

# Partnerships to Improve Air Quality and Climate Expanding and Enhancing Commute Option Programs

Commute Option Rulemaking Advisory Committee Meeting #1  
May 9, 2022

# Agenda

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- 12:30 p.m. Introductions – Meeting Logistics
- 1:10 p.m. Rulemaking scope, charter, timeline, purpose
- 1:15 p.m. Existing Employee Commute Option Program
- 1:25 p.m. ECO benefits, burdens, improvements
- 2:10 p.m. Stretch break
- 2:15 p.m. ECO and racial equity
- 2:40 p.m. Overview Basis for statewide commute options
- 2:45 p.m. Next steps
- 2:50 p.m. Public Input
- 3 p.m. Adjourn

# Remote Meeting Participation Tips

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- Meeting is being recorded
- Join by computer audio or phone, but not both (feedback, echoes)
- Use Raise Hand feature and \*9 if on the phone
- Stay on mute when not speaking
- RAC members unmute with microphone icon or \*6 if on the phone
- State name and affiliation before speaking
- Camera on as you are able – “gallery view” for discussion
- Use “Chat” only for technical issues, sharing information (not discussion, comments)
- Public attending is muted (will be public input period at end)

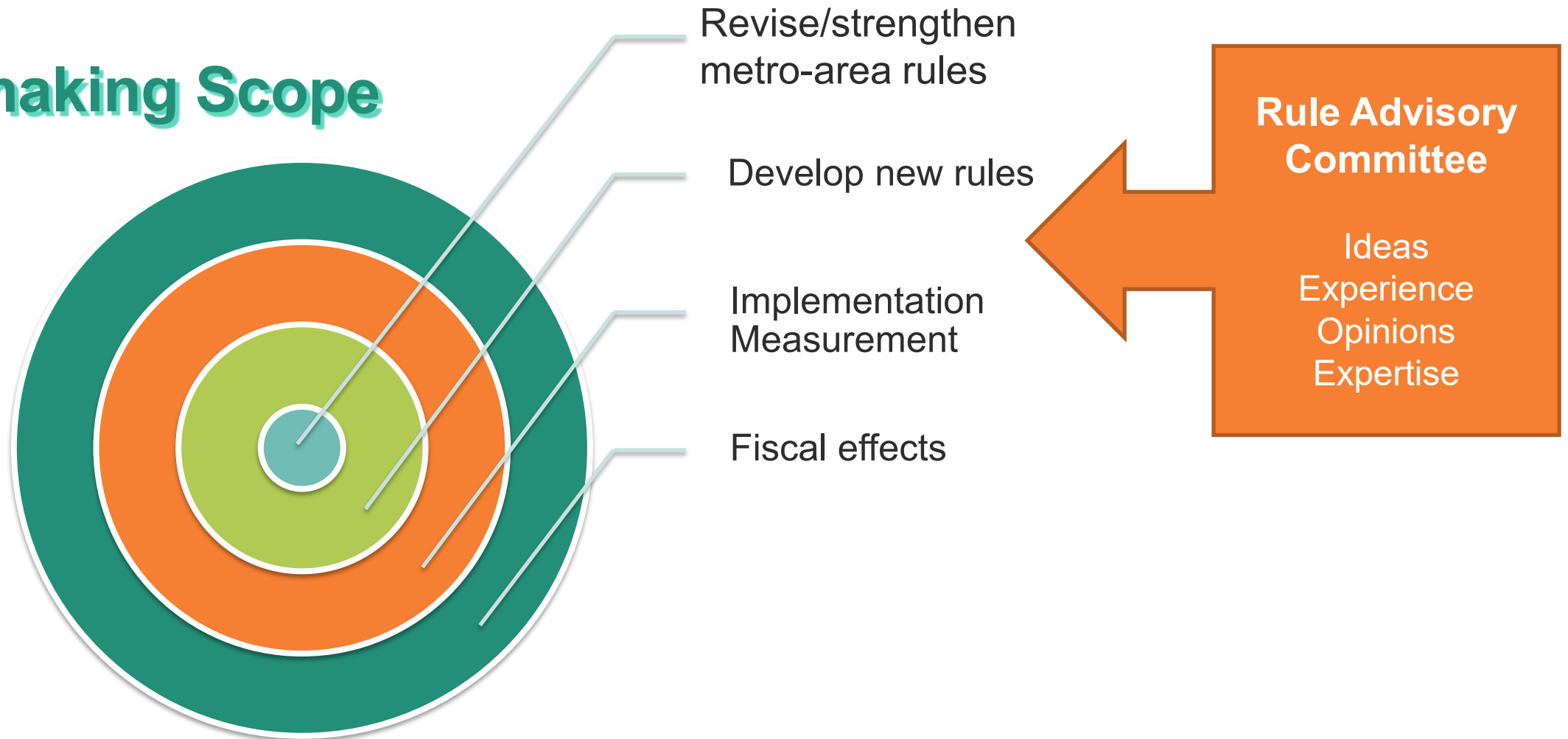
# Participation Guidelines

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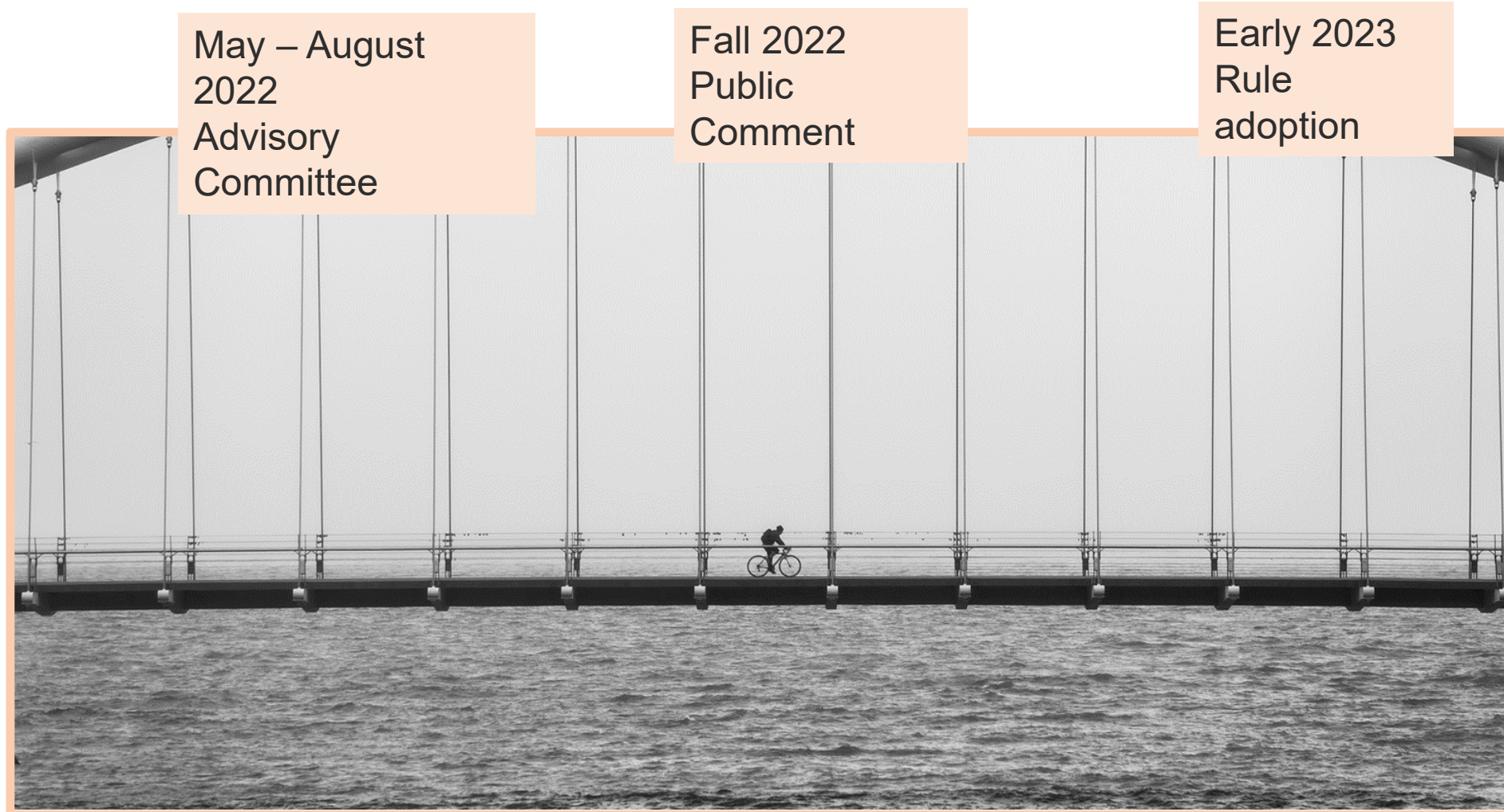
- Speak up or use link to anonymous comment form if meeting space or speech is unwelcome, harmful, inhibits your participation
- Honor agenda and strive to stay on topic (using the “bike rack”)
- Ask clarifying questions often
- Remain aware of speaking time balance
- Listen, seek to learn and understand others’ perspectives
- Focus comments on content, not individuals

