

Climate Action Steering Committee

Meeting #6 Agenda

August 23, 2021, 3-5 PM

In order to comply with the Governor's guidance to "Stay Home and Stay Healthy" and in keeping with the Proclamation by the Governor Amending Proclamation 20-05 Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act issued on March 24th 2020, participation in this meeting will be through **remote access only**.

To register to attend the meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pi0jimAMTkSERXRp2-n7KA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

NOTE: Committee members will be pre-registered and will receive a separate link to join the meeting.

	Estimated*
1. OPENING	20 min
1a Call to Order	
1b Introductions	
1c Approval of Agenda	
1d Approval of Previous Meeting Summary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Attachment 1: July 26 Meeting Summary	
1e Opportunity for Public Comment	
During this portion of the meeting, members of the public may address the Committee regarding the Committee's business. Public comment for this meeting will be accepted in written and oral format.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Written comments: The deadline for submitting written public comments is noon (12 pm PST) the Friday preceding the meeting, August 20, 2021. For written comments, please include your name and address, your comment, and email them to climate@trpc.org. Written comments received by the deadline will be provided to the Committee prior to the meeting.Oral comments: Please indicate that you wish to provide public comment when registering for the meeting. The Chair may limit oral public comments to two (2) minutes or less, depending on the meeting agenda and number of people wishing to comment. The Chair may allow for additional public comment to be taken at the end of the agenda for those who signed up at the beginning of the meeting and did not get an opportunity to speak during the allotted time.	
2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS	90 min
2a. Long Term Governance Agreement – Allison Osterberg, TRPC	DISCUSSION
<i>The CASC will continue discussion of options for a Long-Term Governance Agreement, including public outreach and any remaining issues.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Attachment 2: Public Outreach Options Memo	
2b. Phase 3 ILA Task Status Update – Allison Osterberg, TRPC	10 mins
<i>Staff will provide an update on Phase 3 Tasks.</i>	
3. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS	INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION 30 min
3a. Jurisdictional Information Sharing - All	
<i>Members share progress on implementation of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan or other relevant topics</i>	
3b. Legislative Updates – Karen Parkhurst, TRPC	
<i>Updates on state or federal legislation related to implementation of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan</i>	

- 3c. **Grant & Other Funding Opportunities – All**
Review any pending or upcoming funding opportunities related to implementation of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan
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4. **ADJOURN**

*The times listed above are estimates. Items may not take the time allotted, and the meeting may adjourn early if all business has been completed.

NOTE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION VIA ONLINE MEETING:

TRPC reserves the right to limit public participation to the public comment section of the agenda. A participant may be removed from the meeting if they engage in disruptive behavior which may include the following:

- Promoting or advertising commercial services, entities or products.
- Supporting or opposing political candidates or ballot propositions.
- Distributing obscene content.
- Engaging in illegal activity or encouragement of illegal activity.
- Promoting, fostering or perpetuating discrimination on the basis of creed, color, age, religion, gender, gender identification, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems.
- Threatening or intimidating language, containing cyber bullying.
- Otherwise engaging in disruptive behavior that is unrelated to the content of the meeting.

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For TDD users, please use the state's toll-free relay service, 711 and ask the operator to dial 360.956.7575.



Climate Action Steering Committee Meeting #5 Summary - DRAFT July 26, 2021, 3:00-5:00 PM

Link to packet and presentations:

<https://www.trpc.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=561&month=7&year=2021&day=26&calType=0>

Agenda Item	Notes
1. Call to Order, Introductions, & Public Comments	<p>Chair Parshley called the Climate Action Steering Committee (CASC) meeting to order at 3:01 pm.</p> <p>Steering Committee members, support staff from Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC), staff from Thurston County and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater, provided self-introductions.</p> <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the agenda.</p> <p>Committee Member Pratt, moved, seconded by Committee Member Swarthout, to approve the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee agenda is approved. <p>Committee Member Pratt, moved, seconded by Committee Member Swarthout, to approve the June 28, 2021, meeting summary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee’s June 28, 2021, meeting summary is approved. <p>Chair Parshley called for comments from members of the public. There were 3 public comments. Brief summaries follow:</p> <p><i>Melinda Hughes:</i> Thurston County Action Team has a new climate justice mural. It will be located in Olympia near the 4th Ave bridge around the roundabout, and painting will begin first weekend of September. A new app a volunteer put together shown information on climate and pollution. Keep an eye on Montgomery County Maryland as they have a very ambitious climate change plan.</p> <p><i>Tom Crawford:</i> Board Chair for Thurston Climate Action Team, Thank you for your work. Last year TRPC staff and consultants reported they would not be able to complete a cost estimate, assessment of tangible and intangible benefits or a schedule for completion of actions for the climate mitigation plan. Everyone found it disappointing and were assured further work would be done using a</p>



