

City of Bend- Climate Friendly Areas Community Engagement Plan

DRAFT November 14, 2023

Designation and Adoption 2024-2025

INTRODUCTION

Overview and Purpose

The Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission adopted the Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) rules on July 21, 2022. These new rules require local governments including Bend to study, identify, and designate climate-friendly areas by December 31, 2024¹.

Climate Friendly Areas (CFAs) are intended to be places containing a mix of housing, jobs, and services where people can meet most of their daily needs without having to drive. This means that these urban areas may see a higher intensity of development over time through changes to zoning and development codes. In Bend, these areas may be established near downtown, in Opportunity Areas or near commercial and mixed-use corridors, where high-quality pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure can be more easily accessed and enhanced.

The first phase of the project analyzed potential locations for climate-friendly areas and the study was submitted to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) on December 31, 2023. This next phase will refine the areas identified during the study and will result in recommendations to the City Council on which CFA(s) to designate, including adoption of code amendments.

Public outreach was undertaken throughout the study phase. The engagement centered the voices of historically underserved community members and included: one-on-one interviews, a collaboration with COCC students and staff, an equity focus group, summer pop-up events, the convening of a work group, and a community open house. The next phase of engagement will build off of the input received and the community connections established throughout 2023.

This document describes anticipated methods for engaging traditionally underserved populations and the public, strategies for communicating information, opportunities to provide input, and plans for incorporating input into the final adopted CFA(s) and supporting policies and regulations. This document refers to certain sections of the CFEC rules by their citation to the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). References to sections such as OAR 660-012-0125 refer to the CFEC rules, which are available to view and download at the website of the Oregon DLCD².

Community Engagement Objectives

Community engagement is key to the successful implementation and long term outcomes of Climate Friendly Areas. Two-way communication between the planning team and people who may be affected by the designation of CFAs and related project outcomes is important. This will help the planning team to

¹ Bend requested and received an extension to Dec. 31, 2025

² Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities - <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/CL/Pages/CFEC.aspx>.

identify and understand different interests and concerns and provide the best opportunity to shape the project and ensure the community's vision.

The objectives of the community engagement program for the CFA designation are to:

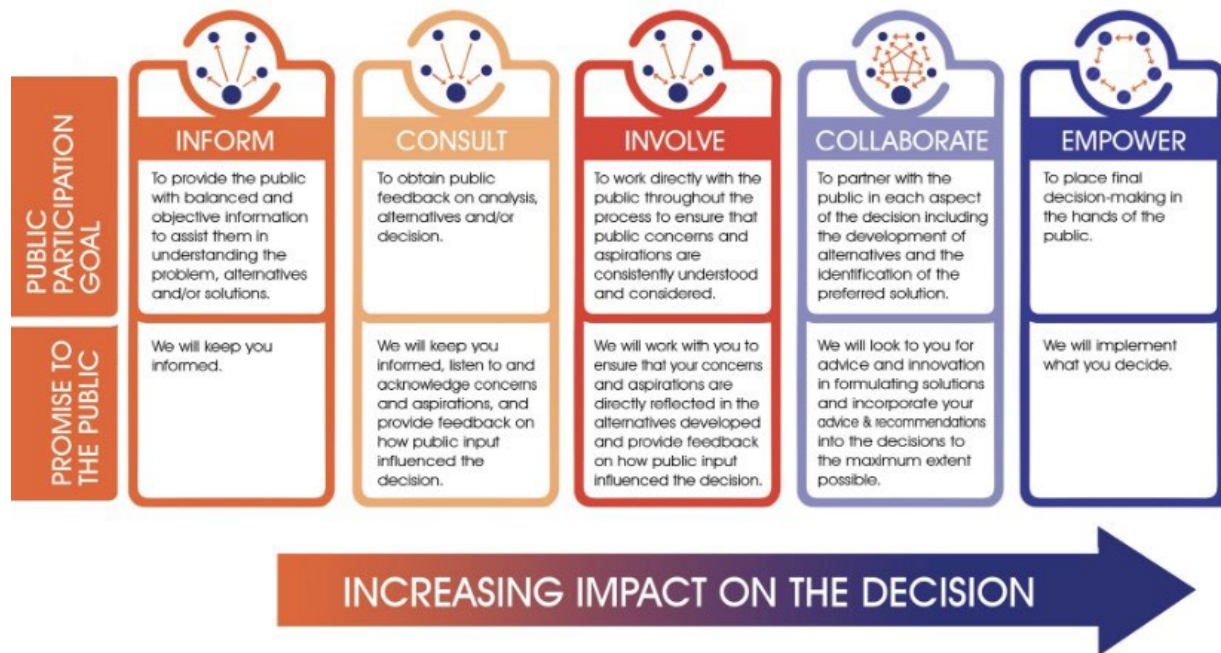
- Designate and adopt preferred Climate-Friendly Areas through community involvement.
- Center the voices of historically underserved populations, particularly those disproportionately harmed by past land use and transportation decisions and engage with those populations to develop key community outcomes.
- Promote the fair and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, disability, gender, sexual orientation, housing status, primary language, immigration status, age, or income. No person shall be excluded from participation or subjected to discrimination on the basis of these factors.
- Give all potentially affected interests an opportunity for input.
- Actively seek participation of potentially affected and/or interested agencies, individuals, businesses, and organizations.
- Provide meaningful community engagement opportunities and demonstrate through a reporting back process how input has influenced the decisions.
- Clearly articulate the process for decision-making and opportunities for input.
- Explore partnerships between the city, county, and other agencies and organizations for overcoming potential barriers to plan implementation.
- Develop communication tools to increase public understanding of how the CFA designation fits into other planning processes the City is undertaking.
- Ensure the community engagement process is consistent with applicable state and federal laws and requirements, and is sensitive to local policies, goals, and objectives.

Decision-Making Process

The planning team will share project information with historically underserved populations and the public for input and feedback. The planning team is then responsible for balancing community needs and desires expressed through the community engagement process. Progress will be reported back and shared throughout the engagement process.

The Bend City Council Community Building Subcommittee and CFA work group will act as advisory committees to serve as a sounding board for the project team, providing additional input on public concerns and feedback on possible solutions.

The final CFA designation proposal and related code amendments will be subject to a formal process including public hearings with both the Planning Commission and City Council. The City Council will make the final adoption decision.



Project Participation Levels

Empower	Bend City Council
Collaborate	Bend Planning Commission
Involve	Equity Focus Group, CFA Work Group, Boards, Committees and Commissions, Local Partners
Consult and Inform	Stakeholders and Public

Public Involvement Process

Implementation of the CFEC rules will result in changes to Bend’s Development Code and plans. The land use code/plan amendment process will begin with the approval of a public involvement plan by the Planning Commission, who serves as the City’s Citizen Involvement Committee. From there, City staff will lead public engagement activities throughout 2024, as outlined below. In the fall of 2025, City staff will present draft land use code language that complies with State rules to the public and decision makers for feedback. Using this input, the draft code changes will undergo review and revision to meet the community’s needs and state law. The adoption process will then consist of a public hearing before the Planning Commission, who will provide a recommendation to City Council, followed by a City Council public hearing and action.

