

Snohomish County Climate Action Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Date: 5/16/2023

Time: 5pm -7pm

Meeting Location: Via Zoom

Notes/Comments

Comment made by

Roll call.

Alena Moroca

Membership Updates: we have a full cohort for the CAAC and there are no vacant seats. The June 20th Meeting will include the required Snohomish County Committee Member Training for All Committee Members.

Did we lose some Committee members?

Tom Campbell

Some members have moved or have family commitments that conflict with meeting times. We continue to maintain our connections with these members in other working groups across County departments.

Molly Beeman

Amy Lucas is also unavailable to present to us tonight.

Introduction of new Committee members.

Molly Beeman

- Carolyn Burch: Sustainability Manager at SPHERA.
- Yanarut (Sean) Neary: Student at WSU Everett Campus.
- Angelina Pamatian: Student at EvCC
- Jeff Fennell: Faculty member at EvCC.
- Sergey Lapin: Faculty member at WSU.

CAAC 2023-2025 Workplan Draft presentation.

Molly Beeman

The CAAC 2023-2025 Workplan Draft was sent out last month to committee members for review.

Our current CAAC Overview document does not have any direction moving beyond December 2023 so we will have to review the Overview document together.

The Sustainable Operations Action Plan (SOAP) for Snohomish County has both internal and outward-facing elements, and a review is currently underway with Office of Energy & Sustainability (OES) and the Interdepartmental Climate Resiliency Committee (ICRC) Core Work Group. The draft document will be shared with CAAC for input.

When will we see the SOAP re-draft?

Stan Gent

We hope to send the draft out in June. We are not changing the SOAP elements but looking at each element and putting them into the correct plan based on whether the element is externally or internally facing. The externally facing (non-county operations related) elements will be integrated into the Community Wide Climate Resiliency Plan

Molly Beeman

The Land Conservation Initiative (LCI) has funding for a consultant to develop a Land Conservation Strategy. ECAF (Executive Council Approval Form) for motion (for consultant) to be approved by Council is scheduled for June 6th.

The Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) consultant contract draft is also underway. Once the contract is signed and the consultant begins to do the work, the CAAC will be able to review the plan and provide input.

For the Communitywide Climate Resiliency Plan, the Request for Proposal (RFP) is in development and a draft of the RFP will be shared with the CAAC for review. We are hoping to get the RFP out at the end of June.

There is a push for Snohomish County to have a Climate Priorities Initiative.

How is the Climate Priorities Initiative different from the Climate Resiliency Plan?

Tom Campbell

The Initiative is an assortment of tools and plans that all point towards one goal, like the Puget Sound Initiative.

Molly Beeman

What is the overarching goal, is it reducing GHG emissions?

Tom Campbell

It goes beyond GHG emissions. The broader picture is how are we planning to have a more resilient County in the face of climate change.

Molly Beeman

We need a roadmap or an overarching organizational chart that provides a visual.

Jim Bloss

There isn't an overarching County response to climate change that incorporates everything that the County does.

Molly Beeman

What kind of commitment does the County make to this work?
Any plan must have a set of clear, measurable priorities.

Tom Campbell

This CAAC Work Plan Draft is not the County's work plan but is a list of priority programs that was initiated prior to my employment at the County.

Molly Beeman

There are many moving parts to this work, but they all fit in.

Tom Teigen

There are a lot of elements being worked on at the same time and one of the things that has been suggested for the ICRC Work Group is to map all climate related work across County departments.

Molly Beeman

We need a visual that shows how each part, working together, impacts other parts. It would make it easier for one to understand.

Jim Bloss

Vision 2050 has clear targets for GHG emissions so how do we involve the cities and towns in Snohomish County in measuring those targets? We can have a Climate Summit and engage tribes, towns, and cities, making it a County-wide effort.

Tom Campbell

Developed the King County Cities Climate Collaboration program in their prior work with King County and are glad to help.

Linda Lyshall

We are hopeful to launch the Communitywide Climate Resiliency Plan (CWCRP) in 2025. We need to understand what we are working on, hence the need for mapping all county climate related work/tools/plans and programs.

Molly Beeman

It is very useful to get the document with the abbreviations in it.

Stan Gent

2024 Comprehensive Plan Update and the Climate Change Element Update/Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Tool presentation.

