

# PORTLAND CHARTER COMMISSION



**Climate &  
Environmental  
Justice**

**Listening Session**

September 2022

# ZOOM OVERVIEW

## Zoom overview

**Recording:** Meeting is being recorded and will be posted on our website.

**Mute:** Please mute yourself when not speaking.

**Chat:** Chat is available, we won't be able to answer questions during the presentation, but chat will be part of the meeting record.

**Break out rooms:** After our presentation we move into small group discussion groups

**Tech support:** If you have Zoom questions, please feel free to message me directly via chat.

## Ground rules

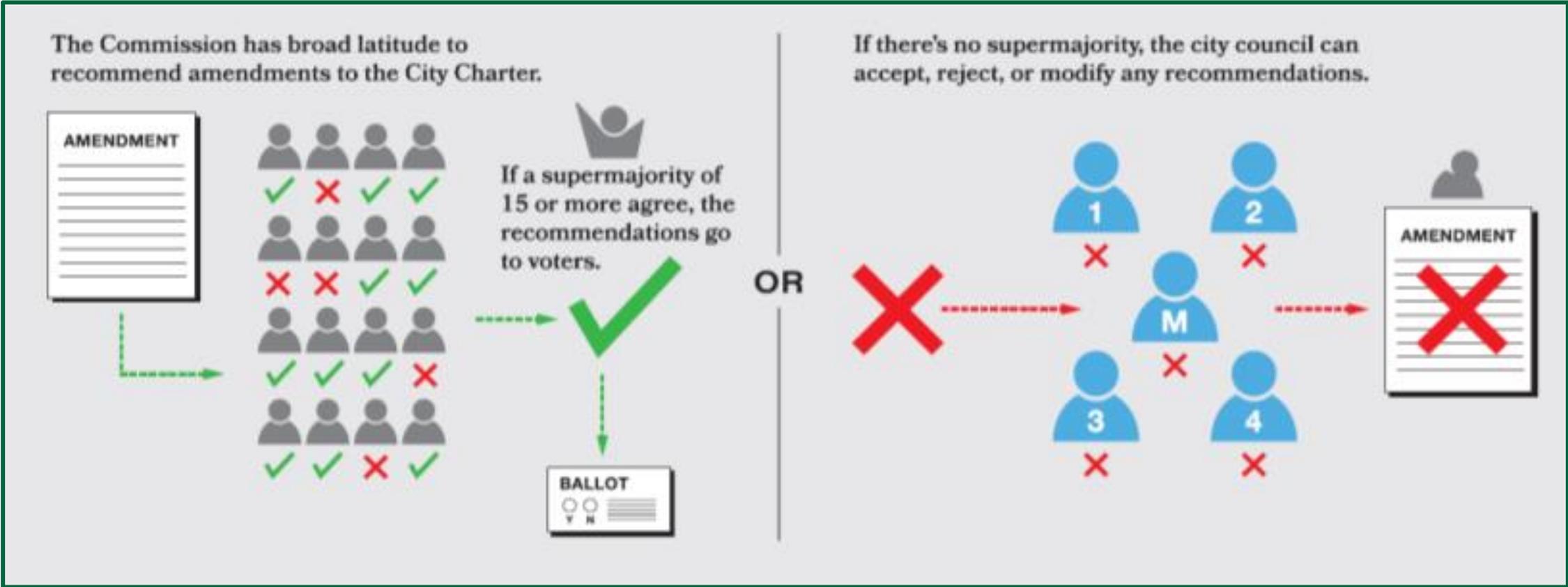
- Come from a place of curiosity
- No one knows everything, but together we know a lot
- Share the space
- Stories stay, but the lessons can be shared
- Take care of yourself

# AGENDA

Time	Activity
5 minutes	<b>Welcome &amp; Zoom overview</b>
25 minutes	<b>Educational presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Charter 101 (5 mins)</li><li>• Phase II overview (5)</li><li>• Climate &amp; Environmental Justice (13 mins)</li><li>• Closing (2 mins)</li></ul>
5 minutes	<b>Transition break</b>
40 minutes	<b>Small group discussion</b>
10 minutes	<b>Discussion report back</b>
5 minutes	<b>Closing</b>

