



OREGON
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESTORATION
FUND

**OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
COUNCIL MEETING**

DECEMBER 18, 2025



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Agenda

Time	Topic Description
1:00 pm	Roll Call, Opening Remarks, Meeting Overview, and Objectives (<i>Chuck Sams, OERC Co-Chair</i>)
1:10 pm	Item 1 – Consent Items October 9, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes [link] (<i>Chuck Sams, OERC Co-Chair</i>)
1:15 pm	Item 2 – Manager's Report (<i>Nicole Maness, OERP Manager</i>) Program updates to OERC
1:45 pm	Item 3 – Contact Counsel Introduction Introduction of Diane Lloyd, Assistant Attorney General, Oregon Department of Justice
2:15 pm	Item 4 – Public Comment
2:30 pm	Break
2:40 pm	Item 5 – Strategic Priorities (<i>Rachel Thompson, OERP Coordinator</i>) Strategic Priorities Staff Presentation and Council Discussion
3:50 pm	Next Steps, Reminders & Wrap Up (<i>Chuck Sams, OERC Co-Chair</i>) Next Meeting Preview (January 22, 2026)
4:00 pm	Adjourn



OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FUND MANAGER'S REPORT

DECEMBER 2025

NICOLE MANESS

Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund Manager



OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

UPDATES & STATUS

Council Membership

OERF Report

Strategic Priorities

OERF Subfunds



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COUNCIL UPDATE



OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

Council Membership (SB 1561)

11 voting members

Governor/Governor's Designee

DEQ Director/Designee

ODFW Director/Designee

OHA Director/Designee

Attorney General/Designee

Six Governor-appointed members

2 non-voting members

Member House of Representatives

Member of Senate



OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

Council Membership (SB 1561)

Chuck Sams

2 year/4 year

Vacant

2 year/4 year

Michael Dembrow

3 year/4 year

Alai Reyes-Santos

3 year/4 year

Cheyenne Holliday

4 year/4 year

Molly Kile

4 year/4 year



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OERF REPORT

Period ending November 30, 2025

OERF INVESTMENTS

Investment Policy Statement

- Adopted by OIC – October 22, 2025
- Investment objectives, asset allocation recommendations & performance goals
- OERC preferences (JAN 2026)

Status of Investments

- JUN-DEC 2025: OERF accruing interest ~ 4.6%
- NOV – DEC 2025: Account establishment/administration
- JAN – MAR 2026: Investing begins (likely 1+ years for funds to be fully placed)

OERC DISTRIBUTION POLICY FY2026

The annual distribution rate* is set at 5% of the Fund's average balance of the preceding three years and subject to a real (inflation-adjusted*) \$30 million annual spend ceiling and \$15 million annual spend floor.

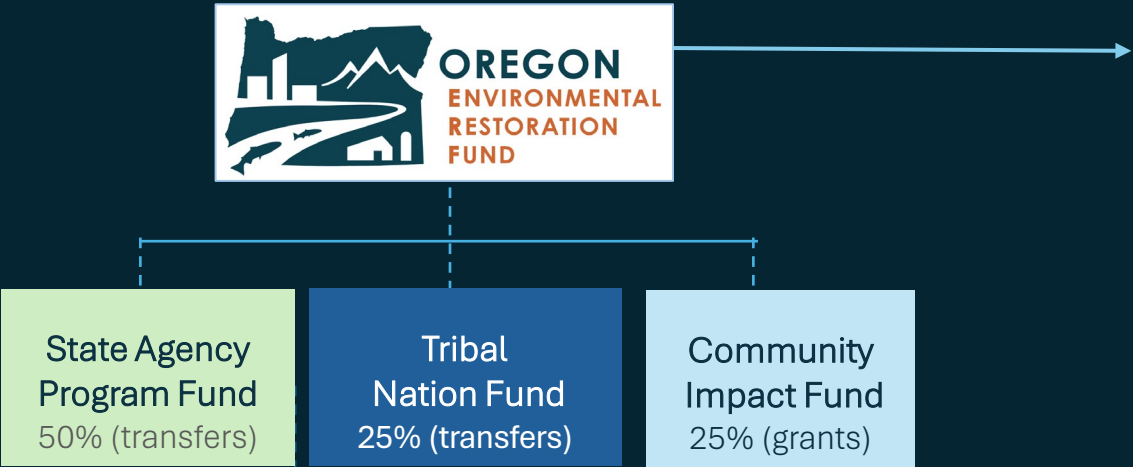
SB 1561 Sec 4: No later than December 1 of each year, the Environmental Restoration Council shall determine the amounts that shall be transferred from the Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund

OERC DISTRIBUTION POLICY FY2026

The annual distribution rate* is set at 5% of the Fund's *average balance of the preceding three years* and subject to a real (inflation-adjusted*) \$30 million annual spend ceiling and \$15 million annual spend floor.

