

PORTLAND CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUND (PCEF)

GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

May 18, 2023 • 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting—Zoom Call & Portland Community College SE Campus

Committee Members	Position	Affiliation	Present
Dr. Megan Horst	Co-Chair	Associate Professor, School of Urban Studies & Planning at Portland State University	Yes
Ranfis Villatoro	Co-Chair	Oregon State Policy Manager, BlueGreen Alliance	Yes
Faith Graham	Member-at-Large	Elevate Energy	Yes
Maria Gabrielle Sipin	Member-at-Large	Technical Assistance Manager, Safe Routes Partnership	Yes
Michael Edden Hill	Member-at-Large	Community Member	No
Robin Wang	Member-at-Large	Vibrant Future LLC	Yes
June Reyes	Community Engagement Coordinator	PCEF Staff	No
Sam Baraso	Program Manager	PCEF	Yes
Cady Lister	Deputy Program Director	PCEF	Yes
Jaimes Valdez	Org. Development & Policy Manger	PCEF	Yes
Kris Grube	Project Manager	PCEF	No
Wendy Koelfgen	Project Manager	PCEF	No
Rachel Gilmore	Administrative Specialist	PCEF	Yes
Elizabeth Stover	Senior Communications Strategist	PCEF	No
Tracy M. Smith	Facilitator	Inhance LLC	Yes
Camerina Galván	Notetaker	Galvan Consulting LLC	Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Ciara Pressler, Strategic Consultant, Pregame; Gayle Palmer, East Portland Resilience Coalition; AK; Jenni Hall, Energy Trust of Oregon.

INTRODUCTIONS

- Tracy M. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
- The quorum was met.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: TRACY M. SMITH, FACILITATOR

- No public comments.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: SAM BARASO, PCEF

- Approved: May 26, 2022, through February 16, 2023, Meeting Summaries, and April 20, 2023, Meeting Summary. All committee members approved except for Faith Graham, who abstained.

UPDATE: CLIMATE INVESTMENT PLAN (CIP) TIMELINE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: CIARA PRESSLER, PREGAME, AND SAM BARASO, PCEF

- Ciara Pressler reviewed the CIP timeline.
- Sam Baraso reviewed the upcoming community engagement events.

EXERCISE: COMMITTEE ROLE DURING CIP IMPLEMENTATION: CIARA PRESSLER, PREGAME

- Ciara Pressler reviewed City Code regarding the committee's charge as CIP moves from creation to recommendation and implementation. She shared questions the committee should reflect on as they prepare for the June 2, 2023, retreat.
- Committee member comments and questions
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Ciara Pressler will share the slides with the committee members.
 - Will the implementation discussion include criteria for selected awards and contracts? Or will it be broad and high-level?
 - Response: We will discuss implementation at the June 2, 2023, meeting, but not the specifics. It will be more focused on how you will be involved.
 - A committee member shared that he feels uncomfortable with the term "representing communities."
 - What is the flexibility for how to think about implementation? How can I, as a community member, empower other community members to be represented in the process? What is the flexibility there? How will we track progress? Are we advising or making a recommendation? How broad are we opening to how the community is represented?
 - Response: In CIP, we've built strategies, such as workgroups, where we know we'll need specific input. More strategies could evolve. The staff has identified a handful of metrics, and more could emerge. They will share metric results with the community in an accessible way and may require more input. It requires striking the right balance.
 - That may raise questions about the feasibility of staff capacity. Where does the charter outline what the committee will do to adopt CIP? Will the committee be advisors or decision-makers? The city code is vague regarding the committee's role and much more explicit about the role of staff and the program.
 - Response: The committee will determine how they interpret the language, how they would like to be involved, and what they are responsible for. They will need to articulate how their involvement aligns with the code language. This will happen through discussions with staff.
 - Regarding the creation bucket, I like to think about the ideas we couldn't fund during this round. We couldn't fund everything. For example, there are different approaches to regenerative agriculture (RA). Regarding the recommendation bucket, I want an update on our communication strategy at the June 2, 2023, meeting. Regarding the implementation bucket, I would like an update on the dashboard because we are not evaluating just CIP. We are

evaluating all of PCEF. I want an update on the dashboard at the June 2, 2023, meeting. CIP needs to be assessed to determine if it is on track yearly, and more detailed metrics should be tracked.

- Response: Part of the work on the June 2, 2023, meeting will be to determine when the evaluation points will be with the cadence that the strategic programs will implement at different times, and therefore the evaluations may not sync. The challenge with the dashboard is that we need to determine the baseline. CIP will alter the dashboard.
- How did we incorporate youth feedback and leadership into CIP beyond heavily curated discussions and general feedback? How can we evolve the planning process to integrate youth? Can we move the community from informing and consultation to partnership and delegation in future plan iterations? The committee member hopes youth and other priority populations can have certainty that their input and voices can guide the plan more significantly in future CIP iterations.
- What are PCEF's goals and subgoals within the key leads of every program for the next five years? What is the relationship between PCEF and other programs? What is the vision?
 - Response: Reviewing the changes in the second CIP draft may address some of these questions. There is more work staff is doing, such as presenting at a city council works session, that will be shared via email with the committee.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Staff will share a summary of the work session presentation for the city council with committee members.