# Commute Option Rulemaking Charter and Scope

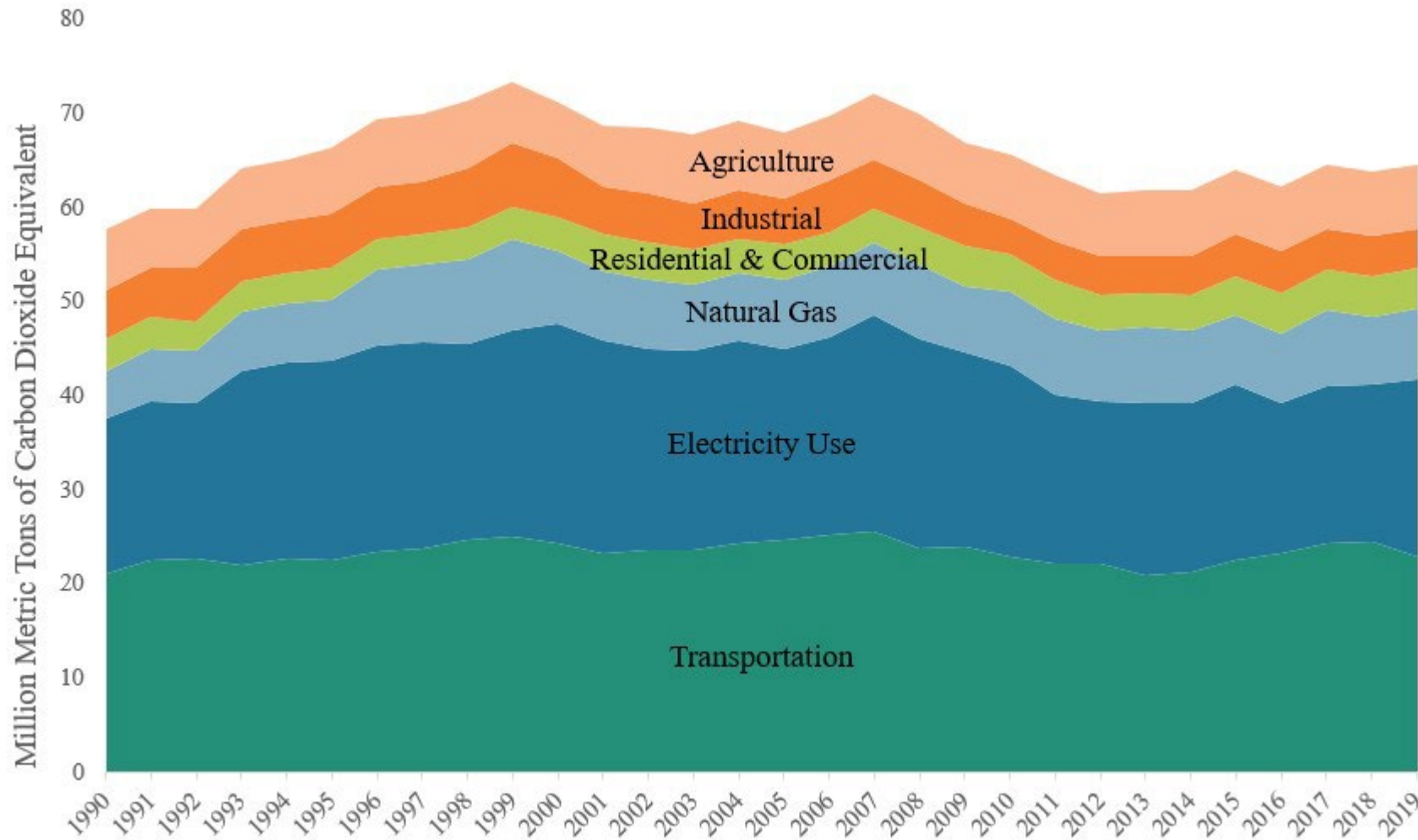
## Rulemaking Scope



# Rulemaking Timeline



# What's the problem we're trying to fix?



Transportation is one of Oregon's largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: Oregon DEQ Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reporting Program, Oregon Greenhouse Gas Sector-Based Inventory Data.  
<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/programs/Pages/GHG-Inventory.aspx>

