

Climate Action Advisory Committee Meeting Notes 4/7/22

Committee Attendance at Zoom Mtg:

- Tom Campbell
- Stan Gent
- Linda Lyshall

Business updates:

- Only 3 members showed up to the meeting, so members may not be checking their county email
- House Bill 1209 died
- Bill 1717 passed – it provides for tribal consultation through GMA related activities
- OES manager position is currently being advertised by the County

PDS Presentation on County Comprehensive Plan Update

- presentation given by Eileen Canola (PDS), with support from Matthew Siddons (PDS) and Nathan Howard (DPW) – all three working Comp Plan Update
- **2024 County Comprehensive Plan update:**
 - deadline extended to Dec 2024
 - vigorous outreach for public participation
 - project website
 - various public surveys
 - growth targets have been set
 - final docket list set by Council (a few UGA expansion requests)
 - SEPA environmental review process underway (existing conditions & 3 alternatives)
 - County conducted visioning process: where would you like to see County in 2044?
 - Planning commission will review proposed updates in 2023
 - GMA requirements & framework were reviewed
 - Countywide policies consistent with Vision 2050
 - Tom: CAAC is particularly interested in the final stage of this framework in which development regulations are set
 - Tom: cities are doing some climate planning, but there should be increased densities within half mile of transportation hub
 - Population projection:
 - Increase of over 300,000 people in county between 2020 - 2044
 - Growth targets
 - Initial targets have been adopted
 - Focus population growth in urban areas
 - Tom: Suggestion to look harder at increasing densities in urban areas before UGA expansions are proposed
 - Tom: Hard to meet greenhouse gas emission targets with this population growth
 - New Climate Change Element added to Comp Plan
 - Minimalist approach – laying the framework in Comp Plan first, while a lot of the implementation steps may come after the Comp Plan Update
 - High level goals, objectives and policies

- SW Urban Core Subarea Element:
 - Planning for greater development near light rail stations in the County
 - Working with cities & service providers on this approach
 - Stations along I-5 at 164th St and 128th St are coming and are fully funded, and eventually further north into Everett
- Critical areas regulations update
- **New Climate Change Element**
 - Impacts from climate change in Snohomish County are increasing in recent years
 - Considering guidance from Dept of Commerce (greenhouse gas emission mitigation & adaptation)
 - Lisa's team did a great job of preparing the SOAP update, green building standards, 2018 greenhouse gas emissions for County buildings
 - Council passed resolution for emissions and clean air
 - Tom C: a vulnerability assessment would be very helpful for projecting potential risks of future climate change impacts
 - Surface Water Management is starting to do some river modeling using the climate modeling results from UW Impacts Group
 - Linda: will proposed urban tree policy be part of Comp Plan Update?
 - Eileen: Council will be considering this proposed policy in the Plan Update
 - Multi-modal planning – more emphasis on multi-modal planning, particularly for bike-pedestrian facilities & coordination
 - Subarea plans being developed, will go through public review and Planning Commission review
 - Schedule for Climate Change Element reviewed, will be reviewed by Planning Commission in 2023
 - Review of related climate change policies already in place
 - Coordinating with CAAC
 - Review and feedback on element
 - Coordinate this climate element with climate action plan
 - Tom: don't want to wait until the end – want to interact along the way
 - Eileen: her team can set up a schedule for interactions, and send CAAC the drafts as they are developed (should have a draft outline in a month or two, and then will have a policy consistency review)
 - Tom: maybe we hold a climate summit with cities
 - Tom: may want to have crosswalk between draft outline & SOAP outline
- **What is needed for success of CAAC?**
 - Tom: there is a body of work that the CAAC needs to do
 - Tom: Need a work plan, process and member recommitment
 - Stan: thinks that the new climate change element could inspire CAAC members
 - Linda: what about having an in person meeting? Would that reinvigorate the group?
 - Tom: he would like to create email summarizing direction, membership commitment – Tom will draft the email and send to all the member's personal emails
 - For next meeting, decide in a couple of weeks whether to meet in May or in June, once we know more about how the hiring process for Lisa's position is going