Land Access and Opportunity Board: Policy Committee

July 7, 2025, 11:00 – 12:00PM

Meeting Facilitator: Ornella Matta-Figueroa

Meeting Notetaker: Jean Hamilton

Attendees	Committee Members
Board ● Brian Cina, National Association of Social Workers - VT Chapter ● Mark Hughes, Vermont Racial Justice Alliance ● Susan Aranoff, Vermont DDC ● Xusana Davis, Office of Racial Equity **Staff** ● Ornella Matta-Figueroa ● Jean Hamilton	● Dan Coutu, VT Commission on Native American Affairs, VT Council on Native American Affairs ● Kirsten Murphy, Vermont Developmental Disability Council
Guests & Public	

Agenda

Meeting Convened by Facilitator, Ornella Matta-Figueroa @ 11:05AM	
1. Introductions & Check-in	Name, Nominating Organization, Check-in Agenda Building
2.Discussion/ Updates	Carry Forward Funds - ACTION STEP: Create FY26 budget talking point that include the Impact Assessment for each budget line and brief narrative spend down plan. Policy Platform for July/August Board Meeting - Inventory of all things policy - Let's create a policy agenda - How do we get community input? See DDC process below. Thinking about Seeding Power and the possibility of the Community Council. How does DDC build its platform?

	- Town halls and other listening sessions: What has to start? What has to stop? What do you need to thrive? - Reflect on the Buckets of enabling language – ask for input on that. - Policy committee works to interpret all that input into policy recommendations. Aims for 3 policy components of the platform. - By the first week of December, the full council votes on the platform. - It is helpful to meet with groups prior to the session, in December, or even earlier if possible. Zoom meeting that is 30 minutes to give an overview of the policy agenda. - Get it in legislators' mailboxes by second or third week of January. Mailboxes are hard for some legislators. - Having a plan for more personalized outreach to key legislators for example Speakers Office in December/early January, Pro Temp on same time scale, and then analysis of other key legislators. ACTION STEP: Staff prepare roadmap for policy platform planning Revenue Sources / Funding - LAOB revolving fund - Coalition: VHFA, Let's Build Homes, HHAV - Impact of Federal Big Bill on VT tax - CHIP Housing - Unlocking People Power - Piloting innovations Land Use / Conservation LAOB Appropriation Base + Project Funding Coalitions - What are LAOB's guardrails and priorities in joining advocacy coalitions: HHAV, Cannabis Equity Coalition, Food Security Road Map, etc NEXT MEETING: Review the first draft of H.445 and LAOB staff testimony
3. Process Check-in, Next Steps	● Reflections ● Next Steps ○ Create FY26 budget talking point that includes the Impact Assessment for each budget line and brief narrative spend down plan. ○ Staff prepare roadmap for policy platform planning ● Gratitudes

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 PM	