



## Climate Action Steering Committee Meeting #10 Summary January 24, 2022, 3:00-5:00 PM

Link to packet and presentations: <https://www.trpc.org/966/Meeting-Materials>

Agenda Item	Notes
<p>1. Call to Order, Introductions, &amp; Public Comments – All members</p>	<p>Chair Parshley called the Climate Action Steering Committee (CASC) meeting to order at 3:01 pm.</p> <p>Steering Committee members, support staff from Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC), staff from Thurston County and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater, provided self-introductions.</p> <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the agenda.</p> <p>Committee Member Cox, moved, seconded by Committee Member Swarthout, to approve the agenda.  <b>Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee agenda is approved.</b></p> <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the November 22, 2021 meeting summary.</p> <p>Committee Member Menser, moved, seconded by Committee Member Cox, to approve the November 22, 2021, meeting summary.  <b>Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee’s October 25, 2021, meeting summary is approved.</b></p> <p>Chair Parshley called for comments from members of the public. There were 3 public comments. Brief summaries follow:</p> <p>Melinda Hughes: She congratulated the City of Olympia on passing a resolution to electrify the city. TCAT is hiring someone to work on equity and zoning codes, and has officially received a \$75,000 Climate Justice Grant from EPA and work will start in February.</p> <p>Tom Crawford: Tom is the board president for TCAT and will be sending out a follow-up document from workshops held last fall regarding countywide efforts toward energy efficiency in residential buildings. The document has outlines of 12-15 possible projects for the committee’s consideration.</p>



	<p>Timothy Leadingham: Timothy is an Olympia resident that sent in written comments to the committee regarding carbon sequestration. He is concerned about how the plan relies on additional carbon sequestration while the county is continuing to have net forest loss.</p> <p>Chair Parshley requested that Melinda Hughes send details on what the grant is hoping to achieve, and suggested that the grant could be presented at a future steering committee meeting.</p>
<p>2a. Long Term Governance Agreement, 2022 Work Program - All Members</p>	<p>Allison Osterberg discussed the long-term governance agreement details and timeline. The agreement includes three pieces under review: the Interlocal Agreement (ILA), Annual Work Program to achieve the goals of the ILA, and a TRPC Scope of Work to support items in the Annual Work Program. The 2022 Work Program includes several standing tasks and a set of regional priorities.</p> <p>Committee member Menser requested details on how the advisory workgroup will be formed, and Osterberg clarified that the group is contingent on the ILA and work program being approved. The steering committee will be responsible for deciding who the members should be, and meetings should start around the second quarter of the year.</p> <p>Lacey and Thurston County have passed the ILA and electrification cost study.</p> <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the long-term governance agreement and 2022 work program.</p> <p>Committee Member Menser, moved, seconded by Committee Member Cox, to approve the long-term governance agreement and 2022 work program.</p> <p><b>Motion to approve the long-term governance agreement, 2022 work program, and scope of work for TRPC to perform tasks identified in the work program is approved.</b></p>
<p>2b. 2021 Annual Report – Allison Osterberg, TRPC</p>	<p>Allison Osterberg presented the 2021 annual report of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Implementation. The latest overall emissions inventory is from 2019, which predates COVID-19 and TCMP adoption. Overall emissions had increased approximately 15% since the baseline year of 2015. Energy usage has gone up in 2020, and vehicle miles traveled have decreased which was heavily influenced by COVID-19. The land use and solid waste goals are not being met.</p> <p>Community partner highlights include the Solarize Thurston program which helped households purchase solar panels, Olympia’s shift to</p>



