Sustainable Oregon 2021 Request for Presentation Proposals

Proposals are due March 19, 2021 by 11:59pm, and may be submitted [here](#).

About the Conference

AOR is pleased to announce that Sustainable Oregon 2021 will be held on October 20-22, 2021. 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.

Due to continued uncertainties regarding the safety of large in-person gatherings, the conference may be held in person at the DoubleTree Hotel in Portland, Oregon, or online as a virtual event. AOR's Board of Directors will make this decision by July.

AOR welcomes proposals and presenters that lend themselves to either an in-person or virtual format. Please only submit a proposal if you are willing to participate in for either scenario.

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 March 19. Thank you for your interest in participating in Sustainable Oregon 2021!

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 2020's 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.

- **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 2021.

- *Diversity, equity and inclusion*
- *COVID-19 response and adaptation*
- *Serving, including and building power with underrepresented communities*
- *Extended producer responsibility*
- *Reuse, repair, and product life extension; Repair revolution nexus with economic development and the GIG economy.*
- *Legislative Outcomes*
- *Cross-sector collaboration*

- 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 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 2021.
- 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 ample 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 and Responsibilities
- If the conference convenes in person, speakers will receive a $100 discount on full conference registration OR free admission to the conference on the day of your session
- If the conference convenes virtually, speakers will receive a credit to attend up to 3 virtual sessions, or $100 off the full virtual conference rate.
- 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.
- If a confirmed presenter is unable to attend the conference, they are responsible for notifying AOR at the earliest opportunity and for helping AOR find a replacement with similar skills and qualifications.

Timeline

Proposal deadline • *Complete proposals will be given priority.*	**March 19, 2021 by 11:59 p.m**.
Notification of Acceptance/Regret	Early June 2021
Speaker Materials Due: • *Speaker agreement form, headshots and bios*	July 1, 2021
Slides and/or multi-media due	October 8, 2021
Date of Presentation	October 20th, 21st, or 22nd

Questions?

Contact Amy Roth: amy@oregonrecyclers.org or 503-233-3056