

Revised July 29, 2014



## **PORTLAND UTILITY OVERSIGHT BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION SHARED PRINCIPLES**

*This set of principles is intended to guide the work of the Commission and the development of its recommendations on utility oversight. It is intended to be a work in progress, with principles revised or added to by the Commission as it proceeds with its business.*

### Defining Principles

Accountability, transparency and trust/confidence

### Process

Ensure a transparent and open process.

Adhere to a decision-making framework and timeline in Commission deliberations.

Provide public information and engagement in the process.

Draw on both City bureaus' expertise and outside expertise, including reports and presentations.

Avoid positioning and rhetoric; be open-minded.

Maintain a parking lot or off-ramp for ideas outside the scope.

### Substance

A fresh start to the utility reform conversation is needed, but it is important to understand other past/current reform proposals.

Goal is to help government operate more efficiently and with more transparency.

Clearly define what bureau functions are/are not being examined; recognize legal requirements.

Recognize that there are topics that outside of the Commission's scope such as amending the commission form of government or assessing superfund responsibilities.

Obtain an understanding of how CIPs are developed and structured.

Obtain an understanding of bureau functions and budgets while avoiding micro-managing.

Consider a range of best practice alternatives that are data driven.

Develop actionable recommendations, with a clear timeline for implementation and with performance targets.

Avoid creating more bureaucracy.

Consider broad community benefit/value.