

ECOSYSTEM ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON COUNCIL EFFICIENCIES

The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) received a briefing from Ms. Gilly Lyons on Agenda Item C.4, Council Efficiencies, at our virtual meeting on September 3, 2026. The EAS appreciates the work of Council staff to summarize the Council's recommendations, progress, and next steps for achieving efficiencies without sacrificing effectiveness in the Council process.

The EAS primarily focused its discussion on the advisory body meeting schedule described in Attachment 3 ([Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3, September 2026](#)). Specifically, the EAS would like to have its meetings in March and September be in-person should resources allow, and we struggled with the perceived permanency of the schedule described in Attachment 3, entitled "Proposed Council Meeting Schedule by FMP and Advisory Body Meeting Format for 2027 *and Beyond* [emphasis added]." The EAS typically has a full agenda with information-dense materials on complex topics and finds in-person meetings to be far more effective and efficient than virtual meetings to reach an informed consensus. We understand that other advisory bodies may favor remote meetings each year for various reasons, and we support having virtual EAS meetings outside of this schedule (e.g., in June). While we appreciate the Council is currently constrained by a limited operating budget and we want to do our part to reduce spending, it is our hope that the Council will have sufficient funds to support two EAS in-person meetings in the future and we do not want to be denied that opportunity should additional funds be available.

PFMC
09/19/26