ITEM	VALUE
Balance 06/30/2025	\$609,233,630
5% * \$609,233,630	\$ 30, 461,682
Distribution value	\$ 30, 461,682
OERC Distribution	\$ 30, 000,000

Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund



Period / Period ending	Item/Transaction	Balance
05/22/2025	Net settlement	\$561,867,000
Nov 23-June 2025	Interest accrued	\$ 45,757,000
06/09/2025	Transfer to OERF	\$607,625,000
06/30/2025	Balance	\$609,233,000
Jul 25-Nov 25	Interest accrued (~ 4.6%)	\$ 13,343,000
11/30/2025	Balance	\$620,968,000

10/09/2025	FY2026 Distribution	(\$30,000,000)
12/30/2025	Interest Accrued	~\$2,300,000
JAN 2026	<i>Assets to be invested/principal corpus</i>	

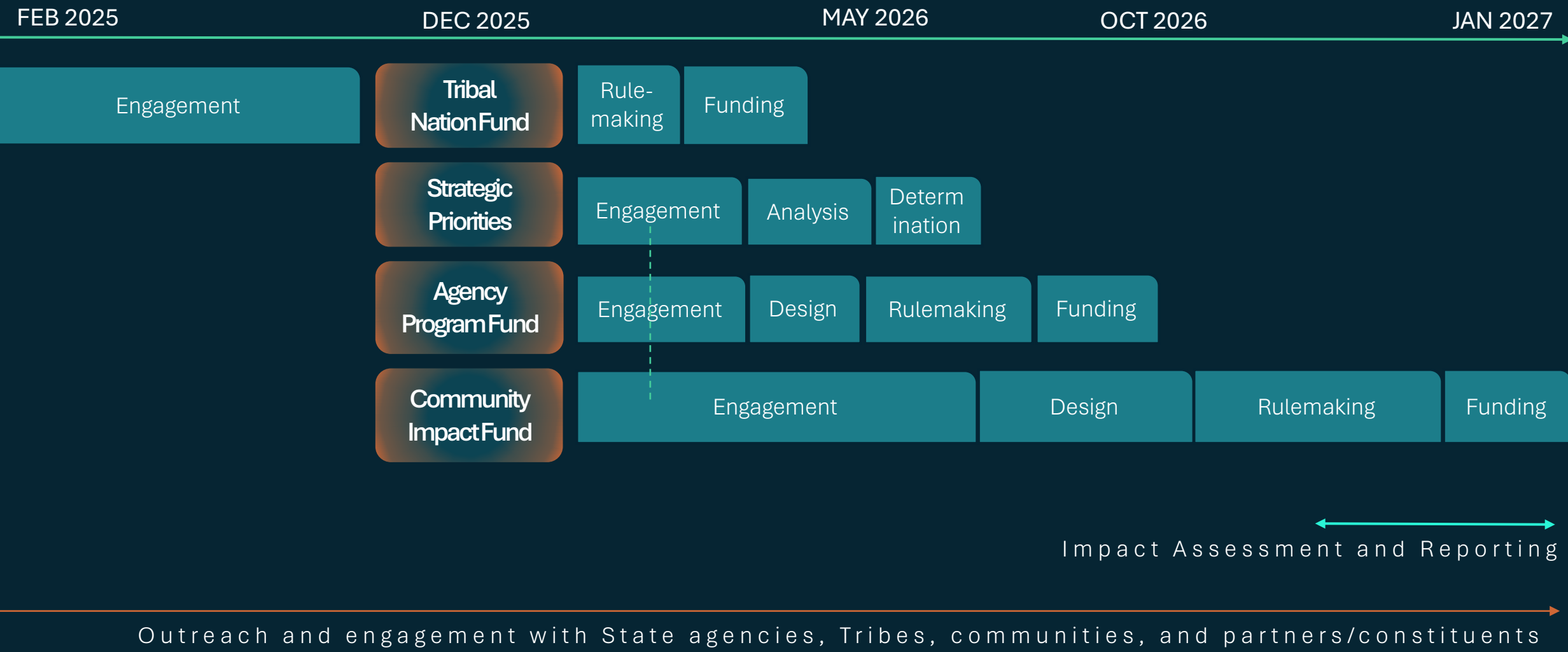


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OERF SUBFUNDS

Status & Timelines

PROGRAM MILESTONES



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Ensuring investment of settlement dollars have a meaningful impact on the lives of Oregonians.