The following is a summary of the tentative Project Phases, Deliverables, and Timeline:

Phase	Deliverables	Timeline
Phase 1 – PI Plan/Approach	Outreach materials	Winter – Spring 2024
Phase 2 – Draft CFA Concepts	Code and policy concepts	Summer – Autumn 2024
Phase 3 – Code Writing	Code Framework & presentation materials Draft code language	Winter – Spring 2025
Phase 4 - Adoption process	Adoption package and informational materials	Summer – Autumn 2025

PARTICIPATION

Interested Parties

The outreach process will provide opportunities for input and feedback from many interested people and organizations, including, but not limited to:

- Low-income households and families
- Racial, and ethnic groups
- Elected officials
- Local agency partners
- Business organizations, associations, and chambers of commerce
- Bike and pedestrian interests
- Transit providers and transit users
- Environmental interests
- Senior services
- Health equity interests
- Schools and universities
- Accessibility advocates
- Housing and community development interests
- Emergency services providers
- Natural disaster risk management agencies
- Neighborhood associations
- Downtown associations
- Employer-based commuting programs
- General public
- Local media

The outreach process will center the voices of historically underserved populations, as required in the CFEC engagement rules³. The list of those populations includes, but is not limited to:

- a) Black and African American people;

³ See OAR 660-012-0125

- b) Indigenous people (including Tribes, American Indian/Alaska Native and Hawaii Native);
- c) People of Color (including but not limited to Hispanic, Latina/o/x, Asian, Arabic or North African, Middle Eastern, Pacific Islander, and mixed-race or mixed-ethnicity populations);
- d) Immigrants, including undocumented immigrants and refugees;
- e) People with limited English proficiency;
- f) People with disabilities;
- g) People experiencing homelessness;
- h) Low-income and low-wealth community members;
- i) Low- and moderate-income renters and homeowners;
- j) Single parents;
- k) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, or two-spirit community members; and
- l) Youth and seniors.

Historically Underserved Populations

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance on the grounds of race, color, or national origin; including the denial of access for Limited English Proficient persons.

In addition, the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income (also known as “Environmental Justice”)⁴ focused federal attention on the environmental and human health effects of governmental actions on minority and low-income populations.

The Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rules⁵ require a community engagement plan. The rules also require identifying federally recognized sovereign tribes whose ancestral lands include the planning area, and notification and engagement of those tribes. Bend occupies the ancestral lands of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and is on a trade route of the Klamath Tribe. The equity analysis requirements include:

- a) Engage with members of underserved populations to develop key community outcomes;
- b) Gather, collect, and value qualitative and quantitative information, including lived experience, from the community on how the proposed change benefits or burdens underserved populations;
- c) Recognize where and how intersectional discrimination compounds disadvantages;
- d) Analyze the proposed changes for impacts and alignment with desired key community outcomes and key performance measures⁶;
- e) Adopt strategies to create greater equity or minimize negative consequences; and
- f) Report back and share the information learned from the analysis and unresolved issues with people engaged.

⁴ Executive Order 12898 signed by President William J. Clinton in 1994.

⁵ Particularly OAR 660-012-0125 through 0135 and 0315(4).

⁶ Under OAR 660-012-0905.

All underserved populations are deemed necessary to engage during this process⁷. Mapping has indicated that the following are groups with the highest population numbers in potential CFA areas:

- Latina/o/x
- People identifying as 2 or more races
- People with limited English proficiency
- People with disabilities
- People experiencing homelessness
- Low-income and low-wealth community members

STAKEHOLDERS

The following are identified groups and organizations that are key stakeholders to engage in this process:

Interests	Organizations and Groups
Housing and Shelters	Habitat for Humanity Housing Works Shepard’s House Bethlehem Inn Central Oregon Veterans Village Epic Property Mgmt.
Equity Focused Service Providers and Non-Profits	Latino Community Association Homeless Leadership Coalition Central Oregon Veterans Outreach Central Oregon Disabilities Network The Father’s Group Embrace Bend Family Access Network (FAN) Abilitree Out in Central Oregon Thrive Central Oregon Mecca Bend Council on Aging Mosaic Medical
Agency Partners	The Klamath Tribes Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Deschutes County Bend La Pine School District Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council Cascades East Transit Bend Parks and Recreation Central Oregon Community College Oregon State University - Cascades Dept. of Land Conservation and Development
Local Partners	Central Oregon LandWatch Environmental Center

⁷ OAR660-012-0125.