# Estimating “commuter” greenhouse gas emissions

## On-road Vehicle Emissions

Passenger

Freight

Weekday

Weekend

Rush  
Hours

Commuter traffic ~37% passenger car greenhouse gasses

# Agenda

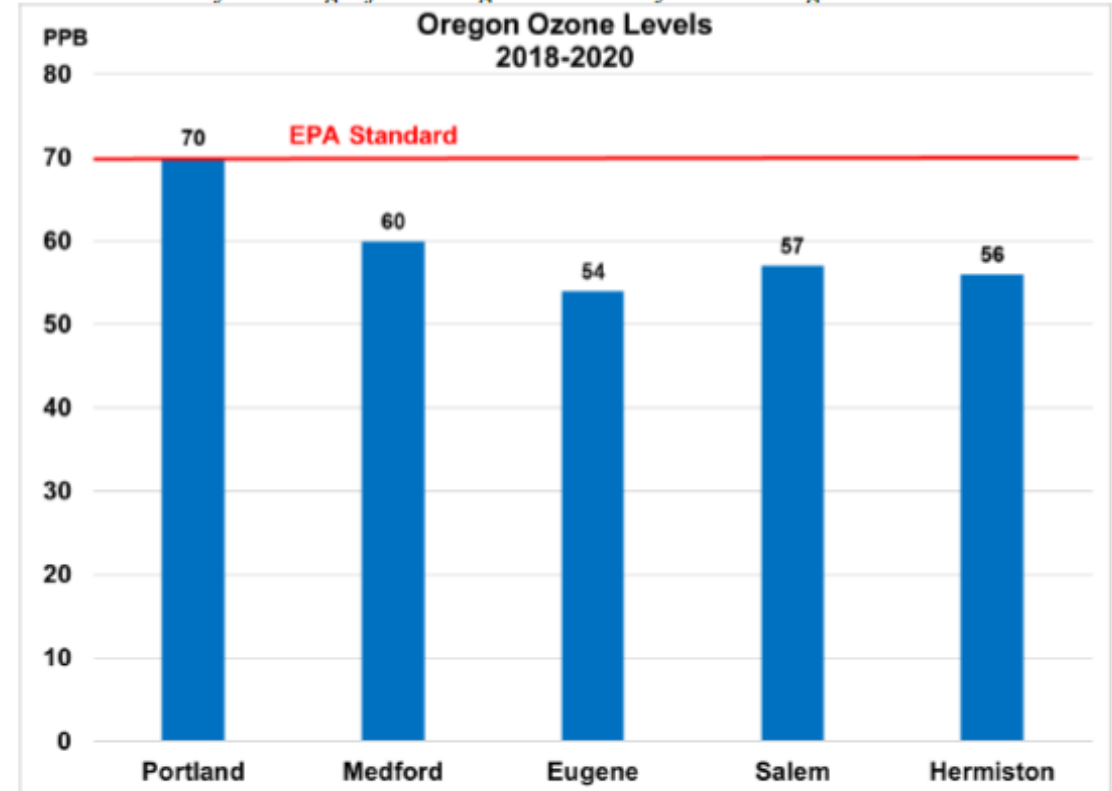
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# Employee Commute Options – An Ozone Control Strategy

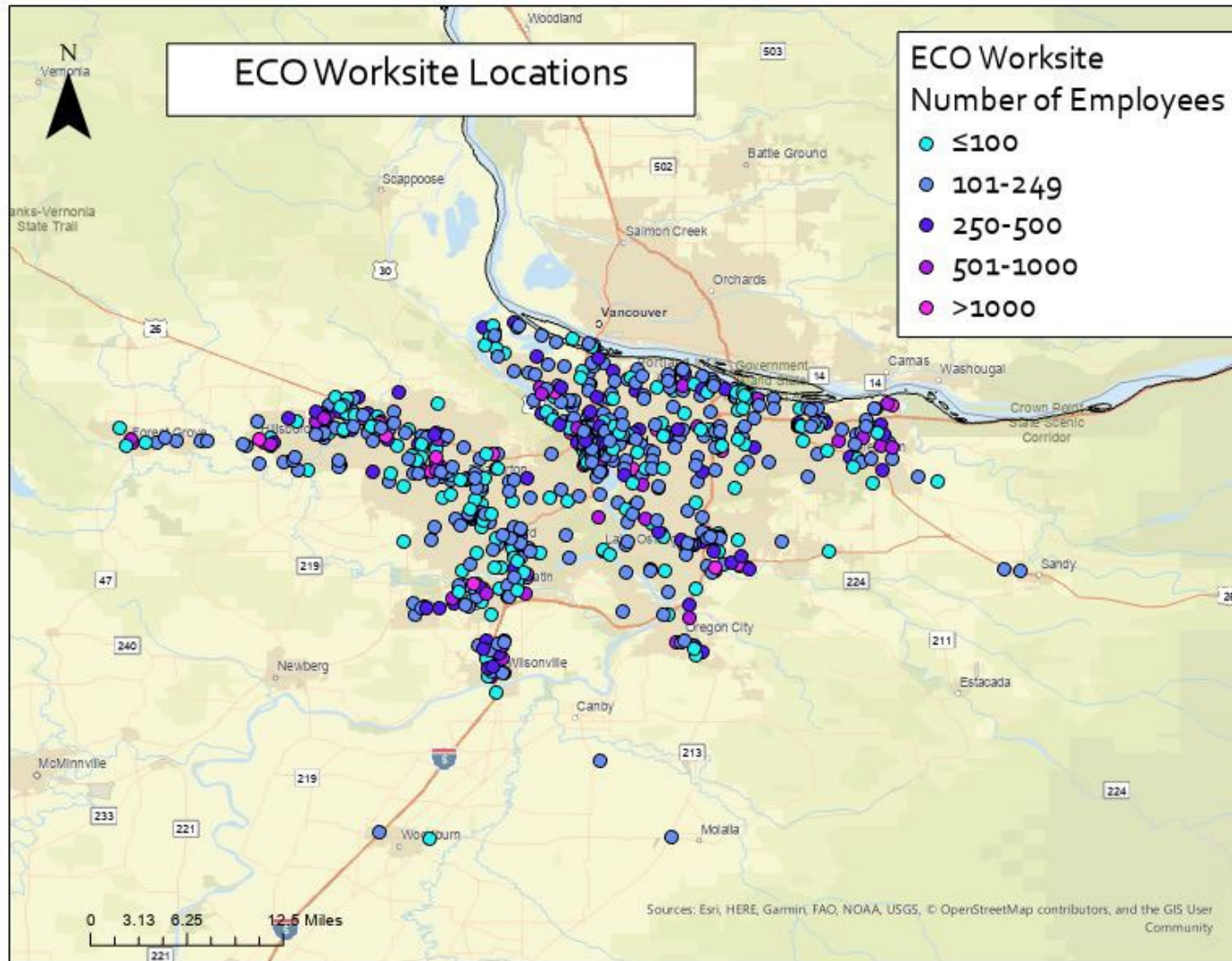
- Portland Ozone Maintenance Plan (1996, 2007 update)
- National ambient ozone standard = 70 parts per billion
- EPA approves strategies to meet standards – state cannot weaken those strategies

