



MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative Community Advisory Workgroup

FROM: Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative Staff Team:
Linsey Fields, City of Lacey
Pamela Braff, City of Olympia
Alyssa Jones Wood, City of Tumwater
Rebecca Harvey, Thurston County

DATE: October 1, 2024

SUBJECT: **Comprehensive Plan Engagement**

Requested Action

Receive a briefing from the Staff Team on the Comprehensive Planning process and provide feedback on priority, considerations and challenges for the cities during this planning cycle. No formal action or approval is requested at this time.

Commented [PB1]: Can you add more detail here describing the topic of the briefing and what feedback is requested?

Purpose of this Action

- Collect CAW member input to inform the Comprehensive Plan Climate Elements for the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater.

Background

Comprehensive Planning is a requirement for all cities and counties under the Growth Management Act; these plans are typically updated every ten years. Thurston County and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater are currently updating their comprehensive plans for adoption by the end of 2025.

With the passage of HB 1181—Climate Change Planning, most jurisdictions in Washington State will now have to plan for climate change by adding two new sub-elements to this cycle of comprehensive plans: a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction sub-element and a resiliency sub-element.

The GHG reduction sub-element requirements include reducing GHGs generated by transportation and land use within the jurisdictions, reducing vehicle miles travelled, and prioritizing reductions that benefit overburdened communities; jurisdictions cannot restrict population growth or limit population allocation in order to achieve GHG reductions.

Climate resilience is the process of adapting to changes in the climate (like hotter temperatures and more frequent and intense wildfires) and minimizing impacts to natural systems, infrastructure, and communities. The resiliency sub-element of comprehensive plans are required to equitably enhance resiliency, prioritize actions that benefit overburdened communities, protect natural areas, enhance community resiliency, and address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change.

During the July CAW meeting, the staff team conducted an engagement session to get feedback on comprehensive planning for Thurston County, emphasizing rural areas. The staff team is building on that previous engagement work and expanding it to the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater with a focus on urban planning/climate change.

Engagement Questions

During the meeting, members of the CAW will be asked what priorities, considerations, and challenges they see in reducing GHGs in Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater in each of the following sectors:

- Buildings & Energy Sector
- Transportation
- Zoning and Development
- Carbon Sequestration

CAW members will also be asked the following questions in addressing climate resiliency in Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater:

- What climate change impacts are you already seeing in your community?
- What resources and assets in your community do you think are the most important to protect from the impacts of climate change?

Attachments

None

Commented [PB2]: Are we attaching the jamboard or similar here?

Commented [RH3R2]: Yes, probably give them the prior jamboard sheets to review ahead of time.

Commented [LF4R2]: I included the questions above as I wasn't sure we would have something similar to jamboards setup in time for the agenda.