



Who We Are

Thurston County and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater are working together to address the causes of climate change. The four jurisdictions have adopted shared goals to reduce locally generated greenhouse gas emissions and a regional framework for achieving these goals, described in the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan. It is clear we cannot achieve these goals without significant policy and financial assistance from the state. We need your support on the following elements of the regional plan.

2022 Legislative Priorities

Buildings & Energy

- Direct the State Energy Office to create energy benchmarks for categories of buildings and climatic regions so prospective purchasers, tenants and investors can make informed decisions. **(HB 1774/SB 5722)**
- Allow jurisdictions to adopt local residential building standards that reach beyond state minimum code to support a faster shift toward efficiency and electrification. **(HB 1770/SB 5669)**
- Fund the **Weatherization Plus Health** program in the capital budget to improve the energy efficiency of existing low-income housing, and expand this program to other areas of the state.
- Pass statewide deadlines for phasing out use of natural gas in all new residential construction and new commercial/industrial non-process uses. **(HB 1766/SB 5668)**
- Fund a pilot program to convert from gas/oil to electric heat and appliances in 100 existing low-income housing units (\$2 million request).
- Reduce the carbon footprint of state government—a top employer and energy user in the Thurston region. **(HB 1280)**

Transportation & Land Use

- Fund a **transportation budget** that emphasizes support for transit, active transportation, commute trip reduction efforts, and a shift away from fossil fuels.
- Facilitate dense, transit-oriented development in urban areas. **(SB 5312)**

Agriculture & Forests

- Provide funding to acquire community forest land to be managed for sustainable harvesting and carbon sequestration. **(SB 5633/HB1895)**
- Fund the **Sustainable Farms and Fields grant program** through the Washington State Conservation Commission to increase carbon sequestration on agricultural lands.
- Provide funding for prairie preservation called for in Habitat Conservation Plans to enable development to occur within urban growth areas while preserving existing prairie land outside of urban areas for endangered species and carbon sequestration. (\$10 million request)