AGENCY PROGRAM FUND

- State agencies with a nexus to the Settlement Terms

PROCESS

- Staff developing proposed design process for OERC review in January 2026
- Informed by engagement with state agencies, GNRO, experts, partners
- Aligned with state agency budgeting process

PROPOSED TIMELINE

JAN – FEB 2026	Engagement
MAR 2026	Draft program design
APR – OCT 2026	Rulemaking



COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND

- Communities disproportionately impacted by PCB or other contaminants or historically underrepresented in processes regarding environmental laws or policies

PROCESS

- Methodologies/best practices for engagement and community-based grant making
- Outreach/relationship building – node/network model
- Partnership with community engagement experts

PROPOSED TIMELINE

JAN – FEB 2026	Draft design strategy Identify CE expertise
MAR 2026	Network design
MAY 2026	Community Engagement Fund co-creation
SEP+ 2026	Rulemaking



TRIBAL NATION FUND

- Equal payments to each federally-recognized Tribe for expenses consistent with settlement terms

PROCESS

- Ongoing engagement by OERP staff seeking input from Tribes
- Development of draft rules and guidance with feedback from Tribes

PROPOSED TIMELINE

DEC 2025	DOJ review draft rules
JAN 2026	OERC and Tribes review draft rules Establishment of IGAs
FEB/MAR 2026	Rulemaking





OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FUND

Strategic Priorities

RACHEL THOMPSON

Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund Program Coordinator

AGENDA ITEM OVERVIEW

Legislative context

Proposed process

Examples

Principles and Themes from Council discussions

Conceptual framework

Discussion



TODAY'S GOAL

Develop a shared understanding of

- What strategic priorities are
- How they apply to Council funding decisions

We are **not** identifying the specific strategic priorities until *after* statewide engagement



LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

- SB 1561 Section 9 authorizes Council to establish strategic priorities for OERF
 - Agency Program Fund
 - Community Impact Fund
- Strategic priorities may include guidelines for distributing amounts on an annual or biennial basis and Council may commit to funding projects for more than one biennium
- Engagement with eligible state agencies and Environmental Justice Council is required before setting priorities
- Priorities may change following a public engagement process
- Fund investments should not replace existing funding



Proposed Process	Proposed Target Dates <i>(subject to change)</i>
1. Council defines what is meant by a “strategic priority”, including scope, scale, and applicability/role to funding decisions	December 2025
2. Information gathering to inform the engagement process and strategic priority setting process	September 2025 - January 2026
3. Statewide engagement to inform Council’s identification of the first set of strategic priorities	January - March 2026
4. Synthesis of findings from engagement process with report back to Council and then publicly	March - April 2026
5. Council deliberation and identification/determination of first set of strategic priorities	May - June 2026

STRATEGIC PRIORITY EXAMPLES

OWEB: Focused Investment Partnerships

- Priorities are used to direct investments in focused priority ecological areas
- Achieves clear and measurable ecological outcomes

Meyer Memorial Trust: Our Resilient Places

- Goals and strategies are used for prioritizing grant funding
- Prioritizes community-informed approaches for caring for the environment

NFWF: America the Beautiful Challenge

- Priorities are set within America the Beautiful 30% by 2030 framework and other state and federal conservation plans
- Priorities direct eligibility of funding



COUNCIL CHECK-IN SUMMARY: PRINCIPLES

- Fund could support:
 - co-benefits
 - strategic partnerships
- Fund investments should be leveraged with public, private, and philanthropic dollars
- Fund should be durable and adaptable