	<p>grant from the Department of Commerce, but now he understands this work may not be done. Need to act immediately to provide sufficient funds and or staffing to determine cost, benefits, and schedule for the TCMP actions.</p> <p><i>Thad Curtz:</i> PSE installed smart meters in the area. He was hoping PSE would use the smart meters for time of use pricing as other companies have.</p>
<p>2a. Puget Sound Energy Strategy</p>	<p>Brandon Capps, Puget Sound Energy filling in for Matthew Mauer due to conflicting schedule.</p> <p>Customer Assistance fund 2020-2021 allocated \$38 Million to help customers pay their utility bill. PSE has many other programs to help customers during the Covid-19 Pandemic.</p> <p>By 2045 PSE aspires to be a Beyond Net Zero Carbon energy company. Three ways they aspire to achieve this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. PSE operations and electric supply2. Natural gas sales customer end use3. Beyond PSE reported emissions <p>PSE is working to balance energy goals while meeting customer expectations. They believe both wire (electricity) and pipe (gas) will be necessary to meet goals.</p> <p>PSE is starting a Beyond Net Zero Carbon by 2045 advisory group – included in this will be diverse, external community members, partners, technical experts, and others to provide meaningful input.</p> <p>Steering Committee members asked questions about renewable natural gas (RNG), opportunities for partnering on smart meters and electrification, and other topics. Brandon Capps provided the following answers subsequent to the meeting:</p> <p>Tye Menser- In our plan we have updated municipal codes to require electric appliances and ban natural gas in new buildings. How would this help you achieve your goals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removing natural gas appliances increases the demand for electric appliances, which can draft from more carbon intensive resources like coal-fired generation.• A complementary gas energy system also offsets the need to build additional electric transmission and distribution facilities that are difficult to permit and site.



Carolyn Cox- Do you have a feel for how closely PSE has been monitoring the TCMP and where you see alignment?

- PSE has and will continue to monitor the TCMP while looking for options to provide the most cost-effective and reliable choices for our customers

Eileen Swarthout-How can we better utilize smart meters during peak time, has this been discussed and can we anticipate more specifics?

- In Thurston County we expect AMI electric meter deployment to be complete in 2022 and Natural Gas meter deployment in 2023 and we intend to roll out usage data options once the entire system is in place.

Lisa Parshley-In Thurston County, we develop methane at all sorts of treatments facilities, we should explore those options

- PSE began integrating RNG onto its gas system more than 30 years ago from a local wastewater treatment plant.
- PSE is the first utility in the region (and one of the first in the country) to partner with a pipeline quality landfill RNG project in 2009 and expanding landfill gas further:
 - Today, PSE acquires RNG equal to 1.5% of our sales volume.
 - PSE recently acquired another landfill RNG supply contract which will increase our RNG to 2% in 2021 and grow to nearly 3.5% of our annual gas sales by 2024. (Power Purchase Agreement with Klickitat PUD).
 - PSE is continuing to investigate and pursue more regional RNG supply opportunities

Lisa Parshley- How do we handle methane production upstream of natural gas at sources of extraction with pipelines when several studies show leakage? How does PSE plan to manage that in conjunction w/ CETA?

- PSE is committed to net-zero methane emissions on our local distribution system by 2022 and continues to evaluate mixing options with cleaner burning fuels.
- The Beyond Net Zero Carbon pledge is a commitment separate from CETA which focuses on de-carbonizing our natural gas portfolio.



	<p>Lisa Parsshley- Can your pipeline accommodate hydrogen deployment? Wouldn't it be better for energy storage for peak load as opposed to shipping it into people's homes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PSE is working to reduce carbon emissions of natural gas in many ways to support clean energy choices of customers. The pipeline infrastructure can be utilized for renewable gas, hydrogen and other low or zero carbon fuels to deliver energy with very low or zero greenhouse gas emissions.• We successfully conducted our first hydrogen pilot in April (2021) at our Georgetown Training Facility. As a part of this pilot, the team performed a series of tests using 5%, 10% and 15% hydrogen/natural gas blends and compared results to 100% natural gas.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ For each of these scenarios, they tested the system for leaks, air quality after combustion, gas quality and impact on the appliances used.
<p>2b. State Climate Legislation – Jessica Bateman</p>	<p>Representative Jessica Bateman provided an update on climate-related state legislation from the most recent session of the state legislature.</p> <p>In the 2020/2021 session, several climate-related bills were voted in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean Fuel Standard• Climate Commitment Act• Plastic Waste Reduction – SB 5022 (bans polystyrene in packaging and food containers as of 2023 and 2024, and sets recycled content standards for many plastic products)• Heal Act• Clean Cars 2030 (electric vehicle target) <p>Some legislative bills that didn't pass may be considered again next session, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy homes and clean buildings• Climate change in GMA• Protecting Salmon in planning processes• Community Solar (a bill Rep Bateman co-sponsored) <p>Rep Bateman is very interested in talking about the link between emissions and land use, and finding ways to instead of car-oriented communities, have people-oriented communities. Also interested in hearing more about building code changes or funding/budget allocation needs for local climate priorities.</p>



	<p>The Steering Committee members would be interested in having a follow-up session in September/October (fall) with Rep Bateman and potentially other members of the 22nd delegation.</p>
<p>3. Committee Business 3a. Long-term Governance Agreement – Allison Osterberg and Michael Ambrogi, TRPC</p>	<p>Allison Osterberg and Michael Ambrogi guided the Steering Committee on a discussion of elements of the Long Term Governance Agreement.</p> <p><i>Purpose/Goals</i> The Steering Committee approved the following goals for the agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To maintain momentum for local climate action.• To develop efficient regional solutions for reducing sources of greenhouse gases in ways that help all partner jurisdiction.• To provide accountability on progress toward achieving regional climate targets.• To build public support for climate action, and coordinate outreach on climate mitigation activities. <p><i>Work Program</i> Steering Committee members expressed support for developing an annual work program that targets regional priorities. This could include developing model policies, centralized guidance, training, or contracting out for additional research or specialized work. The Multijurisdictional Staff Team will meet to develop options for the CASC to consider at a future meeting</p> <p><i>Membership</i> Most Steering Committee members indicated a preference for maintaining the existing 4-party membership (Thurston County, Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater). There is interest in inviting some other parties in a non-decisionmaking or advisory role. Concern that having too many people at meetings will dilute ability to be effective. Question: how big are groups in other regions that include ex-officio members?</p> <p><i>Monitoring</i> Michael Ambrogi presented a staff recommendation for a monitoring and assessment program, which would include both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an online portal for a general audience that would be updated every 1-2 years and track greenhouse gas emissions and a limited set of additional key performance indicators• a more detailed report directed at staff and subject matter experts that would be updated every 3-5 years and include



	<p>more data and analysis to inform future climate planning (such as updates to the TCMP)</p> <p>Committee members supported this proposal overall, but would like monitoring program include tracking the status of strategies and actions, rather than just indicators. They also would like to see the more detailed report be completed every 3 years, given the short time to the targets.</p>
4. Standing Items 4a. Jurisdictional Info Sharing	<p>This item was curtailed to allow additional time to discuss the Long-term agreement options. Lacey shared some update slides that are posted with the meeting materials.</p>
5. Adjourn	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.</p>



Meeting Attendance

Steering Committee Present Online:

Lisa Parshley – City of Olympia, and Chair
Pamela Braff – City of Olympia staff
Yen Huynh – City of Olympia alternate
Cynthia Pratt – City of Lacey representative
Carolyn Cox – City of Lacey alternate
Jessica Brandt – City of Lacey staff

Eileen Swarthout – City of Tumwater
representative
Tye Menser, Thurston County
Jennica Machado, Thurston County staff
Brad Medrud – City of Tumwater staff

Public Present Online:

Thad Curtz
Tom Crawford
Jenn Bass
Joseph Hiss
Randy Young
Gregory Quetin
Eliane Wilson
David Hoffman

Peter Moulton
Joel Carlson
Aloha Kakou
Melinda Hughes
Brandon Capps
Jessica Bateman
Wayne Olsen

Staff Present:

Allison Osterberg, Senior Planner
Marc Daily, Executive Director
Burlina Lucas, Administrative Assistant
Dorinda Merrill, Office Assistant III
Karen Parkhurst, Planning and Policy Director
Michael Ambrogi, Senior Planner

Next Meeting: August 23, 2021, 3-5:00 PM

Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Coordinator:

Allison Osterberg

osterbergA@trpc.org

360.956.7575 (main) or (360) 741-2513 (direct)

Link to project website: <https://www.trpc.org/Climate>

TRPC website: <https://www.trpc.org/>

*Meeting summary is prepared by Dorinda Merrill, Office Specialist III, Thurston Regional Planning Council
This summary is not verbatim. A recording of this meeting is available upon request or available at
<https://www.trpc.org/966/Meeting-Materials>.*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Climate Action Steering Committee (CASC)
FROM: Allison Osterberg, Thurston Regional Planning Council
DATE: August 16, 2021
SUBJECT: Public Outreach and Engagement Options for Long-Term Governance Agreement

Requested Action

Discuss and provide guidance on options for public engagement to include in a long-term governance agreement.

Background

As part of the Phase 3 Interlocal Agreement, the CASC is charged with reviewing options for public outreach and engagement that support a coordinated regional approach to climate mitigation. This includes identifying a role for key public and private sector stakeholder in TCMP implementation.

At the July 26th meeting, the CASC agreed that one of the goals of a long-term agreement is: To **build public support** for climate action, and **coordinate outreach** on climate mitigation activities.

Public engagement activities could address one or more of the following objectives:

- **Raise awareness.** Increase or improve general knowledge among members of the public about the region's framework for climate action and climate mitigation actions and opportunities.
- **Change behavior.** Influence and catalyze people's decisions to take actions in line with climate mitigation targets.
- **Inform decisionmaking.** Involve key stakeholders and community representatives to ensure a broad range of perspectives are used to inform the development and direction of climate mitigation policies and programs.

The type of public outreach activities included in the Long-Term Governance Agreement should depend on which objectives the CASC would like to achieve at a regional level.

Decision Options

Below are some options for public outreach that could be included in the scope for a Long-Term Governance Agreement. The options are not exclusive – the CASC could direct staff to include a combination of options in the scope.

Option A: Basic Public Outreach

Objectives: Raise Awareness

This option would maintain public engagement and outreach activities at a similar scale to that funded in Phase 3. Individual jurisdictions may opt to organize and lead additional public outreach activities.

- Maintain and update central website (www.thurstonclimateplan.com) with information on plan, meetings, annual report, climate dashboard.
- Maintain a master “interested parties” email contact list
- Publicize meetings and key events through email contact list, traditional and social media
- Collect and respond to public comments with centralized email address (climate@trpc.org)
- Develop centralized messaging on climate mitigation topics, for use by jurisdictions.
- Give a limited number of public presentations on climate activities to community groups or table information booths at community events.

Option B: Public Forum

Objectives: Raise Awareness

This option includes hosting a public conference-type event with speakers and information session showcasing latest progress on climate mitigation activities. This event could be similar to the Climate Convention hosted by TCAT in 2018 and 2020 or could be similar to a Town Hall-style event, with opportunities for questions.

- Could be a 1-day annual event or quarterly, topic-focused
- Could be co-sponsored with other entities
- Could be combined with policy discussion among elected officials

Examples:

- Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact [hosts an annual Climate Leadership Summit](#) to share knowledge, showcase climate action, engage leadership across sectors, and mobilize the collaboration needed to tackle this significant challenge at scale. They have also hosted a number of smaller, topic-specific [Implementation Workshops](#).
- King County-Cities Collaborative (K4C) hosted a [virtual Climate Town Hall](#) in July 2021

Option C: Targeted Outreach Campaigns

Objectives: Raise Awareness (among specific population); Change Behavior

This option includes targeted outreach to specific audiences around one or more specific climate mitigation issues. This approach could be similar to the behavior change programs included in jurisdictions’ stormwater management plans. This approach could also be used to build awareness and gather input among populations that have been less involved in climate mitigation planning to date or are identified as impacted communities.

- Addresses **Action G1.7** of the TCMP – social research and behavior change campaigns.
- Identify one or more specific audiences and issues to target. Campaign topics could be recommended by the Staff Team and determined by the CASC as part of an annual work program.
- Research effective marketing and education strategies for audience and topic.
- Implement campaigns based on audience research.

- Monitor and evaluate campaign outcomes
- Would likely involve partnering or contracting with higher education institutions or other entities to conduct research and/or implement campaigns.
- Note that behavior change campaigns may require a phased approach.

Examples:

- The Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative runs annual [PSA campaigns](#) on Heat and Floods.

Option D: Advisory Committee

Objectives: Inform Decisionmaking

This option includes convening a dedicated Advisory Committee, composed of public- and private-sector representatives, who would be charged with advising the staff team and CASC members on climate mitigation activities. This approach could be similar to the Climate Advisory Workgroup convened for Phase 2.

- Membership would be identified/approved by the CASC
- Could meet on a bi-monthly or quarterly basis (4-6 times/year)
- Representative from Advisory Committee (such as the chair/vice-chair) could serve as an ex-officio member on the CASC to provide stakeholder input to CASC discussions and decisions.
- Committee could provide input and feedback on annual work program and funding priorities.
- This approach could potentially be delegated to the Thurston Thrives Climate and Clean Energy Action Team to connect with that existing community group.

Examples:

- Whatcom County has an 11-member [Climate Impact Advisory Committee](#) that advises the Whatcom County Council and Executive on issues related to the preparation and adaptation for, and the prevention and mitigation of, impacts of climate change.
- Fort Collins, Colorado has 25-member [Community Advisory Committee](#) that advised the city on the development of its Climate Action Plan and continues to meet quarterly or on an as-needed basis to provide input on implementation.
- Bend, Oregon, has a 9-member [Environment and Climate Committee](#) that develops recommendations on implementing the city's Climate Action Plan, including recommending which actions from the plan for the City to pursue in the next biennium and which actions to consolidate or add to the plan.
- Bellingham has a 9-member [Climate Action Plan Task Force](#) charged with determining the feasibility of reaching targets faster than those in the city's Climate Action Plan. Members have subject-matter expertise and are appointed by the City Council.
- Multnomah County, Oregon has a 13-member [Advisory Committee on Sustainability & Innovation](#) that advises the County on implementing the 2015 Climate Action Plan. Members also evaluate proposals for innovations in technology and business processes that may be applicable to county operations.

Option E: Topic-Specific Work Groups

Objectives: Inform Decisionmaking

This option includes convening several topic-specific work groups, made up of stakeholders with technical expertise or interests in identified climate mitigation areas. The groups could be charged with developing detailed implementation plans or approaches for actions included in the TCMP or with reviewing progress and making recommendations for plan updates. This approach was proposed for Phase 3, but not implemented.

- Work group topics would be identified by CASC, but membership could be open. Topic areas could be tied to TCMP sectors (Buildings & Energy, Transportation & Land Use, Water & Waste, Agriculture & Forests) or other focus area (climate justice, legislative priorities, monitoring data)
- Groups could be convened regularly (bi-monthly or quarterly) or for a concentrated period – for example, leading up to the more-detailed monitoring assessment.
- Representatives from each work group could serve as an ex-officio member on the CASC to provide stakeholder input to discussions and decisions.

Examples:

- The Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative (CRC) has [targeted Working Groups](#). Groups are established by the Steering Committee. Each group must have an identified lead who is a CRC member; CRC staff provide some administration and coordination support. Current groups are focused on Extreme Heat and Building Electrification.
- King County convened a [Climate Equity Community Task Force](#) to inform the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan. The task force included 22 community leaders, representing many different frontline communities, and met bi-monthly over two years.
- In addition to its Advisory Committee, Bend, Oregon has several topic-specific [Working Groups](#) that make recommendations related to Energy in Buildings, Transportation, Energy Supply, and Waste and Materials