# Charter Review 101

# AUTHORITY & TIMELINE



# DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR CHARTER REFORM

- 1 Participatory and growing democracy with more voices being heard in elections
- 2 Accessible and transparent government with Councilors who are easy to reach
- 3 Reflective government with Councilors who look like the community they represent
- 4 Responsive government with Councilors who understand your community needs
- 5 Accountable government with Councilors who answer to the people
- 6 Trustworthy government with Councilors who safeguard democracy

# ENGAGEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Survey responses</b>	4,022
<b>People receiving monthly email updates</b>	1,330
<b>Community listening sessions (partner &amp; Commission hosted)</b>	26
<b>Participants at listening sessions (partner &amp; Commission hosted)</b>	580
<b>Public comments received</b>	1,658
<b>Hours of verbal public comment</b>	16 hours
<b>Public meetings + hearings</b>	87
<b>Charter review briefings &amp; presentations</b>	127
<b>Policy discussions with community organizations</b>	34
<b>Media articles or interviews</b>	203

# PHASE II FOCUS AREAS

1. Climate & environmental justice
2. Bureau & office proposals
3. Expansion of voting rights

# PHASE II TIMELINE

Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022
Community engagement 			
Subcommittees continue research & evaluation	Commission meeting with unlimited public comment	Draft amendments released	Final vote
	Charter amendment drafting	Public hearings	

# PHASE I CLIMATE RECOMMENDED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

## **Chapter 2 ARTICLE 4. THE MAYOR**

### Section 2-401. Duties

(b) Advance the City's efforts to mitigate the human-made climate crisis and prioritize environmental justice initiatives.

## **Chapter 2 The City Administrator**

### Section 2-406

(b) Advance the City's efforts to mitigate the human-made climate crisis and prioritize environmental justice initiatives.

# PHASE II: Climate & Environmental Justice

# Educational presentation

## Climate & Environmental Justice Basics

### **Climate & Environmental Justice**

Climate justice is a framework that calls for centering the voices, priorities, and lived experience of people most impacted and burdened by climate change

### **Frontline Communities**

Overwhelmingly and disproportionately people of color, individuals in these communities have endured the incredible physical, economic, and mental burdens of climate change.

# Educational presentation

## Climate & Environmental Justice Basics

### Climate Change Facts

- The concentration of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere is directly linked to the average global temperature on Earth.
- The most abundant greenhouse gas, accounting for 2/3 of the gases, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is largely the product of burning fossil fuels.
- Experts have stated to curb detrimental effects of climate change we must reduce carbon emissions by 45 to 65% by 2030 and net zero by 2050.

# Educational presentation

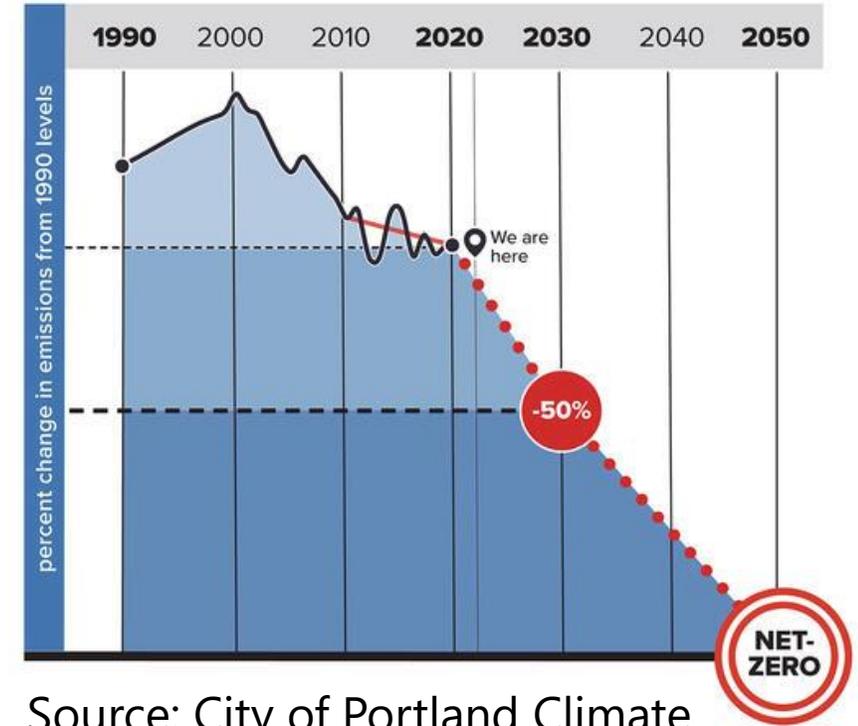
## City of Portland's Climate Emergency

### What is the City of Portland Doing around Climate?

City Council declared a climate emergency in 2020 and directed City bureaus to restore a safe climate for all Portlanders, especially communities of color and those most at-risk to impacts of climate change.