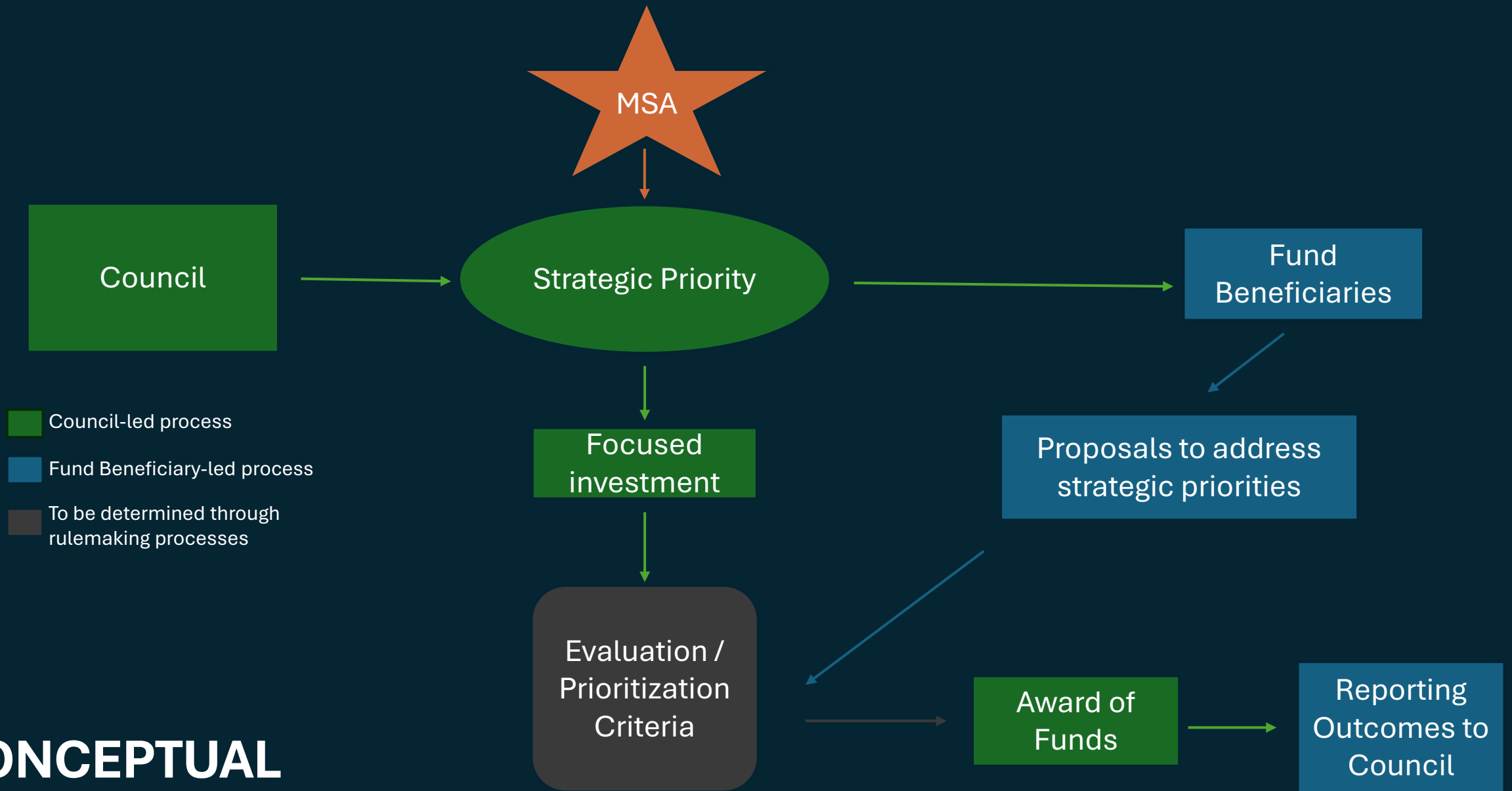


COUNCIL CHECK-IN SUMMARY: THEMES

- Broad priorities with targeted objectives
- Mix of geographic, ecologic, and time-bound priorities
- Evaluation / prioritization criteria as tool for guiding investments
- A North Star: Monsanto Settlement Agreement
- Current funding/regulatory landscapes and identifying gaps
- *Measurable* impact through investments



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



DISCUSSION

- Feedback on the proposed conceptual framework for the strategic priorities
 - What is a strategic priority?
 - How do strategic priorities guide investments?



NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

DETAILS

- January 22, 2026
- 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Virtual: Zoom Webinar and YouTube

PREVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS

- Tribal Fund Update
- Agency Program Fund Update
- Community Impact Fund Update
- Strategic Priorities: Next Steps

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

- Visit oregonerf.org
- Contact Clare Lanusse, Council Liaison at clare.k.lanusse@oweb.oregon.gov

A horizontal banner at the top of the slide shows a dense forest of evergreen trees in shades of green and brown, with a misty or hazy atmosphere.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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