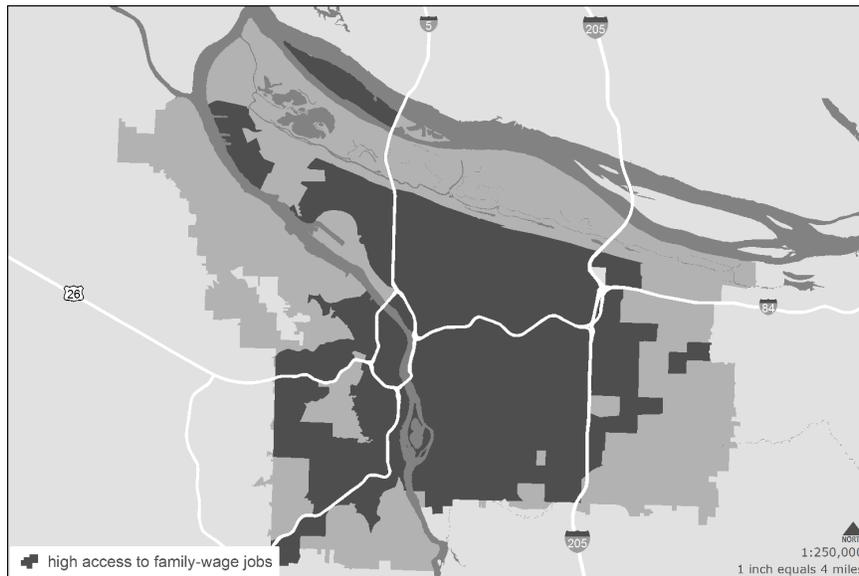


ACCESS TO FAMILY WAGE JOBS

PORTLAND PLAN

By 2035, extend upward mobility pathways so that at least 90 percent of households are economically self-sufficient.

By 2035, Portland has 27 percent of the region's new jobs, more of which provide a living wage, and continues to serve as the largest job center in Oregon.



Housing locations with access to a variety of higher paying jobs is a critical component of household prosperity. This performance measure is based on the number of family wage jobs accessible within a 60-minute transit trip. A family wage job is one that can meet the basic needs of a single-income household of one adult, one infant and one preschooler. In Multnomah County, the family-wage employment threshold is \$47,244 per year. While this analysis is influenced by proximity to the Central City, the region's largest job center, it also accounts for employment destinations accessible by transit in cities throughout the region.

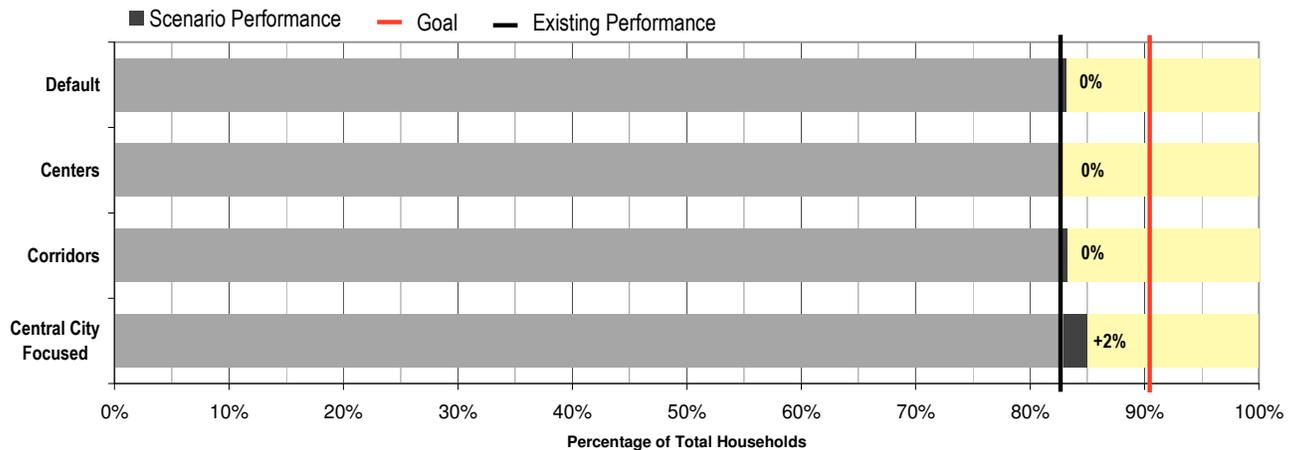
High Access Areas are places where households have good transit access and are close to employment centers with concentrations of jobs.

Prioritizing development in these areas will be beneficial to household prosperity by increasing the number of family wage jobs that are accessible to a household with reduced dependence on an automobile.

Low Access Areas are places where households have access to fewer family-wage jobs.

Focusing public investments to increase access to transit or to support business growth to increase employment opportunities in close proximity to these areas will help to expand the high access areas.

Chart X.x Performance Measure: Access to Family Wage Jobs



Performance Summary

The performance goal is a translation of the Portland Plan objective that 90 percent of households are economically self-sufficient – in order to be a prosperous household, wage-earners need convenient access to family-wage jobs. Currently, 82 percent of Portland households are located in areas with good transit access to family-wage jobs. The alternatives do not increase this performance, except for the Central City Focused scenario, which shows a marginal increase.

Options for Improving Performance

In order to meet the 90 percent goal, approximately 38,000 additional households need to have improved access to family-wage jobs. This change could be accomplished by increasing access to transit or creating more job opportunities in close proximity to low access areas.

Lesson Learned: More Jobs in East Portland

If our pool of family-wage jobs is too far away from the pool of affordable housing, access to opportunity is reduced. East Portland is Portland’s largest pool of affordable housing, but it lacks access to family-wage employment.

Increase Transit Service in East Portland

This measure is a function of transit travel time to employment centers. One strategy is to increase transit service in East Portland to provide faster or more direct connections to regional employment centers, especially the Columbia Corridor.

Increase Employment Opportunities in East Portland

Another option is to support business growth in order to increase employment opportunities, especially middle-skill, family-wage jobs, in East Portland. This business growth could be achieved through continuation and expansion of PDC’s Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative. It also could be achieved through zoning changes to increase the amount of land available for light industrial and manufacturing jobs. Portland’s Central Eastside Industrial District has been an important job creation resource in recent years. Is there an equivalent area that could be created in East Portland?

Supporting Portland Plan Actions:

- PP Action #61 – Broadband Equity
- PP Action #68 – Industrial Growth Capacity
- PP Action #72 – Neighborhood Business Development
- PP Action #73 – Small Business Development

- PP Action #74 – Land Use in Neighborhood Business Development
- PP Action #89 – Reduce Barriers to Employment