

Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Request for Qualifications/Proposals
Questions and Answers
Posted 2/22/2019

1. Would TRPC entertain the outcomes/outputs needed via the workshops and open houses noted in Task 2.2 being achieved through the Thurston Climate Action Convention, Thurston Thrives and other community-based climate strategic initiatives and gatherings in 2019 and 2020?

No. TRPC plans to participate in the South Sound climate action convention and other community events, which would be supplementary to the planned workshops and open houses.

2. What steps have TRPC and the Steering Committee taken—and what latitude will the Consultant Team have—to ensure that the Public Engagement process ensures equitable representation and meaningful cross-sector community involvement for maximum plan impact? For example, is TRPC and the Steering Committee committed to the full engagement of linguistically and ethnically diverse communities, the Tribes and local businesses and health organizations?

TRPC is committed to broad community involvement in this planning process, consistent with our Public Participation Plan and as in past planning efforts. Our Title VI policy statement is as follows:

“Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (P.L. 100.259) be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any TRPC-sponsored program or activity, whether those programs are federally funded or not. In the event TRPC distributes federal funds to another entity, it will include Title VI language in all written agreements and will monitor for compliance.”

3. Related to the question above, why does TRPC feel that public engagement is important in the effort of each jurisdiction to meet the countywide greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets?

The plan will likely recommend actions for members of the public and jurisdictional actions may impact the public. To help ensure that the recommendations are equitable and implemented widely by the community, the planning process must include a robust public-engagement process that incorporates community input.

4. Is Task 3.1 in reference to TCAT’s “Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report for Calendar Year 2010: version 1.6, revised October 6, 2014”?

No. The task references a more recent TCAT inventory that TRPC used to recommend the 2015 baseline that was adopted by the project’s jurisdictional partners.

Additionally, is TRPC intending for itself and the consultant team to utilize data and results from the 2015 Energy Map provided by Clean Energy Transition and the Stockholm Environment Institute for Thurston County and the City of Olympia, and if so, how?

TRPC anticipates that the consultant team would utilize the 2015 energy map and associated carbon wedge analysis to help assess the emissions-reduction impact of potential actions.

5. Has the initial list of TRPC's "communitywide actions" been developed yet and if so, where can it be accessed?

TRPC is still developing a draft list of actions. The draft list is not yet available publicly.

6. As noted above, Clean Energy Transition and the Stockholm Environment Institute completed a Carbon Wedge analysis for the City of Olympia and Thurston County in 2015. Is TRPC intending to evaluate and update this work, revising the existing model or is TRPC wishing to conduct another analysis from scratch? If the later, what was missing from the previous work conducted?

To be determined. This will be part of the discussions with the selected consultant team.

7. Will completion of the three city and one county "Implementation Strategies" be the primary responsibility of the city staff and elected officials with TRPC and the consultant providing expert support as needed, or is the consultant team expected to play a larger role in these strategies? If so, what are the parameters involved?

The consultant team and TRPC will assist jurisdictional staff and policymakers in their development of their respective implementation strategies.

8. Is TRPC interested in scientific (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions reduction) as well as social (e.g. changes in human physical and emotional health) and financial/economic metrics (e.g. increases in sales/profits of local solar and green building businesses) in order to track progress?

Yes.

9. We do understand that the project is to create a climate mitigation plan focused on GHG emissions reductions. Would project deliverables be enhanced by any discussions of relationships between adaptation strategies and mitigation strategies? Or would you prefer to keep all work products very purely focused on mitigation alone?

TRPC adopted the companion *Thurston Climate Adaptation Plan*, in early 2018. That science-based plan (www.trpc.org/climate) recommends about 90 adaptation actions and notes where such actions have mitigation co-benefits (e.g., Action W-11 calls for planting shade trees to cool urban areas during extreme heat events; the action notes that such trees also capture and store carbon). The mitigation plan described in the RFQ/P should focus on emissions-reducing actions. However, if such mitigation actions have adaptation co-benefits, it would be instructive to note them in the final plan.

10. Evaluation of and supplements to existing emissions inventories is mentioned prominently near the beginning of RFP/Q p.3 and within the description of Task 3.1, but is omitted from the list of key deliverables on p.1. Is TRPC expecting a separate deliverable related to inventory review (Task 3.1)? And if so, is this deliverable due prior to launch of Tasks 3.2 or later?

TRPC used an emissions inventory, developed by the non-profit Thurston Climate Action Team, to recommend the 2015 emissions baseline and 2030 and 2050 targets that were adopted by each jurisdictional partner. Per Task 3.1, TRPC wants the consultant team to review the emissions inventory's data sources and calculations for accuracy. If the consultant team finds errors, the project's Steering Committee may ask the consultant team to revise the 2015 baseline figure, as needed. Such work does not need to be completed prior to the launch of other tasks.