



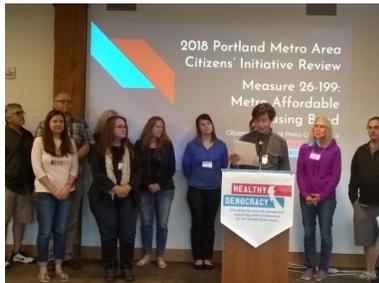
Dear Friends of Healthy Democracy,

It's been a full year of Healthy Democracy activity, and we are so pleased to provide this accounting of how much your support has allowed us to do this past year:

2018 Citizens' Initiative Review

Healthy Democracy's flagship program, the Citizens' Initiative Review, continues to grow and expand, both in the U.S. and very possibly soon [in Europe](#) as well.

In the United States, the CIR was implemented in:



The 2018 Portland Metro-Area CIR was the third time the CIR was applied to a local government issue. With the support of Ned Crosby and Pat Benn, Scott and Cay Borduin, and the Multnomah Bar Foundation, [this CIR](#) reviewed the Metro Affordable Housing Bond Measure.



This was the second statewide CIR in Massachusetts, where efforts are underway to adopt the CIR as part of their regular electoral process in the state. The CIR was featured in [a story](#) by Boston public radio's WGBH.



Healthy Democracy partnered with the Davenport Institute at Pepperdine University to offer the first statewide pilot CIR in California. Thanks to a generous grant by the Noble & Lorraine Hancock Family Fund, this important test run of the CIR in such a large and diverse state was carried out with very encouraging results.

A [pilot high school version](#) of the CIR was introduced in the spring at La Follette High School in Madison, Wisconsin. The



lack of civics education at the high school level is a cause of great concern in the democracy advocacy field, and Healthy Democracy is working alongside some enthusiastic CIR partners to help spread this important exercise in deliberative democracy to high schools in more places in the coming year.

Other Programs



Healthy Democracy was engaged by Lewis and Clark College in Portland to develop a [“Democracy as Community” program](#) as part of their spring Environmental Studies Symposium. This new type of programming, which includes [Community Oregon](#), aims to help people build the skills and relationships needed to hold the tensions inherent in a diverse democratic society in a way that sustains rather than erodes the civic community.



Healthy Democracy co-sponsored a large [community forum](#) on the concept of participatory budgeting. Held in the Portland area, the forum featured [speakers from the City of Seattle](#) and from [Greensboro, NC](#), who have adopted “PB”, as it’s known, along with one of the country’s foremost researchers, [Brian Wampler](#), on the process. For more information on their progress, visit the [Participatory Budgeting Oregon website](#).

Learning & Sharing Opportunities

Healthy Democracy had the privilege of being invited to share their learnings at a wide range of national and international conferences and events this past year:

- Frontiers of Democracy (sponsored by the Tisch School of Civic Life, Tufts University) where Linn shared the [nuts and bolts of the CIR process](#).
- Regards to Rural (sponsored by Rural Development Initiatives) where Healthy Democracy’s [“Community Oregon” program was featured](#) as a valuable urban/rural bridging opportunity
- Healthy Democracy was invited as a guest speaker for an all-day course session at Penn State University during which prospective [Nevins Fellows](#) learned about the experiences of those working in the field of civic and

political reform. Robin also sat down to record an episode on the CIR for the Democracy Works [podcast](#) produced by the McCourtney Institute for Democracy.

- Bridge Alliance [Members Summit](#)
- Healthy Democracy attended the National Council on Citizenship [2018 conference](#).
- Healthy Democracy was invited to help present a workshop on its Community Oregon program at the [National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation 2018 conference](#) in Denver, and also served as moderator for a fascinating and intimate conversation on democracy between the founders of [Two Women and a Republic](#).
- One of our Community Oregon participants, Jeri Jimenez, represented Healthy Democracy at the [Grantmakers of Oregon/SW Washington conference](#) on the day the conference explored community and collaborations.
- Board member, Manju Bazzell, represented Healthy Democracy at the 2018 Global Forum on Modern Democracy in Rome, Italy and spoke on the topic, "[How Do We Bring More Deliberation and Governance into Direct Democracy?](#)"
- Robin was invited to [speak](#) to an international group about the CIR at Madrid's MediaLab Prado as a part of the Democratic Cities conference in Madrid, Spain. (The CIR portion starts at 2:05 in the YouTube video.)

Transitions

This year [Healthy Democracy](#) was delighted to welcome Kelly Coates as our new office coordinator, and congratulate Linn Davis on his promotion to program manager – just in time for a busy CIR season!

The Healthy Democracy board underwent some transition as well, welcoming a new executive committee of Gary Swanson (chair), Craig Campbell (vice chair), Lilisa Hall (secretary) and Jim Scherzinger (treasurer). We are grateful for the leadership of Manju Bazzell, who transitioned from her position as board chair to heading the all-important HD program committee.

Meanwhile, Pat Benn transitioned off the board but remains in an emeritus status, while John Frohmayer resigned his position late in the summer to pursue other interests. Their contributions to our collective intelligence has been enormously valuable, and we will miss them.

We extend our deepest thanks to all of these key people – volunteers and staff alike – who make Healthy Democracy's work possible and, it must be said, immensely enjoyable!

Looking Ahead

Please join us for our [10th Anniversary Celebration](#) this spring! Registration will open shortly after the new year but mark the

date now! Monday, April 8 at Portland Center Stage located at The Armory.



The second cohort of Community Oregon will gather in Central Oregon for the first phase of the 3-phase program April 25 to 28. [Applications](#) are now open for this popular and transformative program joining rural and urban Oregonians together to better understand one other and to think about the kind of democracy we want to build in our state.

Support Our Work

Please consider making a [contribution](#) to Healthy Democracy before the end of the year! As foundations direct their funding beyond our pilot programming in the coming years, it is critical that individual supporters of Healthy Democracy make this continued good work possible into the future.

Healthy Democracy conducts financial audits each and every year (which are publicly available) and also boasts a [Gold Seal of Transparency](#) from Guidestar as further evidence of our good stewardship of your donations.



For donations of \$500 and above, we'll send you a Healthy Democracy mug (left) for your home or desk at work.

And for donations of \$250, we will say thanks with this handy tote bag (right), just in time for all that holiday shopping.



As we look ahead to 2019, it is with ever deepening hope that new possibilities for democracy continue to arise from our work together – based as always on our unceasing faith in the wisdom of our fellow citizens – with the absolutely vital support of people like you.

Happy Holidays!



Healthy Democracy's mission is to elevate the voice of citizens and improve public discourse for the benefit of all voters.

Donate Now

Connect with us!

