



AGENDA ITEM

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Reference No: **RO 25-52**

Meeting Date: July 22, 2025

Status: **APPROVED**

Agenda Category: ACTION Item

CPO:

Department(s): Board of Commissioners

Presented by: Chair Harrington

Agenda Title:	Consideration of Adopting updated Access and Opportunity Resolution and Order
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REQUESTED ACTION:

Adopt the attached Resolution and Order.

SUMMARY:

The Board of Commissioners will consider adopting an Access and Opportunity Resolution and Order that the Board and staff have been working on since June 2025. The full text of the Resolution and Order is attached to this staff report for Board and public review.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Community Feedback (Known Support/Opposition):

The Board has heard community feedback through visits, calls, emails and public testimony at Board meetings.

Legal History/Prior Board Action:

Board has hosted a variety of Executive Sessions and Work Sessions on this topic over the last two months.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Federal funding and Access and Opportunity RO Presentation](#)

[Commissioner Fai Amendment - 7-22-25](#)

[Resolution and Order 25-52 - 2025 Access and Opportunity Resolution July 22](#)

Approved by the
Washington County Board of Commissioners
also serving as the governing body of Clean Water Services and all other County Districts



Kevin Moss, Board Clerk

July 22, 2025

Date Signed

RO 25-52

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Adopting a Resolution on)	RESOLUTION
Access and Opportunity)	
)	No. <u>25-52</u>

This matter having come before the Washington County Board on July 22, 2025, and
It appearing to the Board that:

WHEREAS, that the government of Washington County is of and for all residents,
workers, and visitors in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Washington County affirms one of the foundational principles of the
United States is that all residents, workers and visitors are treated fairly and equally under
the law; and

WHEREAS, longstanding federal and state civil-rights laws protect individuals from
discrimination and these protections serve as a bedrock supporting fairness and equality
of access and opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, Washington County is committed to First Amendment-protected free
speech and other rights and protections guaranteed by the United States Constitution, as
well as complying with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination in the provision of its
services, benefits, programs, and activities; and

WHEREAS, longstanding federal and state civil rights laws, such as the Civil Rights
Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of
1990, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 659, prohibit

discrimination and establish fairness and equality of access and opportunity as a foundational legal principle; and

WHEREAS, every Washington County resident is afforded these protections; and

WHEREAS, that Washington County is committed to advancing policies and programs that enable access and opportunity for all without regard to race, color, disability status, ethnicity, national origin, or other classes protected by federal or state law; and

WHEREAS, Washington County remains committed to providing respectful and compassionate service to residents, workers and visitors in Washington County, with a focus on improving outcomes for individuals, as part of its commitment to responsible stewardship, results-based service excellence, continuous improvement, and effective and efficient government operations; and

WHEREAS, Washington County affirms its commitment to community partnerships in support of the County's and partners' ability to respond effectively to community input and priorities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that on this 22nd day of July, 2025, the Washington County Board of Commissioners will:

1. Understand the principles of access and opportunity as follows:
 - Access refers to the intentional design and implementation of systems, environments, and practices that enable all individuals to obtain and utilize resources, services, and opportunities. This involves proactively identifying and removing physical, technological, and linguistic barriers that may hinder full participation. By fostering environments where everyone can engage

meaningfully, access ensures that individuals are not excluded due to factors such as ability, background, characteristics, or socioeconomic status.

- Opportunity denotes the fair and just provision of chances for individuals to pursue personal and professional wellbeing and growth, contribute to decision-making processes, and achieve their potential. This principle emphasizes the importance of creating conditions where one's background, characteristics, or circumstances do not predetermine success, rather success is attainable through fair and just support, resources, and recognition of individual talents, efforts, and merit.

2. Commit to ensuring that we spend the public's dollars in a manner compliant with federal, state, and local laws as amended, including those that protect Washington County residents, workers, and visitors from unlawful discrimination, such as:

- Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 659A

3. Direct the County Administrator to:

- Conduct proactive programmatic reviews twice a year to ensure compliance with federal and state non-discrimination laws;
- Implement the Access and Opportunity Framework across all County operations;

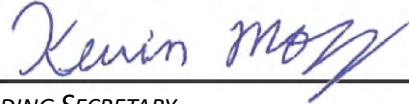
- Engage in consistent and proactive outreach with community partners.

DATED this 22nd of July, 2025

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON



CHAIR KATHRYN HARRINGTON



RECORDING SECRETARY