Building Resilience

Linking Covid-19 and Climate Change

June 5, 2020
Don’t Rebuild Systems that Broke: Investing in community-led climate resiliency in Portland, Oregon

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Climate Adaptation Forum
Building Resilience, 6/5/2020
What is the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund (PCEF)?

- established by a successful ballot measure passed by 65% of Portland voters in November 2018

- first-ever environmental measure in Oregon history created and led by communities of color

- $44-61M in new annual revenue for green jobs and climate-related investment in frontline communities
What is the purpose of PCEF?

- provide **long-term funding source for climate action** that supports social, economic, and environmental benefits

- projects that benefit **low-income communities and communities of color**

- Prioritize **skills training and workforce development** for economically disadvantaged and traditionally underemployed
How is PCEF funded?

1% surcharge on retailers whose annual sales are over $1 billion nationally AND over $500,000 in Portland.
How are funds accessed?

NONPROFITS

GRANT PROPOSALS

PCEF COMMITTEE

CITY COUNCIL
Where will the money go?
What kinds of projects can be funded

- Green Infrastructure and Regenerative Agriculture: 5%
- Contractor Training & Support Workforce Development: 10-15%
- Innovation: 20-25%
- Clean Energy Programs: 40-60%
How are we accountable to meeting PCEF goals?

• Targets:
  • At least 20% of funding to nonprofits with track record of serving economically disadvantaged community members
  • At least 50% of clean energy projects should specifically benefit low-income residents and communities of color.

• Requirements:
  • Funding agreements must include terms to encourage rent stability
  • All projects must agree to a specified workforce and contractor equity plan
  • At least 180% of minimum wage to employees on PCEF projects.

• Processes:
  • Equity-centered Grant Committee
  • Public engagement
  • Reporting and continuous improvement.
Year One Timeline

1. RFP development
   - Grant scoring criteria
   - Workforce and contractor equity agreement
   - RFP released

2. Application period
   - 60 days

3. Review
   - Eligibility and Technical Review
   - Scoring panels
   - Committee deliberation

4. Council approval
   - Prepare and deliver Council docs

Public comment opens
Release RFP
Scoring panels begin
Committee deliberation
Grant approvals
Thank you!

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