

State of Oregon
Department of Environmental Quality

Memorandum

Date: Nov. 6, 2019

To: Environmental Quality Commission

From: Richard Whitman, Director

Subject: Item B: Budget and Legislative updates (Informational)
Nov. 14-15, 2019, EQC meeting

Purpose of item DEQ will present updates on legislative and budget activities and the development processes for agency budget and legislative proposals.

2019 Legislative Days Since Oregon voters adopted annual sessions in 2010, the Legislature meets for a maximum of 160 days in odd numbered years and 35 days in even numbered years. The Legislature convenes periodically during the interim for special meeting days, called Legislative Days. Legislative Days happen approximately every eight weeks and last for four days. The next set of Legislative Days begins Nov. 18, 2019.

During Legislative Days, committees may hold informational hearings on topics that could lead to legislation in upcoming sessions, hear updates on implementations of past legislation, hear reports from state agencies and Task Forces, and keep current on relevant issues. During Legislative Days, the Senate may also convene to make executive appointments.

Budget and legislative agenda development process The development cycle of the agency's biennial budget and legislative priorities will restart in early 2020, as the agency evaluates operational and budgetary needs for the 2021-23 biennium. DEQ will develop policy option packages, and related budgetary requests in many cases, to respond to prior legislative or commission direction, expand current agency operations or allow the agency to undertake new types of work. As part of that development, DEQ will bring proposals for commission input and provide periodic budget and financial updates.

EQC involvement There is no request for commission action at this time. DEQ will provide updates on legislative and budget matters at each commission meeting, or as otherwise requested.

Report compiled by Stephanie Caldera
Commission assistant