

THE PORTLAND PLAN

Portland Plan Fairs: Equity Initiative General Survey Results

During the Portland Plan fairs in March 2011, in addition to speaking with staff, writing ideas down on chart packs and participating in breakout discussion sessions, attendees were provided with the opportunity to provide feedback via two surveys: a general survey and a quick start actions survey.

Two surveys were developed for each draft strategy, (Education, Economic Prosperity and Affordability and Healthy Connected Neighborhoods) and the Equity Initiative.

The results provided below are from the Equity Initiative General Surveys distributed and collected during the Portland Plan fairs. A separate survey on proposed Quick Start Actions was also provided. Those results can be found in a separate document. Survey responses to the other strategies are also available in separate documents.

EQUITY INITIATIVE QUESTIONS

1. The Equity Initiative will focus actions to meet the three objectives listed below. Do you agree that these areas of focus will help Portland reach its equity goals for 2035?

A.	Reduce disparities across all plan areas (like education, economic prosperity and access to neighborhood services), starting with the most severe inequities. <i>35 surveys received; 35 responses to this question</i>	Correct Direction	Neutral	Wrong Direction
	Establish methods to evaluate policies and programs from an equity perspective develop a communication and engagement strategy around equity, work with partner organizations to develop effective tools, implement race and social justice impact assessments, and track racial and ethnic disparities with infrastructure expenditures.	91% 32 responses	9% 3 responses	0% No responses
B.	Ensure accountability and implementation of equity initiative <i>35 surveys received; 35 responses to this question</i>	Correct Direction	Neutral	Wrong Direction
	Continue and expand the practice of tracking and reporting city budget expenditures by district and selected communities, ensure broad inclusion in decision-making, recruit minority members to city advisory boards, and build capacity through leadership training.	94% 33 responses	3% 1 response	3% 1 response
C.	Ensure that the City and Portland Plan partners do business in an equitable manner <i>35 surveys received; 35 responses to this question</i>	Correct Direction	Neutral	Wrong Direction
	Ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, build technical expertise to address institutionalized racism, eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in public agency hiring and develop a translation and interpretation strategy to make it easier for diverse communities to engage in civic discussions.	97% 34 responses	3% 1 response	0% No responses

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2. To be successful, the City and government partners will need to work in partnerships with community groups and individuals. Can you picture yourself, or an organization you're involved with or know about, playing a direct role in implementing the goals and actions of the Equity Initiative?

A. Describe how you might play a role:

35 surveys received; 19 answered this question

Response 1: Community outreach.

Response 2: Set up focus groups with newcomer mutual assistance associations (MAA's) to get unbiased needs assessment (not biased by local, state, federal funding streams.)

Response 3: Continue my involvement in diversity-based facilitation.

Response 4: Elevating the discussion toward systemic deficiencies.

Response 5: Student / young musicians' perspective.

Response 6: Keep coming to the meetings and give some feedback. I like when you do public meetings and inform the community.

Response 7: Be more involved in community organizing.

Response 8: Building community involvement, bringing communities together and a support structure.

Response 9: As part of the King Neighborhood Association, we would like to see a more diverse swath of our community in attendance at our meetings. Opening these lines of communication and creating Neighborhood Associations that are strong and inclusive would greatly benefit the Equity Initiative. Neighborhood Association meetings are an important venue for citizens to be heard.

Response 10: Work within my neighborhood to have conversations and take action to get everyone a voice.

Response 11: Help to identify institutional discrimination and to dismantle it and replace it with equitable practices.

Response 12: In helping organizations get clear about what they're doing, organizing their work, and clarifying their decisions, I establish reliable, memorable, and repeatable systems that provide verifiable methods of ensuring that everyone involved in doing the work of the city has an equivalent voice in guiding that work - likewise, a method of ensuring that all those ostensibly served by the work of the city have a voice in assessing the value of these services to them.

Response 13: Not sure

Response 14: I am going into a public health career in the next 2 years (hopefully!)

Response 15: Greater role for community-based organizations generating support for and building infrastructure like sidewalks and parks.

Response 16: I am involved with the Learning Garden Laboratory; a collaboration between PSU's Leadership and Sustainability Education program, PPS, and several other organizations. We help increase local access to healthy foods and improve sustainable food systems in the neighborhood by L (?) Middle School, one of the more disadvantaged areas in Portland.

Response 17: Become more involved to understand the needs of the community.

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Response 18: League of Women Voters - keep government officials accountable

Response 19: I am passionate about assisting in the training, encouragement and development of minority leadership capacity.