Eileen Canola

The Planning Framework for Snohomish County's Comprehensive Plan is based on the Growth Management Act (GMA). From the GMA, regional planning occurs through the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) and they just updated their regional vision to Vision 2050. Vision 2050 informs our Multicounty Planning Policies. Countywide Planning Policies directs counties and cities to collaborate and work together. Then local comprehensive plans are developed by local jurisdictions. The PSRC certifies the local Comprehensive Plans and the Countywide Planning Policies.

For the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, we are completing a 30-day public outreach on the Draft policies for each of the elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The public comment period is open from May 1st to May 31st for the Transportation and Tribal Coordination Elements. Planning Development Services (PDS) is also working on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and public outreach for later this summer. On May 23rd, there is a briefing to the Planning Commission on the Natural Environment Element and the Parks Recreation Element. PDS will also be providing a briefing on their Climate Change Grant from Commerce.

2024 Comprehensive Plan Update link

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/5597/2024-Update>

Draft Policies for Public Comment:

<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/6075/Policy-Amendments>

PDS completed a 30-day review on the draft policies for the Climate Change Resiliency Element and the Capital Facilities and Utilities Element and received a lot of comments for both elements. However, for the Climate Change and Resiliency Element, PDS received suggested edits to strengthen the language and to ensure coordination with the right partners, particularly for GHG emissions and resiliency efforts. There were some concerns from developers that the implementation would increase the cost to housing, so PDS is taking that into consideration. July 25th is the briefing date to the Planning Commission for the Climate Change Resiliency Element as well as the Capital Facilities and Utilities Element. PDS is also completing the deliverables for the Commerce Climate Change Grant. Snohomish County received funding to do early planning on Climate Change and have been modeling our Climate Change Element after the Commerce Guidance Document. Our Climate Change Element will have two sub elements: GHG Emission Reduction and Resiliency. The fund from Commerce also paid for a Vulnerability and Risk Assessment done by consultants BERK and Parametrix. The tool is hosted on the county website

and the roll out for the public will be in July. PDS is working internally with a testing group on user friendliness of the tool and to confirm some of the data sources. PDS plans to use a story map for this exercise. If anyone is interested in being part of the testing user group, please let Alena Moroca know. County Council will be acting on Resolution 23-024 in support of Commerce Grant Deliverables and there is a companion Proclamation from the Executive as well.

Can new members get a link to the Vulnerability & Risk Assessment tool?

Stan Gent

Links will be provided for CAAC members. BERK & Parametrix are compiling the final report and we will share the report with CAAC members when we have it.

Eileen Canola

If the cities wanted to review and use the BERK tool, is it available to them?

Tom Campbell

We have the Vulnerability Risk Assessment and the County-wide GHG emissions inventory and we are happy to share that with other local jurisdictions. The passage of House Bill 1181 establishes Climate Change and Resiliency as a new planning goal and adds Climate Change and Resiliency as a mandatory element for comprehensive plans.

Eileen Canola

Thank you PDS for doing this work. Demographics and climate risks are important data for the County.

Jeanine SanClemente

Surface Water Management (SWM) has a Community Floodplain Solutions Program for Snohomish County and Jessica Hamill presented their work to the ICRC work group today. Jessica may be asked to present to the CAAC at our next meeting in June.

Molly Beeman

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Meeting Minutes by Alena Moroca

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Roll Call - Snohomish County Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC)

Tom Teigen – SC/DCNR	Y
Gregg Farris – SC/SWM	N
Molly Beeman - SC/OES	Y
Eileen Canola – SC/PDS	Y
Henry Jennings – SC/PDS	Y
Amy Lucas – SC/DEM	N
Alena Moroca – SC/OES	Y
Tom Campbell – Committee Member	Y
Stan Gent – Committee Member	Y
Linda Lyshall – Committee Member	Y
Jim Bloss – Committee Member	Y
Kimberley Cline – Committee Member	N
Jeanine SanClemente – Committee Member	Y
Natalia Tune – Committee Member	N
Ryan Miller – Committee Member	N
Jeff Fennell – Committee Member	Y
Yanarut Neary – Committee Member	Y
Angelina Pamatian – Committee Member	Y
Sergey Lapin – Committee Member	Y
Carolyn Burch – Committee Member	Y