

Snohomish County Ad Hoc Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC)

Meeting 4: Meeting Summary

Tuesday June 30, 2020

5pm-7pm

Attendees: Tom Campbell, Stan Gent, Anthony Gromko, Linda Lyshall, Ryan Miller, Jeanine SanClemente, Margaret Seaney, Jon Witte, Ian McCluskey, Yolimar Rivera-Vazquez, Jake Salvador, Suzy Oversvee

Lisa Dulude (County staff), Kevin Ruuhela (County staff)

Non-Committee Members in attendance: Robert Knoll, Caleb Kiser, Thomas Hafford

Not present: Patrick Sisneros

*(Underlined Italics indicate action items/decisions; **follow-up items in bold italics**)*

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Roll-call** (5 min)
- 2. Brief review of Committee ‘Ground Rules’** (5 min)
- 3. Racial/Social Justice and Climate Change: Presentation** (Yolimar - 20 min)
 - a. Opening Perspectives on Climate Change: “The impacts of climate change will not be borne equally or fairly, between rich and poor, women and men, and older and younger generations...Consequently, there has been a growing focus on climate justice, which looks at the climate crisis through a human rights lens and on the belief that by working together we can create a better future for present and future generations” – United Nations
 - b. 3 areas of concern for looking at climate change through a social justice lens in the United States: Environment – Natural / Built, Economic Opportunity – Jobs/ Class /Wealth, Living Rights – right to a healthy life**
 - c. The bottom line: People of color, indigenous peoples, and people with lower incomes frequently face greater risks from climate change.**
 - i. Climate risks are regional: Coasts and rivers, wildlands, and cities of major concern
 - ii. Puget Sound Regional Council - Factors in Decision to Move by Race and Ethnicity: Displacement disproportionately impacts people of color rather than moving to improve one’s own life.

- iii. Who gets to make decisions about social justice and solutions?
 - Diversity
 - Inclusion
 - Equity vs. Equality
 - Equality – treating everyone equally
 - Equity – treating everyone equally with respect to their circumstances
 - Privilege
- iv. What does climate justice mean in terms of work?
 - The work involves acknowledging the lived experiences of people experiencing (or that have experienced) environmental, economic and living rights inequities.
 - The people most impacted (or that will be most impacted) by climate change should be at the frontline (should be at the table!) AND have power over the decision-making and proposed solutions to combat the problem.
 - The people most impacted (or that will be most impacted) by climate change should be given the resources THEY need to solve the problems impacting them.

4. Member thoughts about climate justice and how it informs climate change (30 min).

5. Racial and Social Justice: Tribal Perspective Presentation (Ryan – 20 min)

- a. Overview of Treaty Rights
- b. Diminished food availability and access to traditional food (e.g. salmon, berries).
- c. “Thriving culture depends on a connection to the past”
- d. Protection of treaty rights protects important species and habitats for all of Washington’s citizens.

6. Member reflections (20 min). Members shared their thoughts on the presentation.

7. Growth Management Act Climate Change Grant Application (10 min)

- a. Tom: CAAC/County submitted a grant application proposal to Dept. of Commerce to investigate GHG emissions and land use patterns with respect to the growth management act. If awarded the grant, CAAC can be even more thoughtful about how land use influences climate change. The application included a climate justice/equity analysis proposal as well.
- b. Lisa: Even if the grant is not funded/awarded, racial and social equity will be an integral part of CAAC plans and planning process.

8. City of Edmonds Climate Change Opportunities (10 min)

- a. Stan: Stan and Lisa were invited to participate in the City of Edmonds Mayor's Climate Protection Committee meeting in early June. It was a good conversation and presented opportunities to collaborate with City of Edmonds, and hopefully other cities within the County as well.
- b. Lisa: Stan has done some great research on GHG emissions factors for electricity and carbon pricing. ***Lisa will send out a link to these documents.***

9. Next Steps (5 min)

- a. Next meeting is Tuesday, July 28 5-7pm. All meeting dates (past and future), as well as agendas and meeting notes can be found on the County's Climate Action Advisory Committee webpage. Lisa would like to set-up a meeting with those interested in helping do a 'Plan Scan' (i.e. review of other local government climate action plans) to identify gaps, opportunities, best practices, etc. as we revise/update the County's climate action and sustainability plan for government operations, and for the community plan. ***Lisa will send out an email and meeting invitation for climate action planning next steps.***