

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Establish City's Language Access Policy and program and direct bureaus to implement the policy, standard operating procedures, tools, resources, and guidance adopted by the Office of Equity and Human Rights (Resolution)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

This legislation is being proposed to establish the City of Portland's first language access policy and program, lead by the Citywide Equity and Language Access Analyst from the Office of Equity and Human Rights, and directs city bureaus to implement the standards and procedures set by the Office of Equity and Human Rights and its language access program. This legislation has citywide impacts because the institutionalization of the language access standards and procedures demonstrates compliance with national origin nondiscrimination protections according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and Executive Order 13166; and will provide equitable access to city government for multilingual and multicultural community members who experience institutional language barriers.

Related legislation includes: Resolution No.37450 adopted by City Council to declare support for a robust standard of Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II compliance throughout City Bureaus and Offices and direct the Office of Equity and Human Rights to lead coordination by setting Citywide policies and accountability measures; and Resolution 37450 which directs the Office of Equity and Human Rights to establish overall City tracking and accountability measures for Civil Rights compliance.

Internal stakeholder engagement includes bureau Equity Managers, Portland Housing Bureau City demographer, Portland Bureau of Emergency Management and Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) leadership, other city bureau leadership, and Council Offices.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The financial and budgetary impacts of institutionalizing and operationalizing language access standards and procedures will be assessed once the bureaus implement tracking and accountability measures in order to assess budgetary impacts based on current and projected costs which will inform bureau budgeting related to language access.

Community impacts and community involvement:

By institutionalizing language access policy and procedure the City will proactively work to increase meaningful and equitable access to city government for communities who experience institutional language barriers, such as multilingual and multicultural immigrant and refugee community members.

This legislation includes direction on increasing meaningful community engagement with those communities based on community engagement and language access best practices

and strategies for increased public involvement and civic participation with the goal of fostering trust building between city government and those communities who experience disparities and institutional language barriers. Increased community engagement will improve outcomes and provide inclusive, accessible, meaningful participation and engagement thereby holding city government accountable to equitable services and community impacts.

100% Renewable Goal:
N/A

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
- NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount