

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 07/27/21 **Approx. Start Time:** 3:00pm **Approx. Length:** 30 min

Presentation Title: Performance Clackamas Update – *Honor, Utilize, Promote and Invest in our Natural Resources* / Climate Action Plan

Department: Transportation and Development

Presenters: Dan Johnson, DTD Director; Eben Polk, Sustainability Supervisor

Other Invitees: Cheryl Bell, DTD Assistant Director; All members of the Climate Action Plan Implementation Team

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

This is a discussion update to the Board on the Climate Action Plan Implementation Team.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Early in 2020, interdepartmental Implementation Teams were formed to address each of the Board's Strategic Initiatives. The work of the Implementation Teams was paused while the updated Performance Clackamas plan was developed. Since the plan's March 2, 2021 adoption, Implementation Team meetings have resumed.

These update sessions provide an opportunity for the Board to review progress towards achieving the Initiatives including:

- discussing activities to date
- identifying what's working and any barriers
- recommending changes, if needed, and
- describing plans for the next 12 months.

This session will review one initiative from the ***Board's Honor, Utilize, Promote and Invest in our Natural Resources*** priority:

- **By January 2023, a Climate Action plan is adopted for our community with specific recommendations to reach the goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

Is this item in your current budget? YES NO

What is the cost? \$195,425 for creation of the climate action plan

What is the funding source? DTD solid waste franchise fees, and Water Environment Services (WES); no unrestricted funds are involved

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- **How does this item align with your Department's Strategic Business Plan goals?**

DTD is the lead department for this countywide project, and climate action/sustainability is a strategic focus in DTD's Performance Clackamas plan, as follows:

Unchecked climate change combined with a lack of department action, if not addressed, will result in:

- ♦ *Wildfires, reduced snowpack, increased vulnerability to pests, and increased summer temperatures, which have a direct impact on a variety of businesses.*
- ♦ *Infrastructure designs that are less energy efficient and not built or retrofitted to withstand the amplified hazards and stresses of a changing climate.*
- ♦ *Health impacts, and other threats that can undermine the safety and security of our communities.*
- ♦ *Risk to our natural resources from climate change with increased greenhouse gases.*
- ♦ *Impacts to environments supporting pollinators.*
- ♦ *Inability to provide leadership in the countywide goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.*

- **How does this item align with the County's Performance Clackamas goals?**

One of the five County Strategic Initiatives is to: *Honor, utilize, promote and invest in our natural resources.* A result for this strategy is: *By 2023, a Climate Action Plan is adopted for our community with specific recommendations to reach the goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.*

This is a review of the multi-departmental Implementation Team's work on this Performance Clackamas goal.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS: n/a

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

The work of the Implementation Team involves several departments, with PGA being a key partner in this work.

OPTIONS:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Performance Clackamas Review Forms

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval *Dan Johnson*

County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Cheryl Bell @ 503-260-7124

BCC GOAL:

Strategic Result(s)

By 2023, a Climate Action Plan is adopted for our community with specific recommendations to reach the goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.

Team Members/Department (*Chair)

<i>Department</i>	<i>Team Members</i>			
Transportation and Development	Dan Johnson *	Cheryl Bell	Eben Polk	Sarah Allison
Public and Government Affairs	Sue Hildick	Tonia Holwetzki	Ellen Rogalin	
Disaster Management	Daniel Nibouar	Molly Bradley		
Water Environment Services	Greg Geist	Ron Wierenga		
Business and Community Services	Sarah Eckman	Tom Riggs		
Finance	Elizabeth Comfort			
Health, Housing, and Human Services	Dr. Sarah Present	Abe Moland		
Board Representative	Kimberlee DeSantis			
MFR Partner	Kathleen Rastetter			

Key Strategies

Development of a comprehensive climate action plan (CAP), including three 2-year work plans
Community engagement and outreach related to CAP development (including a project task force, and engagement with traditionally underrepresented communities)
As part of the CAP, develop a climate lens for County activities beyond those included in the climate action plan (for use by the Board and departments)
Implementation of interim carbon reduction measures to reduce greenhouse gases while developing Climate Action Plan
Pursue strategies for additional avenues of funding to implement Climate Action Plan

Related Metrics

By 2023, a Climate Action Plan is adopted for our community with specific recommendations to reach to goal of being carbon neutral by 2050. [DTD]
By 2021, develop a countywide diesel engine replacement program. [DTD]
By 2025, 50% county-owned light passenger vehicles will be hybrids, electric or plug-in hybrids (excluding vehicles owned by the CCSO) [DTD]

Activities Completed to Date

July 2021 – Community Advisory Task Force Kickoff On July 29, 2021 the Community Advisory Task Force (CATF) meets for the first time. This group consists of 24 community members from a variety of geographic areas, lived experiences and technical areas of expertise. This group will provide critical community insights about the impacts and opportunities around climate action that will benefit the many communities in the county.
April/June 2021 – Climate Liaison Engagement Project staff have met regularly with the climate liaisons from the Board of County Commissioners to keep them informed about progress on the climate action plan and to incorporate their guidance into the project development.
March/May 2021 – Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) Engagement The project team presented to C4 twice in the first half of 2021 to confirm that opportunities for cities to engage in the county plan through a cities workgroup and city elected participation in the Community Advisory Task Force (CATF)
March 2021 – Youth Advisory Task Force Kickoff The Youth Advisory Task Force kicked off in March of 2021, with monthly meetings to support a group of 24 youth aged 14-23 in deeply understanding the climate action plan so they can engage meaningfully in its development.
January-July 2021 – Updated Operational Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Sustainability and Solid Waste staff built off of the 2017 Operational GHG Inventory to identify trends in the County’s emissions and opportunities for action. Data collection and analysis was conducted in the first half of 2021, with a report under development.
January-June 2021 – Climate Action Plan Engagement Foundation The project team developed a strong foundation for community engagement around the climate action plan by interviewing stakeholders from key communities in the county and drafting a Community Engagement Plan, which will be further vetted by the Task Force and the Board of County Commissioners. The team also conducted an application process for two long-term advisory groups (the Community and Youth Advisory Task Forces), explored equity considerations with the Office of Equity and Inclusion and the Leaders in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Council (LEDIC), and drafted plans for a Rural Key Stakeholders group to inform rural engagement.
January-June 2021 – Climate Action Plan Technical Analysis The consultant team conducted extensive data gathering and analysis to understand the baseline conditions around climate change for Clackamas County. This includes expanding the 2018 Community GHG inventory, developing technical reports about anticipated climate impacts and how the county contributes to climate change, and an initial list of climate actions to evaluate through community engagement. The team has drafted prioritization criteria, which will be vetted by the Board of County Commissioners, and which can be used to prioritize, design, or refine potential actions during the development of the CAP or later in implementation planning.
Activities As Presented in the December 8, 2020 Policy Session
December 2020 – Climate Action Plan Presentation + Q&A On December 3, 2020 the contractor, Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG), will present an overview of the project and plan development process, and will answer questions. This event is being held for the County’s executive management team and the Board; a recorded version will be provided to city partners and uploaded to the project website for the public.
October/November 2020 – Climate Action Plan Contract and Kickoff On November 12, 2020 the County signed the contract for the climate action plan with Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG). The project kicked off with the collection and analysis of relevant data, and the development of a community engagement plan.
November 2020 – NACCHO - CDC Climate and Health Demonstration Site Award

The County received a funding award to continue climate and health surveillance. Specifically, the funds will be used to support updating health indicators, adding mental health-related outcomes, enhancing statistical analysis and disaggregating data by race, and developing tools to help sectors incorporate climate and health messaging into their work based on our regional data.

August-October 2020 – Fleet Electrification Options

The Department of Transportation and Development worked with PGE to analyze the County fleet for opportunities to reduce that carbon footprint through electrification. The report was shared on October 22, 2020. Staff is working with the analysis to plan for future fleet transitions and evaluate other opportunities to reduce fleet emissions.

August 2020- Climate Action Plan Request for Proposals (RFP)

On August 3, 2020 the County announced an Intent to Award for climate action plan development with the Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG). The SSG consultant team will provide technical analysis, community engagement, and synthesis with County direction to produce the climate action plan, implementation plans, and supporting documents.

August 2020 – Community Health Improvement Plan

In August 2020, Public Health staff proposed a working draft for the following new guiding principle in the *Blueprint for a Healthy Clackamas*, the county’s community health improvement plan: “Climate-Conscious Strategies: Climate change is increasingly impacting the health of local communities in Oregon. It has been called the greatest public health challenge of the 21st century. Reducing the causes and impacts of climate change improves health outcomes. Identifying and strengthening climate change vulnerabilities within our community reduces health inequities.”

June 2020 – Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory

The County contracted with Good Company to conduct a greenhouse gas inventory for the community, which was completed in June 2020. This inventory provides a baseline for the estimated emissions of the community in 2018, helps to identify which climate actions have the most potential to reduce our contribution to climate change, and allows us to compare future years against the past so we can track progress on reduced emissions.

May 2020- Renewable Electricity

In May 2020, the Board supported a strategy to purchase carbon-free electricity through a combination of tools to minimize the cost. Since May, staff purchased renewable energy certificates (RECs) for the 2019/20 fiscal year, and with Procurement staff, completed a bidding process for community solar to reduce the cost of renewable electricity for the County.

April 2020 – Established a Climate Action Plan website

In April 2020, the County published a website for community members to find information on the climate action plan project (<https://www.clackamas.us/sustainability/climateaction>). This website shares information about upcoming events and engagement opportunities, milestones in the climate action planning process, a sign-up for our mailing list, and information on how climate action aligns with the Performance Clackamas priorities.

2019- Operational Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory

As a baseline for understanding the greenhouse gas emissions that County operations produce, Sustainability and Solid Waste staff conducted an operational GHG inventory for County operations for the 2017 calendar year. The results of this inventory help identify types of actions that can best reduce the County’s carbon footprint. While purchased goods and services are by far the largest contributor to the County’s carbon footprint, actions to reduce that footprint are more complex than many other actions and will likely take longer to implement.

2019 – Release of the Regional Climate and Health Benchmark Report

Partners from the Tri-County Public Health Authorities created an indicator report of 12 health outcomes related to the climate change events (heat waves, severe weather, vector exposure, and poor air quality) over the past 10 years. This is the first report that quantifies health impacts associated with climate factors driven by greenhouse gas emissions in Clackamas County. This work lays the foundation for interdisciplinary action and funding strategies with the health sector to improve health and well-being through climate action.

2019 – Development of the Climate Exchange Steering Committee

This small, focused group of Climate Exchange members provides direction and produces work products in support of the climate action plan. This group serves as the core project management group for the climate action plan.

2018- Development of the intradepartmental Climate Exchange

In 2018 this group of staff members from across County departments began meeting monthly to support the development of the climate action plan and to facilitate greater coordination between departments on climate action. As of August 2020, six departments participate in the Climate Exchange: Transportation and Development (DTD), Water Environment Services (WES), Health, Housing, and Human Services (H3S), Disaster Management (DM), Business and Community Services (BCS), and Public and Government Affairs (PGA). This group produced a lunch and learn series in 2019 to share how different departments are grappling with climate change, and provided significant input into the climate action plan scope of work.

2017- Board of Commissioners Resolution Reaffirming Clackamas County's Commitment to Combat Climate Change

On July 6, 2017 the Board of Commissioners issued a resolution to:

- Reaffirm the goals and actions in the previously-approved Resolution for a Sustainable Clackamas County, Action Plan for a Sustainable Clackamas County, and Resolution Adopting a County Energy Policy and Goals,
- Renew its commitment to policies and practices, both within county government and throughout the community, that respond to the need to combat and adapt to climate change, for the sake of the future of our residents and our economy.
- Support efforts to encourage the use of new lower-emission technologies in public buses such as those operated by transit agencies and school districts.

