



## Climate Action Plan Community Advisory Task Force Meeting #5

1-3:40 p.m., Thursday, September 23, 2021: Zoom

### Meeting Notes

*[Presentations and video available at [www.clackamas.us/sustainability/climateaction](http://www.clackamas.us/sustainability/climateaction)]*

#### Attendance (check marks indicate those in attendance)

##### Task Force Members

- ✓ Ray Atkinson
- ✓ Bill Avison
- ✓ Sally DeSipio
- ✓ David Bugni
- ✓ Nina Carlson
- ✓ Katy Dunsmuir
- ✓ Laura Edmonds
- ✓ Zach Henkin
- ✓ Dan Houf
- ✓ Lisa Kilders
- ✓ Julia Person

- ✓ Richa Poudyal
- ✓ Valerie Pratt
- ✓ Adam Rack
- ✓ Jeff Rubin
- ✓ Jairaj Singh
- ✓ William Street
- ✓ Kim Swan
- ✓ Elysia Treanor
- ✓ Ed Wales
- ✓ Cassie Wilson

##### County Staff

- ✓ Sarah Allison
- ✓ Eben Polk
- ✓ Sarah Present
- ✓ Ellen Rogalin
- ✓ Garrett Teague

##### Consultants

- ✓ Monica Cuneo, facilitator
- ✓ Maurya Braun

#### I. Welcome (Monica Cuneo)

Monica welcomed everyone to the meeting, reviewed best practices for using Mural, restated the land acknowledgment and reviewed the agenda.

#### II. Public comment

Elizabeth Graser-Lindsey: Can I choose which breakout group I want to attend?

#### III. Climate Justice and Just Transition (Sarah Allison)

##### *Climate Justice*

Not everyone has contributed to climate change equally or benefited from GHG emissions equally:

- a. locally and globally
- b. now and historically

Some people in frontline communities are positioned to:

- a. suffer more from climate change impacts
- b. suffer more from climate action policies

For climate action to be just, it must address these inequalities.

##### *Just Transition*

According to the Climate Justice Alliance, “Just Transition strategies were first forged by labor unions and environmental justice groups, rooted in low-income communities of color,

who saw the need to phase out the industries that were harming workers, community health and the planet; and at the same time provide just pathways for workers to transition to other jobs.”

#### *Clackamas County Focus*

- Start from the baseline that certain communities will experience disproportionate harm from climate change impacts *and* climate actions
- Recognize that, historically, policies have relied on market forces to identify transitions, which often leaves communities behind
- The climate action plan will seek to provide supported transitions to avoid these negative impacts with policies that anticipate and provide alternatives to family and community-level harm

#### **Discussion**

- Are workers open to changing careers?
- That depends on options in the community where they live. Most people choose work based on their community rather the work.
- Part of our climate justice work is to expand job options for people.
- Just transition options in the NW Timber Wars could have included:
  - ◆ Concentrate spotted owls in smaller locations where they could thrive
  - ◆ More sustainable harvesting of trees
  - ◆ Ensure educational opportunities
- We need to create a livable future for everyone, including those who may feel threatened.
- In Alberta, Canada, there are lots of highly skilled people in drilling and pumping oil who are concerned about climate change and their own livelihoods. In Edmonton they are focusing on opportunities to redeploy those skill sets.
- There are always technical solutions to problems, which are dwarfed by people who politicize issues and have something to gain by dividing us. This group, at the end of this process, by speaking with commonality can hopefully counteract some polarization that may come into play.
- There is good overview of the Timber Wars at <https://www.opb.org/show/timberwars/>.
- Another example is the urban growth boundary (UGB). I’m for more density, but some want to build more in uninhabited areas. How that works out really impacts our work.
- Improving and expanding services, i.e., transit stops. Need to consider accessibility as we’re changing things.
- There’s value in noticing that the story that we have to choose between nature and jobs is not true, and is told to in order to divide people. We need a different story.
- If we’re going to depart from business as usual, we need a toolkit that allows flexibility for folks who need job re-training or who want to use best practices. It needs to be as incentive-driven as much as possible.
- A key piece of this plan will be the messaging around it – not just implementation, but how we position and discuss it.
- A just transition isn’t just about black and brown communities, but about all communities.

#### **IV. Generate Strategies to Reach High-Level Actions (Monica Cuneo)**

Monica said the consultants organized the ideas generated by the breakout groups at the last meeting. Today breakout groups will review target outcomes, high-level actions and strategies, then switch groups to review and generate more ideas and strategies.

The CATF split into four groups (transportation, energy, buildings, and food and natural resources) to brainstorm topics they had worked on at the last meeting, then shifted groups twice to review and brainstorm topics on which they had not yet focused.

#### **V. Next Steps / Meeting Evaluation**

Monica said there may be an adjustment in the meeting schedule to fit with work that needs to be done behind the scenes. She will get the final Mural and videos from today to everyone early next week.

**Next meeting: Tentatively Thursday, Oct. 7, 1 p.m.**