



Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative Annual Retreat
April 15, 2024

2025 Regional Initiative Recommendations and Discussion

TCMC Staff Team

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Today's Goal

- Build consensus around one Regional Initiative
- A Regional Initiative is an action that all four TCMC jurisdictions will work together on with the support of their elected officials in 2025.

After Today

- 4/22 - Present Regional Initiative to Executive Committee for approval.
- Staff Team develops project plan and budget for implementation.
- Jurisdictions consider including initiative in 2025 work plans and budgets.

Approach

- Staff Team Review and Recommendations
- Select a Topic (consensus)
- Brainstorm Ideas and Questions

Regional Initiative Considerations

Selection of a Regional Initiative

- The **Annual Retreat** serves as a strategic planning session for the Staff Team, CAW, and Executive Committee to discuss climate mitigation progress and needs, with an emphasis on regional coordination and **selection of a regional initiative**.
- Purpose: An annual process to identify priority strategies and/or actions that would benefit from regional coordination, and propose as a focus of regional work.
- Note: The identification and selection of a regional initiative through this process does not guarantee that it will be implemented by the Staff Team. Jurisdictions must approve the necessary staff, resources, and budget for this work to occur.

Selection of a Regional Initiative

✓ Today

Staff Team, CAW, and Executive Committee submit proposals for regionally coordinated initiatives.

Staff Team evaluates proposals and identifies short list for discussion at annual retreat.

STEP 1:

Staff Team prepares options for regional initiatives.

Staff Team presents options for regional initiatives at annual retreat.

Staff Team, CAW, and Exec. Comm. discuss proposals.

Exec. Committee selects regional initiative at post-retreat meeting.

STEP 2:

Staff Team, CAW, and Executive Committee discuss options.

Staff Team develops budget, plan, and timeline for regional initiative.

Jurisdiction partners propose regional initiative for inclusion in respective workplans and budgets.

STEP 3:

Staff Team develops project plan.

If jurisdiction partners allocate necessary staff and resources, Staff Team proceeds with work on regional initiative.

Work may proceed immediately or be delayed to accommodate staff and budget resources.

STEP 4:

Jurisdictions allocate resources.

Staff Team begins work on regional initiative.

Staff Team provides updates on project progress at regular Executive Committee meetings.

STEP 5:

Staff Team develops work product.

Selection of a regional initiative by the Executive Committee does not guarantee that it will be implemented by the Staff Team. Jurisdiction partners must approve the necessary staff, resources and budget for this work to occur.

Executive Committee advocates for allocation of staff and budget resources.

Executive Committee supports and champions completed work product.

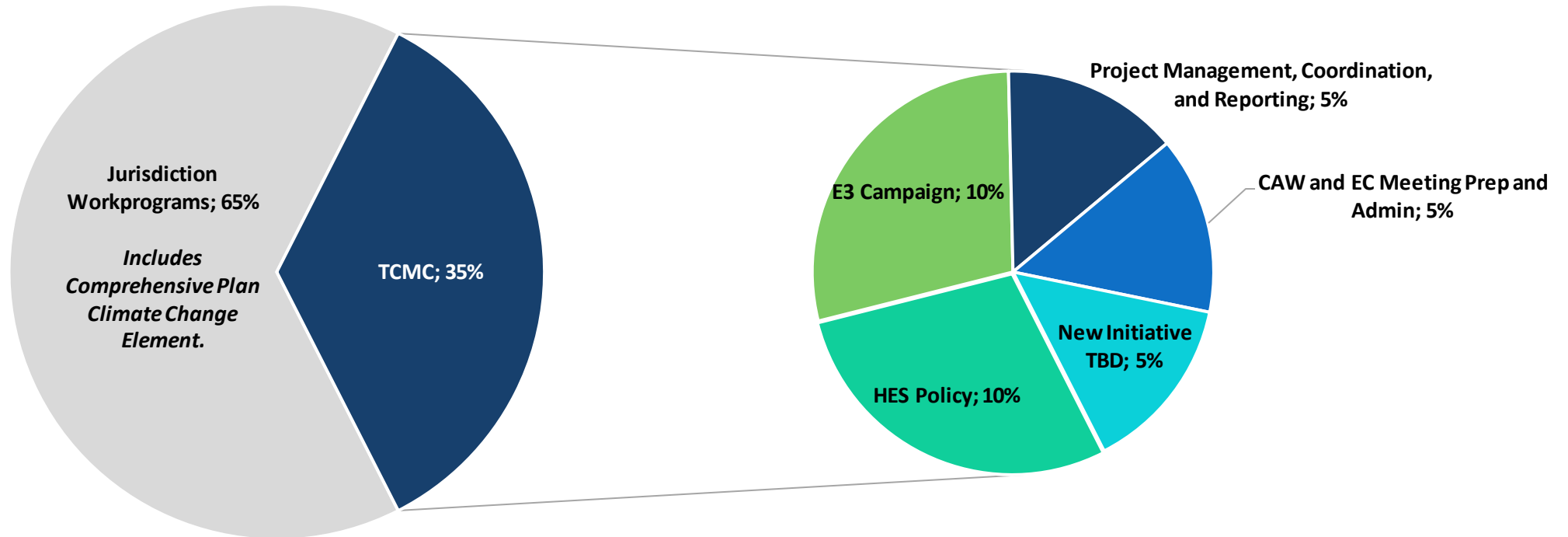
Criteria for Advancing Proposed Initiatives

