

Agenda Item No.:	4
Topic:	Forestry Program for Oregon Update and Oregon Kitchen Table Proposal for Engaging Oregonians
Date of Presentation:	March 8, 2023
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SUMMARY

To advance community engagement with the Forestry Program for Oregon revision process, the department will be contracting with the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University – Oregon’s Kitchen Table – to assess the vision for forestry with members of the public who traditionally do not engage with policy decision-making spaces or Board events. An update will be provided to the Board on the scope and phased approach of this work. This is an informational item.

CONTEXT

The Board and Executive Team have begun a process to collaboratively develop a new strategic plan for the department during 2023. The Board is interested in advancing community engagement in two ways: 1) by better understanding what values and beliefs people in Oregon hold about forestry as it builds a vision for forestry in Oregon; and 2) by building relationships with Oregonians who are often left out of traditional engagement processes.

As part of its broader process to create a vision for forestry, the Board’s Forestry Program for Oregon Subcommittee has sought assistance from Oregon’s Kitchen Table (OKT), a program of the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University, which specializes in community engagement, particularly with community members who have been left out of traditional public decision-making processes.

Oregon’s Kitchen Table will work with the Board Subcommittee to design and facilitate a public engagement process with people across Oregon that would include:

- A series of interviews with community connectors to help build relationships, identify community organizers, and determine how best to co-create statewide engagement efforts, particularly with historically under-represented communities.
- An engagement plan based on past statewide engagement projects, as well as what’s learned during the interviews with community connectors and from the process development group.
- Developing an outreach plan to coordinate and conduct outreach with community connectors and community organizers, including developing communication materials in coordination with the Subcommittee.

- Implementing components of the outreach and engagement plan, which may include components such as:
 - A statewide online survey in approximately 8 languages;
 - Culturally-specific engagement activities and focus groups; and
 - Facilitated regional community conversations.

The proposed timeline for this work is summarized in Attachment 1.

In addition to the outreach and engagement that will be facilitated by OKT, the department will offer opportunities for public engagement and feedback on strategic plan development through traditional processes, including the following:

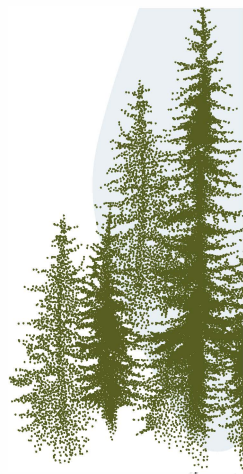
- Public testimony at Board meetings;
- Opportunities for conversation at socials planned in conjunction with Board events; and
- Written comments submitted to the Board of Forestry and department.

ATTACHMENT

(1) Forestry Program for Oregon Community Engagement Timeline



FORESTRY PROGRAM FOR OREGON: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



2023 Timeline

FEB

- Goal setting with Subcommittee
- Identify / begin Community connector interviews

MAR

- Community connector interviews
- Engagement design

APR

- Finalize content
- Finalize design

MAY

- Finalize materials in multiple languages

AUG

- Identify emerging themes, unique perspectives
- Draft report

JUL

- Continue:
- survey
 - organizing activities
 - events

JUNE

- Begin:
- survey
 - organizing activities
 - events

SEP

- Plain language summary
- Translate
- Post report

OCT

- Hold community conversations
- Meaning making

NOV

- Addendum to OKT report

BOARD OF FORESTRY
Makes and shares decisions

