

PRODUCTS & PACKAGING SUBCOMMITTEE: MEETING #4

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 3:00pm-5:00pm

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89499170846>

Attendees

Subcommittee Members

John Deuel, Oregon State University (Retired)

Kathryn Duvall, Oregon Legislature Environmental Caucus

Carly Mick, University of Oregon

Bailey Payne, Benton County

Staff

Facilitator: Lisa LeDoux, Start Consulting Group

Subject Matter Expert: Joel Schoening, RRS

Notes

Focus on prioritizing strategies will become final recommendations

Ideas

#1 Economic Development: grants, provide infrastructure for reuse & recovery, technical support & job training

- DEQ opportunity to recycle: links to that might inspire local government as extra incentive. *Bailey will see if there are connections there to this group and others.
- Of the three strategies group wants to focus less on grants and prioritize infrastructure and technical support. possibly nest grants within technical support
- Don't overlook what work is already being done and invest there rather than focusing on innovation
- Provide Infrastructure and Tech support for Reuse and Recovery (#2 & #3) is specifically listed in the OTR annual report.
- flag this as could be supported by regional waste authority
- This work could be county or regional (regional is discussed because it's the work of this group and waste is cross county)
- Are there barriers? Do have counties work together and that should be looked at? More research is needed. talk with the regional waste group on what is possible.
- Example: focus on investments on reuse hub that also offers programing support job development or startups, a model that can be replicated state wide, publicly funded. county staff mobilize their commissions and prioritize this. State level as well.

#2 Public Policy: SUP plastic bans and reuse procurement, data collection & reporting mandate, EPR

- Could the data collection/managing be done through a centralized person? Kind of like how the DEQ sends out recycling surveys for the OTR? Rather than tasking each county. Maybe a new PRO. All three of these has potential.
- ERP from state opportunity to do data collection. Combine these strategies to increase reporting .
- encourage regenerative design. design for compost or entering the eco system in new way
- tread carefully because work has just been done on this and Environmental Caucus is interested in this
- create a short list or see what is on DEQ list batteries are currently front in line in OR
- bring industry into the conversation early

Example: focus on research for what should be in line next for ERP in Oregon

#3 Public Programs & Services: outreach and education, bulky goods reuse and repair (reuse mall), additional collection services for bulky or hard to recycle items

- Coordination between counties will be helpful. where materials overlap, marketing could be shared and won't duplicate work being done in multiple counties.
- Coalition forming in the region would be helpful
- Adding thrift groups in who should act

- Consider working with haulers on this depending on cost
- Can be tied to social programs
- University or multi-family bulky need help from this grassroots level
- Who benefits that would be motivated to act here? Those that pay disposal cost (university or apartment owner) or city keeping it out of landfill.

Example: focus on supporting organizations doing this work, specifically with space or funding.