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# 191219

Emergency Ordinance

## \*Authorize contract with the Coalition of Communities of Color for the development of a relational and process-centered approach to community engagement and decision making not to exceed \$42,625

Passed

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. The City is a leader in adopting principles of public involvement that strive to effectively engage interested and affected persons in the decision making of the City. On August 20, 2010, by Resolution 36807, Council adopted the City of Portland Public Involvement Guidance and Principles, including Inclusiveness and Equity, Building Relationships and Community Capacity, Transparency, and Accountability.
2. Through Resolution 37144, on July 8, 2015, Council adopted Citywide Racial Equity Goals and Strategies that direct City staff to strengthen outreach and access to City services for communities of color and immigrant and refugee communities through collaboration and partnership to eliminate racial inequity in all areas of government, including transportation and to do so with urgency and accountability.
3. On October 2, 2019, City Council adopted Resolution 37450, acknowledging the role of government in addressing the pervasive disparities faced by people of color and people with disabilities, as well as its responsibility in addressing the inequitable and adverse impacts of discriminatory policies on marginalized communities and affirming the City's commitment to ensuring that all public plans, policies, programs, and activities be designed, implemented, evaluated, and delivered in a manner that advances equity, improves quality of life, and reduces disparities.
4. Through Resolution 37492, on June 17, 2020, City Council adopted Anti-Racism, Equity, Communication, Collaboration, and Fiscal Responsibility as Core Values of the City. Through this Resolution, Council acknowledged Oregon's history of exclusion and affirmed the City's

Introduced by

[Commissioner Mingus Mapps](#)

Bureau

[Transportation](#)

Contact

Shawn Canny

Planner I

✉ [shawn.canny@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:shawn.canny@portlandoregon.gov)

📞 [503-823-5141](tel:503-823-5141)

Wendy Serrano

Analyst III - External Equity Services

✉ [wendy.serrano@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:wendy.serrano@portlandoregon.gov)

📞 [503-823-4000](tel:503-823-4000)

Requested Agenda Type

Consent

Date and Time Information

Requested Council Date

April 5, 2023

dedication to rebuilding trust with community through reconciliation and restorative justice.

5. It is a regrettable truth that deep and systemic disparities exist in Portland's transportation system.
6. Guided by the City's Racial Equity Goals and Core Values of the City, the Bureau of Transportation's Strategic Plan seeks to reduce those disparities, advance equity, and address structural racism through the transformation of the Bureau's relationship with underserved communities, increasing opportunity for historically underserved communities to participate in the development of policy and decision making, and strengthening staff capacity to understand, utilize, implement, and contribute to the Bureau of Transportation's equity work.
7. In January 2020, the Bureau of Transportation's Equity and Inclusion Team in collaboration with the Bureau's Transportation Justice Steering Committee organized a retreat with Transportation Justice advocates and representatives from Portland-based community organizations to share their vision for a just and equitable transportation system. The Equity and Inclusion team thereafter established a project team to develop a Transportation Justice Framework for the Bureau that advances this community vision and is intended to inform all Bureau work.
8. Through this ongoing work, the Bureau of Transportation and community partners have come to recognize that fundamental obstacles to achieving equitable outcomes include the City's overreliance on quantitative data in decision making, the Bureau of Transportation's struggle to effectively gather, interpret, and utilize qualitative data, and the extractive nature of community engagement efforts. A better understanding and elevation of the expertise, lived experiences, and needs of underserved community members is critical to developing policies, programs, and investments that effectively address the inequitable experiences and outcomes that exist in Portland's transportation system.
9. To address these obstacles, the Bureau of Transportation proposes to partner with the Research Justice institute (RJI) at the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) to co-develop a process-centered approach for integrating community engagement methods and relationship-centered accountability in all bureau work and decision making. The goal is to provide a clear intra-Bureau approach toward community accountability in all PBOT projects, communications, and community engagement. This work would help the Bureau allocate resources and funding toward long-term effective and sustainable equity work.
10. Through this contract, the RJI would work with the Bureau of Transportation to create a methodology and tool for relational accountability, integrating best practices and principles of data justice, research justice, and racial justice. The methodology and tool would be

demonstrated through a case study to illustrate their usability, and the RJI would provide trainings to Bureau staff on application of the methodology and tool. The RJI would also provide the Bureau with recommendations for integrating the methodology and tool into decision making.

11. Contracting with the RJI at the CCC would capitalize on the expertise of the RJI as a qualified entity with specialized expertise in research and data justice practices. The RJI utilizes a specific and unique strategic framework that works to redistribute power to achieve self-determination for marginalized communities, and the RJI has effectively developed a similar proprietary methodology and tool for other public agencies that would be adapted for this project. Additionally, the RJI is part of the broader Coalition of Communities of Color, which is made up of and in part represents several communities of color in Portland; effective implementation of the proposed relational accountability methodology and tool would be contingent on the support of underserved community members and through continued relationship building with those communities.
12. In accordance with City Code 5.33.220.B.2, this ordinance authorizes a contract in the amount of up to \$42,625 to allow for the development of a relational accountability methodology and tool for the Bureau of Transportation.
13. Term of agreement shall be from the Effective Date through October 31, 2023, with an option to extend the agreement if necessary to complete the purpose of the project.
14. The Office of Management and Finance recommends that a contract with the CCC be approved substantially in conformance with Exhibit "A" for a total contract value not to exceed \$42,625.
15. The Bureau of Transportation has funds budgeted in FY 2022/23 and proposed FY 2023/24 for this work as part of the Transportation Justice Project within the Equity and Inclusion Program Budget.
16. The Bureau's level of confidence in the cost estimates for this project is high; the project's scope is fully defined (see Exhibit "A").