**Climate Emergency Declaration:** Declare an immediate mobilization effort initiating greater action, resources, collaboration, and new approaches to restore a safe climate resolution

**The City has set a long-term target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 and an interim reduction goal of 50% by 2030**



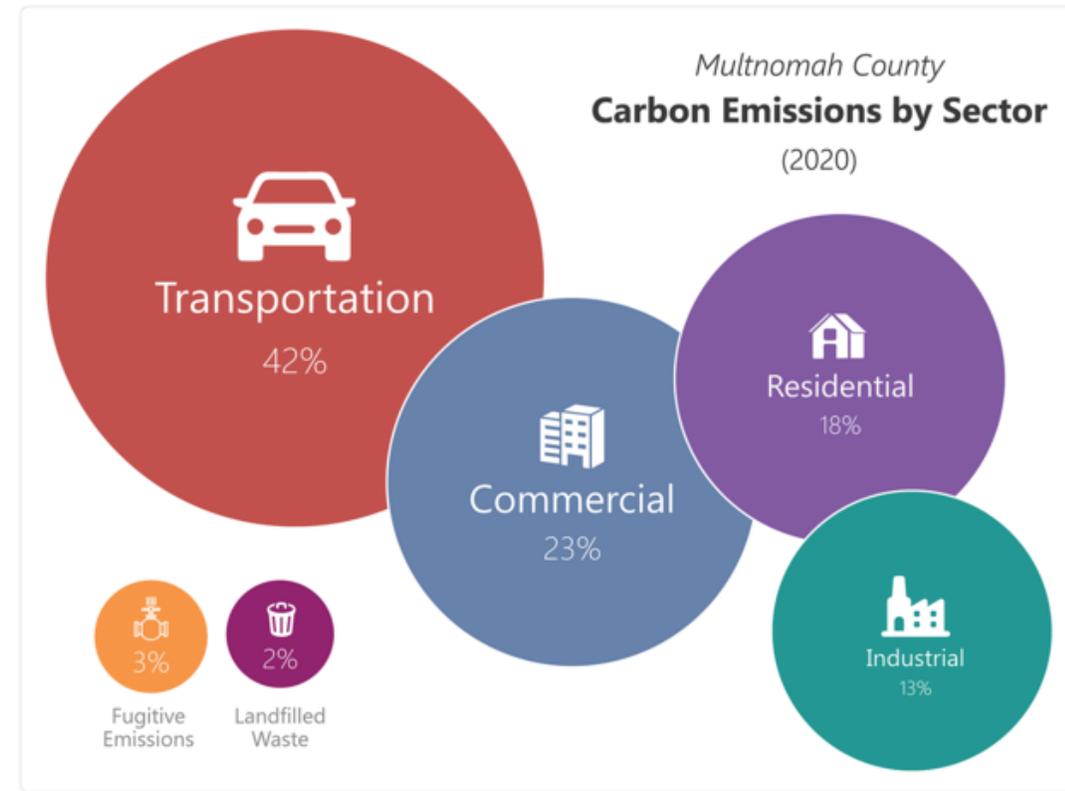
Source: City of Portland Climate Emergency Workplan 2022-2025

# Educational presentation City of Portland's Climate Emergency

## Making Portlanders resilient to climate change

To meet the net zero carbon goals the City created the Climate Emergency Workplan that will:

- Reduce Carbon from the sectors that produce it (transportation, industry and buildings)
- Reduce carbon from the consumption of food, goods and materials
- Sequester carbon in trees and green spaces
- Build Portlanders' resilience to the impacts of climate change and focusing on those most vulnerable.