	Bend Bikes Commute Options Bend Chamber of Commerce Central Oregon Builders Assoc. Central Oregon Association of Realtors Neighborhood Associations General Public
City of Bend Partners	City of Bend Economic Development (Core Area) City of Bend Housing City of Bend Community Development (Planning) City of Bend Transportation and Mobility City of Bend Communications City of Bend Accessibility City of Eugene Engineering & Infrastructure City of Bend Utilities City of Bend Police City of Bend Fire & Rescue Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization
Boards, Committees and Commissions	City of Bend Planning Commission City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee City of Bend Affordable Housing Committee City of Bend Economic Development Advisory Board City of Bend Core Area Advisory Board City of Bend Environment & Climate Committee City of Bend Human Rights & Equity Commission City of Bend MPO Technical Advisory Committee

Coordination with Other Projects

The project team will coordinate related local and regional projects and initiatives to increase efficiencies and collaboration. These projects and initiatives include but are not limited to, the following:

- Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) implementation
- Bend Comprehensive Plan
- Bend Comprehensive Plan Map
- Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI)
- Housing Capacity Analysis (HCA)
- Housing Production Strategy (HPS)
- Economic Opportunities Analysis (EOA)
- Transportation System Plan (TSP)
- 2023-2027 CDBG Consolidated Plan
- Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing 2019

Public Engagement Activities and Communications

- Website – provide project information and documents (fact sheets, general process timeline, videos, summaries of outreach efforts, etc.)

- City Newsletters – use existing City E-Newsletters to provide regular project updates including: *Bend Community Development Newsletter* and *Bend Current Newsletter*.
- Interested Persons (IP) List updates
- Social Media – use existing City accounts on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter to get messages out, post videos, and advertise engagement opportunities.
- Local Media – Media packets for the project in The Bend Bulletin, the Source, Central Oregon Daily and local news affiliates. Noticing will be posted as required for formal process.
- Work and Focus Groups –
 - Equity Focus Group: The equity group will build on work from the CFA study and foster future partnerships. The representatives in this group will be compensated for their participation.
 - CFA Work Group: Representatives from the boards, committees and commissions identified in the stakeholder list will provide input to staff as needed.
 - City Council Community Building Sub-Committee: Ad Hoc meetings as needed for phase of project.
- Public Open House(s) – The community will have opportunities to review and give input on CFA location concepts, mapping and draft and final code amendments. Staff will consider meeting times and locations, including online opportunities, to provide equitable access to all community members. Potentially could correspond to online open house.
- Summer Event Pop-ups – City staff will provide information on the project at events including Park and Library events, City sponsored events, Farmers Markets, and First Friday at varied locations throughout the city.
- Community and Stakeholder Presentations – Open invitation for informational presentations at existing community and neighborhood meetings or events.
- Student Outreach – Staff will present to and collaborate with relevant classes and staff at Central Oregon Community College and the Oregon State University - Cascades as opportunities arise.
- Online Office Hours – Staff available online as needed for phase of project.

