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## OREGONSERVES COMMISSION

### COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

**Meeting Date and Time:** October 31, 11:30am – 2:00pm

**Join by Phone:** (669) 254-5252 Passcode: 2 1 3 1 8 8

[Join Meeting on Zoom](#)

**Public Access and Accommodation Information:** Meetings are open to the public, follow public meeting laws, and are recorded. Agenda times are approximate. To submit a written or verbal public comment, request accommodations, or request materials in an alternative format, please [complete our online form](#) or [email us](#). Written comments must be received at least 12 hours before the meeting, verbal comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person or group, and accommodation requests should be submitted at least 48 hours in advance. Our meetings and documents are formatted to meet accessibility standards. If you encounter any barriers or have suggestions for improvement, we welcome your feedback.

#### **11:30 am – Meeting Called to Order**

*Facilitated by Commission Chair*

- Review agenda
- Receive public comments

#### **11:40 am – Commission Landscape Overview**

*Presented by the Director*

- Overview of State Service Plan: Progress and Challenges
- Overview of Partner Plans (HECC and OWI)

#### **12:25 pm – Break**

#### **12:40 pm - Federal & State Policy Landscape Overview**

*Presented by Kaira Esgate, America's Service Commissions (ASC)*

- Overview of national and state policy trends, funding outlooks, and priorities impacting service commissions and programs.

#### **1:15 pm – Breakout Rooms & Group Discussion**

*Facilitated by Kaira Esgate, America's Service Commissions (ASC)*

- Small group discussions to identify initial opportunities, challenges, and recommendations for the State Service Plan update.

#### **2:00 pm - Meeting Adjourned**

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## OREGONSERVES COMMISSION

### ***DRAFT SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES***

**Meeting Date:** October 31, 2025

**Location:** Virtual

**Format:** Meeting minutes follow the flow of the meeting agenda for clarity.

### **Commission Members in Attendance**

Chair Heidi Echeverría, Vice-Chair Daniel Altamirano Hernandez, Sierra Barnes, Susan Taylor, Craig Wiroll, Greg Carpinello, Cassie Rose

### **Commission Members Absent**

Jared Pruch, Shenika Cumberbatch-Corpas

### **Commission Staff in Attendance**

Carie Bauer, Director, OregonServes; Ashley Olsen, Office Support Specialist, Office of Workforce Investments; Myronda Schiding, Workforce Programs Manager, Office of Workforce Investments

### **Meeting Called to Order**

- Meeting chaired and called to order at 10:32 am by Chair.
- Meeting Quorum established.
- *No public comment.*

### **Commission Landscape Overview**

#### ***Federal and State Activities, Presented by Director***

##### **State Service Plan Updates**

- The Governor has issued a notice regarding anticipated federal and state budget shortfalls.
- Due to current constraints, full 3-year planning is not feasible. Key challenges include:
  - Instability and legal uncertainty surrounding AmeriCorps funding
  - State budget shortfalls and travel restrictions
  - Limited capacity for engagement and in-person outreach

##### **Strategic Focus Areas**

1. Strengthen Impacts of Service
2. Engage Oregonians in Making a Difference

3. Foster Ready & Resilient Communities
4. Position the Commission as a Leader in Service
5. Increase Service Involvement of Older Adults

#### **Initiatives to Strengthen Impacts of Service**

- Expand marketing and outreach through career centers and schools
- Provide recruitment support to grantees
- Implement grantmaking changes to reduce barriers

#### **HECC Strategic Plan Connections**

- **Relevance:** National service prepares participants for civic and workforce leadership
- **Alignment:** Service-to-career pathways (e.g., NGA, Climate Corps, Youth Mental Health Corps)
- **Affordable Access:** AmeriCorps Education Award reduces financial barriers
- **Belonging:** DEIA-driven service model fosters inclusion
- **Leadership:** Service pathways advance Oregon's economic and workforce goals

## **Federal & State Policy Landscape Overview**

### ***Presented by Kaira Esgate, America's Service Commissions (ASC)***

#### **America's State Service Commission (ASC) Overview**

- ASC is the national membership association representing all 52 state and territorial service commissions.
- Several members of AmeriCorps agency leadership have served on the ASC Board.

#### **ASC Strategic Goals**

1. Commission and Program Building Capacity
2. Public Policy
  - Maintain federal funding at \$27 million annually
  - Increase the number of state service commissions receiving funding from 37 to 40 by July 1, 2027
3. National Service Ecosystem
4. Financial Model
  - Grow annual ASC income from \$3.2 million in 2024 to \$4.4 million by 2027
  - Strengthening financial systems for tracking and utilizing funds
5. Human and Operational Resources

## **FY26 Appropriations**

- President's Budget Proposal
  - \$1.7 trillion overall for discretionary spending.

- Represents a 22.6% (\$163 billion) reduction in non-defense discretionary (NDD) accounts compared to FY25.
- House Appropriations Committee Allocations
  - Committee released allocations spending \$150 billion more on NDD than the President's budget.
  - House GOP plan sets NDD at \$705.6 billion, which is \$14.9 billion lower than the enacted FY25 level of \$720.5 billion.
- Legislative Outlook
  - Anticipated to be a difficult appropriations cycle due to budget constraints, impoundment, and rescissions.
  - Passage of bills expected to be challenging in the House and impossible in the Senate.
- Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS) Bill
  - Approved by House Appropriations Committee.
  - Provides \$184.5 billion overall, a \$13.7 billion (7%) reduction from FY25.
  - Allocates \$643 million for the AmeriCorps agency.
  - Legislation renames AmeriCorps as "America First Corps."

## **Group Discussion**

***Facilitated by Kaira Esgate, America's Service Commissions (ASC)***

Group discussion centered around increasing capacity, existing gaps within the AmeriCorps landscape, effects of the shutdown(s), recruitment, and portfolio maintenance.

## **Meeting Closing**

## **Meeting Adjourned**

Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:03 pm.