

Thurston Climate Action Progress Report: 2022 Quarter 3 (July—Sep)

Buildings & Energy

Strategies

- B1. Reduce energy use in residential buildings.
- B2. Reduce energy use in existing commercial/ industrial buildings.
- B3. Reduce energy use across building types.
- B4. Reduce energy use in new buildings or redevelopment.
- B5. Increase the production of local renewable energy.
- B6. Convert to cleaner fuel sources.

Activities

Lacey:

B1. Collaborating with Puget Sound Energy, Community Action Council, Department of Commerce and other local and regional agencies to identify existing barriers for local households looking to increase their residential energy efficiency while lowering monthly costs.

Olympia:

B4.4. Inventory of natural gas equipment in city-owned facilities is 90% complete.

B5.5 Olympia has achieved SolSmart Gold designation and celebrated this recognition at a City Council meeting in September 2022.

B6. Continued work with Habitat for Humanity to develop a heat pump group purchase campaign.

B6. ECONorthwest continued work on building electrification cost assessment, including the selection of building prototypes for energy modeling.

Tumwater:

B2.3. Work began on 9/26/22 to replace ~900 light fixtures at the Tumwater Timberland Library branch.

B5.3. Staff has been working to execute a contract to install 9 panels at one water fill station and 2 panels at one water valve location this year. When the contract is executed, work will begin.

Thurston Climate Action Progress Report: 2022 Quarter 3 (July—Sep)

Transportation & Land Use 1/2

Strategies

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

T2. Increase efficiency of the transportation system.

T3. Increase adoption of electric vehicles.

T4. Increase the use of public transit.

T5. Increase use of active forms of travel and more efficient commute modes.

Activities

Lacey:

T1. Formally adopted new zoning changes to consolidate two low-density zoning districts into a single zone allowing for additional housing options, increased densities, and residential affordability.

T1.9 Reviewing two additional ADU designs to offer as part of our ADU pre-approved program.

Olympia:

T1.1 City Council adopted Ord 7335, regarding downtown parking requirements for residential uses. Amendments make the entire area exempt from automobile parking for residential uses and clarify that bicycle parking requirements do apply.

T1.4 Neighborhood centers strategy: Community survey conducted. Two pop-up events held to share information and solicit feedback. Participated in community event/eco-tour. Working on draft report.

T1.11 Reducing parking standards on urban corridors: Staff have given public presentations on proposed changes are developing a questionnaire to solicit community feedback in October.

T2.2 Design and right-of-way acquisition continued for Fones Road. Working on upgrading signal controller to add new Signal Performance Measures (SPM) software. This software will improve traffic activity monitoring, such as: traffic counting, vehicle arrival times, vehicle delay, and emergency vehicle activations in real time. This data will help us understand traffic flow along a corridor so that we can improve program signal timing adjustments for transit.

T3.1/T3.5 Staff developing public outreach plan to solicit stakeholder feedback on EV-readiness proposal for new parking (as directed by Olympia Land Use and Environment Committee).

T3. Partnered with Tumwater and Thurston County to submit an Electrification of Transportation Systems grant for a regional project to prioritize and evaluate the readiness of publicly-owned land and facilities to provide public EV-charging infrastructure.

T5.1 Continued to pursue permits for construction of 1-mile of shared use pathway through Grass Lake Park. Continued to move the Fones Road project forward. Continued to move the Boulevard Road Trail Crossing and Bike Corridor Ext. project forward. Continued to move the State & East Bay project forward. Continued to move the 4th and Plum project forward. Applied for STBG grant for the Elliott Avenue sidewalk. Applied for STBG grant for a scope and pre-design study for Martin Way. Pending WSDOT Ped/Bike Program grant for Downtown to Southeast Bike Corridor. Pending WSDOT SRTS Program grant for Westside Bike Corridor.

T5.4 Walk to School Month recognition and proclamation by Council on 9/25. Back to School Safety Tips article in the Sep/Oct Five Things Utility Bill Insert. TRPC and Olympia School District collaborated with partners to create Safe Route to School maps for elementary and middle schools to support students who walk/roll to school.

REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION

Thurston Climate Action Progress Report: 2022 Quarter 3 (July—Sep)

Transportation & Land Use 2/2

Strategies

- T1. Set land use policies that support increased urban density and efficient transportation networks and reduce urban sprawl.
- T2. Increase efficiency of the transportation system.
- T3. Increase adoption of electric vehicles.
- T4. Increase the use of public transit.
- T5. Increase use of active forms of travel and more efficient commute modes.

Activities

Thurston County:

- T1.1/T1.2 Thurston County Community Planning Department is bringing on a new .5 FTE Associate Planner and may include items in position scope.
- T2.2. Thurston County working with a consultant to conduct a study evaluating the amount of congestion on rural intersections. Next step will be evaluating emission levels and identifying appropriate actions for reduction.
- T2.17. Thurston County is implementing an updated teleworking policy.

T3.7. Thurston County Community Planning Department is bringing on a new .5 FTE Associate Planner and may include items in position scope.

T3.10. Thurston County has two fully electric vehicles. \$150,000 was allocated for electric vehicle charging stations, project in progress.

T5.11. Thurston County Community Planning Department bringing on new .5 FTE Associate Planner and may include items in position scope.

