



Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

MARCH 5, 2025 CALLED TO ORDER: 1:32 PM ADJOURNED: 2:35 PM
QUORUM PRESENT – YES – 14 MEMBERS
MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM/VIDEOCONFERENCE

Approval of January 8, 2025 Meeting Summary

Mike Grimm made a motion to approve the Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) January 8, 2025 meeting summary. Ryan Wood seconded the motion. The CTC unanimously approved the January 8, 2025 CTC meeting summary as presented (14:0:0).

Metro Future Vision Project

Jessica Zdeb, Metro Senior Regional Planner joined the CTC meeting to give an update on Metro's Future Vision Project.

Metro's Charter, adopted by voters in 1992, called for the adoption of a Future Vision. The Future Vision is described in the Metro Charter as "a conceptual statement that indicates population levels and settlement patterns that the region can accommodate within the carrying capacity of the land, water and air resources of the region, and its educational and economic resources, and that achieves a desired quality of life."

It is not a regulatory document but a visionary outlook addressing (1) use, restoration and preservation of regional land and natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations, (2) how and where to accommodate the population growth for the region while maintaining a desired quality of life for its residents, and (3) how to develop new communities and additions to the existing urban areas in well-planned ways."

Jessica touched on why Metro is updating the Future Vision Report. She noted that while many values remain similar, some 1995 language and strategies are out of step with current regional priorities. In addition, the current vision has little to say about climate change and racial equity, key regional issues and Metro values; and it is an opportunity to reflect Metro's current responsibilities and more closely tie policies and plans to a vision.

As part of the update, a Future Vision Commission will be convened to work together, with the support of Metro staff, to recommend a Future Vision to the Metro Council. Members of the Commission will work collaboratively

at monthly, in-person public meetings for the project's duration, expected to be about 18 months; review a significant amount of research relating to prior and recent regional visioning, national and international best practices and Future Vision topics; assess whether further research is necessary to inform the creation of the Future Vision and clearly articulate research needs to Metro staff; and review the results of public engagement activities and use these results to craft the Future Vision. The Commission will be comprised of four elected officials – one each from Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington and Clark Counties; two members per Metro Council district; one non-voting Metro Councilor as Chair; tribal members based on interest and ability to participate; and additional members to round out interest/experiences needing representation.

Jessica advised that possible Vision Report topics include economic prosperity; racial equity; climate adaptation and resiliency; arts and culture; social cohesion; civic governance; land use and transportation; and parks and natural areas.

Metro Council met last month to discuss and provide direction for the Future Vision process. Metro Council guidance included that Future Vision should better reflect Metro's purview today; the work must encompass and reflect the whole region, recognizing the current place/role of the suburbs; the youth voice must be strong; consider relevant trends, e.g., demographic change, rapid advance of technology; and the growth concept work is likely a modification, not a re-envisioning.

Jessica concluded that they hope to have an implementation plan for the Metro Future Vision completed by the end of 2026 that includes an updated framework plan; identifies and prioritizes an investment strategy; and other action items still to be determined.

Consortium Staffing IGA

Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director reminded CTC members that the current Consortium Staffing IGA between the City of Portland and the Consortium expires June 30, 2025 and that Sarah Murphy Santner, Resource Protection and Planning Director at the City of Portland mentioned at their meeting in January that Portland is interested in continuing to provide staffing services for the Consortium. As a result, Sarah sent out a memo and survey to Consortium members to see how things are going, to get feedback on services, etc. Rebecca advised that Sarah along with the City of Portland Attorney's Office has been working to revise the Staffing IGA and extend the term date but there were a few items that Portland wanted feedback on from the CTC.

Sarah noted that 20 Consortium members responded to the survey and there was overwhelming support for Portland to continue to provide staffing services. Sarah advised that she would send the survey results to the CTC following the meeting.

Sarah mentioned that in the revised IGA, more clarity and backup documentation will be included on what comprises the overhead and methodology for calculating the overhead.