*The data is the three year average of the 4th highest annual daily 8 hour average.*



From Oregon Air Quality Monitoring Annual Report : 2020, p. 35, Figure 55.  
<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/Documents/2020AQMonitoringReport.pdf>

# Employee Commute Options Program



## Employer Requirements

More than 100 employees at a worksite

Baseline Survey

Develop Transportation Plan

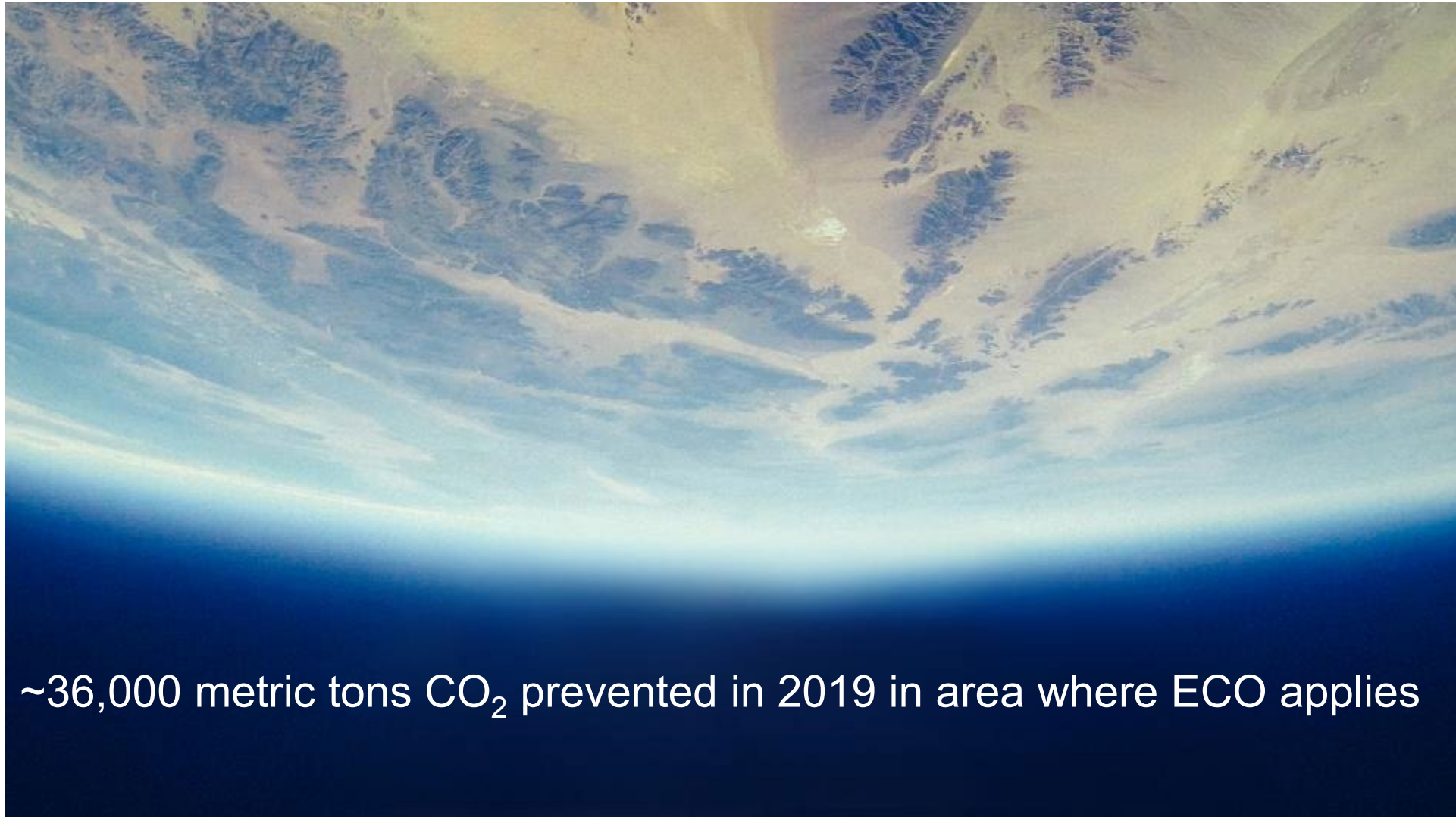
Implement Plan

Biennial Employee Survey

Biennial Reporting

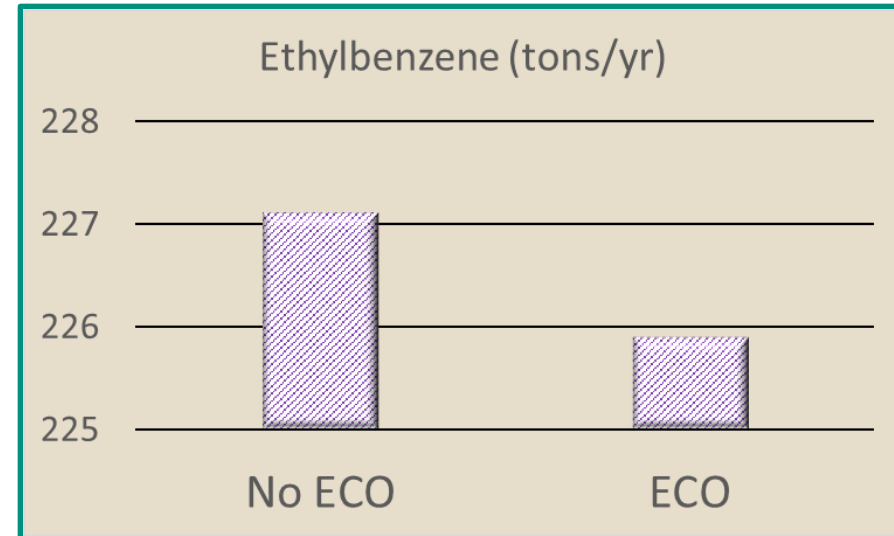
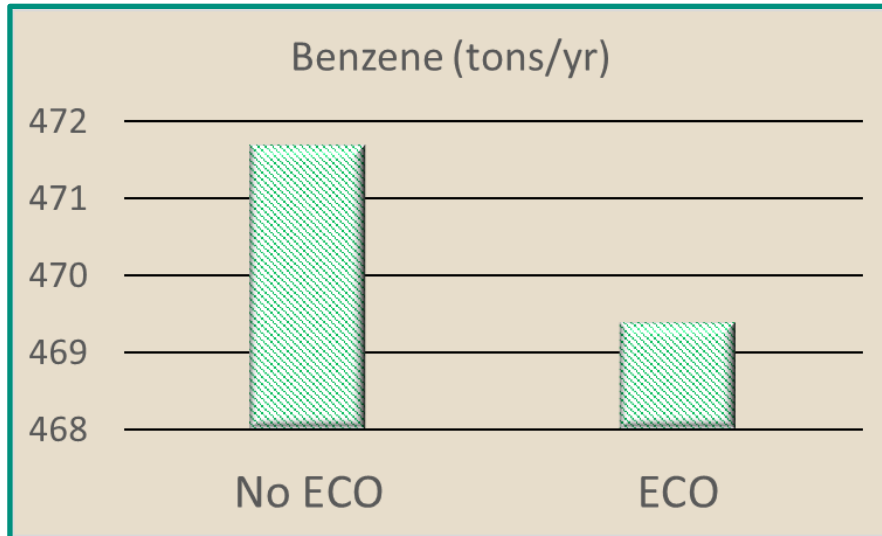
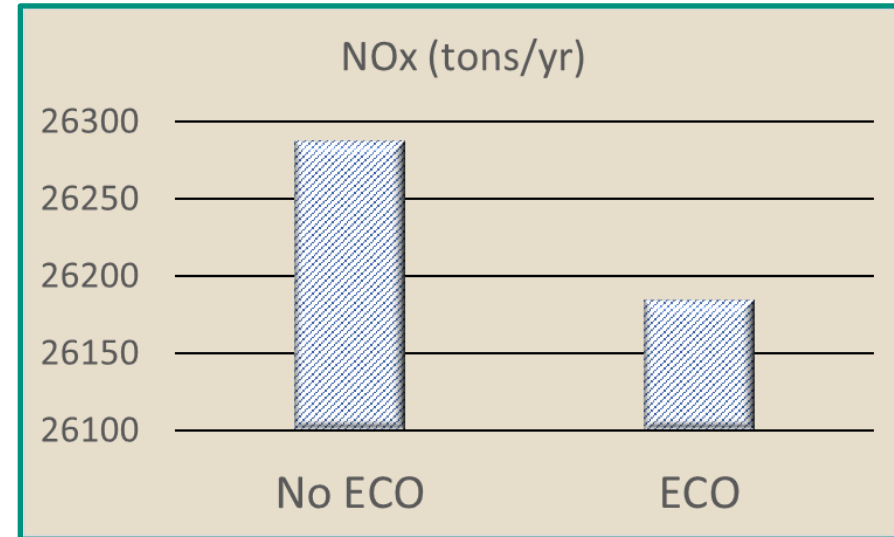
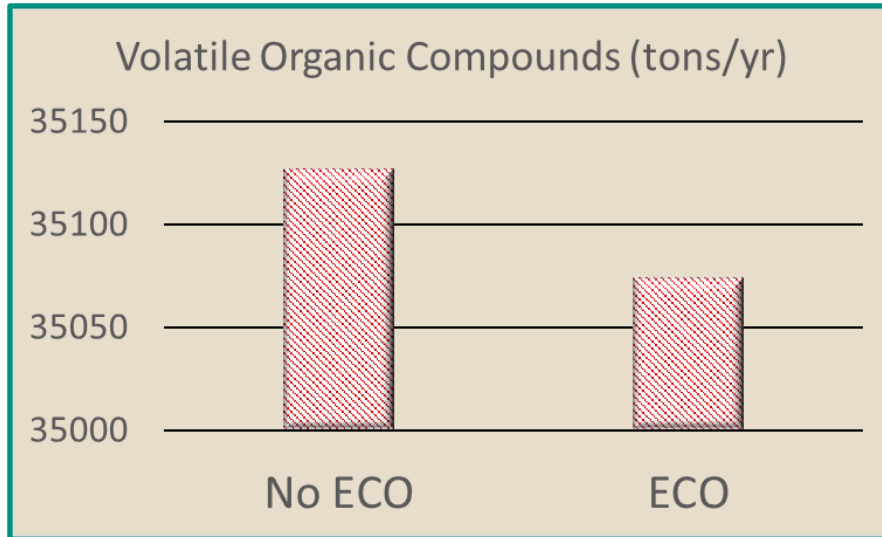
(A few employers exempt)

