



Climate Action Steering Committee

Meeting #1 Summary

March 22nd, 2021, 3:00-5:00 PM

Agenda Item	Notes
1. Call to Order, Introductions, & Public Comments	<p>Olympia City Councilmember Lisa Parshley called the first Climate Action Steering Committee meeting to order. Lisa introduced Steering Committee members and support staff from TRPC, Thurston County, and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater. Lisa presents the Steering Committee meeting agenda for approval. Lacey Deputy Mayor Cynthia Pratt moved to approve the agenda. Tumwater City Councilmember Eileen Swarthout seconded the motion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee agenda is approved. <p>Lisa Parshley of Olympia called for comments from members of the public. There were 2 public comments. Brief summaries follow: <i>Thad Curtz:</i> We've now been creating plans about climate adaptation and mitigation for three and a half years. We know they're significant steps we could take to reduce our emissions. We could adopt the ordinances Seattle just did limiting use of natural gas in new commercial or multifamily above three stories and EV charging requirements in new residential construction. I hope you'll consider some practical First Steps regarding residential Energy Efficiency possible without State action. In short, I hope that you'll actually start taking some steps on which of these ideas to pursue rather than marching forward with another year's standard planning processes. Thank you very much. <i>Tom Crawford:</i> I'd like to start out just by reminding myself to some extent and perhaps the rest of you why this is a problem and why and why we should care about it and the reasons are pretty straightforward. As we continue to emit greenhouse gas emissions that has serious effects on people not just in our community, but around the world people are losing their homes through floods. I think we've seen that the even the energy Grid in Texas had serious issues with the weather that was created in large part by dramatic changes in the Gulf Stream, and that's a clear result of climate change. I would kind of echo that part of what Thad just said, it's important for us to start to act today, this year. the same time there are very significant benefits we get from acting. We get the significant utility cost savings on the part of our residents. We also</p>



	<p>get more jobs; we get more business opportunities and we get improved health. and finally, I'd like to say we at TCAT are not only Willing and ready to help you with this task. We are already starting. Thank you for your work, and we're here to help.</p>
2. Committee Business	<p>Following Public Comment, Lisa Parshley began the process for electing the Climate Action Steering Committee Chair and Vice Chair. Lacey City Councilmember Carolyn Cox nominated Thurston County Commissioner Tye Menser for Vice Chair. No other nominations were presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tye Menser was voted by the Climate Action Steering Committee to Vice Chair. <p>Tye Menser assumed chair duties and called nominations for Climate Action Steering Committee Chair.</p> <p>Cynthia Pratt of Lacey nominated Olympia City Councilmember Lisa Parshley for Chair. No other nominations were presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lisa Parshley was voted by the Climate Action Steering Committee to Chair. <p>Lisa Parshley assumed chair duties and brought forth the Phase III Climate Action Steering Committee Charter for adoption.</p> <p>Tye Menser moved to adopt the Phase III charter. Carolyn Cox seconded the motion.</p> <p>Lisa Parshley asked if discussion or any amendments to the charter were desired.</p> <p>Allison Osterberg of TRPC clarified that white paper topics were present in the ILA scope of work and served as examples and that adoption of the charter did not finalize any decision. The Charter was clarified to cover the norms, organization, and decision-making processes and that potential white paper subjects were at the discretion of the steering committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee Charter is approved. <p>Allison Osterberg presented a summary of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan framework. Allison then reviewed the Phase III project expectations and tasks, these included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Task 1- Project ManagementTask 2- Climate Action Steering CommitteeTask 3- Policy Research SupportTask 4- Monitoring and Assessment ProgramTask 5- Public Outreach <p>For Task 1, the number of interjurisdictional meetings Task 1 were clarified to be at jurisdictional staff discretion.</p> <p>For Task 2, Climate Action Steering Committee meeting times were discussed.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Committee agreed to hold future meetings on the 4th Monday of the month, from 3-5 pm and will use Zoom Webinar format. <p>For Task 3, the committee discussed potential policy topics for the four planned research documents (white papers) that will be written for jurisdictional implementation of prioritized actions. Topics for white papers focus support on legislative agenda and regionally coordinated strategies, these include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Climate-informed Decisionmaking2. Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings3. Electric-vehicle-ready Infrastructure4. Regional Program for Carbon Sequestration <p>Allison of TRPC clarified that white papers would be researched by TRPC staff and move forward on similar timelines depending on topic complexity. Steering Committee discussed preferences and opinions on proposed white paper topic selection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steering Committee selected Regional Program for Carbon Sequestration as a white paper topic.• Steering Committee did not select Climate-informed Decisionmaking as a white paper topic.• Steering Committee will evaluate re-scoped Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings and Electric-vehicle-ready Infrastructure topics at the next Steering Committee meeting.• All white paper deliverables will investigate how equity and community representation are reflected in research topics selected and provide guidance. <p>For task 4, Allison summarized the monitoring and assessment processes for climate mitigation action including recommendation for long-term monitoring and providing annual progress reports. Allison clarified that the regional greenhouse gas emissions report would not be conducted by TRPC and would continue to be produced by TCAT.</p> <p>For task 5, Allison summarized planned public outreach including presentations to the public at community events and maintaining the climate mitigation plan website.</p>
3. Standing Agenda Items	<p>Karen Parkhurst of TRPC provided an overview of the 2021 Washington state legislative session and bills relating to climate mitigation. Larger budget packages for transportation may include electric vehicle infrastructure. More budget summaries will be provided as they are released.</p> <p>Up to 50 additional bills could support implementation of climate mitigation strategies. HB 1091 has not moved forward in the legislature but may be revisited at another time.</p>



	<p>Karen requested further direction from the Steering Committee regarding potential amendments to assist jurisdictional implementation for climate action. Committee requested future updates on state bills establishing preeminence over local decisions (i.e. natural gas ban). Committee requested updates on bills that might influence regional coordination, including those related to affordable housing.</p>
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Meeting Attendance

Steering Committee Present Online:

Lisa Parshley – City of Olympia
 Pete Kmet – Mayor of Tumwater
 Cynthia Pratt – City of Lacey
 Carolyn Cox – City of Lacey
 Rick Walk – City of Lacey

Jennica Machado – Thurston County
 Ramiro Chavez – Thurston County
 Tye Menser – Thurston County Commissioner
 Eileen Swarhout – City of Tumwater
 Brad Medrud – City of Tumwater

Public Present Online:

Thad Curtz
 Tom Crawford
 R. Smith

Joel Carlson
 Kim Merillo

Staff Present:

Allison Osterberg
 Karen Parkhurst
 Les Tobias

Next Meeting: April 26th, 2021, 3-5:00 PM

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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.