

OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

February 20, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Public Meeting Agenda

This public meeting will be conducted in person at the Chemeketa Community College in Salem, OR. Written testimony can be submitted in advance to van.nguyen@deq.oregon.gov.

Register in Advance to Participate Virtually

https://deq-oregon-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_a4BYeFBOQH2aYhaGXZ3xig

The Council makes every attempt to hold strictly to the timing distributed agenda. Topics may move up or be delayed based on the cadence of the meeting.

This agenda is available on the Environmental Justice Council website:

<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/pages/environmental-justice-council.aspx>.

10:00 a.m.	Item 1:	Call to Order – Chair Quinn Read
10:10 a.m.	Item 2:	Governor's Office Welcome – Karin Power
10:20 a.m.	Item 3:	EJC Reflections – All
11:20 a.m.	Item 4:	Public Comment
11:35 p.m.	Item 5:	Break before Working Lunch
11:50 p.m.	Item 6: Rajagopal-Durbin OCAPIA Liaison	Mapping Funding (SB 5520) & Federal Impacts – Aparna
12:20 p.m.	Item 7:	Annual Reports Assignments – Hoang-Van Nguyen
12:50 p.m.	Item 8:	Indicator Selection Status Updates – Eric Main OHA
1:50 p.m.	Item 9:	Legislative Updates – Hoang-Van Nguyen
2:50 p.m.	Item 10:	Enterprise-wide Policies & Guidance – Hoang-Van Nguyen Prioritization
3:30 p.m.	Item 11:	Public Comment
3:45 p.m.	Item 12:	EJC Next Steps
4:00 p.m.	Item #13	Adjourn

PLEASE NOTE

AGENDA

The public portion of the Council meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and proceed chronologically through the agenda. Times listed on the agenda are approximate. At the discretion of the chair, the time and order of agenda items—including addition of intermittent breaks—may change to maintain meeting flow. This meeting will be recorded by audio, and the recording will be posted on the Environmental Justice Council website.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. the evening prior to the meeting by emailing van.nguyen@deq.oregon.gov and indicate your comments as EJC Testimony with the meeting date on the subject line. Other testimony will be received during the public comment portions of the meeting which will be after Leadership Updates, prior to the EJC voting on any agenda items, and at the end of the meeting.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION OF DISABILITIES

Please contact us at least three business days prior to the meeting to let us know if you need reasonable accommodation. Contact the Environmental Justice Council Coordinator Hoang-Van Nguyen at van.nguyen@deq.oregon.gov to make your request.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council

From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Environmental Justice Council Policy & Program Coordinator

Date: February 14, 2025

Regarding: Agenda Item 3 – EJC Reflections

The Environmental Justice Council was established through HB 4077 in 2022 and it is responsible for providing environmental justice advice to the Governor of Oregon and state agencies. State agencies are empowered to seek formal consultation for their programs and the Council can choose to amplify environmental justice needs from Oregon communities.

In addition to the Council's advisory capacity, they are responsible for developing an Oregon environmental justice mapping tool. The Environmental Justice Mapping Tool project started in its earnest in 2023, and it is expected to complete on December 31, 2025.

Federal environmental justice programs have changed in early 2025 which includes losing access to federal environmental justice tools such as EJ Screen, Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST), CDC Social Vulnerability Index, CDC Environmental Justice Index, and others.

This agenda item provides a space for the Environmental Justice Council to reflect on their progress and goals advancing environmental justice in Oregon.

Council Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council

From: Aparna Rajagopal-Durbin, OCAPIA Liaison to EJC

Date: February 14, 2024

Regarding: Agenda Item 6 – Mapping Funding (SB 5520) & Federal Impacts

The Environmental Justice Council met on February 14, 2025, and OCAPIA Liaison to the EJC Rajagopal-Durbin requested to add this agenda item to address Oregon EJ mapping needs considering many federal mapping tools such as EJ Screen and CEJST are no longer available.

