



## Sustainable Oregon 2022 Request for Presentation Proposals

*Proposals are due June 1st, 2022 by 11:59pm, and may be submitted [here](#).*

### About the Conference

AOR is pleased to announce that Sustainable Oregon 2022 will be held in-person at the Riverhouse in Bend, Oregon on October 26-28<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We are seeking passionate and effective storytellers who would like to share their innovations, solutions, and stories of change. The annual AOR conference is an opportunity for new and old colleagues in the recycling, waste prevention and sustainable materials management industries to connect about ideas, learn what's on the horizon, and be inspired.

We have prepared a guide that provides helpful information about what we're seeking this year. We invite you to review the guide and then complete the proposal form below by June 1<sup>st</sup>. We anticipate notifying selected presenters in July, 2022. Thank you for your interest in participating in Sustainable Oregon 2022!

### Session Specifics

We are seeking passionate and effective storytellers who would like to share their innovations, solutions, and stories of change. The annual AOR conference is an opportunity for new and old colleagues in the recycling, waste prevention and sustainable materials management industries to connect about ideas, learn what's on the horizon, and be inspired. Do you have a story that will motivate others that work or volunteer in this field? What challenges lie ahead for all of us, **or how** have you adapted to recent challenges? How have you advanced equity and inclusion in this sector? We are seeking conference sessions that are interactive, informative, and memorable.

### Session Details and Lengths:

- **Typical Session:** 60 minutes of presentations, 15 minutes of Q&A/Discussion time. Shorter presentations 20-30 minutes in length are also accepted. The AOR conference committee will combine proposals that address similar areas and topics to form a full 75-minute session.

- **20/20 RE-Slam Style (PechaKucha Style):** Presentations are 20 slides, 20 seconds per slide for a total of 6 minutes and 40 seconds with slides advancing automatically. Presentations will be image focused with limited text.
- **Breakout Session:** Are you able to lead a deep-dive conversation on an important industry issue? We are looking for speakers who can introduce an interesting topic and tee up discussion questions that lead into smaller breakout group discussions.
- **Other Presentation Styles:** Have another presentation style or format you'd like to propose? We'd love to hear it! The most important thing we are looking for in a session is that it is dynamic and engaging, and the more that it can involve the audience, the better. We encourage audience polls/surveys, short videos, and other audience interactions. Maybe you have a short film you'd like to show, and host a conversation after? Perhaps you have a compelling or "controversial" topic that would lend itself to a debate type format. Get creative and let us know! We want to feature your interesting ideas!
- **Workshops:** Workshops have a specific, action-oriented purpose, and aim to generate some concrete answers to current problems in the field. Workshops should deliver a deep-dive into the subject matter and provide attendees the opportunity to learn new skills and to familiarize them with a new topic. We are looking for workshops that are anywhere from 90 minutes to 2 hours in length and are adaptable to either an in-person or virtual setting.

### Suggested Session Topics and Concepts:

AOR is interested in presentations that feature or focus on these topics that are high priorities in our industry and focus areas for our organization and its members. We welcome proposals on topics of all kinds but are most interested in sessions that incorporate these issues that are critical in 2022. We also encourage proposals to include a diversity, equity and inclusion perspective.

- **Food waste:** looking for sessions related to new developments in food waste management in light of mandates/legislative actions; session ideas could include managing food waste programs as packaging evolves to meet new mandates outside of Oregon for packaging to be "compostable"; best/better practices of managing food before it becomes waste, how to work with stores to develop plans to disperse food in times of power outages or other related natural disasters.
- **Greenwashing:** numerous states, including Oregon have passed or are looking to pass truth in recycling labeling requirements to minimize greenwashing. Looking for sessions that speak to these efforts, potential guidelines, opportunities for harmonization, or

other efforts that address product greenwashing.

