

From: [Sonja Wiser](#)
To: [Sonja Wiser](#)
Subject: Suggestions for Clark Co. Climate Change PPP Exhibit 1
Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 11:03:00 AM
Attachments: [ACE Suggestions to Clark County PPP 11.2.23.pdf](#)

From: Jenna Kay

Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:18 PM

To: Heidi Cody <hcodystudio@gmail.com>; Karen Bowerman <Karen.Bowerman@clark.wa.gov>; Gary Medvigy <Gary.Medvigy@clark.wa.gov>; Michelle Belkot <Michelle.Belkot@clark.wa.gov>; Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Kathleen Otto <Kathleen.Otto@clark.wa.gov>; Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>; Gary Albrecht <Gary.Albrecht@clark.wa.gov>; Amy Koski <Amy.Koski@clark.wa.gov>

Cc: Cathryn Chudy <chudyca@gmail.com>; Don Steinke <crvancouverusa@gmail.com>; Alona Steinke <alonakotkasteinke@hotmail.com>; Ann Foster <annfoster5093@gmail.com>; Rebecca Messinger <Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: Suggestions for Clark Co. Climate Change PPP Exhibit 1

Thank you Heidi, Don, and Cathryn. This email confirms receipt of your comment. I have copied the County Council clerk to add your comment to the hearing record.

From: Heidi Cody <hcodystudio@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:02 PM

To: Karen Bowerman <Karen.Bowerman@clark.wa.gov>; Gary Medvigy <Gary.Medvigy@clark.wa.gov>; Michelle Belkot <Michelle.Belkot@clark.wa.gov>; Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Kathleen Otto <Kathleen.Otto@clark.wa.gov>; Jenna Kay <Jenna.Kay@clark.wa.gov>; Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>; Gary Albrecht <Gary.Albrecht@clark.wa.gov>; Amy Koski <Amy.Koski@clark.wa.gov>

Cc: Cathryn Chudy <chudyca@gmail.com>; Don Steinke <crvancouverusa@gmail.com>; Alona Steinke <alonakotkasteinke@hotmail.com>; Ann Foster <annfoster5093@gmail.com>

Subject: Suggestions for Clark Co. Climate Change PPP Exhibit 1

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Hello Clark County Council, staff and others,

Attached please find Alliance for Community Engagement (ACE)'s suggestions for how to improve the Clark Co. Climate Change & Resiliency Element Public Participation Plan Exhibit 1. We hope you will consider these suggestions and incorporate them before Tuesday Nov 7.

We appreciate being part of this process. Thank you for your ongoing work engaging community.

Sincerely,

Heidi Cody, Don Steinke and Cathryn Chudy
on behalf of Alliance for Community Engagement (ACE)

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Coalition Manager

Alliance for Community Engagement

Community Organizer for SW Washington
Washington Conservation Action

Nov. 2, 2023

Alliance for Community Engagement (ACE)

Clark County Council and Staff

Dear Clark County Council and Staff:

Thank you for your efforts creating Clark County's Public Participation Plan to help incorporate the Climate Element into your Comprehensive Plan. Alliance for Community Engagement (ACE) appreciates being part of this process. We have suggestions for your Public Participation Plan Exhibit 1 document and the process it outlines. We hope you can incorporate these suggestions before Nov. 7.

On p. 2 under Project Tasks, Greenhouse gas reduction subelement:

Bullet 1 says to begin with the collection of baseline data.

- Don't wait to proceed with incorporating a climate element until this data is collected. Emissions will increase in the meantime.

Bullet 2 says to select targets for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction and vehicle miles traveled for the 2025-2045 planning term.

- We propose adding four tasks:
 - Give each committee member a printed copy of the [Model Climate Element V5](#) Guidance Document, a link to the [Dept of Commerce Climate Program website](#), and refer them to our [State 2030 goals for GHG emissions reduction](#) (45% below 1990 levels);
 - Ask all committee members to familiarize themselves with these resources/documents;
 - Set a goal to stop increasing GHG emissions as soon as possible, as well as decrease emissions;
 - Set interim targets of 2-3 year increments to increase odds of meeting the 2030 and 2045 GHG emissions reduction goals.

Bullet 3 says to set policies to reduce emissions by 2045.

- Instead of focusing only on 2045, set 2-3 year interim GHG emissions reduction targets and make 2030 a benchmark goal, as well as 2045. [WA State goals go by 2030, 2040 and 2050](#). Right, the 2045 goal was for Clark PUD.
- Establish policies to help meet both these interim and long term goals.

