

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS Northeast Oregon Region (Baker, Union and Wallowa Counties)
Charter – FINAL 2021

Background

The Regional Solutions Program was adopted in statute in 2014 with the passage of HB 4015. Regional Solutions works with state agencies, local governments, public and private sectors, and philanthropic organizations to: identify regional priorities for community and economic development, develop and coordinate projects, solve problems and seize opportunities, and respond to needs as they emerge. Regional Solutions also serves as the Governor’s “boots on the ground” in the event of an emergency.

During 2020, Oregonians were affected both by the global COVID-19 pandemic and unprecedented Labor Day wildfires. In response, Governor Brown deployed the Regional Solutions program to focus on COVID and wildfire response and recovery. Economic and community resilience and recovery, centered in equity, is central to the mission of the Regional Solutions program, whether it is in response to an economic downturn, epidemic, or natural disaster.

Regional Solutions Advisory Committees (RSACs)

Regional Solutions Advisory Committees are critical to advancing the region’s community and economic development goals, promoting economic resilience, and advancing the state’s Equity in Recovery Framework. The goals of this framework are to center equity as we work together to respond to and recover from the once in a century public health crisis and the 2020 wildfires. RSACs will center equity and economic opportunity in regional recovery and resilience priorities, project identification and implementation. The Advisory Committees will prioritize the extreme disparities and disproportionate impacts on black, indigenous and people of color, and other economically disadvantaged communities, including rural communities.

Regional Solutions Teams include regional state agency representatives from the Governor’s Office, the Business Development Department, Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Land Conservation and Development, and Oregon Housing and Community Services. Other state agencies, Oregon Solutions, and Oregon Consensus (the state’s collaborative problem solving and dispute resolution organizations) participate as necessary. State agency team members are co-located in Regional Solutions Centers.

Geographic Coverage

The Northeast Oregon Region includes Baker, Union and Wallowa counties.

Advisory Committee Membership

The Executive Committee of the Northeast Oregon Regional Solutions Advisory Committee consists of seven members appointed by, and serving at the pleasure of the Governor. The Executive Committee is comprised of:

- One local convener who represents the region and who shall serve as the Advisory Committee Chairperson (xxx)
- One representative recommended by the League of Oregon Cities (xxx)
- One representative recommended by the Association of Oregon Counties (xxx)
- One person who represents local and regional business and industry (xxxx)
- One person who represents philanthropic organizations (xxx)

- Two representatives from community-based organizations and/or a tribal government.

The Executive Committee members shall serve staggered terms of four years. In order to stagger these terms, three of the members appointed in 2021 will serve two year terms with the remaining four serving four year terms. Members may serve more than one term.

The Executive Committee shall appoint additional Advisory Committee members in consultation with the Regional Solutions Coordinator. In selecting additional members, the goal is to ensure 25% representation from black, indigenous and people of color communities and to maintain balanced membership from the public, private, tribal, philanthropic, workforce, and higher education sectors. The Executive Committee shall ensure that a county commissioner from each county is included as a Committee member. Additional members shall be appointed by a consensus of at least four out of the seven Executive Committee members. Committee appointees are authorized to participate fully in committee decision making and shall serve for staggered terms established by the Executive Committee at the time of their appointment.

The full committee shall strive to make decisions by consensus (i.e. no one objects); where consensus cannot be reached, decisions will be made by a majority vote of the full committee.

Advisory Committee Roles and Responsibilities

- Identify priorities and projects to further community and economic recovery and resilience that address the needs of those most impacted by COVID/wildfires. (This focus will vary by region.)
- Provide a forum for public, private, and civic sector stakeholders to discuss, understand, and leverage resources to ensure equity is at the center of the region's recovery.
- Identify critical business sectors and their response, recovery and resilience needs.
- Increase diversity of representation and equity in regional and state discussions.
- Consider, review, and recommend regional project implementation proposals.
- Identify opportunities to connect local and philanthropic resources to advance regional projects.
- Consider, review, and recommend state policy and budget proposals to support recovery and resilience.
- Advise the Coordinator and team on recovery and resilience priorities, integrating with local and regional efforts.
- Advance equity in existing state programs.

Regional Solutions Team Roles and Responsibilities

- Assist Advisory Committee in the identification of community and economic recovery and resilience priorities.
- Advance equity in the implementation of state programs.
- Identify agency resources to support projects that address Regional Solutions priorities.
- Review and recommend regional project implementation proposals.
- Identify, streamline, coordinate and track regulatory requirements and permitting processes related to Regional Solutions projects.
- Monitor and coordinate requirements related to state funding that supports Regional Solutions projects.

Public Involvement

All meeting information and materials for Regional Solutions Advisory Committees will be posted at <http://www.regionalsolutions.oregon.gov>. Meeting materials and agendas shall be posted at least 14 days prior to the meeting. Meetings will include an opportunity for public comment.

Meeting Materials

- An advance agenda shall be provided at least 14 days prior to the meeting.
- For decision items, meeting materials will be posted with the agenda.

Meeting Schedule

- The Advisory Committee shall meet no less than twice a year.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes shall be taken for all Advisory Committee meetings and shall contain:

- a list of all members present,
- all motions, proposals, and resolutions proposed, and their disposition, and
- results of all votes/decisions.

Minutes will be posted on the Regional Solutions web page.