Hello wonderful residents of Portland, Oregon. Have you been eager for Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) projects to begin rolling out? Excited to see those projects fight climate change, while simultaneously creating a more equitable economy for underserved frontline communities, such as low-income families and BIPOC folk (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color)?

Well, good news! The time is now and we need your help. Please see below for the draft guiding principles, suggested talking points and how you can comment.

What's Going On Right Now?
The Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) Grant Committee, supported by city staff, has developed a draft set of Guiding Principles for grantmaking decisions. These Guiding Principles describe a set of common values by which the PCEF grant program will be designed and implemented. The Grant Committee will use the Guiding Principles Future decisions—including grant funding decisions—to ensure that decisions are in line with the vision of the Committee and the community.

The DRAFT Guiding Principles (from the City of Portland's PCEF Grant Committee):

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<th>The Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund will be:</th>
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<td><em>Justice-driven.</em> Promote systems change that addresses historic and current discrimination. Center all disadvantaged and marginalized groups – particularly Black and indigenous people.*</td>
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<td><em>Accountable.</em> Implement a transparent funding and oversight process that promotes continuous learning and improvement. Demonstrate achievement of equitable social, economic, and environmental benefit. Remain accountable to target beneficiaries, grantees, and all Portlanders.*</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Community-powered.</em> Trust community knowledge, experience, innovation, and leadership. Honor and build on existing work and partnerships. Engage with and fund in community-driven approaches that acknowledge and enhance community power to create meaningful change.*</td>
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<td><em>Focused on local co-benefits.</em> Invest in people, places, and processes that build climate resilience and community wealth, foster healthy communities, and support regenerative systems. Avoid and mitigate displacement.*</td>
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Suggested Talking Points.
The Guiding Principles reflect a powerful understanding of and commitment to the frontline community-led values of the PCEF Coalition.

Please feel free to offer any comments that make sense to you, your community and/or organization. If you're looking for ideas, here are some suggested talking points:

- *I feel that these guiding principles for the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund (PCEF) are strongly aligned with the values of the PCEF Coalition that organized in 2018 under the leadership of frontline communities to create this fund through Measure 26-201.*

- *I appreciate and approve of the focus on justice and systems change for communities who have historically experienced and continue to experience discrimination in Portland. This is especially important for BIPOC folk (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color). PCEF grantmaking should prioritize deep investments in*
Accountability in usage of these funds is very important. I am glad to see a focus on transparency, demonstrated progress on social, economic, and environmental benefits, and accountability to the fund’s intended beneficiaries, grantees, and the Portland community as a whole. PCEF grantmaking should support frontline community-serving organizations that offer a vision/commitment to progress and grow with the program.

I support the focus on trusting community knowledge and experience. Communities in Portland created PCEF and are experts in our lived experiences. Self-determination and ground-up change will be vital ways for PCEF to invest its resources. PCEF grantmaking should allow frontline community-serving organizations to propose multiple projects in a single application.

Climate resilience and healthy communities are valuable beyond measure. The principle focusing on local co-benefits is sound and timely.

How You Can Comment:
- Through Columbia Riverkeeper’s website
- Via the City of Portland’s Online Form
- Print and complete a paper survey. Scan and email to cleanenergyfund@portlandoregon.gov
- Print and complete a paper survey. Mail to PCEF, 1900 SW 4th Ave, Suite 710, Portland, OR 97201
- Comment at a drop-in session on March 13 or a drop-in session on March 19.
- Phone: leave a recorded verbal comment at 503-823-7713
- Host an Event: Please review Help your community provide comments on the PCEF draft guiding principles.