# Commute Options Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions



~36,000 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> prevented in 2019 in area where ECO applies

# Air Quality Benefits of Commute Options



# Benefits and Challenges of Employee Commute Options

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## Discussion questions

- If you work with an ECO program now, how do you think ECO benefits your employees or workers in general?
- To which workers or employees do you think those benefits are most accessible? Least accessible?
- How do you think ECO benefits employers? More so for certain kinds of employers?
- What are the costs or more generally, resource needs, you've experienced in implementing ECO?
- What are some successes achieved and challenges you've faced in implementing ECO?

# Building on Success

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# Effectiveness and Improvements to ECO

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- Discussion questions
  - What additional information should DEQ consider asking for in a survey?
  - How might the ECO rule incentivize more effective commute reduction strategies?
  - How should we calculate emissions saved?
  - How could DEQ make reporting easier?
  - How could ECO incentivize smaller businesses to participate voluntarily?

# Commute Option Rulemaking Advisory Committee

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Break – we'll be right back

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# How could ECO better serve racial equity?

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- Discussion questions
  - What should DEQ consider when striving to assure that benefits from ECO are accessible to workers who are Black, Indigenous and people of color? Workers whose first language is not English?
  - Might ECO have different advantages or disadvantages for businesses owned by or largely serving people of color?

# Basis for Statewide Rule – Part of a larger strategy

**Every Mile Counts:** *A Multi-Agency Approach to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and implementing the Statewide Transportation Strategy: A 2050 Vision for Greenhouse Gas Reduction.*

- Complement Climate Friendly and Equitable Community rules
- Direction from Executive Order 20-04

## Every Mile Counts

### PRIORITY ACTIONS

✓ **Transportation electrification.** Expand electric vehicle rebate program, identify needed charging infrastructure.

✓ **Cleaner fuels.** Expand market-based Clean Fuels Program, providing data and information on the use of cleaner alternative fuels for freight trucks, and developing a roadmap and strategy to support alternative fuel adoption.

✓ **Transportation options.** Explore employer options to reduce driving, such as telecommuting, parking regulations, and employee incentives.

✓ **Local greenhouse gas reduction planning.** Plan and build cities where Oregonians can walk, bike, and take transit to get where they need to go.