Sarah noted that because the Consortium is a separate legal entity, but because the City of Portland has historically through this IGA provided legal review for contracts and such, the City Attorney flagged this as a bit of a concern having one attorney review the IGA as a representative of the City and as a representative of the Consortium. Sarah explained that that the City Attorney advised the following two paths:

- Standard waiver process – Consortium Board Chair can sign a waiver to allow single attorney from City of Portland to represent both parties – informed consent.
- Seek outside counsel to independently review the agreement for the Consortium. The City of Portland Attorney’s office has a number of on-call attorneys on contract that could provide this review; a neutral party. There would be associated cost for this option.

A third option was proposed in which an attorney from another member entity could review the agreement but it was noted that the waiver process should still be completed.

It was the consensus of the CTC to proceed with the waiver process to allow the City of Portland Attorney’s office to complete the review of the Staffing IGA.

Sarah noted that the current termination clause in the Staffing IGA is very short; too short to responsibly dissolve an agreement of this size. The proposed termination clause for the revised Staffing IGA includes a six month termination timeline.

The CTC concurred the new six-month termination clause timeline seemed reasonable.

Lastly, Sarah commented that she recognized that not all CTC members may have the capacity to do a deep-dive review of the Staffing IGA and proposed putting together a small subcommittee to work with her and Rebecca to do a detailed review of the Staffing IGA over the next couple of weeks so that a final draft could be brought to the full CTC at the April 2 CTC meeting and the Executive Committee at their April 9 meeting. Jessica Dorsey, Mike Grimm and Andrew Degner volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

Director Updates

Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director shared the following updates:

- Boundary Map Updates – request to update water provider service area boundaries for the Drinking Water Advisory Tool went out Monday, March 3. Map updates are due by Friday, March 15.
- June Consortium Board Meeting – Looking for presentation topics/ideas for the June Board meeting. What do your elected officials want to hear/know more about? Let Rebecca know.
- Children’s Clean Water Festival – Coming soon – Tuesday, April 29. Volunteers still needed. Excellent opportunity to involve your Board members.

- Consortium Interconnections Workshop – Tuesday, May 20. Planning is underway. Planning Committee includes Heather Knapp – Hillsboro; Cole Trusty – Lake Oswego; Robin Pederson – Gresham; Jamaal Folsom – Portland; Jeremy Hudson – Rockwood; Frank Castro – Tualatin; and Travis Lindberg – Sherwood. More information coming soon.
- Legislative Update – Wrote letter in support of HB 3634. This bill would create a water workforce program to help address the critical water operator shortage in Oregon.
- Rivergrove Water District – Interested in joining the Consortium. Rebecca has sent information about the Consortium and dues costs.
- Website – Now posting all public meeting information including materials on the Consortium website.
- Public Outreach – Bonny is looking for Spanish speakers for two events the Consortium will be participating in this summer. Contact Bonny if you have anyone who might be interested.
- Youth Education – Received five proposals to the Consortium Youth Education Program Request for Proposal. Costs were more expensive than anticipated. Bonny is looking at the budget to see if there are ways to rearrange funds to accommodate the additional costs or present other options. Will bring back to the CTC in April for discussion.

Meeting Attendees:

Greg Robertson – City of Forest Grove

Andrew Degner – City of Gresham

Jessica Dorsey – City of Hillsboro

Dave Trotter – City of Lake Oswego

Steve Mauter – City of Milwaukie

Brad Albert – Oak Lodge Water Services

Sarah Murphy Santner – City of Portland

Kari Duncan – Rockwood Water PUD

Ryan Wood – City of Sandy

Brian Rager – City of Tigard

Dave Schaffer – City of Troutdale

Pete Boone – Tualatin Valley Water District

Mike Grimm – West Slope Water District

Martin Montalvo – City of Wilsonville

Jessica Zdeb - Metro

Rebecca Geisen, Bonny Cushman, Riley Berger, and Patty Burk – Consortium Staff

Next CTC Meeting: April 2, 2025 via Zoom/videoconference.