



Climate Action Steering Committee Meeting Summary

March 27, 2023, 3:00-5:00 PM

Link to packet and presentations: <https://www.trpc.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=615>

Agenda Item	Notes
<p>1. Call to Order, Introductions, & Public Comments – All members</p>	<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), and staff from Thurston County and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater provided self-introductions.</p> <p>Chair Parshley requested an amendment to the agenda to remove agenda item 2b: Regional Guidance and ILA.</p> <p>Committee Member Swarhout, moved, seconded by Committee Member Cox to amend and approve the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee amended agenda is approved. <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the February 27, 2023, meeting summary.</p> <p>Committee Member Swarhout requested a change to the summary to replace tree “study” in jurisdictional updates with tree “codes.”</p> <p>Committee Member Cox, moved, seconded by Committee Member Swarhout to approve the amended February 27, 2023, meeting summary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adopt the amended Climate Action Steering Committee’s February 27, 2023 meeting summary is approved. <p>Chair Parshley called for comments from members of the public. There was 1 public comment from Melinda Hughes.</p>
<p>2a. Advisory Workgroup Update – Casey Mauck, TRPC</p>	<p>Mauck gave an overview of the March 7th Climate Advisory Workgroup (CAW) meeting. The workgroup discussed the proposed regional guidance for TCMP implementation going forward. In general, members were happy with the expanded role of the CAW, to review individual jurisdiction actions in addition to regional actions, and the level of input they are proposed to have in the regional</p>



	<p>initiatives process. Members understood why the proposal includes removing member organizations to focus the group on community input, though they hope some of the member organization representatives may apply as community members. Members expressed a desire for a single point-of-contact for regional climate action and more transparency of staff team meetings.</p>
2b. Regional Guidance and ILA – Allison Osterberg, TRPC	<p><i>This agenda item has been moved to a future meeting. Members wished to tentatively set a May 22nd Steering Committee meeting to discuss this item, pending staff approval of the guidance and ILA.</i></p>
2c. Energy Efficiency – Allison Osterberg, TRPC	<p>Osterberg provided an overview of residential energy efficiency as a climate mitigation strategy. Reducing energy use in existing residential buildings is strategy B1 of the TCMP, and helps to achieve the 2030 and 2050 targets for reducing electricity and natural gas use. Approximately 70% of dwelling units are in the city limits or urban growth areas of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater, and 13% of county residents are considered to have a high energy burden while 7% are considered to have a severe energy burden. There are many existing state, federal, and utility incentives that can be used for energy efficiency projects, and funding sources for larger grants. TCMP partners could support energy efficiency by tracking rulemaking and funding opportunities, providing technical assistance and outreach to connect residents with resources, providing financial incentives, or setting stricter regulations.</p> <p>Members suggested coordinating between housing agencies who may already be providing some of these resources, or providing education to agencies on potential opportunities.</p>
3a. Jurisdictional Information Sharing – All Members	<p>Thurston County (Tye Menser) – The county has been working with DNR to try to preserve legacy forests in Capitol State Forest. The County Commissioners signed a joint letter with Snohomish, Jefferson, and Whatcom Counties to support a legislative bill that would provide additional funding to preserve the oldest forestlands. Committee Member Menser interviewed for a seat on the State Building Code Council and should hear back soon. Staff has been working on applying for electric vehicle grant opportunities and briefed the commission on EVs.</p> <p>Lacey (Carolyn Cox) – Lacey has been working with PSE on a match program for the rebates that PSE offers for energy efficiency and weatherization. Lacey will use some of their climate funding to match the PSE rebates. There are 3 finalists for the Climate Coordinator position and the new member should be joining this team shortly. The comprehensive plan update is underway and staff are working to refine the climate policies in the plan.</p>



	<p>Tumwater (Eileen Swarthout) – Tumwater is applying for grants to install electric vehicle chargers at Pioneer Park, conduct a feasibility study for solar and battery backup at the library and city hall, and inventory trees on city property. The city is working to identify and protect heritage trees, including a focus on Garry oaks.</p> <p>Olympia (Lisa Parshley) – Olympia is working to get a consultant for an electrification assessment of their fleet including infrastructure analysis. The City is working on launching the heat pump group purchase campaign and reviewing proposals from installers. The climate risk and vulnerability assessment is ongoing and the City is now recruiting community members for the project team. Applications are due at the end of the week; contact Pamela Braff for more information.</p>
4. Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 4:32 pm.



Meeting Attendance

Steering Committee Present Online:

Lisa Parshley – City of Olympia representative and Chair
Tye Menser – Thurston County representative and Vice Chair
Carolyn Cox – City of Lacey representative

Eileen Swarthout – City of Tumwater representative
Tom Crawford – Climate Advisory Workgroup representative

Public Present Online:

Amy Tousley
Kyle Chase
Melinda Hughes

Phyllis Farrell
Robert Marino
Wayne Olsen

Staff and Other Attendees Present Online:

Lacey

Grant Beck

Thurston County

Rebecca Harvey

Olympia

Pamela Braff

TRPC

Allison Osterberg
Casey Mauck
Karen Parkhurst

Tumwater

Alyssa Jones-Wood

Next Meeting: May 22, 2023

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

Meeting summary is prepared by Casey Mauck, Assistant Planner, Thurston Regional Planning Council. This summary is not verbatim. A recording of this meeting is available at <https://www.trpc.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=615>