

From: [publiccomment](#)
To: [Sue Marshall](#); [Glen Yung](#); [Michelle Belkot](#); [Wil Fuentes](#); [Matt Little](#)
Cc: [Oliver Orijako](#); [Jose Alvarez](#); [Jenna Kay](#); [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#)
Subject: FW: Council Hearing Public Comment
Date: Friday, April 25, 2025 4:02:23 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Please see the public comments below. Thank you!



Rebecca Messinger
Clerk to the Council
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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From: Clark County <webmaster@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2025 1:52 PM
To: publiccomment <publiccomment@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Council Hearing Public Comment

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Submitted on Fri, 04/25/2025 - 1:51 PM

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Subject

Climate Element of the GMA

Date of Hearing

Wed, 04/30/2025

Comment

From Don Steinke – Climate CAG member
To the Clark County Council

Re: The Climate Element

Dear Council,

On April 30, 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