



**Climate Advisory Workgroup
Meeting Summary
November 8, 2022, 4-6PM**

Link to meeting materials: <https://www.trpc.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=680>

Agenda Item	Notes
1. Welcome and Introductions	Members and staff introduced themselves.
2. 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan (TCMP) Strategies	<p>Casey Mauck gave an overview of the 2021 Thurston County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and TCMP strategies for each sector. Emissions inventories estimate the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, or releases into the atmosphere, for an area over a period of time. The estimates are made using activity data, and do not involve measuring gases in the air. Inventories inform action by showing large emissions sources, changes over time, and general progress towards emissions targets. Regional emissions targets include reducing local greenhouse gas emissions 45% below 2015 levels by 2030 and 85% below 2015 levels by 2050. The inventory is split up into five sectors: buildings and energy, transportation, water and waste, agriculture, forests, and prairies, and hydrofluorocarbons.</p> <p>Since the baseline year of 2015, emissions have decreased 4.1%. This is up 4.3% from 2020 emissions. Of the emissions sources included, 54% of emissions come from the buildings and energy sector and 36% come from transportation. Agriculture, water and waste, and hydrofluorocarbons make up the remaining emissions. Buildings and energy and transportation both saw emissions decreases since 2015, while the remaining sectors had increases in emissions. Water and waste had the highest percentage increase, with emissions up 26% since 2015. The largest source in this sector is methane from solid waste, and the amount of solid waste generated by Thurston residents has steadily grown since 2013.</p> <p>Mauck also talked about the strategies for each sector in the TCMP. The hydrofluorocarbons sector does not have any strategies or targets.</p>
3. Inventory Response Discussion	Members discussed things that stood out to them in the inventory, and how this information influences their perspective on local climate action. General responses included the limitations of emissions inventories, the tough balance between decreasing emissions while population keeps growing, and the difficulty in isolating reasons for change from year-to-year when COVID-19 has had such a significant



	<p>impact on behavior. Another concern was the trade-off between decreasing buildings and energy emissions while also increasing the supply of affordable housing for the community. Members noted the large increase in solid waste emissions, and discussed the potential impacts that shifting to shopping online has had on emissions. Members also brought up the uncertainty of the agriculture, forest, and prairies sector, as this sector only includes agriculture emissions and does not consider the loss of tree canopy or how forestry practices affect emissions.</p> <p>Ideas for action included embracing buildings and energy action as this is a large emissions driver and there are many public buildings in the region. Co-working spaces could also reduce residential energy use as more residents are working from home. Transportation suggestions included putting in more bike lanes to support active transportation, and shifting school buses to hybrid or zero-emissions fuels.</p>
<p>4. Climate Advisory Workgroup Charter</p>	<p>Mauck discussed the updated workgroup charter draft, which outlines the group’s purpose, meeting details, and member expectations. The draft was first presented at the August 29th meeting, and was edited to reflect the group’s discussion and suggestions at that meeting.</p> <p>The group is intended to be a community sounding board for regional climate action, and serves an advisory role to the Climate Action Steering Committee, a body of local elected officials that leads TCMP implementation. Specific tasks the group is charged with include participating in Steering Committee meetings as non-voting members and reviewing the Annual Work Program, Annual Report, and other proposals under consideration by the Steering Committee. The workgroup will meet 4 – 6 times per year primarily over Zoom. Member expectations are outlined in the charter, and new additions include approaching discussions with an assumption of good faith, embracing calling in and calling out to recognize harmful behavior, supporting members from underserved communities, and clarifying that when members attend Steering Committee meetings they are expected to share their own perspective while staff will provide an overview of workgroup discussions.</p> <p>Meeting suggestions that are not listed in the charter include allowing time for discussions and questions, listing out meeting objectives at the beginning of each meeting, and giving a brief peek into the next meeting’s agenda at the end of each meeting.</p>



	<p>Suggestions that remain unresolved are to allow members to sponsor agenda items and present on them, and to allow members to relay comments from other workgroup members to the Steering Committee when they fill the rotating Steering Committee representative slot.</p> <p>Larger questions for the group going forward include how to support members along different ends of the introvert/extrovert spectrum, how to ensure members from underserved communities have agency in the group, how to be accountable to the public, and how to practice calling in and calling out during meetings.</p>
5. Charter Discussion and Approval	<p>This agenda item will be moved to the next meeting as time ran out. The December 12th meeting will include a discussion about the draft charter, and members will have the option to approve the charter or suggest additional changes.</p>
6. Next Meeting and Questions	<p>Mauck talked about upcoming meetings: the Steering Committee meeting on November 28th, which will include an inventory presentation and jurisdiction updates, and the Advisory Workgroup meeting on December 12th which will include a charter discussion and overview of ongoing staff discussions around the roles and responsibilities of different entities in regional climate action implementation.</p> <p>Members requested that staff relay to the Steering Committee the urgency of this work, and the importance of accountability in regional climate action. It is important to clarify how the Steering Committee is accountable for their work, how the jurisdictions involved are being held accountable to meet the emissions targets established regionally, and the role of the advisory workgroup in supporting this accountability.</p>
7. Adjourn	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.</p>



Meeting Attendance

Workgroup Members:

Amy Tousley
Carly Colgan
Hazel Stephens
Jasmin Miller
Jessica Gould
Justin Schmal
Kim Piper
Linsey Fields
Mike Burnham
Rachel Hastings
Simone Ervin
Stephanie Bishop
Tierra Bonds
Tom Crawford

Staff:

Allison Osterberg, Thurston Regional Planning Council
Casey Mauck, Thurston Regional Planning Council
Grant Beck, City of Lacey
Michael Ambrogi, Thurston Regional Planning Council
Pamela Braff, City of Olympia

Climate Advisory Workgroup Coordinator:

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

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Meeting summary is prepared by Casey Mauck, Assistant Planner, Thurston Regional Planning Council.

This summary is not verbatim. Meeting materials can be seen here:

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