UPDATE: WORKFORCE AND CONTRACTOR EQUITY EFFORTS: SAM BARASO, PCEF

- Sam Baraso updated what PCEF staff has done and is doing to engage workers and contractors in developing CIP. Sam Baraso shared with whom the staff has engaged, the CIP workforce and contractor equity approach, and future plans and obstacles.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Committee members will email questions and feedback to the staff.
- Committee member comments and questions:
 - PCEF staff will be hired to work specifically on workforce and contractor equity.
 - The workforce and contractor equity efforts require rethinking how the committee empowers another group, specifically a high-road advisory committee. The committee should receive notes from the high-road committee.
 - Staff should engage unions, apprenticeship programs with high graduation rates, suppliers, those historically creating the bulk, the Bureau of Labor and Industries, and OSHA for systemic change. Staff can't rely on grantee input or the demand side of the workforce supply chains.
 - RA and green infrastructure don't fit into the future plans presented.
 - People with a disability and organizations serving people with a disability were not mentioned. It's still unclear how PCEF projects haven't worked for them and what are their workforce challenges.
 - Could PCEF play a coordinating role? How do we think of PCEF as an ecosystem?
 - Response: Community Vision will report to staff on a planning grant around the workforce and people experiencing a disability. Staff will learn from the planning grant. It's important

to remember that staff are doing a lot of building and learning. It's crucial to resurface conversations and honor the work done.

UPDATE: SUMMARY OF CHANGES AND HIGHLIGHTS IN NEW CIP DRAFT: SAM BARASO, PCEF

- Sam Baraso gave an overview of the changes made to the CIP first draft.
- Committee member comments and questions:
 - Is the preliminary draft available on the website to compare the two drafts?
 - Response: Yes, it can be found on the PCEF website.
 - Are there considerations for the community dependent on para-lift services in the strategic transportation decarbonization program? What is the funding to support those individuals?
 - Response: Transportation Wallet Access for All program allows people to use paratransit services and targeted electric vehicle financing tools for electrifying paratransit or WAV vans. This is a partial response.
 - A committee member encourages staff to convene the community and labor groups to be competitive for federal and state funding. Oregon Department of Energy will lead some funding opportunities.
 - Response: We expect the federal government to roll out additional funding, and we don't have foresight for all the opportunities.
 - Response: In the Inflation Reduction Act, there are labor standards, tax credit programs, and opportunities that may weave together with PCEF. There are also opportunities to shape some strategic programs with a market needs assessment.
 - Will Prosper Portland administer a \$2.5M grant program or pay for \$2.5M in administrative expenses?
 - Response: Prosper Portland will administer \$2.5M of PCEF resources in addition to their funding for business stabilization along 82nd Ave.
 - A committee member encourages staff to enroll in the Good Jobs Initiative.
 - Response: CIP process has allowed staff to develop partnerships and think strategically.
 - Is career and technical education (CTE) being funded?
 - Response: We will need to follow up with the school districts. In the community grants, we have allocated \$4M for youth and upstream exposure and \$26M for direct on-the-job training, pre-apprenticeship programs, and contractor training. If we need to think more expansively, and you have specific thoughts or examples, please share them with the staff.
 - Response: This didn't come up in conversation in the school district roundtable because of how staff framed the discussion around physical improvements. PCEF has received many grant applications for STEM, career, and technical education programming. We have not specifically funded shop classes. We have supported after-school and developing culturally specific curriculums.
 - A committee member feels that not funding CTE is a missed opportunity. It would be beneficial to fund CTE teachers if we had more time.

- A committee member feels the amounts allocated for schools are minimal for impact. They hope PCEF can expand on this sooner rather than later and better respond to the school's apprehension about managing youth-led initiatives. When did the youth weigh in on this? They hope more time is spent listening to youth.
- PCEF should have more opportunities across CIP for youth-led initiatives to avoid being bound within a school or district. PCEF could manage the programs instead of relying on an intermediary. The committee member recognizes that community engagement was expedited.
 - Response: Community grants have been awarded to groups that work with youth and young adults. There is room for this conversation and the ability to identify entities that can manage youth-led initiatives.
- Do the mini-grants enable youth-led initiatives?
 - Response: Youth-focused nonprofits have been awarded mini-grants.
- Is there a cap on the Transportation Wallet Access for All program?
 - Response: No cap will limit the amount used for taxis and TNCs. One reason is that Lyft manages BIKETOWN, and we don't want to restrict usage. Sometimes access to transportation networks are necessary for a person to use transit.
 - Response: Some data can be found in the second draft.
- A committee member would like clarification on how the support for businesses along 82nd Ave is climate-focused.
 - Response: In discussion with Prosper Portland, many agencies are investing in 82nd Ave. PCEF asked, "How can we serve businesses and stabilize them?" Second to trees, this was one of the primary priorities that emerged. Energy efficiency and renewable energy are a hard sell. Prosper Portland has offerings that are more attractive to business owners.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: The next hybrid meeting will be Thursday, June 29, 2023, 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

Submitted by Camerina Galván, Notetaker, Galvan Consulting LLC.