- Is this initiative consistent with TCMP Strategies?
- Is this initiative substantially improved by regional coordination?
- Are jurisdictions one of the right entities to implement this action?
- Other Considerations, e.g.:
 - Already underway in partner jurisdiction(s)
 - Need for additional research or analysis
 - Already addressed by state policy

Key Considerations for 2025 Regional Initiative

- **The Staff Team expects to advance implementation of the 2024 Regional Initiatives in 2025.**
 - Energy Efficiency and Electrification Campaign
 - Home Energy Score Model Ordinance
- **The Staff Team has limited capacity to begin a new Regional Initiative in 2025.**
 - 2025 Regional Initiative should be limited to research and analysis (e.g., produce a whitepaper).
 - Funding for external support (e.g., a consultant) will be required.

Estimated TCMC Staff Time Contributions, 2025*



*Tumwater Sustainability Coordinator is only allocated 50% FTE to climate work

Regional Initiative Recommendations

Potential Focus Areas

- B1. Reduce energy use in existing residential buildings.
- T1. Set land use policies that support increased urban density and efficient transportation networks and reduce urban sprawl. / T5. Increase use of active forms of travel (such as bicycling, walking).
- T4. Increase the use of public transit.
- W4. Divert more solid waste from landfills.
- G1. Conduct education and outreach across climate mitigation areas.
- Evaluate funding and financing strategies.

B1. Reduce energy use in existing residential buildings.

Staff Team Analysis and Recommendation

- The Staff Team recommends advancing this strategy as the next phase of the 2024 regional initiative “Residential Energy Efficiency & Electrification Campaign.” This next phase may include creating a long-term strategy for an ongoing regional campaign, targeting benefits to new groups (e.g., renters), expanding outreach, and/or developing new partnerships.

T1. Set land use policies that support increased urban density and efficient transportation networks and reduce urban sprawl.

Staff Team Analysis and Recommendation

- The Staff Team recommends advancing this strategy for a regional initiative as a condition assessment and/or policy research to inform future land use policies that support increased urban density, reduce urban sprawl, and support increased use of public transit and active forms of travel.
- This could include a **policy analysis of best practices** (in urban and rural areas to support increased urban density) or a **spatial assessment or infrastructure inventory** to inform planning of walkable/bikeable communities.

T4. Increase the use of public transit.

Staff Team Analysis and Recommendation

- The Staff Team recommends engaging with InterCity Transit, a TCMP Supporting Partner, regarding their progress and priorities to advance this strategy.

W4. Divert more solid waste from landfills.

Staff Team Analysis and Recommendation

- In one of two forms:
 - 1) Conducting outreach to businesses in each partner jurisdiction to help the County reach businesses that need to meet the requirements of the Organics Management Law, or;
 - 2) Engaging with the school districts (e.g. through writing a letter) to encourage compost diversion.

G1. Conduct education and outreach across climate mitigation areas.

Staff Team Analysis and Recommendation

- The Staff Team recommends considering projects that focus on **behavioral policy design** (e.g., land use policies that encourage use of multi-modal transportation), rather than individual interventions (e.g., VMT reduction outreach).
- Advancing a regional initiative on this topic could involve researching policy approaches to supporting/influencing specific behaviors or actions such as **increasing the use of active forms of travel, increasing the use of public transit, or diverting more solid waste from public landfills.**

Evaluate funding and financing strategies.

Staff Team Analysis and Recommendation

- The Staff Team does not recommend advancing this strategy for a regional initiative.
- This initiative would not be significantly improved by regional coordination. Any future work to evaluate funding and financing strategies for climate work would be best advanced by individual jurisdictions, in a manner that is consistent with local needs, priorities, and timelines.

Questions & Discussion



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