

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING SUMMARY (DRAFT)

Monday, October 27, 2025, 4 – 6 PM

Link to packet and presentations: [Executive Committee Meetings - Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative](#)

EC Members Present: Tumwater City Councilmember Eileen Swarthout (Chair), Olympia City Councilmember Robert Vanderpool, Thurston County Commissioner Emily Clouse (Vice Chair), Lacey City Councilmember Carolyn Cox (alternate).

EC Members Absent: Lacey City Councilmember Robin Vasquez, Olympia City Councilmember Kelly Green (alternate), Tumwater City Councilmember Kelly VonHoltz (alternate) & Thurston County Commissioner Tye Menser (alternate).

CAW Representative: Tom Crawford

Staff Present: Alyssa Jones Wood (City of Tumwater), Rebecca Harvey (Thurston County), Pamela Braff (City of Olympia), Linsey Fields (City of Lacey), & Keren Bolter (EXP).

Agenda Item	Notes
1. Opening	Executive Committee Chair Eileen Swarthout called the meeting to order at 4:10pm.
1A. Call to Order	
1B. Approval of Agenda	
1C. Approval of Previous Meeting Summary	Committee Member Robert Vanderpool motioned for approval of the agenda; the motion was seconded by Vice Chair Emily Clouse. The motion carried unanimously.
Attachment: July 28, 2025, Draft Meeting Summary	Vice Chair Emily Clouse motioned for approval of the previous meeting summary for the April 28th meeting; the motion was seconded by Committee Member Robert Vanderpool. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Public Comment	Tom Crawford and Paris McClusky provided public comment.
3. Announcements	No announcements were made.

4. Committee Business
4A. Community
Assemblies

Guest speaker Faduma Fido from the People's Economy Lab gave a presentation on community assemblies as a form of collaborative governance. Key points from her presentation are outlined in her slides, linked [here](#).

Briefing

Attachment: Community
Assemblies Memorandum

Committee Member Robert Vanderpool and Vice Chair Emily Clouse both expressed interest in investigating how to incorporate community assemblies for their jurisdictions. Both noted that this could be a method to garner public input and create a sense of ownership and impact for participants.

Tom Crawford noted that longevity seems to be an important aspect to successful community assemblies, and asked how these programs are sustainably funded. Faduma Fido shared that generally these programs are government organizations funded through local tax income or fully external organizations funded through philanthropy and community fundraising.

Committee Member Robert Vanderpool asked how to bring in community members who are not already involved and tied into local governance in some way. Faduma Fido responded that there are several key things to keep in mind: (1) don't make assumptions about availability; (2) allocate adequate funding and time to really let people feel they will be heard and have an impact.

4B. TCMC ILA
Amendments

Action

Attachments: (1) TCMC
ILA Amendments
Memorandum; (2)
Amended TCMC ILA; (3)
Guidance Documents

Staff Team Member Rebecca Harvey provided background for the action before the Executive Committee: the amendments to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) that governs the TCMC's collaborative work. The existing ILA was executed in 2023 to provide a framework through 2030. Since then, the TCMC has evolved significantly and the approach to administering the TCMC under the current ILA has become time and resource intensive. The Staff Team drafted updates to the ILA and presented these draft updates to both the Executive Committee and the Community Advisory Workgroup for preliminary review and approval. Rebecca Harvey provided an overview of the suggested changes.

Staff Team members provided follow up information on the status of the proposed ILA amendments within each of their jurisdictions' approval processes.

Requested Action: Review and approve the updated interlocal agreement to support regionally coordinated implementation of the TCMP.

Vice Chair Emily Clouse motioned to approve the amended ILA as presented. Her motion was seconded by Committee Member Carolyn Cox.

The proposed amendments to the ILA were approved unanimously.

5. Standing Agenda Items
5A. CAW Updates

The CAW representative Tom Crawford and EXP facilitator Keren Bolter shared updates on the CAW. Recent CAW agenda items have included reviewing the scope for the 2026 Regional Initiative and the proposed amendments to the ILA, and working on their 2026 work plan.

5B. Jurisdiction Updates

Thurston County Updates were provided by Committee Member Emily Clouse:

- The County will hold a public hearing on their comprehensive plan on November 4th at 3:30 pm. The hearing will be held at the Atrium (3000 Pacific Ave. SE, Olympia).
- The County board held a briefing on the Home Energy Score model ordinance on October 15th and provided direction to our staff to conduct community outreach about the policy to county residents and to review the ordinance with affected county departments to discuss.
- The County has two new Level 2 EV chargers operational at the Sandstone Cafe in downtown Tenino. An additional charging station will soon be installed at the Quarry House.
- The Central Services Department is working with an engineering consultant to complete the final project design for a solar plus storage project funded by a Clean Energy Community Grant. The project design will be done by February 2026, with the goal of completing installation by December 2026.

- The Tree Canopy Assessment final report is nearly complete and will be shared with the board soon and then with the public.
- County staff have begun implementing the Forest Lands Conversion Ordinance.

City of Olympia Updates were provided by Committee Member Robert Vanderpool:

- The solar energy system on the fire station has been installed. This system will generate approximately 145,000 kWh of renewable energy per year and will meet 100% of the station's current energy needs. This project was funded through the Climate Commitment Act.
- With \$120,000 in Washington State EV Charging Program grant funding, the City is installing 8 Level 2 chargers with a total of 16 ports at 3 multifamily properties.
- With winter coming, flood risk is higher in downtown Olympia, especially with the potential for combined king tides, heavy rain, and low air pressure. Residents can prepare by reviewing flood maps and signing up for Thurston community alerts. More information is available at:
www.olympiawa.gov/community/downtown/downtown_flooding.php

City of Lacey Updates were provided by Staff Team Member Linsey Fields:

- The City of Lacey has restarted its matching rebate program to match fuel switch electrification rebates for residents switching from PSE natural gas to a heat pump. There is approximately \$124,000 in funding available from the climate implementation budget.
- The City Council will hold a work session on the comprehensive plan in November and should be able to adopt it by the end of the year.
- The City will hear during the first week of November whether they have been selected for an e-bike lending library grant from WSDOT for city employees.

City of Tumwater Updates were provided by Staff Team Member Alyssa Jones Wood:

- The City is working with Olympia Community Solar to apply for two grant proposals for solar plus storage projects; one for the main fire station and the other for the Timberland Library, which is the only heating and cooling shelter in the city.
- The City has been approved for a Civic Spark fellow and will be hiring an 8 month fellow who will serve between January and September 2026, working to kickstart the resiliency aspects of the Climate Element.
- Tumwater was selected to work with the Puget Sound Preparedness Collaborative Small Communities Cohort to develop a no-cost vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan for climate hazards.
- The next community assembly will be held on November 12th from 5:30-8:30pm at the ASHHO Cultural Community Center. Those who want to participate can register on the TCAT website [here](#). Free childcare will be provided.
- The public works building is decarbonizing their HVAC system.
- The City will be retaining their federal grant that funds their urban forestry work for the full three years.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55.

Meeting summary was prepared by the consultant (EXP) and TCMC Staff Team. This summary is not verbatim.