



SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE COMMISSION (SCC)

Council First Reading - April 24, 2024

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SUSTAINABILITY**

Agenda

- Background
- Goals
- Structure
- Functions and plans
- Next steps
- Q & A
- Invited Testimony



Planning & Sustainability Commission (PSC) history

- Planning & Sustainability Commission – established 2010
- PSC balancing state mandated roles & climate action/sustainability
- Planning Commission - established Feb. 2023 via Ordinance No. 191150
 - Directed BPS to bring Sustainability or Climate Commission proposal to Council
- New Sustainability and Climate Commission (SCC)
 - resets scope, expectations, and establishes action on climate & sustainability

City's climate action – Climate Emergency Workplan (CEW)

- City Council declared a climate emergency in 2020
- Climate Emergency Workplan approved July 2022
- Sustainability and Climate Commission (SCC)
 - A key accountability body on climate and sustainability for community, other governance bodies & City of Portland



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Charter Reform – Charter Commission review

- Phase I – passed in November 2022 by voters as Ballot Measure 26-228
 - **Mayor and City Administrator responsibilities:**

“Advance the City’s efforts to mitigate the human-made climate crisis and prioritize environmental justice initiatives.”

Research

Advisees	Group	Members
City of Sacramento & West Sacramento	Sacramento Commission on Climate Change	192
Office of Climate Action, Sustainability & Resiliency	Denver Sustainability Advisory Council	134
State of New York	New York Climate Action Council	35
County Board of Supervisors	Los Angeles County Youth Climate Commission	25
State/local government, businesses, nonprofits, residents	Oregon Global Warming Commission	25
State of Hawai'i	Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission	20
Mayor, City Council	Los Angeles Climate Emergency Mobilization Commission	19
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning	Chicago Climate Committee	18
Multnomah County, Board and Office of Sustainability	Multnomah County Advisory Committee on Sustainability & Innovation	13
City Council, community entities	Ashland Conservation & Climate Outreach Committee	11
City Council	Forest Grove Sustainability Commission	10
City Council	Ashland Climate Policy Committee	9
Environmental Department, mayor, Board of Supervisors	San Francisco Commission on the Environment	7
Mayor, City Council, executive departments	Honolulu Climate Change Commission	5





Public engagement

- Charter Commission – community engagement
- Community kickoff and survey
- Community conversations (2) and survey
- External working group workshops (4)
- 30-day public comment on proposal draft
- Proposal open houses (2)



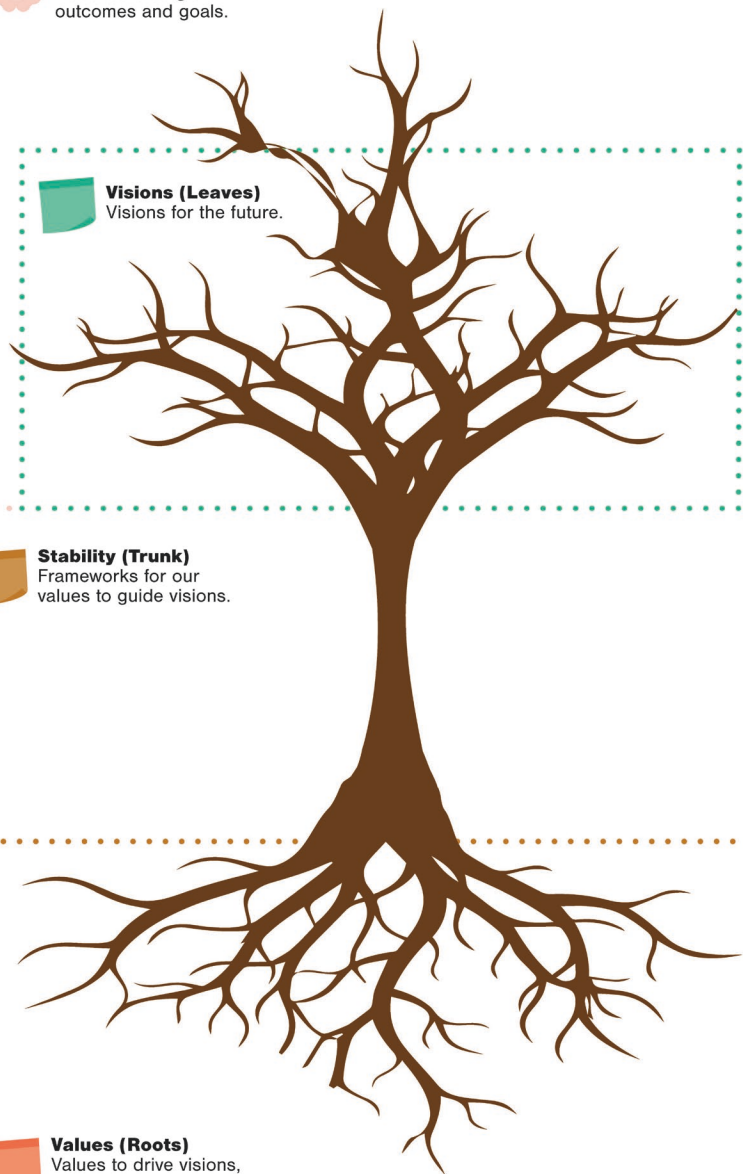
Outcomes (Flowers)
Actionable/tangible outcomes and goals.



