

**From:** [Jeffrey Delapena](#)  
**To:** [Don Steinke](#); [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#)  
**Cc:** [Jenna Kay](#); [Jose Alvarez](#); [Oliver Orjiako](#)  
**Subject:** RE: The Climate Element  
**Date:** Friday, April 25, 2025 2:22:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Good afternoon, Don,

Thank you for submitting comments regarding the Climate Element Update. These will be entered into the Comprehensive Plan Index of Record.

These will be forwarded to the attention of the Planning Commission ahead of the May 1<sup>st</sup> Work Session.

Best regards,



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**From:** Don Steinke <crvancouverusa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 2:15 PM  
**To:** Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** The Climate Element

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From Don Steinke – Climate CAG member

To the Clark County Planning Commission

Re: The Climate Element

Dear Planning Commission

On May 1, staff will provide information to you on the Climate Element. The intent of my letter is to provide some additional context.

First of all, I'd like to applaud staff for their consensus-based approach. Our advisory group included representation from The Builders, The Realtors, the Chamber of Commerce, the fossil fuel industry, and the environmental community. In spite of our diverse interests, there was so much we could *all* agree on *unanimously*, 151 goals and policies altogether.

### **Additional context**

I've been a student of the climate issue ever since 1990 when Congress had it's first public hearing on it.

In 1992, our legislature established the Climate Impacts Group at the University of Washington. Its latest report predicts that *for Southwest Washington*, during the decade of the 2040s, we'll have heavier rains and flooding in spring, more extensive drought in summer, and summer temps 5 degrees warmer on average.

In 2008, our legislature established GHG emissions reduction targets.

In 2012, The Clark County comp plan included an element prepared by your Health Dept. It declared that Climate Change was a Public Health Emergency.

In 2020, our legislature updated our GHG limits in RCW 70A.45. As staff mentions, the State requires Green House Gas emissions to be net zero by 2050.

Staff doesn't mention this in your meeting materials, but RCW 70A.45 also requires a 2030 target. The state *shall* reduce emissions 45% by 2030. **That means we need to burn 45% less gasoline and natural gas by 2030.** That's only 5 years away. We need to get busy.

Don Steinke, Climate Action of Southwest Washington