



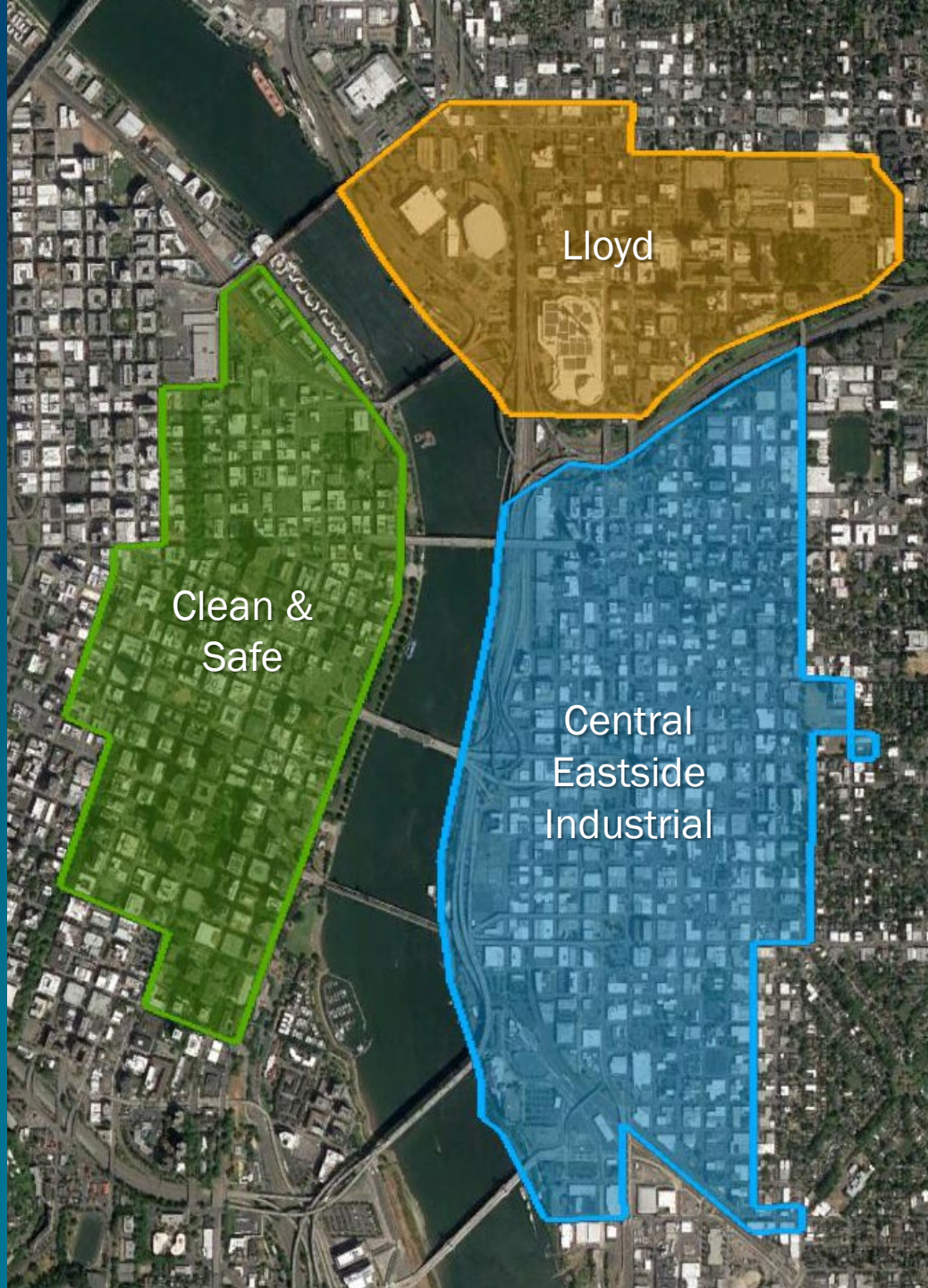
Audit Response: Overview

<https://www.portland.gov/omf/audit-response>

Last Updated: April 26, 2022

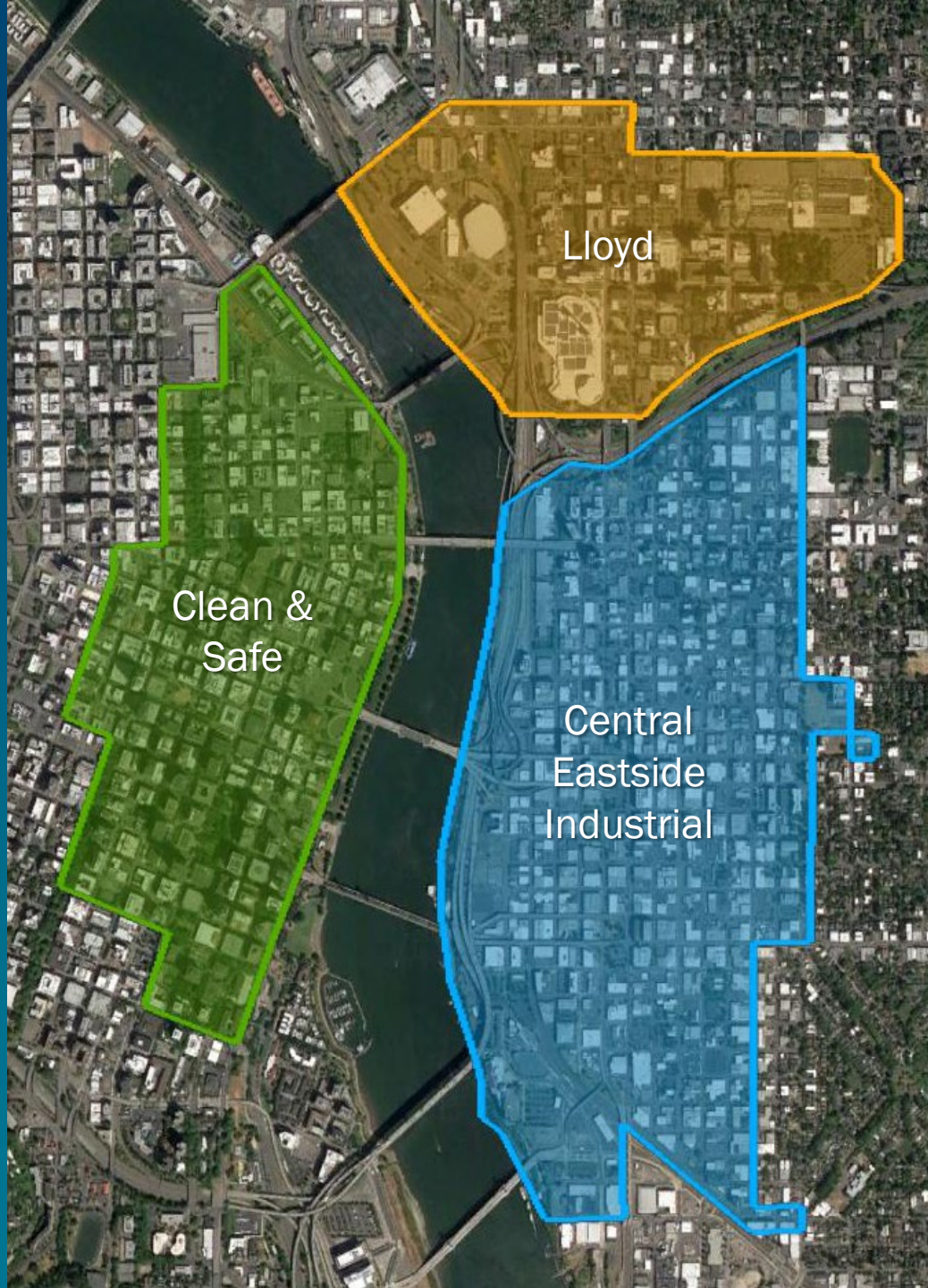


Enhanced Service Districts



- Regulated by [City Code Chapter 6.06](#).
- Property owners charged a property management license fee.
- Given to contracted managing nonprofit which provides enhanced services within the district.

Enhanced Service Districts



In-Depth Study Links:

[City ESD Program Website](#)

[ESD Program Overview](#)

[Clean & Safe District Overview](#)

[Central Eastside Industrial District Overview](#)

[Lloyd District Overview](#)

Audit Report

In August of 2020, the City Auditor released a report recommendation that the City provide more oversight of enhanced service districts by reviewing their purpose and the City's responsibility in providing oversight.

The Auditor also recommended that the City develop guidelines for district formation, governance, and management to ensure public input, transparency, and accountability by the districts and their service providers.

The full audit report can be [read here](#).

The Auditor's one year follow up report can be [read here](#).