Visions (Leaves)
Visions for the future.



Stability (Trunk)
Frameworks for our values to guide visions.



Values (Roots)
Values to drive visions, frameworks, and/or outcomes.

Survey



Outcomes (Flowers)

- What outcomes will you see when we're successful?
- What are the "news headlines" when we're successful?



Visions (Leaves):

- What are your climate and sustainability visions for the future of Portland?
- What are important climate and sustainability goals for Portland?



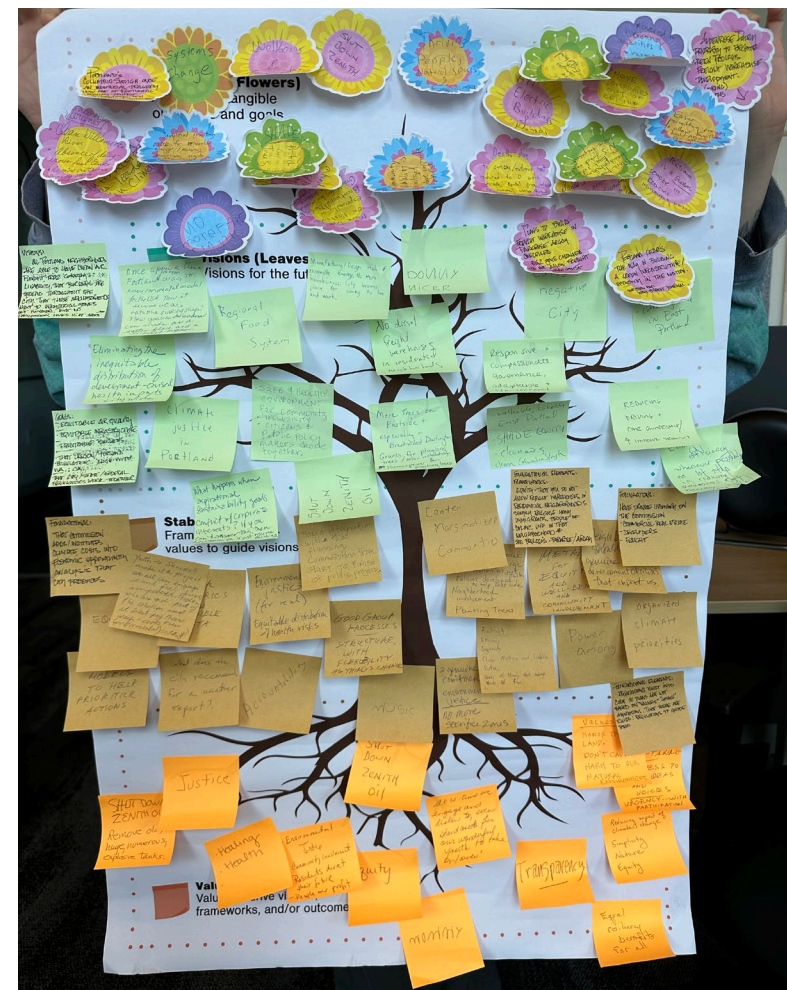
Elements for Stability (Trunk)

- What foundational elements does the Sustainability and Climate Commission need?
- What frameworks does the Sustainability and Climate Commission need to be successful?