# What we heard in phase I engagements

## Climate from Community

**Almost eight percent of all public comments received by the Charter Commission relate to climate and environmental justice**

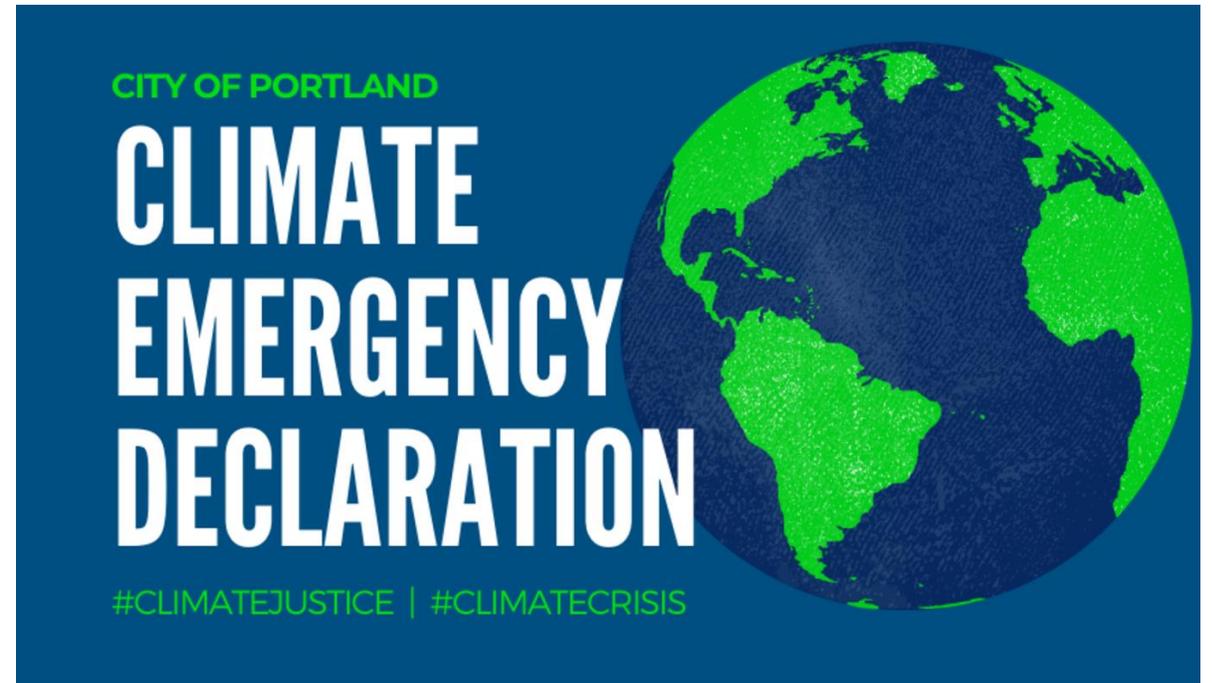
- Urgency and no time to wait
- Establish a climate oversight committee or commission
- Establish a bureau or office of climate and environmental justice
- Establish a bill of environmental rights and responsibilities
- Embed a climate and environmental justice overlay into the charter

# COMMUNITY 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	
<i>*Emerging proposals</i>	Prior consent & Tribal consultation*	Prior & informed consent for Tribes

# What's Next Climate Declaration

The Climate & Environmental Justice Subcommittee is interested in adding a climate declaration or climate as a core value statement into the Charter



# What's Next

## Climate Related Bureau Proposed Amendments

- A proposal from **Portland Parks & Recreation** to update language to reflect the City's and Portland Parks & Recreation's role in protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural systems and natural areas, and to mitigate against the public health, economic, and threats of climate change, biodiversity loss and invasive species.
- A proposal from the **Bureau of Planning & Sustainability** to delete the charter prohibition from the city's mandating weatherization of structures built before September 1, 1979.
- A proposal from the **Bureau of Environmental Services** to add specific power to the city 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 sewer and storm drainage.

# What's Next

## Learning more about Participatory Budgeting

### **PB Explained**

Participatory budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. It gives people real power over real money.

**The Climate & Environmental Justice Subcommittee** is also interested in learning more about participatory budgeting as a tool for ensuring climate & environmental justice can have funding allocated towards its initiatives.

# NEXT STEPS

## Upcoming Meetings

Sept 20

Climate & environmental justice subcommittee meeting

Oct 3

Full Commission meeting

**Thank You!**

5-minute break followed by  
small group discussions

# STAY ENGAGED IN CHARTER REVIEW

**Give verbal public  
comment at full  
Commission meetings**

**Join & engage in  
virtual committee  
meetings**

**Sign up for monthly  
email updates**

**Join charter events**

**Submit written  
comment via email or  
comment form**

**Watch past  
recordings online**

**Request a briefing or  
meeting with  
Commissioners  
and/staff**

**Engage through our  
partner  
organizations**

**Email: [CharterReview@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:CharterReview@portlandoregon.gov)**