<https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Programs/Pages/Every-Mile-Counts.aspx>

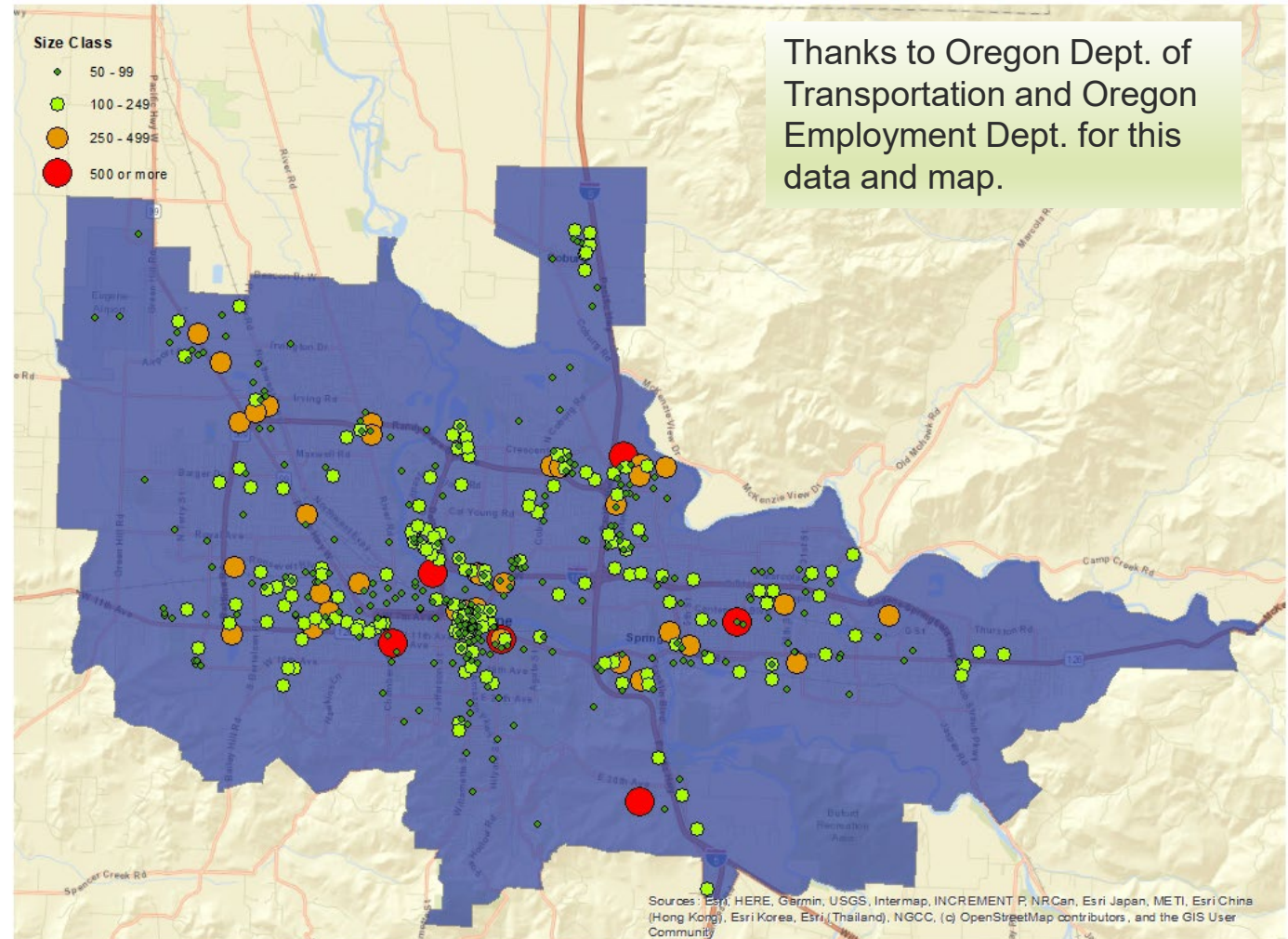


# A Commute Options Rule applicable beyond Portland metro area?

## Community and Economic Benefits

- ❖ Attracting and retaining employees
- ❖ Healthier and more engaged employees
- ❖ Better access to jobs for workers

Establishments by Size Class Inside Eugene/Springfield MPO



# Commute Option Rulemaking Next Steps

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- Please send comments on RAC1 by: Monday, May 23, 2022 to: [TripReduction2021@deq.Oregon.gov](mailto:TripReduction2021@deq.Oregon.gov)
- Next meetings
  - Week of June 9: explore statewide rule
  - Week of July 11: review draft rules, explore implementation
  - Week of August 15: review fiscal impacts of draft rules

# Commute Option Rulemaking Advisory Committee

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Time for Public Input

# Commute Option Rulemaking Advisory Committee

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Thank you! See you next month.