

Equitable Engagement in Housing Planning

What is Equitable Engagement?

Statewide Land Use Goal 1 requires local governments to meaningfully engage the public throughout the planning process. The housing planning process includes a range of public comment and equitable engagement opportunities at both the state and local levels, as well as Tribal coordination and consultation, at key points throughout a community’s housing planning cycle.



Why do we need equitable engagement in housing planning?

Equitable engagement is a fundamental pillar of housing planning in Oregon. Engagement is important because the people most affected by policies often understand their own needs best and can help shape decisions by sharing their knowledge. Centering underserved communities in the planning process is not just a regulatory requirement — it is a commitment to recognizing historical harms and improving long term outcomes. When communities are treated as decision-making partners, planning outcomes are more grounded, more trusted, and more effective.

How do the types of engagement opportunities differ?

Public comment is a narrow, legally required opportunity for people to submit written feedback on a proposed government action.

Local **equitable engagement** provides flexible opportunities for community members, especially those from communities historically excluded from decision making, to affect broader change and more nuanced outcomes.

Who conducts equitable engagement?	When?
Portland Metro: Counties and cities with more than 10,000 people Cities with more than 10,000 people Areas not in a UGB in Tillamook County	- Contextualized Housing Need - Housing Production Strategy
All other local governments	If opting in to Oregon’s Expanded Goal 10 Housing Planning Program
The Department of Land Conservation and Development	- Housing Production Strategy review - Housing Acceleration Audit, as needed - Housing planning rulemaking, as directed by legislature