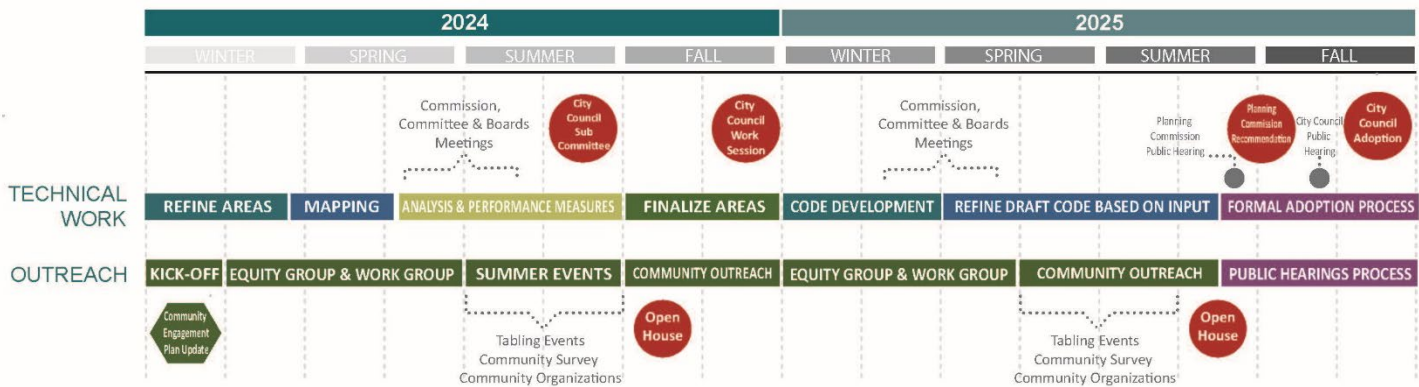
Timeline	Project Objective	Activities	Materials
Winter 2024	- Kick-off of designation phase - Begin to refine study areas and maps based on feedback and analysis gathered during the study phase	- Reconvene work group - Equity group check-in	- Develop informational materials - Update website
Spring 2024	- Gather feedback on refined maps and preliminary locating of CFAs - Identify key policy decisions	- Work Group to meet as needed - Boards and Committees update	- Work Group materials - Newsletter for IP list
Summer 2024	- Gather general community feedback on locations of CFAs and policy decisions	- Community Pop-ups - Presentations to stakeholders - Community survey on refined areas	- Pop-up materials & maps - Community survey
Autumn 2024	- Final areas/s and mapping complete	- Community open house	- Open house materials

	- Council input on policy decisions	- Council Work Session	- Presentations - Newsletter to IP list
Winter 2025	- Kick-off adoption phase - Develop draft code amendments	- Work Group to meet as needed - Staff to work on code amendment language - Equity group check-in	- Develop informational materials - Develop draft code - Update website
Spring 2025	- Comments on Code Amendments	- Work Group to meet as needed - Boards and Committees update - Presentations to stakeholders	- Work Group materials - Presentations - Newsletter for IP list
Summer 2025	- Final code amendments for review	- Community Pop-ups - Community survey on code amendments	- Pop-up materials & maps - Community survey
Summer/Autumn 2025	- Formal adoption/public hearing process	- Legal noticing - Public hearings Adoption Deadline 12/31/2025	- Newsletter for IP list - Website update on process timeline - Noticing

Outreach & Technical Timeline

Climate Friendly Areas Timeline

DRAFT
August 2023



APPENDIX A: TITLE VI AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS⁸

- Communities of Color:
 - American Indian and Alaska Native
 - Asian
 - Black or African American
 - Hispanic or Latino/a/x
 - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Older people (e.g., 65 and over)
- Children (e.g., under 18)
- People with disabilities
- Low-income populations (e.g. household income is at or below the US Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines)
- People with limited English proficiency

Engagement for People with Disabilities: Requests for accommodation and suggestions to better engage people with disabilities can be made by contacting The Northwest ADA Center at 800-949-4232.

Title VI Statement to Public: No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his or her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with Oregon Department of Justice at 503-378-4400.

Public meeting locations are accessible. Sign language or Spanish interpreter service, assistive listening devices, materials in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats and CD formats, or any other accommodations are available upon advance request. Please contact Jennifer Knapp, jknapp@bendoregon.gov, 541-317-3029 or Lisa Larson, llarson@bendoregon.gov, 541-388-5556. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1. Providing at least 3 days' notice prior to the hearing will help ensure availability.

⁸ ODOT GIS contains an Environmental Justice layer under Boundaries at the zip code level that outlines the number of these groups per zip code: <https://gis.odot.state.or.us/transgis/>