Values (Roots)

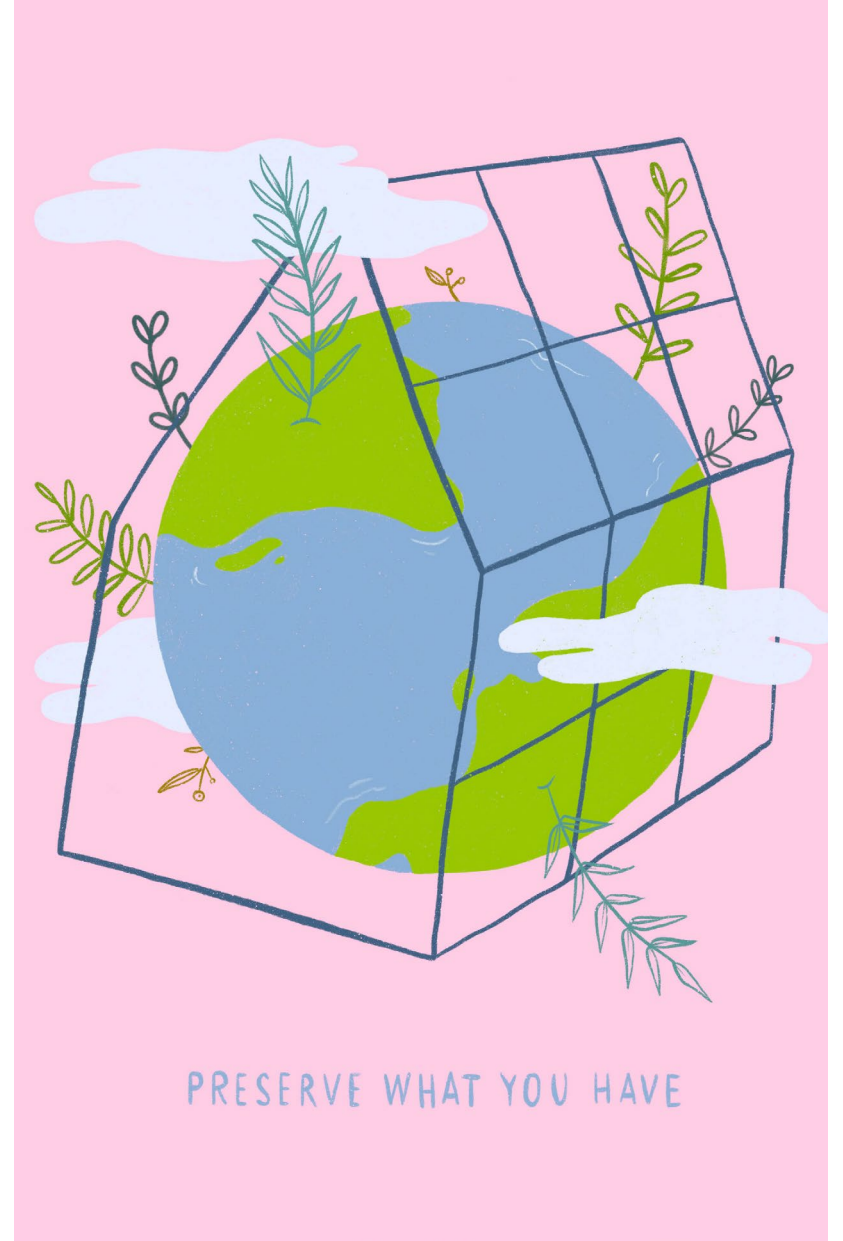
- On what values should the Sustainability and Climate Commission be founded?
- What are your values for sustainability and climate action?



