

From: [Jenna Kay](#)
To: [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#); [Jeffrey Delapena](#)
Subject: FW: Updated planning guidance re climate element of GM
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:53:40 PM

For the record

From: Don Steinke <crvancouverusa@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 26, 2025 6:02 PM
To: Cassi Marshall <cassi.r.marshall@gmail.com>; Mark Hughey <mhughey52@yahoo.com>; City Manager Steve Stuart <Steve.Stuart@ci.ridgefield.wa.us>; Jenna Kay <Jenna.Kay@clark.wa.gov>; Small, Rebecca <Rebecca.Small@cityofvancouver.us>; Sunrise <s.h.omahoney@gmail.com>; Ann Foster <annfoster5093@gmail.com>; Karissa Halstrom <Karissa.Halstrom@hotmail.com>
Subject: Updated planning guidance re climate element of GM

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From Don Steinke
To various

----- Forwarded by Don Steinke -----

Hi all,
ICYMI, below is more guidance from Commerce. In my opinion, their guidance is a forgivably-convoluted maze. I hope to spend more time sorting things out.

So far, the part I find most useful is the [Climate Policy Explorer](https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/dd012fae9fad4a309b0d89e3c13016e5/page/Basic/)
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/dd012fae9fad4a309b0d89e3c13016e5/page/Basic/>

Don

From: **Washington State Department of Commerce**
<WAStateCommerce@public.govdelivery.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 26, 2025 at 10:06 AM
Subject: Rulemaking Notice: Commerce finalizes climate planning rules
To: <crVancouverUSA@gmail.com>

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Rulemaking Notice: Commerce finalizes climate planning rules

Rules will take effect Jan. 24, 2026

The Department of Commerce has filed [final rules \(CR-103\)](#) to conclude a multi-year effort to guide communities to establish the first Climate Element under the Growth Management Act (GMA). GMS began rulemaking in January 2024 and worked in partnership across the state to implement [Chapter 228, Laws of 2023 \(HB 1181\)](#), which established the new climate change and resilience planning requirements.

The final rules take effect Jan. 24, 2026 and include revisions to:

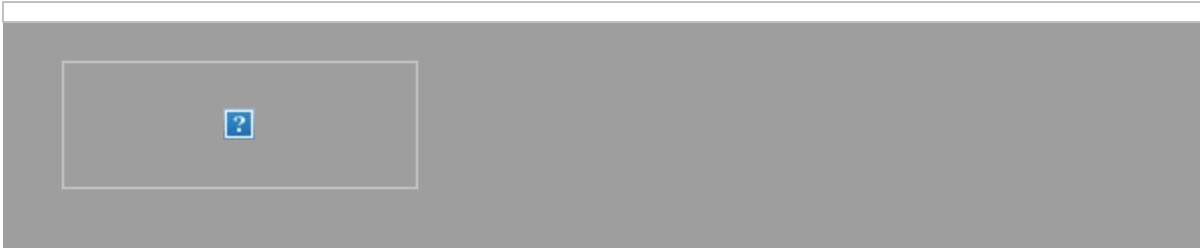
- Chapter 365-195 WAC, Best Available Science
- Chapter 365-196 WAC, Procedural Criteria for Adopting Comprehensive Plans and Development Regulations

With these rules finalized, Commerce can also finalize [climate planning](#) guidance. This is critical for communities that must update their comprehensive plans to incorporate the new climate element, for fully planning cities and counties that must create a resilience sub-element, and for the communities that must or choose to pursue a greenhouse gas reduction sub-element.

Relevant documents:

- [CR-101 \(PDF\)](#)
- [CR-102 \(PDF\)](#)
- [CR-103 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Concise Explanatory Statement and Response to Comments \(PDF\)](#)
- [Revisions to Chapter 365-195 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Revisions to Chapter 365-196 \(PDF\)](#)

- [SEPA Comments \(PDF\)](#)



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