



Equity Strategy Program

Step 1 – Developing an Equity Baseline

Region's six desired outcomes

Vibrant communities

People live, work and play in vibrant communities where their everyday needs are easily accessible.

Economic prosperity

Current and future residents benefit from the region's sustained economic competitiveness and prosperity.

Safe and reliable transportation

People have safe and reliable transportation choices that enhance their quality of life.

Leadership on climate change

The region is a leader in minimizing contributions to global warming.

Clean air and water

Current and future generations enjoy clean air, clean water and healthy ecosystems.

Equity

The benefits and burdens of growth and change are distributed equitably.

In response to Metro's Equity Inventory Report, and at the direction of Metro Council, Metro is launching an engagement process – through the newly established Equity Strategy Program – to shape an agency-specific strategy for advancing equity.

The Equity Strategy Program will:

- ✓ Establish an evidence-based decision making process that ensures meaningful engagement from communities most impacted by disproportionate burdens.
- ✓ Co-create internal and external capacity to understand Metro's role in advancing equity across the region's desired outcomes.
- ✓ Identify the institutional systems that stand in the way of equitable outcomes, as well as the institutional systems that provide opportunities to support equitable outcomes, including the tools needed to implement equitable practices throughout the agency.
- ✓ Define and implement Metro's agency-specific equity strategy that is actionable and measurable.

The first step in this process is to understand how communities experience the region's outcomes *today* through the development of an Equity Baseline. Step 1 is anticipated to take 18 months (completed spring 2014).

Step 1 | Overview

The **goal** of Step 1 is to provide a strong foundation for the equity strategy development process by fostering a shared understanding of the region's desired outcomes through an equity perspective.

The **objective** is to answer the question: Within the region's six desired outcomes, what are the regional inequities and where are there disparities?

The **deliverable** of Step 1 is an Equity Baseline. By engaging with stakeholders and community partners Metro will support the development of measurable equity indicators that can be used to guide Metro programs, projects and activities in support of the region's six desired outcomes.

The Equity Baseline will provide:

- An agency definition of "equity" as it relates to Metro's implementation efforts in support of the region's desired outcomes
- A series of community supported equity indicators that can inform decision-making at Metro
- An organizing framework that will define how to evaluate progress in advancing equity across the region and across issues over time

For more information, visit www.oregonmetro.gov/equity or contact Nuin-Tara Key at: Nuin-Tara.Key@oregonmetro.gov or call 503-797-1917.