External working group

- Tana Atchley Culbertson, *Nesika Wilamut*
- Jackie Kirouac-Fram, *Rebuilding Center*
- Kristin Leiber, *Lloyd EcoDistrict*
- Bryan Lewis, *environmental advocate and volunteer*
- Micah Meskel, *Bird Alliance of Oregon (fka Portland Audubon)*
- Tim Miller, *Oregon Business for Climate*
- Damon Motz-Storey, *Sierra Club Oregon Chapter*
- Sara O'Brien, *Willamette Partnership*
- Sasha Pollack, *Multnomah County Sustainability Commission*
- Beth Vargas Duncan, *Portland Haulers Association & Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association*

**Organizational affiliation given for identification purposes only.*



City engagement

- City employee workshops (4)
- Climate Preparedness Group (3), includes:
 - BDS, BES, BPS, OGR, PBOT, PP&R, and PWB
- City staff consultation, includes:
 - OMF, Civic Life, Transition Unit, CAMG
- City leadership briefings



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Goals

- Reset the scope, expectations, and establish a new authority on climate and sustainability
- Create accountability for City and its service areas, and the Portland community
- Create the City's Climate Action Plan and other guiding documents on climate
- Advance the city's efforts to mitigate the human made climate crisis and prioritize environmental justice initiatives
- Ensure the City is on track to meet established climate goals
- Balance advisory, advocacy, & action in its charge



Structure

- 20 members + 6 City staff liaisons members
 - Community members
 - Youth commissioners
 - Six City staff liaisons as non-voting members
 - Deputy City Administrators (DCAs) or their designee
- Organized by focus areas
 - Members recruited in areas of expertise/knowledge

SCC focus areas

- Building and homes
- Climate change resiliency and adaptation
- Energy and renewables
- Environmental justice and equity
- Urban forest, natural systems, and carbon management
- Urban form and transportation
- Waste prevention, recycling, and solid waste
- Youth