On p. 3 under Public Participation Goals:

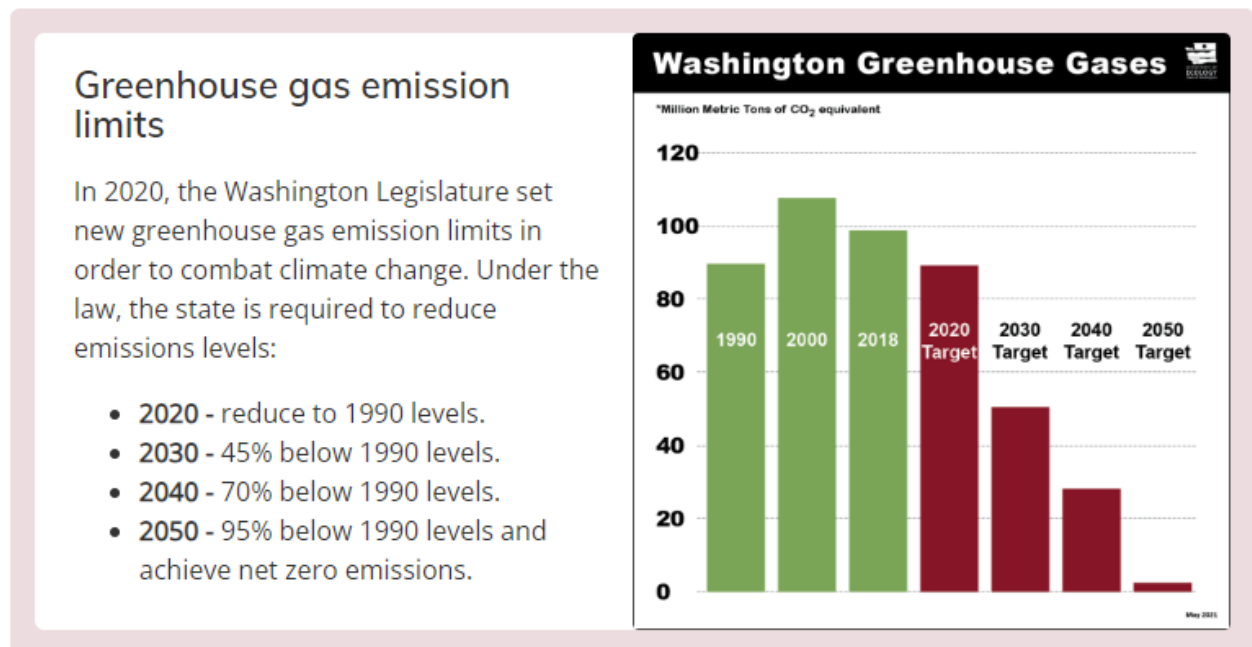
- Include “to promote understanding of the Washington State laws and associated state laws,” like the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), California’s Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandate, Climate Commitment Act (CCA), etc.

On p. 6 under Tribal Engagement:

- Actively engage with the Chinook Tribe and the Yakama Nation

On p. 8 under Community Advisory Group (CAG) meetings:

- Begin each meeting with a [reading of the State goals for 2030, 2040 and 2050](#). For each meeting agenda, include two broad categories: emissions reduction and resilience.



These are Washington’s State Goals for GHG emissions reductions until 2050.

Source: WA Dept of Ecology

On p. 8 under Equity-focused Public Engagement:

- Actively engage with Vancouver Metro Lulac Council and One America

On p. 9 under Environmental Justice Coalition (EJC) meetings:

- (Same as CAG meetings): Begin each meeting with a [reading of the State goals for 2030, 2040 and 2050](#). For each meeting agenda, include two broad categories: emissions reduction and resilience.

On p. 9 under Interdepartmental and Interagency meetings:

- Don’t assume that the agencies are the only ones with technical and policy expertise: ACE has expertise on climate science, the issues, and the policies.

- Actively engage with WSUV and Clark College if you haven't.

On p. 11 under Public Participation Timelines

The chart says “By the end of 2024, the groups strive to negotiate a list of GHG reduction and resilience goals and policies.”

- Add a plan with actions and timeline to stop increasing emissions.

There are some relevant terms that do not appear in this document that should be part of climate planning, including: “resource adequacy” for electric energy (including fortifying our electrical grid); “electric trucks”; vehicle “fleets” (both public and private); “building electrification” (BE) and “transportation electrification” (TE), and “zero-emission vehicles” (ZEVs).

Stakeholders should include Faith Action Network (FAN), solar installers, heat pump installers, and electrician unions. ACE also asks that the County include ACE’s constituent organizations that are either not listed or not already participating: Columbia Riverkeeper, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Vancouver Audubon, WA Physicians for Social Responsibility, OR Physicians for Social Responsibility, Sunrise SWWA, Sierra Club Loo Wit, Community Roots Collaborative, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, and the Washington Poor People’s Campaign.

ACE has a suggestion for the consultant who can guide this climate planning process. The Port of Camas-Washougal hired the New Buildings Institute and they did a great job. Sean Dennison, their CEO who also developed the Climate Action Plan for San Jose, lives in Vancouver. Having someone local who understands our region would be ideal.

Clark County should also assign or hire staff to procure grants. There is an unprecedented number of federal and state grants currently available for county climate planning. The federal *Solar for All* program will disburse \$7 billion to the states in June of 2024. Our Dept. of Commerce has applied and might get \$100 million – to be used on host properties, such as county buildings and for the benefit of low-income residents, at no cost. If the County identifies the properties suitable for solar ahead of time, the County can be an early applicant and likely get funded.

Lastly, we ask that Clark County revisit its Vision Statement for its Comprehensive Plan process and make this a public process as well.

Thank you for your work, and for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Alliance for Community Engagement

CC: Clark County Councilmembers Bowerman, Medvigy, Belkot, Yung and Marshall
Kathleen Otto, Oliver Orjiako, Jenna Kay, Gary Albrech, Amy Koski