
-----------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--