

CHARTER COMMISSION



Climate & Environmental Justice Subcommittee Meeting

August 23, 2022



Agenda

Section	Time
Welcome & subcommittee business	10 min
Review 8.9.22 Subcommittee Meeting	10 min
Review & Vote to Recommend Climate Bureau Proposed Amendments	10 min
Review Community Organizations Proposal Top Initiatives	10 min
Continued Climate & EJ Charter Recommendations Discussion	30 min
Community Engagement Discussion	15 min
Next Steps & Closing	5 min
Adjourn	

Recap of August 9th Subcommittee Meeting

At the August 9th Climate and EJ Subcommittee

- Reviewed Charter Recommendation Timelines – Commission and Council Recommended and Engagement
- Went over criteria when considering Phase II amendment recommendations
- Heard presentations from three community climate organizations – 350PDX, Public Employees Act on Climate & Environment, and Sunrise PDX
- Reviewed preliminary research around other US cities charters and climate initiatives
- Discussed the Climate related bureau amendments based on meetings with Bureau Directors
- Heard from Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director Donnie Oliveira
- Subcommittee had a discussion around what climate related charter amendment was of interest for further discussion

Climate Related Bureau Proposed Amendments

- **Bureau of Planning & Sustainability** – Proposed Amendment – Delete Charter Section 1-108 in its entirety
 - Any Weatherization Mandate Requires Voter Approval (Charter Sec, 1-108)
 - Rational: to allow for BPS to have more flexibility in creating policy that would allow the City to meet its climate goals around energy efficiency.
- **Portland Parks and Recreation** – Proposed Amendment - Update Charter Section 12-101
 - Parks and Recreational Areas and Facilities to be reflective of how PPR currently approaches their work and focusing on the natural built environment and ecosystems-based solutions.
- **Bureau of Environmental Services** — Proposed Amendment - Update and revise Charter Section 2-105 and Charter section 11-301, Sewage Disposal was established in 1938, and was last updated in 1966.
 - The Redline would give specific powers to the city and the bureau to protect and manage natural features that convey, store, retain, infiltrate, clean or evaporate water in a manner that is necessary for the management of sewage and storm drainage.

The Bureau & Offices Subcommittee is recommending the three climate bureau proposals to the full commission.

Community Organization Proposals

PEACE	350PDX	Sunrise Movement PDX
Office of Climate Emergency	Climate assembly	
Climate as a special power and core value	Environmental rights and responsibilities	Binding climate test
Portland as a carbon emission free city and community by 2040	Fossil fuel phase-out*	Fossil fuel phase-out
Renewable energy alignment		
Protect rights of nature, right to nature		
Regenerative circular economy		
Expanded representation for youth		
	Participatory budgeting	
	Prior consent & Tribal consultation*	Prior & informed consent for Tribes

* *Emerging proposals*

Criteria & Discussion

- Is there **community momentum** to take on this topic, including topics that derived from phase I work? Is there conflict with our phase I proposal?
- Does it advance one or more of our **desired outcomes**?
 - A participatory and growing democracy with more voices being heard in elections
 - An accessible and transparent government with Councilors who are easy to reach
 - A reflective government with Councilors who look like the community they represent
 - A responsive government with Councilors who understand your community needs
 - An accountable government with Councilors who answer to the people
 - A trustworthy government with Councilors who safeguard democracy
- Is it at the **right level for charter review**? Is there another body or group taking on this topic?
 - Identify policy vs. structural proposals, and leave policy for Council
- **Can we afford to wait** another 10 years to take on the topic?
- **Can we clearly communicate** why we choose the topic?
- Is there sufficient community, Commissioner and staff **capacity** to take on this topic or set of topics?
Capacity includes timeline considerations

Community Engagement

Date	Activity
August 30	Commission meeting
Sept 6	Progress report released
Sept 12-17	Community Listening sessions

Listening sessions scheduled for the week of September 12th

Two sessions are being scheduled.

- Community partner hosted
- Commission hosted

- Community Engagement Questions



Next Steps

Meetings	Dates
Charter Commission meeting	Aug 30
Community listening sessions	Week of Sept 15
Climate & environmental justice subcommittee meeting	Week of Sept 19
Charter Commission	Week of Oct 3

Community Orgs. Charter Proposed Amendments

Climate as a Core Value (PEACE)

- Include Climate as Special power, existing 2-105(2),
- Include Climate as Core value, Charter Reform proposed 2-401 language
- Thereby providing commitment that Climate is a priority
- Eliminate existing language 1-108 prohibiting weatherization of buildings
 - City of Portland Core Values
 - Adopt Anti-Racism, Equity, Transparency, Communication, Collaboration, and Fiscal Responsibility as the Core Values of the City of Portland as recommended by the Bureau of Human Resources and Office of Equity and Human Rights to inform a unified workplace and city culture, systems, policies, practices, and procedures. (Resolution)
 - Under the heading of Fiscal Responsibility -- *WHEREAS, fiscal resiliency, climate action, equity, and the needs of our most vulnerable populations will be the focus of every budget decision;*

Community Orgs. Charter Proposed Amendments

Climate Test

- Provisions establishing an individual and/or public right to clean air and water, a healthful environment, ecologically healthy habitats, safe and healthy housing, a stable climate, and enjoyment of the environment's healthful, recreational, scenic and cultural values.
 - CLIMATE TEST POLICY RESOLUTION DRAFT Language 11/2/2020 Adopt City of Portland Carbon Shadow Price Policy (Resolution).

Environmental Rights & Responsibilities

- Establishes the environmental rights of Portlanders,
- Assigns the City responsibility to protect them, and
- Defines accountability mechanisms useable by the public.
- Rights vs. Public Trust
- Case studies