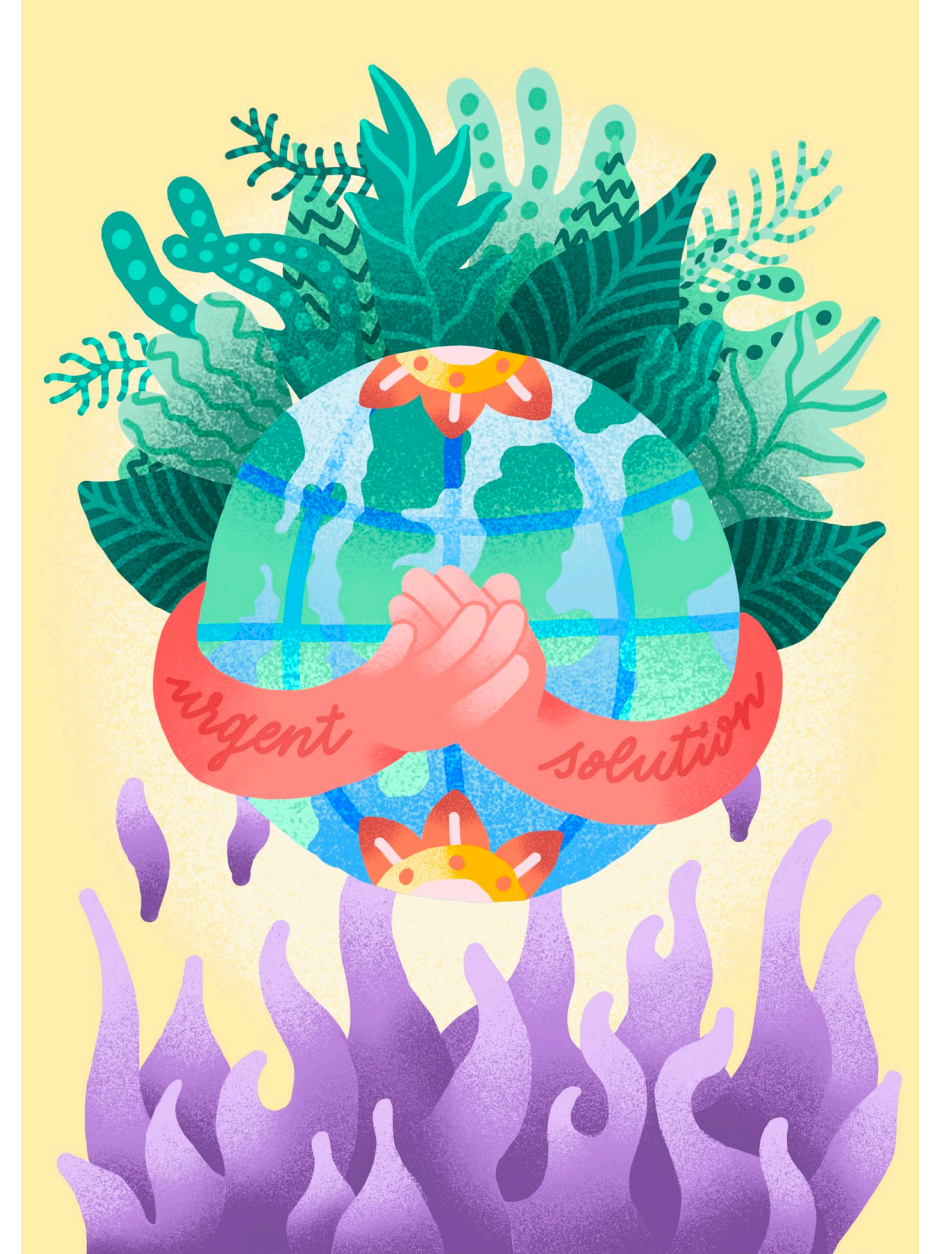
Functions and plans

- City Administrator-level commission
- Balance advisory, advocacy, & action
- Collaborate with other advisory bodies
- Accountability and transparency



Engaging with SCC

- Tiers for SCC work
 - **Tier I – LEARN & PLAN**
 - **Tier II – CREATE & EVALUATE**
 - **Tier III – ACT**



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Tier I – LEARN & PLAN

Staff makes decisions with SCC validation, updates and educates SCC. Examples of actions include:

- DCAs, or their designee, briefing SCC on implementation strategy of previous agreed upon workplans from service areas
- accepting progress reports
- holding joint meetings with other committees

Tier II – CREATE & EVALUATE

DCAs, or their designee, work with the Chief Sustainability Officer to bring forward proposals for SCC recommendations, refinements, and alignment with established climate goals

- Decision making authority is ultimately with City Council, the Mayor, and the City Administrator, however, SCC recommendations will strongly inform decisions
- Gives public forum for debate on the issues at the SCC
- Addresses the charter reform charge for the City Administrator and the Mayor to address the human-made climate crisis

Tier III – ACT

The Chief Sustainability Officer works with Deputy City Administrators and their offices to bring work from SCC to City Council, the Mayor, and the City Administrator for final action and decision making.

- Gives public forum for debate on the issues at the SCC
- End goal is defined (*i.e.*, ordinance, resolution, report)

Accountability

- Public transparency with information exchange
- Publicly accessible with clear communication & public comment opportunities
- Follow-up on actions, concepts, recommendations
- Evaluation of past and current programs, policies, and projects