This agenda item provides time for the EJC to discuss their advisory capacity to the Governor as it relates to EJ tools and funding needs to continue listening session work required by HB 4077 after June 30, 2025.

[SB 5520](#) is the DEQ appropriation bill that addresses EJC funding.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council
From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Oregon Environmental Justice Council & Policy Coordinator
Date: February 14, 2025

Regarding: Agenda Item 7 – Annual Reports Assignments & Tasks

State agencies request overall feedback regarding agency 2023 annual reports and requests for additional guidance for 2025 agency annual reports.

Due Date for 2024 Agency Annual Reports: January 17, 2025

Goals from Discussion:

1. Assign Environmental Justice Council reviewers for the 2024 Agency Annual Reports that will be submitted on January 17, 2025.
2. Discuss review criteria.
3. Discuss content desired for development of 2025 Agency Annual Reports due January 2026.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council

From: Eric Main, EJ Mapping Tool Leadership Team (OHA)

Melissa Foltz, EJ Mapping Tool Leadership Team (DAS)

Date: February 14, 2025

Regarding: Agenda Item 8 – Indicator Selection Status Updates

Attachments: Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Glossary, State and Federal Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Indicator Inventory Matrix, Focus Group Attendance

In December 2024, the EJ Mapping Methodology Workgroup created an environmental justice index core indicator candidate inventory spreadsheet and shared it with state agencies to collect their agency indicator recommendations for the Oregon Environmental Justice Mapping Tool. The due date for completion of agency indicator recommendations is March 1st.

The indicator inventory will be shared with the Environmental Justice Council during the March information sessions and the April 17th EJ Council meeting in Astoria. Discussions with the EJ Council on indicator selection, community listening session integration in the indicator selection process, and indicator gaps will begin after the April EJ Council meeting.

Indicator Recommendation Activities to date:

1. Environmental Justice Core Index Indicator Spreadsheet assignment for state and local agencies to provide indicator recommendations.
2. Inventory of indicators used in other state and federal environmental justice mapping tools matrixed by prevalence of indicator use. The spreadsheet was shared with state agencies in January and February.
3. Bimonthly Methodology Workgroup meeting indicator discussions.
4. Meetings with agency liaisons to recruit subject matter experts and GIS staff to attend indicator recommendation focus groups.
5. Three focus groups on environmental justice core index indicator recommendations attended by state and local agencies and academic partners. The focus groups covered environmental exposures and hazards, climate change risks, and built environment indicators. Total number of in attendance was 108 with some

participants attending more than one focus group. Part of the focus group time was used to orient attendees on indicator development.

6. Small group consultation provided to 10 state agencies upon request with some agencies requesting multiple meetings.
7. A data exchange group was setup in ArcGIS Online for agencies to share data used to support indicator development.
8. Meetings will be ongoing with subdomain indicator subject matter experts on indicator refinement throughout EJ Mapping Tool development and beyond.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council

From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Environmental Justice Council Policy & Program Coordinator and

Matthew Davis, Department of Environmental Quality

Date: February 14, 2025

Regarding: Agenda Item 9 – Legislative Updates

The Environmental Justice Council (EJC) was preceded by the Environmental Justice Task Force (EJTF) which was created in 2007 by SB 420. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) provides administrative support for the EJC and all appropriations for the EJC will be part of the DEQ administrative budget.

The Oregon Legislature passed various legislation specifically identifying the EJTF or the EJC as partners for state agency programs. This briefing will summarize historical legislation citing the EJTF or the EJC and identify legislation that requires follow up from state agencies and/or the EJC and provide an update on DEQ's budget.

Historical Legislation:

1. 2024:
 - a. [SB 1561](#) Relating to the administration of moneys received from the Monsanto settlement; creating new provisions; repealing ORS 466.445 and 466.447; and declaring an emergency – Environmental Restoration Council (ERC) consult with the EJC on setting strategic priorities on amounts expended from State Agency Program Fund and Disproportionately Impacted Community Fund (ERC is currently being formed)
2. 2023:
 - a. [HB 3409](#) Relating to climate; creating new provisions; amending ORS 352.823, 468A.210, 468A.215, 468A.220, 468A.225, 468A.230, 468A.235, 468A.240, 468A.245, 468A.250, 468A.255, 468A.260, 469.754, 469.756 and 530.050 and sections 1 and 5, chapter 655, Oregon Laws 2019, and sections 2, 10, 14, 17, 21, 23, 24 and 29, chapter 86, Oregon Laws 2022; and declaring an emergency – EJC consultation on ODOE heat pump report due September 15, 2025, EJC consultation with DBCS on emissions reduction and climate change, and DLCD to consult with EJC on their report
3. 2022:
 - a. [SB 1567](#) Relating to energy infrastructure resilience; creating new provisions; amending ORS 659A.885; and prescribing an effective date – Energy Security Plan updates consultation with EJC and EJC membership to Advisory Committee on Community Renewable Investment
 - b. [SB 1518](#) Relating to building codes; and declaring an emergency – EJTF to provide information and advice

- c. [HB 4077](#) Relating to environmental justice; creating new provisions; amending ORS 182.535, 182.538, 182.542, 182.545 and 182.550 and sections 30 and 32, chapter 508, Oregon Laws 2021; and prescribing an effective date – Establish the EJC and develop an Oregon environmental justice mapping tool

4. 2021:
 - a. [HB 2842](#) Relating to healthy homes; and prescribing an effective date – submit report to EJTF by September 25, 2022
 - b. [HB 2021](#) Relating to clean energy; creating new provisions; amending ORS 469A.005, 469A.205, 469A.210,
 - c. 757.247, 757.603, 757.646 and 757.649; repealing ORS 469A.062; and prescribing an effective date – incorporate equity metrics developed in coordination with EJTF and appoint member of EJTF to Advisory Committee on Community Renewable Investment
 - d. [SCR 17](#) Resolution for state agencies to consult with the EJTF
5. 2011:
 - a. [SB 530](#) Relating to the Commission on Asian Affairs; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 182.538, 185.005, 185.610, 185.620, 185.625 and 409.619 – create OCAPIA and appoint a member to the EJTF
6. 2007:
 - a. [SB 420](#) Relating to environmental justice – established the Environmental Justice Task Force

The impacted state agencies can provide formal updates on the legislation requiring current action from the EJC during the April EJC meeting.

DEQ Administrative Budget:

[SB 5520](#) has been introduced to address the Department of Environmental Quality's administrative budget. The [Governor's Recommended Budget](#) does not include funds to support EJC listening sessions or community engagement.

Staff Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council
From: Hoang-Van Nguyen, Environmental Justice Council Policy & Program Coordinator
Date: February 14, 2025

Regarding: Agenda Item 10 – Enterprise-wide Policies & Guidance

The Environmental Justice Council is empowered to provide advice to state agencies on how to bolster their environmental justice programs. During the last EJC meeting on December 12, 2025, the Council decided to focus on providing insight into Enterprise-wide Policies & Guidance.

State agencies meet with the Environmental Justice Council Policy & Program Coordinator at least monthly in their roles and EJC Liaisons. During these discussions, they provided recommendations of various policy and program gaps that challenge their ability to promote meaningful involvement with Oregon communities.

These gaps include:

1. Environmental Justice Data Archival Needs
2. Interpretation & Translation Services
3. Participant Compensation
4. Technology Needs

These needs make it challenging to identify environmental justice communities, engage with communities in a linguistically and culturally appropriate way, compensation participants for their engagement with state agencies, and host hybrid meetings without access to appropriate equipment.

In addition to the gaps above, state agencies seek formal guidance on how to seek consultation from EJC in compliance with HB 4077 and SCR 17.

The EJC is being asked to prioritize the policy and program gaps they would like to focus on in 2025 with the support of their Environmental Justice Council Policy & Program Coordinator.