



City of Tualatin

CITY OF TUALATIN Staff Report

TO: Tualatin Planning Commissioners

THROUGH: Steve Koper, Assistant Community Development Director

FROM: Maddie Cheek, Management Analyst II
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DATE: October 18, 2023

SUBJECT:
Informational presentation on Tualatin's Climate Action Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) is complete and ready to be shared with Tualatin's City Council, Planning Commission, and the general public for feedback. The project team will summarize the information and process that shaped the development of the CAP and share information about actions included in the CAP that are relevant to the work of the Planning Commission.

The project team is in the process of meeting with various community groups to share the draft plan and gather feedback. Feedback from the larger community will be gathered through an online open house. The [online open house](#) is anticipated to go live on October 16 and will remain open through November 10.

BACKGROUND:

The draft climate action plan considered the following elements:

Tualatin's future climate: Climate change is already here, and will worsen significantly without strong climate action. Without intervention, Tualatin and the region will experience the following impacts:

- 60 days of extreme heat (over 90 degrees F) per year, up from a historical average of 6 days per year.
- 20 days of extreme fire danger per year, up from a historical average of 10 days per year.
- An increase in atmospheric river events that bring large volumes of rain over short time periods, leading to increased flooding.

Climate hazards, like extreme heat and poor air quality, can exacerbate existing social, economic, and environmental inequities. This can lead to increased negative impacts on community members' physical and mental health outcomes – affecting those who are the most vulnerable.

Tualatin's climate goal: Achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050, reducing our community's contribution to climate change and lessen the impacts of global warming. This goal aligns with the international 2015 Paris Climate agreement.

Tualatin's emissions inventory: In 2019, Tualatin's *local and imported emissions* totaled nearly 677,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (MT CO₂e). On average, Tualatin residents generate 14.2 MT CO₂e per person per year in local emissions. This is slightly less than the U.S. average of 15.2 MT CO₂e per person per year, but significantly higher than the global average of 4.5 MT CO₂e per person per year.

Local emissions sources refer to emissions from activities that take place within the city's geographic boundary, like heating and cooling buildings, cooking food, and driving cars. Tualatin's *local emissions* break down as follows: building energy (42%), transportation energy (12%), waste disposal (<1%), and industrial processes and refrigerants (2%).

Imported emissions sources refer to emissions from things that are made outside of the city's geographic boundary but benefit the people within the geographic boundary who use those items or services. This includes things like the production of food and goods, and air travel. Tualatin's *imported emissions* break down as follows: goods production (15%), food production (13%), fuel production (12%), and air travel (3%).

Community engagement: Engagement efforts have been ongoing since Spring 2022. Project information and engagement opportunities have been shared through a variety of communication channels, including print materials, advertisements placed around the community, social media, website updates, and the Tualatin Today newsletter. The project team has attended 17 community events and meetings, hosted interactive workshops, and gathered feedback through surveys and an online open house. Feedback gathered throughout this process was a direct input into the actions that show up in the draft CAP.

Stakeholder engagement: The project team hosted 7 stakeholder workshops and attended events hosted by the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce and Latino Business Network to discuss draft actions included in the CAP. In addition, a business-specific survey to collect feedback on the draft actions was completed in June 2023. Stakeholder engagement was critical to understanding what programs and partnerships exist and can be built upon, as well as what might prohibit or enable stakeholders to take meaningful action toward Tualatin's climate action goals. This information is also a direct input into the draft actions.

FOCUS AREAS, STRATEGIES, AND ACTONS:

The CAP is a long-term plan that includes over 150 actions the community and City can take to help people adapt to changing climate conditions and reduce carbon emissions. The project team sorted actions into "buckets" or focus areas based on identified stakeholders and/or what process would need to be followed to complete the action. Each action should be considered as a "mini project" that may require additional research, planning, community engagement process, etc.

The plan is divided into 7 focus areas:

- *Natural systems, resources, and infrastructure*
- *Health & safety*
- *Economic shifts*
- *Buildings & energy use*
- *Urban form & land use*
- *Transportation – modes & fuel switching*
- *Consumption – food & goods*

Actions from the Urban Form & Land Use and Transportation areas may come before the Planning Commission following the adoption of the final plan.

NEXT STEPS:

The upcoming City Council work sessions are scheduled for November 13 and 27, with plan adoption likely to follow in January 2024.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Exhibit A: Presentation
- Exhibit B: Draft Climate Action Plan