- **Plastics recycling:** everyone is talking about our plastics waste crisis from managing ocean plastics, to advanced recycling. We are looking for sessions that speak to any plastics management issues relevant in 2022 and beyond.
- **Legislative outcomes related climate and materials management:** materials management is more than recycling and impacts, and metrics are beyond landfill diversion. Looking for innovative sessions that addresses the climate impacts of materials, and/or legislative actions, regional and local codes, or programmatic policy changes that address these.
- **Reuse/repair:** From national legislation with the [Fair Repair Act](#) to state actions to mandate the right to repair, reuse and repair is being recognized as a catalyst and key to reducing materials impacts. We are looking for sessions that speak to these efforts either legislatively, programmatically, or otherwise to increase the reuse and repair of materials and things.
- **Community and/or Recycling resiliency related to market/social/environmental disruptions:** Natural disasters to worldwide pandemics have demonstrated the need for our recycling and waste systems to be flexible and nimble. We are looking for sessions that speak to actions taken (or needed) to ensure that communities and recycling programs are resilient to market/social/environmental disruptions. Example of session might include looking at upstream impacts of managing materials when usual outlets for recycling are suspended, such as goodwill no longer accepting materials during the pandemic, or e-waste facilities no longer able to accept due to capacity constraints and supply chain disruptions. Especially interested in sessions that address full life-cycle perspectives of materials, including garbage.
- **School and Event Waste management:** School is back in session and events in “the real world” are making a comeback. Looking for modern best practices to dealing with these waste streams, particularly in light of covid.

### Presentations should:

- Focus on key insights. The goal is for your audience to walk away with a memorable tid-bit, factoid or feeling they want to share with others.
- Highlight tangible results, if relevant. Use real-world examples. Tell us why you care.
- Provide a take-away solution that could be applied by other attendees.
- Compelling visuals are a must and multimedia presentations are highly encouraged.

### Presentations should not:

- Present detailed case studies without discussing how they could be replicated or implemented by others.
- Describe ongoing activities, unless there is a recent change, adaptation or innovation that makes the activities relevant in 2022.
- Promote a business, organization, product, or service.
- Use a lot of PowerPoint slides with heavy text.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on their overall alignment with this year's conference theme(s) and provide new and innovative content to attendees. In addition, proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Does the session/speaker apply an equity lens to the topic and their work?
- Does the proposal include relevant and interesting information for an hour-long presentation to an audience of recycling and solid waste industry professionals?
- Are there opportunities for discussion and interactivity among participants?
- Are the presenters knowledgeable in the topic area?
- Will the presentation deliver tangible learning takeaways to participants in a compelling format?
- Does the presenter avoid self-promotion, negatively portraying specific members of the industry, and selling of products?

### **Presenter Benefits**

- If the conference convenes in person, speakers will receive discounted full conference registration for \$225 (one day for the price of 3!) OR free admission to the conference on the day of your session if not planning to attend the full conference.
- AOR is not responsible for speaker travel and accommodation costs. However, if such costs would prevent your participation, please contact Amy Roth about possible assistance.

## Presenter Responsibilities

- Presenters must provide their final slides no less than 2 weeks prior to the conference. Failure to provide the presentations by date below may result in slides/media not being available for your presentation as we will not be able to accommodate file uploads during the conference.
- To help meet our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals, AOR intends to pre-record the sessions prior to the conference to transcreate them into Spanish. This will also serve as a run-through for your presentation and allow us to pivot to a virtual conference should there be a resurgence of the pandemic that forces us away from an in-person event. Session pre-recordings will take place during the last 2 weeks of September and will be scheduled separately.
- If a confirmed presenter is unable to attend the conference, they must notify AOR at the earliest opportunity and help find a replacement with similar skills and qualifications.

## Timeline

<b>Proposal deadline</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Complete proposals will be given priority.</i></li></ul>	<b>June 1, 2022 by 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>Notification of Acceptance/Regret</b>	Early July 2022
<b>Speaker Materials Due:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Speaker agreement form, headshots and bios</i></li></ul>	August 1, 2022
<b>Session pre-recording</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Preliminary slide decks need to be available for the recording and final presentations due 2 weeks prior to the conference</i></li></ul>	September 19-30th
<b>Final slides and/or multi-media due no later than:</b>	October 14, 2022
<b>Date of Presentation</b>	October 26 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> , or 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2022

## Questions?

Contact Amy Roth: [amy@oregonrecyclers.org](mailto:amy@oregonrecyclers.org)