

**Meeting #11 Summary**

July 23, 2020, 12-2:00PM

Agenda Item	Notes
1. Introductions & Project Updates	<p>Allison Osterberg from TRPC conducted a roll call of Steering Committee members and informed members of the public attending on how to provide comment at the end of the meeting. Allison presented the CAW's observations on challenges facing implementation, which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Revenue and implementation funding- Short-term distractions that could impede local jurisdiction efforts to combat climate change- Ensuring sufficient political will to complete the climate plan- Concerns about equity <p>Allison also presented the CAW's recommended focuses as climate planning moves forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emphasis on the sense of urgency- Continued collaboration- Proper funding to support mandates- Progress over perfection
2. Communitywide Actions List & Scenario Results	<p>Allison Osterberg reviewed revisions made by Roel Hammerschlag to the scenario analysis that includes feedback provided by CAW and Steering Committee members as well as new data from TCAT's updated emissions inventory. Changes to the scenario analysis include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Alteration of contributions from through traffic emissions to GHG inventory- Calculation of methane capture offset to landfill emissions- Removal of assumptions from land clearing actions- Increased GHG reduction impact from carbon sequestration actions <p>The updated scenario analysis also includes a more detailed explanation of long-term emission reductions resulting from state and federal policy changes. Local efforts to support these policy outcomes focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Investing in a green electrical grid- Shifting energy sources away from fossil fuels- Promoting less energy-intensive lifestyles- Sequestering carbon through preservation and regenerative agriculture



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Expanding local knowledge and capacity through monitoring and assessment, increased technical assistance, climate-focused decision making <p>Comments provided by the Steering Committee expressed agreement for focused local efforts. Suggestions included harnessing COVID-based economic recovery efforts to quicken green grid development, grouping sequestration actions with goals related to density and the Growth Management Act, and considerations for cost. Consensus was reached to formulate a way to include equity as a core component of local efforts to support policy changes.</p>
3. Implementation Strategy	<p>Allison Osterberg gave overview of four approaches for timely and effective implementation of mitigation actions identified by the partnering jurisdictions and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Utilizing the Legislative agenda- Regional coordination- Individual jurisdictions- Supporting partners. <p>The Legislative Agenda approach focuses on communicating local interest, advocating for and tracking state climate action, and researching feasibility around taxing authority, energy benchmarks, and code changes. The Regional Coordination approach focuses on data collection and monitoring, improving and expanding transportation networks, enacting sequestration programs, and education leading to behavior change. The Individual Jurisdiction approach focuses on investments to capital improvements, dedicating staff for technical assistance, as local code amendments. The Supporting Partners approach identified Intercity transit, the Thurston Conservation District, LOTT, the Economic Development Council or other public/private partnerships as effective implementors.</p> <p>Comments provided by the Steering Committee expressed concern that implementation approaches lacked emphasis on community participation and the importance of individual efforts. There was a desire to ensure public buy-in and not over-emphasize government action.</p>
4. Monitoring Framework	<p>Allison Osterberg reviewed the components of the monitoring framework which include continued updates to the regional GHG inventory for focus sectors by TCAT, tracking the progress of mitigation actions outlined in the plan, and monitoring key performance indicators (KPIs). These include the identified mitigation strategy, the indicator metric or measurement, and the reduction target. KPIs will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tracked regionally- Updated annually (as applicable)- Reported online through dashboard or progress report