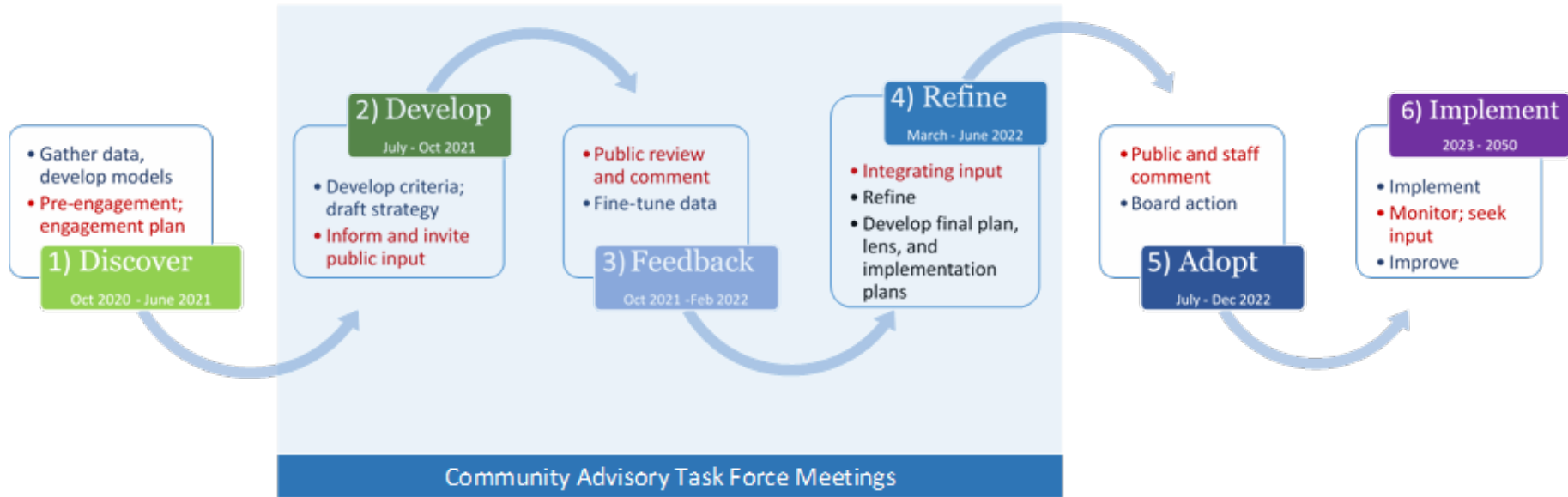
Ongoing – Engagement

Engagement, both internally and externally, is a critical part of this project and is occurring in multiple ways, with many stakeholders.

- Quarterly Board Liaison updates
- County project website
- Climate action plan mailing list
- Presentations - including outreach to the community (various community presentations provided by staff) and engagement with cities through C4
- Internal engagement – through the Climate Exchange and the 2019 lunch and learn series

Clackamas County Climate Action Plan Project: Phases of Work

Red: outreach and engagement tasks Blue: other project tasks



Additional Activities Planned for FY 21/22

Activity	Q1: July-September	Q2: October-December	Q3: January-March	Q4: April-June
Renewable energy	Purchased 100% renewable electricity for FY 20/21	Track purchase of Community Solar to reduce the cost of renewable electricity	Explore opportunities to offset natural gas emissions	
Fleet electrification options	Explore Fleet Partnership opportunity with PGE	Complete enhanced fleet assessment with PGE	Identify areas for fleet charging infrastructure	Add public and fleet-oriented charging infrastructure

Youth engagement	Youth Advisory Task Force meetings	Youth Advisory Task Force meetings	Youth Advisory Task Force meetings	Youth Advisory Task Force meetings
Monthly Climate Exchange and Steering Committee	Ongoing meetings	Ongoing meetings	Ongoing meetings	Ongoing meetings
Staff and community education	Updates in monthly e-newsletter	Updates in monthly e-newsletter	Updates in monthly e-newsletter	Updates in monthly e-newsletter

Overall Status/Progress

What's Working Well	Barriers/Challenges
Collaboration across multiple departments through Climate Exchange, Steering Committee, and Implementation Team	Delays of kick-off due to COVID-19 limitations, staff involved in wildfire and ice storm response, and concerns about community bandwidth during recovery
Strong turnout for CATF applications and YATF participation	Clearly communicating the distinction between pre-engagement efforts and full community engagement
Early actions taken to reduce County's greenhouse gas emissions with a focus on electricity and fleet	Complexity of the details involved in developing a broad, community-wide project
State actions are underway through Executive Order 20-04, Carbon Policy, that complement County actions	Need for creative funding strategies to implement climate strategies
Engagement with Board of Commissioners project liaisons	