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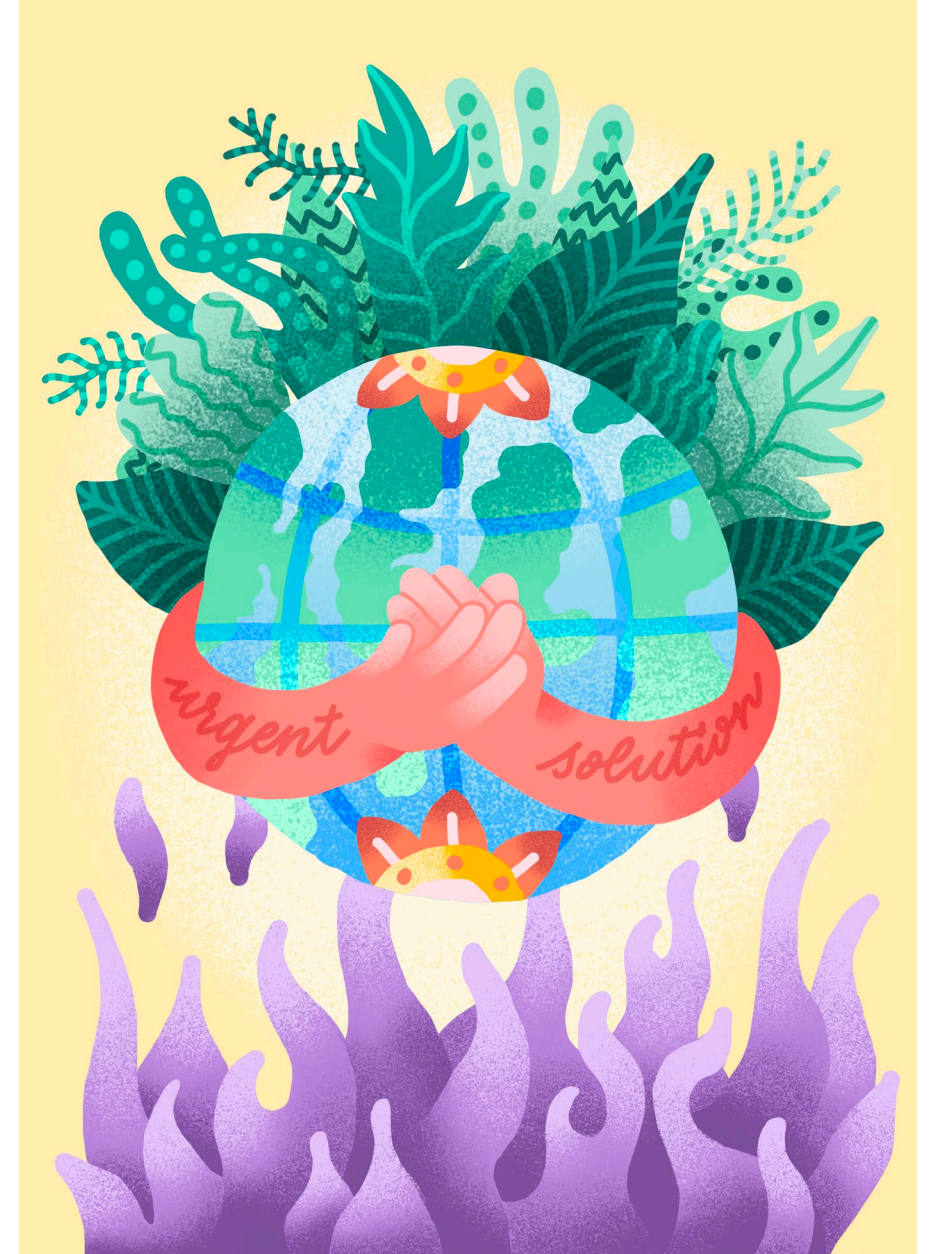
How commissioners will be appointed*

- Apply via City's Advisory Bodies Program
- Review by SCC Coordinator and other staff
- Chief Sustainability Officer for recommendations
- Recommendations to the Mayor for appointment
- Appointments to City Council for approval
- Applications will be reviewed and chosen with focus areas in mind

**Subject to City's Advisory Bodies Program requirements*

Next steps

- Second reading in May:
 - Approve Agenda Item 338: Create the Sustainability and Climate Commission (amend Code Chapter 3.33) Ordinance
- Anticipated recruitment starting Fall 2024 – pending guidance from City advisory bodies
- Commissioners seated – anticipated Winter 2025



