

What does Transportation Justice mean to PBOT?

Transportation Justice refers to the **elimination of disparities in our mobility and interconnected systems** (equity) as well as a transformative and liberating **redistribution of power, resources, and opportunities** (justice) to those experiencing the greatest disparities today to ensure that all Portlanders use and enjoy the same access to safe, reliable, equitable, sustainable, and affordable transportation options.

In today's transportation system, **Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) Portlanders, people with disabilities, households living on low incomes, multi-lingual individuals, immigrants and refugees, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and displaced communities** experience greater disparities and have historically been burdened by unjust and racist policies and decisions. Transportation Justice requires us to uncompromisingly condemn all forms of oppressive practices and racism, proactively reduce transportation disparities, address past harm, remove barriers, and measurably improve outcomes experienced by these communities.

We achieve Transportation Justice by eliminating disparities, redistributing power, and working towards the liberation of unjustly burdened populations in both our **processes** (how we do our work) and **outcomes** (what our work achieves or contributes to in community).

What does this look like in practice? Key principles

- *Moving beyond equity (eliminating disparities) towards justice (redistributing power, resources, and opportunities)*
- *Recognizing past and existing injustice and accepting that the past is never dead*
- *Co-creating solutions with historically underserved communities and envisioning liberation through their lens*
- *Addressing past harm and mitigating structural pains at all stages of our work*
- *Acknowledging the interconnectedness of systems*
- *Centering race and applying “targeted universalism” (in which we prioritize addressing the needs of those experiencing the greatest disparities, which in turn maximizes benefits)*
- *Committing to intersectionality*
- *Putting people first (adopting a human-centered approach)*
- *Applying results-based accountability*

How can I apply these principles to my work? Questions to ask of process and outcomes

Transportation Justice principle	Questions to ask of process <i>(the way in which we do our work)</i>	Questions to ask of outcomes <i>(the results or impacts of our work on community)</i>
Eliminating disparities (equity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who are we involving, and who aren't we? Who has an easier time engaging in this work, and why? How do we reach people we are not currently involving? What resources do we need to provide to support different community members' participation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the current state of disparities? (See the disparity snapshot as a starting point) Who benefits and who is burdened by this work? How are we measuring this and how will we continue to monitor this? How does this compare to disparities today? Are we reducing disparities/closing the gap?
Redistributing power, resources, and opportunities (justice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is prioritized in this process? Who are the decision makers, and who has influence over the decision? What resources do we need to provide to support different community members' participation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does this work empower or disempower different communities? Does this work improve the ability of BIPOC community members to meet their daily needs and thrive?
Co-creating solutions and envisioning liberation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How was this work identified and prioritized? Why are we doing it? Who are we partnering with/involving, and who aren't we? Are we committed to using the input we receive from community? Are we explaining up front what influence people will have and how it will impact the process/outcomes? Have we engaged community partners in designing the process? How do we know if our process meets their needs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are these outcomes meeting the needs and priorities of BIPOC community members? How do we know? Are we sharing outcomes data with our partners and co-creators?
Recognizing past and existing injustice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did this process happen in the past? Who did that benefit and who did it harm? Have we reflected and learned from the past and centered community stories, memory, and experience? Are we acknowledging past injustice in our communication, outreach, and engagement? Are we acknowledging that different factors today impact people differently, and designing our process accordingly? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does this work repair or address past and current injustice and harm? How do we know?
Addressing past harm and mitigating structural injustice at all stages of our work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What stage in the work are we at? What previous processes is this built upon? How can we ensure the equitable process we set up now carries throughout the entire process and does not reinforce past inequities? What does justice look like for communities that have been harmed in the past? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What feedback did the community provide about our current work? Does this current work improve benefits and reduce burdens for communities harmed by these past decisions? How are we using the outcomes of this work to inform future work and reflect on/change our internal structures and systems?

Acknowledging the interconnectedness of systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What other sectors and systems does this work relate to? • What questions do we need to ask to understand those connections? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this work improve or worsen outcomes outside of transportation?
Committing to intersectionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about community members' social identities (race, gender, abilities, class, educational status, sexual orientation, etc.) may make them more or less likely to engage in this process, and how can we reduce those barriers? • How does our social context influence our perceptions of race, class, and gender? • How do we ensure that solutions include reflect the perspectives of impacted groups, communities and peoples and do not simply reflect the views of the privileged and powerful? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who benefits and who is burdened by this work, and does this indicate any disparities at the intersection of identities?
Centering race and targeted universalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which stakeholders are prioritized in this process? Are we centering BIPOC community members and those experiencing the greatest burdens today? • Are we creating a one-size fits all or inclusive approach or solution? • Before starting, have we assessed existing disparities by disaggregating data? • Have we developed universal goals that can be achieved through targeted approaches and policies? • Do we have a "bridging strategy" that addresses how people are situated within structures and systems (positionality)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this work improve benefits and reduce burdens for BIPOC Portlanders?
Putting people-first	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data and information am I prioritizing in the <i>process</i> design and why? Is it data that speaks to people's lives and experiences? • Am I hearing and valuing stories from community as part of this process? • Are we centering people-based, human-centered outcomes and data over system, economic, or infrastructure outcomes? • Are we leveraging and plugging into the power of intentional and transformative partnership? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data and information am I prioritizing in the <i>outcome</i> evaluation and why? Is it data that speaks to people's lives and experiences? • Am I hearing and valuing stories from community as part of my assessment of outcomes? • How do people feel after working with us?
Applying results-based accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is our work informed by community centered racial equity principles? • What is the condition of wellbeing we want for all people? • What are our population level indicators? Have we disaggregated existing data on the indicators? • Does this work address the root cause? How do we know? • What strategies do we want to implement? Who are the partners with a role to play? • What resources do we need to get the work done? • What benefits and outcomes does community care about? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much did we do? • How well did we do? • Is anyone better off? • Are we using that evaluation to refine and improve?