Tumwater:

T1. Ongoing implementation of Growth Management Act plans that are intended to direct future growth into urban areas, supporting the expansion of transit and walkable communities.

T3.11 City of Tumwater staff attended an EV Car Show with TCAT at Harbor Days and showed the City's Nissan Leaf.

T5.1. As part of the City's painting and restriping project we increased the width of the non-motorized area on 70th to improve the experience of bicyclists and pedestrians.

Regional:

T1. TRPC revised the criteria used to rank projects in the call for projects process, which will dole out nearly \$11.4 M in funds for local transportation and other projects. One new criterion is the project's location in or near urban centers and corridors. Projects that are within a quarter mile of an urban center or corridor receive the highest rating for the criterion.

T5. Folks throughout the region participated in the Week without Driving from September 19-25. The event encourages people to understand the barriers nondrivers experience in the community, and supports use of public transit and active forms of transportation.

T1/T5. The Martin Way Corridor Alternatives Report is available now, and provides a preferred alternative to guide the vision for the corridor going forward. The transportation preferred alternative supports active transportation options through creating bicycle and pedestrian connections and increasing access to transit. Read the report here: <https://www.trpc.org/1000/Martin-Way-Corridor-Study>

REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION

Thurston Climate Action Progress Report: 2022 Quarter 3 (July—Sep)

Water & Waste

Strategies

- W1. Increase the efficiency of water and wastewater infrastructure.
- W2. Reduce water consumption.
- W3. Reduce emissions from wastewater treatment operations.
- W4. Divert more solid waste from landfills.
- W6. Reduce consumption of carbon-intensive goods and services.

Activities

Olympia:

- W4.4 Waste Resources completed 3 waste assessments with city businesses this quarter. 20 assessments completed this year.
- W4. Residential Composting: Added 112 residential customers for a total of 9488. Commercial Composting: Added 4 new Businesses and lost 4 businesses. Total of 163 participants.

Tumwater:

- W1.1/1.2. The City is under contract with the Department of Enterprise Services for an ESCO to look at water and energy efficiency of all city facilities including water & sewer infrastructure.

Agriculture, Forests, & Prairies

Strategies

- A1. Reduce emissions from agricultural practices.
- A2. Support agricultural practices that sequester carbon.
- A5. Manage forests and other ecosystems to sequester carbon.
- A6. Reduce emissions from the urban landscape.

Activities

Lacey:

- A6. Increased Tree Protections: Permit thresholds for residential lots changed from 5 trees in a 3-year period to 3 trees in a 5-year period reducing the number of trees that can be removed through this application process and extending the review horizon for potential residential tree removal.

Olympia:

- A6. Continued work with consultant to develop land cover and tree canopy assessment. Completed update of habitat stewardship GIS systems to better prioritize future restoration and planting projects.

Thurston County:

- A6.5. Thurston County will include work on municipal canopy as a part of the Healthy Forest project and will occur with the joint code update.
- A6.9. Development Code Docket Item A-25, Amend the Forest Lands Conversion Ordinance and Review Rural Tree Protection Standards, is included as priority 7 for the 2022-2023 Development Code Docket. As part of this larger project, Thurston County contracted with TRPC to 1. conduct an analysis of where forest land conversions have occurred and the associated impacts to rural tree canopy and 2. produce a corresponding map product. The TRPC contract analysis was completed.
- A7.3. The Habitat Conservation Plan was federally approved in 07/2022; will be implemented in 2023.

Tumwater:

- A6.9. The City kicked-off its Tree & Vegetation Preservation Ordinance and Street Tree Plan/Ordinance work with a consultant.

REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION

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Cross-cutting

Strategies	Activities
<p>G1. Conduct education and outreach across climate mitigation areas.</p> <p>G4. Enhance monitoring and evaluation of climate mitigation measures and outcomes.</p> <p>G5. Advocate for climate-mitigating state and federal policy.</p>	<p>Olympia:</p> <p>G5. Olympia City Council provided written comment to the State Building Code Council in support of the residential energy code proposals that would improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality, and accelerate the transition to clean energy in new residential construction.</p> <p>Regional:</p> <p>G4.1 Work continues on the 2021 countywide greenhouse gas inventory. The inventory will be finalized by the end of the year, and include some new emissions sources not previously included in county inventories.</p>

Climate mitigation activities not tied to a sector, strategy, or action in TCMP

Olympia: *Climate and Equity Framework:* Completed revisions to City's climate and equity frameworks for planning and decision-making. Staff training on frameworks will take place between October and November 2022. Staff report templates will be updated to require assessments of climate and equity considerations in all items presented to City Council by January 2023. *Heat Vulnerability Assessment:* Selected for the October 2022 Thriving Earth Exchange cohort. As a part of this cohort, the City will receive project and technical support to complete a community science project focused on evaluating the distribution of urban heat impacts in Olympia.

Thurston County: Thurston County Commissioner passed revised C-PACER Ordinance. Thurston County hired a new Climate Mitigation Senior Program Manager that will start October 17, 2022.

Regional: The Steering Committee appointed 3 members to fill the Climate Advisory Workgroup. The workgroup met in August and will meet again in November. TRPC revised the criteria used to rank projects in the call for projects process, which will dole out nearly \$11.4 M in funds for local transportation and other projects. One new criterion is a project's ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.