Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund (PCEF) Grant Committee Meeting

July 8, 2020
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Virtual Participation Check
Guidelines for public participation

- Committee meetings open to the public

- Public invited to comment at 6:10 p.m.

- Public asked to observe and listen

- Opportunities for public engagement in other forums

→ **Guidelines applied to virtual meeting:**

Chatbox: open for introductions and public comment. All other times, host-only chats (PCEF Staff).

Raise Hand: used by Committee only.

Video: on for Committee only.

Microphone: public members muted unless giving public comment or for introductions.

Recording: this meeting is being recorded.

Captioning: this meeting is being captioned; settings > show subtitles.

Agenda

6:00   Open

6:10   Public comment

6:20   Discussion of public input: draft application & scoring

6:55   Break

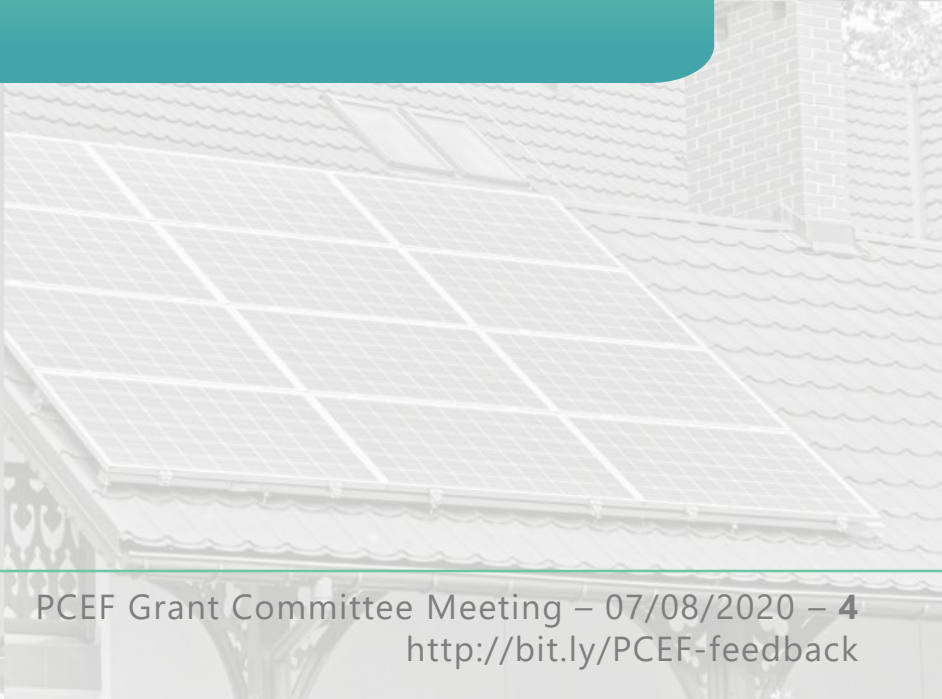7:00   Recommendations for improvements to address input

7:45   Response to racist incident: Montgomery building site

7:55   Committee member comments

8:00   Meeting adjourned

Public Comment

Discussion of public input: draft application & scoring

Key themes across all responders

- The draft applications are too complex for many/most organizations that are small or not well established.

- Prioritizing geography east of 82nd and low-income census tracts leaves out some members of priority populations and has other unintended consequences.

- Applicants will need assistance and clarity with GHG emissions reduction estimates.

Key themes across BIPOC-led orgs/entity responders

- The draft applications feels too complex and asks for too much detail. Request to simplify and move detail out of scoring and into grant agreements.

- Suggestion to de-emphasize organization experience with similar grants and projects in order to create new opportunities.

- The questions around racial and social justice, diversity, equity and inclusion do not seem to be written with culturally specific organizations in mind and are difficult for them to answer.

- Responses indicate that information requested is sometimes misunderstood (e.g., examples seen as requirements). Use of plain language and visuals can foster accessibility.

Ways we respond

Solutions are likely to fall into general categories:

1. Changes to grant application

2. Changes to scoring criteria

3. Shifting detail from application to grant agreement

4. Improved clarity and accessibility to increase understanding.

Considerations in assessing potential changes:

1. Additional consultation

2. Does the proposed change address the concern raised?

3. If we are reducing information collected, what are we losing?

4. Are changes consistent with code and guiding principles?

5. Will changes lead to a scoring matrix with enough granularity to differentiate projects?

Committee discussion

Break
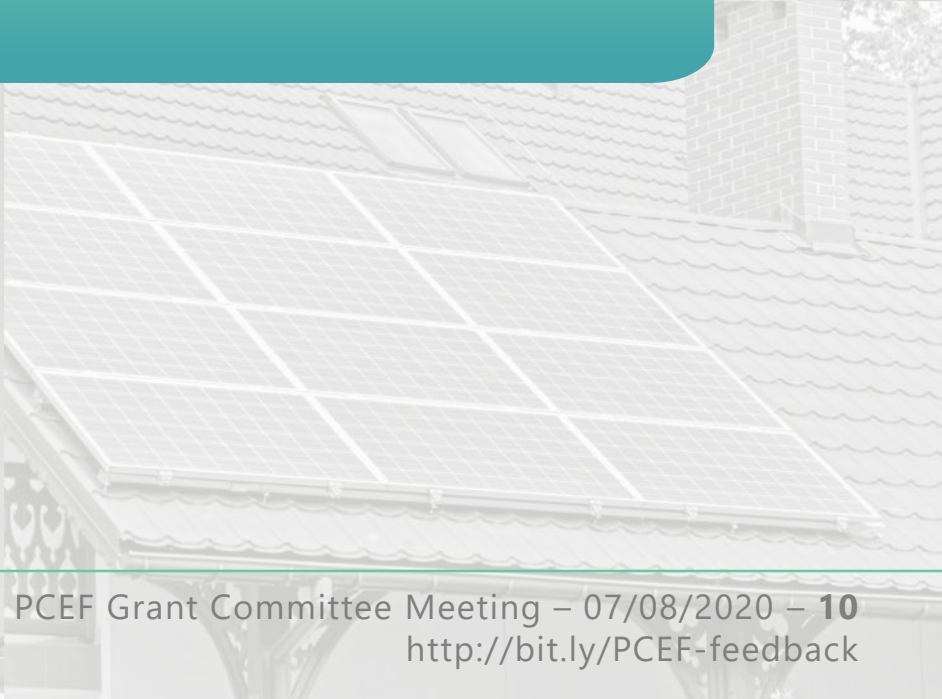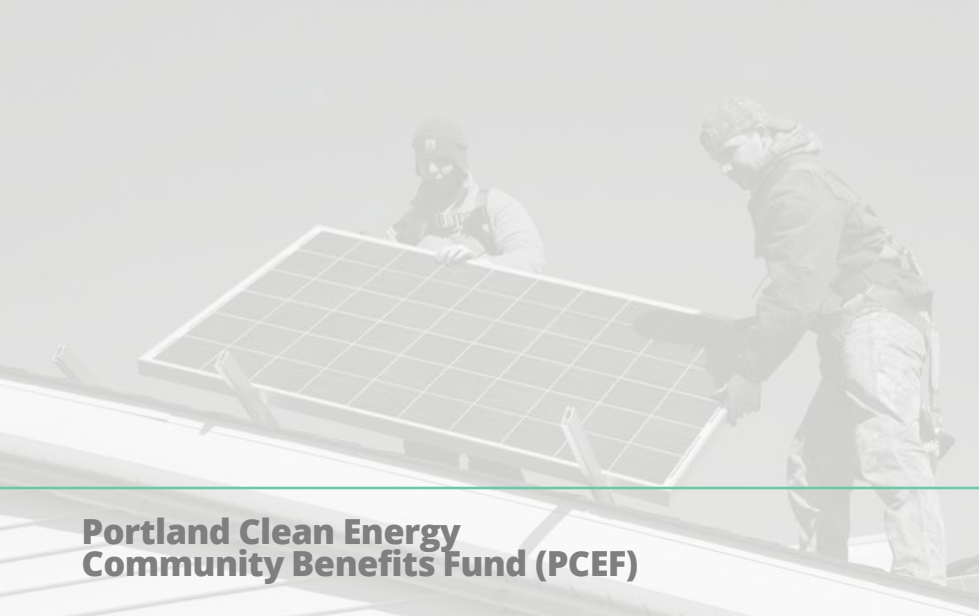
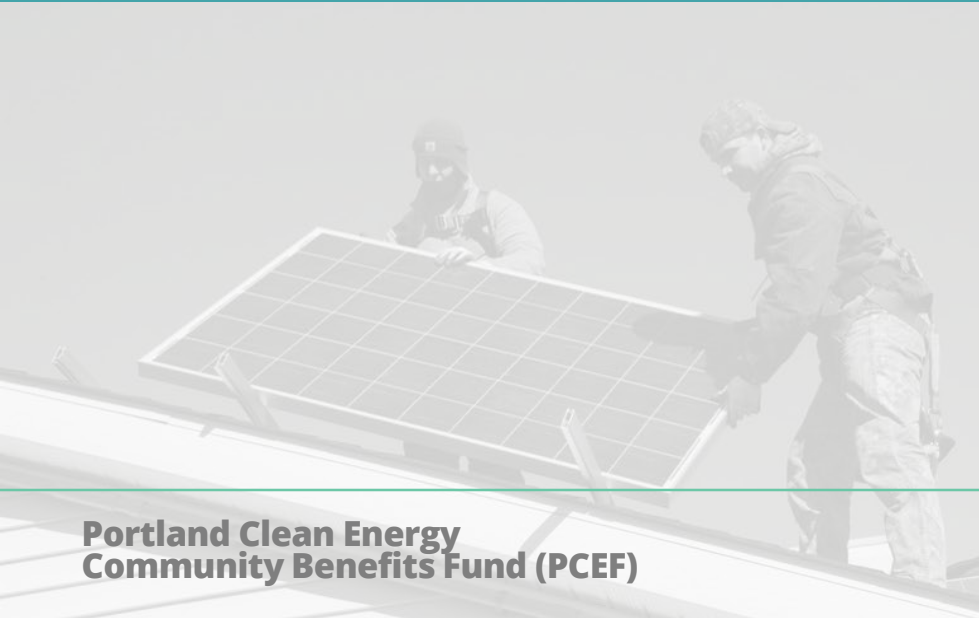# **Recommendations for improvements to address input**

Response to racist incident: Montgomery building site

Committee Member Comments

Thank you!

http://bit.ly/PCEF-feedback

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www.portlandoregon.gov/BPS/PCEF

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