	<p>The Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan document will also undergo minor updates every 2 years with a major update planned in 8-10 years. Consensus was reached to formulate an update process for out of cycle amendments.</p>
<p>5. Next Steps</p>	<p>Allison Osterberg gave overview of changes to the climate mitigation plan schedule. Proposed 2 additional Steering Committee meetings for August 2020 and September 2020 that follow the prior schedule. The Draft climate mitigation plan would be presented to the Steering Committee in late August and undergo public review afterward between August and September. A second Steering Committee meeting would occur in late September to review public comment. A third meeting could take place in late November 2020 to act on the final plan. Initiate Phase III and appoint a subcommittee to develop the plan’s scope.</p>
<p>6. Jurisdiction Updates</p>	<p>Due to time constraint this item was taken off the agenda.</p>
<p>7. Public Comments</p>	<p>There were 6 public comments. Brief summaries follow:</p> <p><i>Chris Van Daalen:</i> Thanks for all the great work on this, looking forward to the next steps. I want to reinforce that the assumption that the policy adjusted wedge for the buildings & energy sector is going to be achieved is a pretty big assumption. Without local action to address building energy and energy efficiency, it is unlikely that those big impacts will come to pass. We need to build a green economy out of our economic response to COVID recovery. I am disappointed that we have to wait until November before the jurisdictions will be able to adopt the plan.</p> <p><i>Lynn Fitz-Hugh:</i> I am gratified that sequestration is being addressed in the plan. I echo Chris’ concerns about waiting to adopt the plan until November. The longer we wait the more things have to be done. I urge you to move as rapidly as possible. I would ask you to try and not think about this with the budgets you had, but for the world that’s coming and build a climate sustainable world. Last thing, it is possible for builders to leave trees, it’s just not convenient for them, tree codes will have to be reviewed.</p> <p><i>Thad Curtz:</i> There’s an awful lot of annual variation in the things that we are looking at, and some things will only show effects very gradually. Less regular updates would probably be fine given the monitoring framework presented. I’ve done detailed numbers using our current grid’s emissions for costs and benefits for the different types of vehicles in Thurston County, I’ll send them to you and if you’re interested you can take a look at them.</p> <p><i>Karen Messmer:</i> Thank you all for your ongoing work on this committee. I want to encourage you to look at the opportunities to implement this in a very cooperative way across the jurisdictions. You don’t need to have a technical expert in each jurisdiction based on what’s covered here. There are lots of resources and outside</p>



	<p>experts. This is a long haul, a huge effort. Starting some of the really big actions is important because they are incrementally going to work. Transportation and walkability are very important right now.</p> <p><i>Tom Crawford:</i> Thanks for your excellent work. Thinking back 3-4 years ago when this process was just starting to occur, at that time climate change was not really a topic of discussion. So, this is tremendous progress, you're stepping up to commit to actions that will not always be easy to take. I encourage you to review whether some actions will take legislative effort and see if you can start them now. TCAT stands ready to support this effort. We have expanded our community education and we will continue that.</p> <p><i>Wayne Olsen:</i> For these comments I'll be representing the Panorama Green team. I know members of this team will be waiting to see the draft plan before making recommendations to city councils and council members, so I have concerns for the delay in releasing the draft. The sooner the better to help us all countywide.</p>
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Meeting Attendance

Steering Committee Present Online:

Chris Hawkins – Thurston County
 Rich Hoey – City of Olympia
 Susan Clark – City of Olympia
 Jim Cooper – City of Olympia
 Lisa Parshley – City of Olympia
 Tye Menser – Thurston County Commissioner

Jessica Brandt – City of Lacey
 Cynthia Pratt – City of Lacey
 Carolyn Cox – City of Lacey
 Brad Medrud – City of Tumwater
 Tom Oliva – City of Tumwater

Public Present Online:

Karen Messmer
 Samara Almonte
 Carrie Ziegler
 Lynn Fitz-Hugh
 Roy Treadway
 Peggy Smith
 Janine

Chris Van Daalen
 Tom Crawford
 Wayne Olsen
 Thad Curtz
 Jeff Miller
 Kelsey Hulse

Staff Present:

Allison Osterberg
 Marc Daily
 Les Tobias
 Dave Read

Next Meeting: August 27, 2020



Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Coordinator:

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

TRPC website: <https://www.trpc.org/>

This meeting summary is not a verbatim account – a video recording of this meeting is available upon request.