



## Climate Action Steering Committee

### Meeting #11 Summary

February 28, 2022, 3:00-5:00 PM

Link to packet and presentations: <https://www.trpc.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=568>

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 3:00 pm.</p> <p>Steering Committee members, support staff from Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC), and 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee agenda is approved.</b></li> </ul> <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the January 24, 2022 meeting summary.</p> <p>Committee Member Cox, moved, seconded by Committee Member Swarthout, to approve the January 24, 2022, meeting summary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Motion to adopt the Climate Action Steering Committee’s January 24, 2022, meeting summary is approved.</b></li> </ul> <p>Chair Parshley called for comments from members of the public. There were 4 public comments. Brief summaries follow:</p> <p>Melinda Hughes: TCAT received a \$5,000 grant from the Nisqually Tribal Council for tree work. Global events reinforce our overdependence on oil and gas which contribute to global warming. The IPCC released a report this week which said that the world is on track to exceed 1.5 degree Celsius warming which will cause damage to food security, water, and lands. TCAT looks forward to continuing to work with the steering committee on climate issues.</p> <p>Timothy Leadingham: Timothy is a resident of Olympia who would like to remind the committee of the importance of trees and forests to our common climate mitigation goals. If all of the forests in the</p>



	<p>urban growth areas of the county were developed, it would contribute approximately 1.7 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050. He urges the committee to focus on this issue.</p> <p>Tom Crawford: Tom thanked the committee for their important work and spoke about the IPCC report that came out today. The report talked about the relationship between climate change and our critical systems, and the intersections of climate change and equity. There are several organizations in the region that help work on these issues including Thurston Thrives, and TCAT looks forward to continuing work with community partners to help increase food security, housing, diversity, and economic equality in Thurston County.</p> <p>Jeanine Lindsey: Jeanine would like to know when the white paper regarding carbon sequestration is coming out, as she is part of the tree action team and they are getting feedback from the community that they would like more data regarding carbon sequestration before additional action is taken.</p>
<p>2a. 2022 Meeting Schedule, Long Term Governance Agreement Update - All Members</p>	<p>Allison Osterberg spoke about phase 4 of the project. Phase 3 will conclude around April 2022 and phase 4 will begin at that time. Proposed meeting times for 2022-2023 will be 3-5PM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.</p> <p>Chair Parshley requested approval of the 2022-2023 meeting schedule.</p> <p>Committee Member Cox, moved, seconded by Committee Member Swarhout, to approve 2022-2023 meeting schedule. <b>Motion to approve 2022-2023 meeting schedule is approved.</b></p>
<p>2b. State Building Code Council Comments – Allison Osterberg, TRPC</p>	<p>Osterberg reviewed potential state building code changes to the commercial energy code. Chair Parshley asked members if they have received input from their fellow councilmembers regarding the positions of their respective jurisdictions, as the steering committee could submit a letter of support.</p> <p>The City of Olympia and Thurston County are in support of sending a letter, and the City of Tumwater is still discussing their participation in the letter. The City of Lacey is not in favor of sending in support for the potential changes at this time.</p> <p>Committee members will confer over email before the comment deadline of March 11<sup>th</sup> and discuss a potential letter of support.</p>



<p>3a. Carbon Sequestration Background – Allison Osterberg, TRPC</p>	<p>Osterberg gave an overview of carbon sequestration and how it relates to the plan. The plan focuses on terrestrial carbon sequestration, and strategies to increase sequestration include supporting agricultural practices and preserving tree canopy, forests, and prairies. Actions to carry out the strategies include increasing agricultural soil carbon, afforestation, and reforestation. There are different program options to achieve the actions including carbon credit programs and urban forest management plans.</p>
<p>3b. King County Forest Carbon Program – Kathleen Farley Wolf, Forest Carbon Program Manager, King County</p>	<p>Wolf gave an overview of the King County Carbon Forest Program. The program includes urban and rural credit systems that allow individuals or organizations to purchase carbon credits to offset carbon emissions. While it takes significant time and cost to set up projects, there is a high demand for forest carbon credits. Successful forest carbon projects must be verifiable and permanent.</p> <p>Committee members asked Wolf logistical questions about the program including how the price was set, the size of properties that must be included in the program, and staffing needs for the project.</p>
<p>4a. Legislative Agenda – All members</p>	<p>Allison Osterberg gave an overview of the status of several bills in the state legislature that relate to the plan. The bills and statuses follow below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HB 1280 Electrification of State Funded Buildings (moving forward)</li><li>• HB 1766 Clean Heat Act (not moving)</li><li>• HB 1770 Strengthening Energy Codes (moving forward)</li><li>• SB 5722 Benchmarking for multifamily and commercial buildings 20-50k square feet (moving forward)</li><li>• SB 5974 Move Ahead WA Transportation package (moving forward)</li><li>• SB 5312 Transit-Oriented Development Grants (not moving)</li><li>• SB 5633/HB 1895 Keep Washington Green Act (not moving)</li></ul>
<p>4b. Jurisdictional Information Sharing – All Members</p>	<p>Chair Parshley asked about the status of the carbon sequestration white paper, and Allison Osterberg said that the paper should be ready in approximately one month.</p> <p>Carolyn Cox (City of Lacey) – Lacey has been working on its Urban Forestry Plan and it should be voted on shortly. They requested a discussion of how to balance development pressure and retaining tree canopy.</p> <p>Eileen Swarthout (City of Tumwater) – Tumwater is hoping to have enough staff member working on climate issues in the next month.</p> <p>Carolina Meija (Thurston County) – Thurston County has no significant updates.</p>



	Pamela Braff (City of Olympia) – Olympia is working with Thurston County on a grant application through DNR to conduct a tree canopy assessment.
5. Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm.



## Meeting Attendance

### Steering Committee Present Online:

Lisa Parshley – City of Olympia representative and Chair  
Carolina Meija – Thurston County alternate  
Carolyn Cox – City of Lacey representative  
Charlie Schneider – City of Tumwater alternate  
Eileen Swarhout – City of Tumwater representative

David Ginther – City of Tumwater staff  
Grant Beck – City of Tumwater staff  
Jennica Machado – Thurston County staff  
Pamela Braff – City of Olympia staff  
Rick Walk – City of Tumwater staff

### Public Present Online:

Aloha Kakou  
Andy Kaplowitz  
Dave Bradley  
Frank Turner  
Jeff Miller  
Jeanine Lindsey  
Joel Hansen  
Karen Messmer  
Loretta Seppanen  
Lynn Fitz-Hugh

Melinda Hughes  
Paul Berendt  
R Peggy Smith  
Thad Curtz  
Timothy Leadingham  
Tom Crawford  
Wayne Olsen  
Wendy Couture

\*One additional member of the public was present by phone

### TRPC Staff Present Online:

Allison Osterberg, Senior Planner  
Casey Mauck, Assistant Planner  
Karen Parkhurst, Planning and Policy Director

**Next Meeting:** March 28, 2022

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

*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/Calendar.aspx?EID=568>*