



# Stakeholder Advisory Committee

## Thurston Regional Planning Council

2424 Heritage Ct. SW, Olympia, WA 98502

Meeting 10 — June 5, 2017

### SUMMARY NOTES

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**Meeting Facilitator:** Paul Brewster, TRPC

**Presenter:** Michael Burnham, TRPC

#### In Attendance:

Name	Organization
Amy Tousley	Puget Sound Energy
Andrew Kinney	TC Emergency Management
Barb Scavezze	Resident
Bill Paulen	Resident
Candace Penn	Squaxin Island Tribe
Chris Hawkins	TC Public Health
Cynthia Pratt	Lacey
Dan Smith	Tumwater
Jeanne Kinney	TC Public Works
Rachel Jamison	Port of Olympia
Rich Hoey	City of Olympia
Scott Morgan	The Evergreen State College
Wendy Steffensen	LOTT Clean Water Alliance

#### Greeting and Introduction

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Paul Brewster acted as the facilitator for this meeting. Brewster opened the meeting by having each person present introduce him- or herself.

#### Presentation: Priority and BCA Action Selection

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Michael Burnham gave a brief overview of the public comment received so far for the project. Between the community forum (April 17, 2017) and the online survey (closed May 8, 2017), the project team received around 250 ideas for climate adaptation actions. The team then integrated the ideas that addressed red risks into the action table by writing new actions, updated existing actions, and deleting redundant actions. Based on all the feedback received, there are now 89 adaptation actions.

With so many actions being considered for priority status, the team then looked at the screening criteria (action's magnitude, effectiveness, and side-effects) to score the actions. Actions were given between 2 and 8 points depending on how impactful the action was. Based on the screening, the project team selected three priority actions from each of the following categories:

- General
- Drought & Water Quality
- Flooding & Erosion

- Plants & Animals
- Transportation & Energy
- Wildfire & Extreme Heat

Burnham asked that the stakeholder look at the action table and determine what actions should be a priority and what three actions should be selected for the benefit-cost analyses to be conducted by Earth Economics. In addition, the stakeholders should take a look at the leads, partners, and timeline for implementing/completing the action.

As the stakeholders select priority/BCA actions, they should keep in mind four things:

- Is this the right suite of priorities?
- Should there be more/fewer priorities?
- Have the right 3 actions been selected for the BCA?
- Is the wording of the actions correct?

Burnham finished up his presentation by reviewing the next steps in the plan process. In June, Earth Economics will begin the benefit-cost analyses on the selected actions while the project team will reach out to action leads to elicit feedback. In July and August, the project team will begin writing the plan and incorporating the actions into it. Earth Economics will present the results of the BCAs in September, and the project team will present the draft plan to the stakeholders in November.

### **Large Group Discussion**

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The bulk of the discussion centered on what actions should be priorities for the Thurston Region. Stakeholder proposed numerous changes to the actions, including consolidating, eliminating, and rewording actions. Due to the length of the discussions, stakeholders had a difficult time deciding which actions should be priorities. As the end of the meeting neared, it became clear that the stakeholders would not finish selecting priority actions, and a meeting in July would be necessary. The group therefore switched to determining what actions should be selected for the benefit-cost analyses.

The group discussion settled on the following actions to consider for the BCAs:

- **Action 2:** Require larger setbacks and vegetated buffers for new construction adjacent to shorelines vulnerable to flooding and erosion exacerbated by sea-level rise.
- **Action 4:** Evaluate and secure sustained funding to restore and protect riparian vegetation along freshwater and marine shorelines.
- **Action 58:** Increase incentives (e.g., tax credits and fee waivers) to make urban infill and redevelopment projects more viable financially. Such projects enhance residents' resiliency by providing better access to transportation options and services (including food, hospitals, and emergency responders).
- **Action 29:** Implement tiered water pricing.
- **Action 18:** Plant drought- and pest-resistant trees, shrubs and grasses in parks, landscaping strips and other urban areas.

As the group discussed the possibilities, a suggestion was raised that the BCA could be conducted on a suite of similar actions or having Earth Economics spend more time on two actions rather than three. Many stakeholders felt that Action 4 was a good fit for the BCA, and could pair well with Action 2 if both were reviewed. The stakeholders were less interested in having Action 58 run through a BCA.

Stakeholders also felt that performing a BCA on Action 18 (an urban focus) would balance the review for Actions 2 and 4 (a rural focus).

During the discussion, stakeholders were also interested in having benefit-cost analyses of several of the proposed water conservation actions (Action 29, Action 14, and Action 45). In the end, the stakeholders settled on Actions 4 and 29 for the BCA.