Initial Information Gathering Stage

Between October 2021 and March 2022, the Office of Management and Finance carried out an extensive review of the City's enhanced service district program and the three existing enhanced service districts, gathering extensive amounts of information via collected documents, interviews, materials from the City Auditor's office, and other sources.

This information has been summarized and made available on the City's [enhanced service districts website](#). With the Information Stage now complete, the Office of Management and Finance is moving into the Listening Stage of the audit response process, which will gather public input and develop recommendations for possible reforms to the program and City Code over the next six months.

How To Get Involved

Signup for Regular Updates

Signup for regular email updates via [this link](#).

Attend the Public Sessions:

Attend a public session in June or August. A schedule of public sessions and directions on how to register for them can be found via [this link](#).

Fill Out the Surveys:

Fill out surveys designed to help gauge public perceptions of enhanced service districts. The surveys can be found via [this link](#).

Meet with the ESD Coordinator:

Ask for a meeting with the City's Enhanced Service District Coordinator, who can be contacted at shawn.campbell@portlandoregon.gov.

Provide Written Comment:

Provide written input via [this link](#).

Audit Response Focus Areas

Governance:

How should the ESDs decision making be structured? Who should be at the table?
How transparent should decision making be to the public?

Who Pays:

Who should pay into an ESD? Should it be just businesses? What about residents, nonprofits, or government entities?

Allowable Programs:

What types of programs should an ESD be allowed to fund? What type of oversight and limitations should the City have in place for these programs?

Creation Guidelines:

What types of guidelines should be in place for the creation of new ESDs?

Fee Structure:

How should the fees be structured to ensure equitable and easily understood fees?

Audit Response Timeline

May - June 2022:

Initial public input via public sessions, surveys, submitted comments, and meetings with stakeholders.

July 2022:

Development of recommended changes to City Code based upon public input.

August 2022:

Public input on recommended changes via public sessions, surveys, submitted comments, and meetings with stakeholders.

September 2022:

Refinement of recommended changes to City Code based upon public input.

October 2022:

Recommendations brought to City Council.

Public Session Schedule

June 2: Audit Overview

June 7: Governance

June 14: Allowable Programs

June 16: Allowable Programs, focus on public safety

June 21: Allowable Programs, focus on non-public safety programs

June 28: Who Pays

August 9: Recommendations regarding Governance and Who Pays

August 11: Recommendations regarding Allowable Programs

August 16: Recommendations regarding all other areas

September 27: Presentation of final recommendations

Information on how to register for a public session can be found via [this link](#).

All sessions are 6 PM through 8 PM.

What to Expect at the Public Sessions

- Community members are expected to come to the scheduled public sessions knowledgeable of the current state of the enhanced service district program. A significant amount of information has been summarized and made publicly available for this purpose.
- The public sessions in June will be a combination of Q&A sessions, focus groups, and public listening sessions. The primary purpose is to not just gauge public viewpoints, but to also give community members the opportunity to help create solutions.
- The public sessions in August will be much more focused on educating the public on changes being recommended and taking public input on said changes to further refine them.
- Public sessions are divided based upon category. Individuals with an interest in a specific area should go to the corresponding public session. Discussion will be limited to the focus area of each public session.
- Stakeholder groups and members of the community are also strongly urged to setup meetings with the ESD Coordinator during the initial stages of this review for discussion of issues and possible reforms. Contact the ESD Coordinator at: shawn.campbell@portlandoregon.gov.

What to Expect From This Process

- The City is committed to ensuring all its programs align with its core values of equity, anti-racism, transparency, communication, collaboration, and fiscal responsibility. Further information on the City core values can be [found here](#).
- The perspectives, viewpoints, and assertions of all community members will be considered equally and examined, considered, and evaluated based upon available quantitative and qualitative data and information.
- There is an expectation that community members will utilize resources made available to educate themselves regarding the current state of the enhanced service district program. These resources are not meant to support a specific viewpoint or opinion, or represent all available information, but are rather meant to act as a shared source of foundational knowledge.
- If put in place, many reforms will likely require a period of transition dependent upon the complexity of said reforms, the relative difference from the status quo, time needed to renegotiate contracts, and other factors.

Contact

The Enhanced Service District Coordinator can be contacted at:

shawn.campbell@portlandoregon.gov

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns regarding this review and audit response process or the enhanced service districts in general.

Please also reach out if you or any other stakeholders would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the topics in this overview.