B. List any organizations that you think could play an important role:

35 surveys received; 23 answered this question

Response 1: Oregon Tradeswomen Inc.

Response 2: ISO (Iraqi Society of Oregon) - ABO (Association of Bhutanese in Oregon) - BAO (Burmese Association of Oregon) - IRCO staff - Africa House staff - Asian Family Center staff - OSA (Oregon Somali Association.)

Response 3: Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

Response 4: Portland Community College.

Response 5: High school student unions (workforce of the future.)

Response 6: Media support - newspapers, TV, radio.

Response 7: Community organizations, schools.

Response 8: Community-based organizations that represent communities of color.

Response 9: Any within communities of color - business owners within communities of color - neighborhood associations.

Response 10: PIAC - DCC - Bureau Advisory Committees can be a force for equity, transparency and accountability.

Response 11: Coalition for Communities of Color.

Response 12: Gavin White - gavin@whiteweldconsulting.com - 971-404-7294.

Response 13: Sisters of the Road and the Dorothy Day Community School.

Response 14: Portland Indian Leaders Roundtable - Coalition of Communities of Color.

Response 15: Neighborhood Associations.

Response 16: Everyone! Seriously.

Response 17: PSU, PCC - review arrest stats, housing stats, employment, etc.

Response 18: ROSE Community Development, Hacienda, NAYA, PCRI.

Response 19: Coalition of Communities of Color.

Response 20: Churches, especially from diverse backgrounds.

Response 21: LWV, CPPS, BPI.

Response 22: East Portland Action Plan.

Response 23: PPS, PSU, City Club.

3. Overall, do you think the Equity Initiative is headed in the correct direction?

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35 surveys received; 31 answered this question

Right direction: 87%

Neutral: 0%

Don't know: 10%

Wrong direction: 3%

Is something critical missing?

35 surveys received; 17 answered this question

- Response 1: Consideration of growth (predicted) contributing to tension. Distribute info to children.
- Response 2: More discussion and illustration of causes producing inequities.
- Response 3: In addition to reducing disparities across groups and neighborhoods, there should also be attention to technological resources and expertise, such as internet connectivity and other telecommunications. Technology is so important in a person's success that you need to have access to it for school, job searching, etc.
- Response 4: Poverty / class as a group need to be identified in the Portland Plan Equity.
- Response 5: More education for underserved communities about these topics.
- Response 6: I'm curious about how the city will develop information lines - the services can exist, but citizens need to be aware of them and feel empowered enough to use them.
- Response 7: Link to affordability, economic opportunity.
- Response 8: Verifiable methods of ensuring that everyone involved in doing the work of the city has an equivalent voice in guiding that work - likewise, a method of ensuring that all those ostensibly served by the work of the city have a voice in assessing the value of these services to them.
- Response 9: Sam is leading too hard and not listening, especially to communities of color.
- Response 10: Important issue but not central.
- Response 11: Equitable transportation infrastructure funding, whereby the users of alternative transport need to financially contribute through direct user fees.
- Response 12: Set specific goals and budget set-asides for East Portland.
- Response 13: Keep focus on hearing from all groups - good!
- Response 14: Objective 2, Action 13: Why is this only YOUTH services? Change to be youth, adult and family services programs (housing, parks, etc)
- Response 15: Great ideas - more communication - more action - tie it to objectives.
- Response 16: East Portland is changing fast - equity should start with youth - that is the source if you have limited money.
- Response 17: Campaign finance - without this, impoverished communities and community members cannot hope to have a representative who truly represents their interests - City needs to be changed to be easier to interact with, not train minorities to fit into a complicated system.

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4. Is there any additional information you would like to have to provide feedback? If yes, please describe below:

35 surveys received; 10 answered this question

- Response 1: Hire more minority staff at BPS.
- Response 2: I would like to know more about the present work going on, not only the plans for the future, so we don't get redundant.
- Response 3: Just as a suggestion for an interesting resource for equitable access to healthy food, check out a fairly new organization, Foodprint NYC and Foodprint LA.
- Response 4: Advocating for equity starts from inside, proper representation within the city, in order for communities to feel comfortable to be involved. Plans policies and procedures that are on the shelf need to be implemented and/or updated.
- Response 5: I'm just hearing about the creation of the Office of Equity, but I think it's a great idea!
- Response 6: I think this is the key to the Plan.
- Response 7: Data on disparities in access to City programs and services.
- Response 8: There seems to be a lot going on in Portland - find out what is happening already and coordinate / collaborate for better efficiency / greater change.
- Response 9: More opinion diversity on City Advisory Committees.
- Response 10: Are ALL stakeholders working together, public and private?