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Questions & Answers



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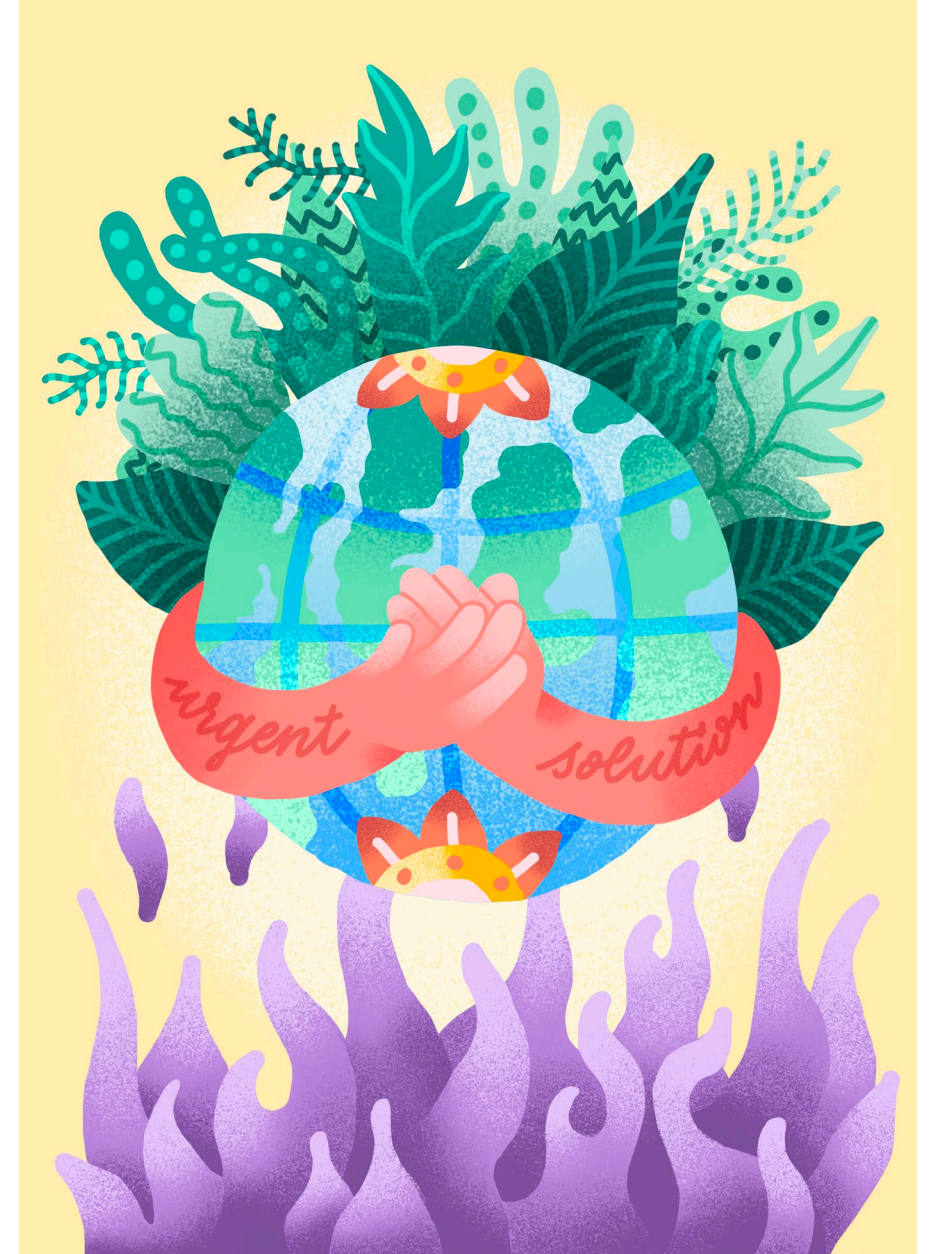
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Invited testimony

- **Sasha Pollack**, former member of Multnomah County Advisory Council on Sustainability & Innovation, SCC working group member
- **Sara O'Brien**, Director of Willamette Partnership, SCC working group member
- **Director Millicent Williams**, PBOT
- **Ranfis Giannettino Villatoro**, Committee Member for PCEF, Oregon Policy Manager for BlueGreen Alliance



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