

## Regional Initiatives

*Climate Advisory Workgroup, April 2023*

The Climate Advisory Workgroup was tasked with identifying a list of regional initiatives to share with the Multijurisdictional Staff Team for inclusion in the annual regional initiatives process outlined in the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan implementation model. A regional initiative is an action that all four TCMP partner jurisdictions will work together on with the support of their elected officials. Workgroup members were asked in advance to come to a meeting with a list of three to five potential regional initiatives, along with their preferred vision of success for each action.

During the Climate Advisory Workgroup meeting on April 4, 2023, members discussed their top initiatives in breakout groups and a full group discussion. Staff noted all ideas generated by members, and guided members through a consensus-building process to find the top three ideas from each of the two breakout groups. Members returned to the full group to discuss the top ideas generated by the small groups. This list was then narrowed through an anonymous poll down to four top regional initiatives.

Following the meeting, staff sent out a draft of the table of initiatives below for workgroup members' review. This finalized list incorporates comments received from members on the draft list.

Short Name	Details and Considerations	Originator(s)	TCMP ID
<b>Full Group Priority – These actions were identified as top priorities among the full CAW at their meeting April 4.</b>			
Energy Audits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs to be consistent, simple, and straightforward</li> <li>• Could be sooner than time of sale or listing, such as during improvement permits</li> <li>• Incentivize providing this beyond time of sale</li> <li>• How can we retain the data for this program over time? Who gathers and manages this data?</li> <li>• Consider the costs to homeowners</li> <li>• Consider equity and unintended consequences such as increasing the cost of housing</li> <li>• Builds on work City of Olympia has already done</li> <li>• Work with financial institutions to develop mortgage products that incorporate audited energy efficiency recommendations</li> <li>• Deliverable would be ordinances passed by the 4 TCMP partners with procedures and funding for implementation</li> <li>• Rationale: large scale of potential GHG reductions, and provides an incentive for sellers to make upgrades before selling homes</li> </ul>	Kim P, Tom C, Stephanie B	B1.2

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Financial Incentives for Reducing Energy Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include all kinds of property owners (residential/commercial/industrial) but focus on housing</li> <li>• Ensure costs are not passed on to the consumers</li> <li>• Break down or differentiate targets to specific types of landlords/homeowners</li> <li>• Consider the role of builders, developers, and property owners</li> <li>• Could come through property tax breaks or other upfront incentives</li> <li>• Connect this with resources and education</li> <li>• Jurisdictions should work together to create these incentives</li> </ul>	Kim P, Jessica G	B1.4, B1.5
Transportation Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doesn't require behavior change of drivers</li> <li>• Consider unintended consequences – avoid incentivizing trips or mileage</li> <li>• Do not disadvantage cyclists and pedestrians</li> </ul>	Justin S	T2.2
20-Minute Neighborhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connects well with other actions</li> <li>• Need lots of public outreach and community buy-in up front</li> <li>• Need to consider externalities such as land use changes when planning neighborhoods</li> <li>• Has co-benefits such as increased housing supply</li> <li>• Vision of success: dense, urban centers where walking, biking, and using transit are the first and best options</li> </ul>	Rachel H, Justin S, Jessica G	T1.4
<b>Small Group Priority – These actions were identified as priorities within the two smaller breakout groups at the April 4 meeting, in addition to the initiatives noted above.</b>			
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whatever actions are taken, consider them through an equity lens</li> <li>• Could be regional outreach programs</li> <li>• Consider a program for housing cost-burdened folks</li> <li>• Alignment with some aspects of the Regional Clean Energy Program, proposed by Tom, and discussed below</li> </ul>	Amy T, Tom C	
Telework/Flex Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has co-benefits beyond climate</li> <li>• Important to also consider building utilization efficiency – could spaces be consolidated?</li> <li>• This action has momentum that could be capitalized on</li> </ul>	Tierra B	T2.17

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<b>Individual Ideas – Additional ideas proposed by individual CAW members, but not identified by the group as priorities.</b>			
Boater Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incentivize reduced speed limits</li> <li>• Incentivize reduced fuel use</li> <li>• Identify non-motorized boating areas to protect wildlife and reduce fuel use</li> <li>• Require education programs for all boaters that include safety and environmental impacts such auditory impacts and emissions</li> </ul>	Hazel S	
Coordinated Long Term Planning-Future Infill and Urban Sprawl Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision of success includes higher density, which would enable Intercity Transit to provide faster, more frequent, more affordable service that gets people where they want to go</li> </ul>	Jessica G	T1.1
Eco-Districts		Rachel H	T1.3
Electric/Alternative Fuel School Buses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look for efficiencies across all school districts</li> <li>• Increase aerodynamics to improve efficiency</li> <li>• Look for potential bus conversions to reduce waste</li> </ul>	Hazel S	
Electric Vehicle (EV) Ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Require a certain number of EV charging stations in new development (residential and commercial)</li> <li>• Adopt revised state building code requirements for EV-ready infrastructure</li> <li>• Create a simple and consistent residential charging station permitting process to reduce costs and time to develop and provide support to get state and federal incentives</li> <li>• Deliverables would be ordinances passed by the 4 TCMP partners and procedures and assistance to get folks through the permitting process and connect them with incentives</li> <li>• Vision of success: revised building codes adopted by all 4 partners that incorporates EV ready provisions. Revised permitting process in place, coordinated among jurisdictions. As a result, EV ownership expands more rapidly</li> </ul> <p>Rationale: supports GHG reduction in the transportation sector, supports operating cost savings for EV owners, and builds on existing state energy code standards</p>	Tom C	T3.1, T3.5, T3.7
Fareless System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue the system we've got going now</li> </ul>	Jessica G	T4.4

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Food Security		Amy T	
Middle-Density Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Streamline permitting to support greater density in urban areas</li> </ul> <p>Vision of success: dense, urban centers where walking, biking, and using transit are the first and best options</p>	Kim P, Jessica G	T1.2, T1.9
Mode-Shift Targets and Car-Free Areas		Rachel H	T5.11
Permitting Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for quick action</li> </ul>	Stephanie B	B4.5
Regional Clean Energy Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop, fund, and launch a regional clean energy program for residential energy efficiency and electrification projects focused on households using fossil fuels for space or water heating</li> <li>Include 2 components: energy concierge program for public outreach, education, and technical assistance; and a nonprofit housing support program to help existing groups increase capacity and funding to assist cost-burdened households with electrification and weatherization</li> <li>Important to have outreach and information to connect folks with the incentives that are available to them</li> <li>Deliverable should be a contract in place with an existing nonprofit that conducts energy concierge and electrification/weatherization efforts and has staff</li> <li>Vision of success: a regional energy concierge and low-income housing support program that catalyzes rapid adoption of energy efficiency and clean energy solutions in residential buildings</li> <li>Rationale: ability to attract additional state and federal funds, large potential impact to GHG emissions</li> </ul>	Tom C	B3.1, B6.1
Residential Conversion from Natural Gas to Electric		Justin S, Tom C	B6.1
Social Cost of Carbon		Rachel H	G4.6
Tree Canopy Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at development regulations for site design and development approval</li> </ul> <p>May be opportunities during comprehensive plan updates</p>	Amy T	A6.9

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Waste Less Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dovetails with recently passed state legislation</li><li>• Could capitalize on momentum for this idea</li></ul> Has many co-benefits	Stephanie B	W4.10
Waste Reduction Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Incentivize consumers and producers</li><li>• Incentivize more recycling of packaging materials and other recyclables such as cans and bottles</li></ul>	Hazel S	