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- A. The Chief Procurement Officer, or designee, is authorized to execute a contract with the Coalition of Communities of Color, in a form similar to scope attached as Exhibit "A" for a total contract value not to exceed \$42,625 upon City Attorney's Office approval as to form.
- B. The Mayor and City Auditor to draw and deliver warrants chargeable to 9TR000002952 when demand is presented and approved by the CCC.

Section 2. The Council declares that an emergency exists because a delay would unnecessarily slow the Bureau's ability to perform its defined Equity

and Inclusion Program work with necessary urgency; therefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council.

## Documents and Exhibits

 [Exhibit A](#) 96.82 KB

An ordinance when passed by the Council shall be signed by the Auditor. It shall be carefully filed and preserved in the custody of the Auditor (City Charter Chapter 2 Article 1 Section 2-122)

Passed by Council  
April 5, 2023

Auditor of the City of Portland  
Simone Rede

## Impact Statement

### Purpose of Proposed Legislation and Background Information

- This ordinance will authorize a contract between the Coalition of Communities of Color and the City of Portland in accordance with City Code 5.233.220.B.2 to allow for the development of a relational accountability methodology and tool for the Bureau of Transportation, in the amount of up to \$42,625.
- Through this contract, the Research Justice Institute at the Coalition of Communities of Color will work with the Bureau of Transportation to create a methodology and tool to apply to community engagement practices, analysis, and decision-making throughout the Bureau.
- This project is part of the Bureau's Transportation Justice Framework project, and it seeks to develop an approach toward non-extractive relationships with underserved community members, more effective elevation and integration of community knowledge and expertise into decision making processes, and more effective approaches to resource allocation, transparency, and accountability in the Bureau's equity work.
- Specifically, through the contract, the Research Justice Institute at the Coalition of Communities of Color will create a methodology and tool for the Bureau, integrating best practices and principles of data, research, and racial justice. The methodology and tool will be demonstrated through a case study to illustrate their usability, and the Research Justice Institute will provide trainings to Bureau staff on application of the methodology and tool. The Research Justice Institute will also provide the Bureau with recommendations for integrating the methodology and tool into decision making.

## Financial and Budgetary Impacts

- Total project cost is \$42,625 (high confidence), funded entirely with money set aside by the Bureau for the Transportation Justice Framework project.
- The level of project cost confidence is very high, as the scope is already fully defined.
- Costs for this project will be posted to the Transportation Justice Project 9TR000002952, which is part of the already allocated Equity and Inclusion Program budget in PBOT's FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget, with expected allocation for FY 23-24.
- The contract is for specific services offered by the Coalition of Communities of Color, and the cost was derived by scope discussions with the Coalition of Communities of Color as the Bureau of Transportation explored the most appropriate route for procurement. The Office of Management and Finance has advised that this project go through the Project-Specific Special Procurement process, in accordance with City Code 5.233.220.B.2.
- No changes to the Bureau of Transportation budget or to staffing levels are included in the ordinance.

## Community Impacts and Community Involvement

- In January 2020, the Bureau of Transportation's Equity and Inclusion team in collaboration with the Bureau's Transportation Justice Steering Committee organized a retreat with Transportation Justice advocates and representatives from Portland-based community organizations representing underserved groups to share their vision for a just and equitable transportation system. The Equity and Inclusion team thereafter established a project team to develop a Transportation Justice Framework for the Bureau that advances this community vision and is intended to inform all Bureau work.
- This contract is intended to be a phase of that project, helping to establish a methodology and tool for better elevation and integration of the expertise, lived experiences, and needs of underserved community members. Doing this is critical to developing policies, programs, and investments that effectively address the inequitable experiences and outcomes that exist in Portland's transportation system.
- Through various community involvement efforts, community partners and the Bureau of Transportation have come to recognize that fundamental obstacles to effective, equitable engagement and equitable outcomes include overreliance on quantitative data and the

extractive nature of typical community engagement.

- This project will help the Bureau of Transportation in effective communications, outreach, and decision-making and includes a component of relational accountability, wherein the goal is to increase transparency, community access to data, and accountability of decisions and impacts on underserved community members.
- As the methodology and tool are implemented, the Bureau of Transportation will conduct continued outreach to build and strengthen relationships with community and to see how the relational accountability process is working.

## Budget Office Financial Impact Analysis

This ordinance authorizes a contract with the Coalition of Communities of Color to allow for the development of a relational accountability methodology and tool for PBOT, not to exceed \$42,625. Funding is included in PBOT's FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget.

## Agenda Items

### 260 Consent Agenda in [April 5, 2023 Council Agenda](#)

Passed

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Absent