	<p>requiring multimodal concurrency in development projects, and Thurston Conservation District’s technical assistance program.</p> <p>Most TCMP actions are in progress with only 29% that have not been started.</p> <p>Committee members expressed concern over the possibility that different jurisdictions are using different methods to measure forest cover. They requested TRPC staff work with the jurisdictions to ensure they are not using contradictory data. While there are different methods of assessing forest cover all find that Thurston County has around 50% cover.</p>
<p>3a. 2022 Legislative Session – Beth Doglio, Climate Solutions &amp; RMI</p>	<p>Former State Representative Doglio provided an overview of current state legislation relating to climate mitigation. Buildings are the fastest growing source of climate pollution state and nationwide, and thus the bills are focused around building decarbonization. The bills discussed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ HB 1770/SB 5669 – Gives local jurisdictions a choice between using the baseline state building code or a reach code and sets a goal of having new construction be net zero ready by 2034.</li><li>○ HB 1774/SB 5772 – Extends the Clean Buildings Act requirements to smaller commercial and multi-family buildings over a longer timeframe.</li><li>○ HB 1767/SB 5666 – Authorizes public utilities to incentivize electrification in a way beneficial to the utility and customers.</li><li>○ HB 1766/SB 5668 – Requires gas utilities to develop clean heat transition plans by January 2024.</li><li>○ HB 1280 – Requires electrification cost study for state-funded buildings.</li></ul> <p>Doglio also discussed possible state investment into weatherization. The proposed Weatherization Program would scale up low-income weatherization programs, use state investment to leverage federal funding, and invest in workforce development to prepare for future growth.</p> <p>Proposed state building code updates include requiring all commercial buildings to use electric heat pumps for space and water heating, and the comment period for the updates is ongoing until March 11<sup>th</sup>. Chair Parshley requested that the committee discuss submitting a regional letter of support for the legislation at the February meeting.</p>
<p>3b. Carbon Sequestration Background</p>	<p>Ran out of time – will be discussed a future meeting.</p>



<p>4a. Legislative Agenda – All members</p>	<p>Members discussed the draft 2022 legislative priorities document. Members will check-in about the positions of their jurisdictions on the priorities and relay it to other committee members over email before February 3<sup>rd</sup>.</p> <p>After the meeting, members approved the legislative priorities with consensus via email on 1/31/2022.</p>
<p>4b. Jurisdictional Information Sharing – All Members</p>	<p>Thurston County (Tye Menser) – Several budget items went through including a full-time Climate Coordinator position that the county hopes to have filled by June 1<sup>st</sup>, a full time Public Works employee dedicated to achieving climate goals in the transportation sector, and another planner that will have half of their time dedicated to long-term climate issues.</p> <p>Lacey (Carolyn Cox) – Lacey has passed the long-term governance agreement and has a new planner that will be working with the committee occasionally.</p> <p>Tumwater (Eileen Swarthout) – Tumwater’s opening for a Sustainability Coordinator has now closed and they are hoping to have the employee in place by spring. Tumwater has been working with Lacey on discussions around improving EV infrastructure.</p> <p>Olympia (Lisa Parshley &amp; Pamela Braff) – Olympia passed a building electrification resolution with 5 action items including electrifying all newly constructed city-owned buildings and major renovations, and doing a fossil fuel evaluation for feasibility of retrofitting existing buildings to become all electric by 2030. The City is partnering with South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity to support using electric heat pumps in residential construction.</p>
<p>5. Adjourn</p>	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.</p>



## Meeting Attendance

### Steering Committee Present Online:

Lisa Parshley – City of Olympia representative and Chair  
Carolyn Cox – City of Lacey representative  
Pamela Braff – City of Olympia staff  
Brad Medrud – City of Tumwater staff

Eileen Swarthout – City of Tumwater representative  
Tye Menser – Thurston County representative  
Jennica Machado – Thurston County staff  
Grant Beck – City of Tumwater Staff

### Public Present Online:

Wayne Olsen  
Jerilyn Walley  
Helen Wheatley  
R Peggy Smith  
Tom Crawford  
Beth Doglio

Joel Carlson  
Melinda Hughes  
Paul Berendt  
Timothy Leadingham  
Dave Bradley

### Staff Present:

Allison Osterberg, Senior Planner  
Dorinda Merrill, Office Assistant III  
Karen Parkhurst, Planning and Policy Director  
Michael Ambrogi, Senior Planner  
Casey Mauck, Assistant Planner

**Next Meeting:** February 28, 2022

Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Coordinator:

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

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*Meeting summary is prepared by Casey Mauck, Assistant Planner, Thurston Regional Planning Council*

*This summary is not verbatim. A recording of this meeting is available at <https://www.trpc.org/966/Meeting-Materials>.*