

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

## City of Tumwater 2025 Comprehensive Plan

*Balancing Nature and Community: Tumwater's Path to Sustainable Growth*

**DRAFT VERSION**

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# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



## Table of Contents

1. Introduction .....	7
A. How to Read this Element.....	7
2. Growth Management Act – Element Goals .....	8
3. County-Wide Planning Policies .....	9
4. Summary of Element Goals.....	12
A. Overarching Climate Goals.....	12
B. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals.....	12
C. Climate Resilience Goals .....	13
5. Element Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions .....	14
A. Overarching Climate Goals.....	14
B. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets .....	21
C. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals.....	21
D. Climate Resilience Goals .....	33

DRAFT

## Acronyms and Abbreviations Used in Document

**ASD** – Administrative Services Department.

**CBO** – **Community Based Organization**

**CCA** – The [Climate Commitment Act](#) (CCA) (Chapter 310, Laws of 2021) caps and reduces GHG emissions from Washington’s largest emitting sources and industries, allowing businesses to find the most efficient path to lower carbon emissions. This program works alongside other critical climate laws and policies to help Washington achieve its commitment to reducing GHG emissions by 95% by 2050. The CCA also puts environmental justice and equity at the center of climate policy, making sure communities that bear the greatest burdens from air pollution today breathe cleaner, healthier air as the state cuts GHGs. Finally, funds from the auction of emission allowances support new investments in climate-resiliency programs, fund clean transportation, and address health disparities across the state.

**CDD** – Tumwater Community Development Department

**City** – City of Tumwater

**Commerce** - Washington State Department of Commerce

**County** – Thurston County

**CPAT** – Climate Policy Advisory Team

**DAHP** – Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

**EDC** – Thurston Economic Development Council

**EV** – Electric Vehicle

**EXD** – Tumwater Executive Department

**Fire & EMS** – Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department.

**FIN** – Tumwater Finance Department

**GHG** – Greenhouse Gas

**LID** – Low Impact Development

**PRFD** – Tumwater Parks, Recreation, & Facilities Department

**RCW** – Revised Code of Washington

**TCAT** – Thurston Climate Action Team

**TED** – Tumwater Transportation & Engineering Department

**TMC** – Tumwater Municipal Code

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



**Tribes** – Nisqually Indian Tribe, Squaxin Island Tribe, and the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation

**TRPC** – Thurston County Regional Planning Council

**UFMP** – Urban Forestry Management Plan

**WRS** – Tumwater Water Resources & Sustainability Department

**WSDOT** - Washington State Department of Transportation

## Key Terms and Definitions

**15-minute neighborhood:** An urban planning concept referring to neighborhoods in cities in which most daily necessities, services, and amenities (e.g., work, education, health care, shopping, recreational opportunities) can be reached by a 15-minute walk, bicycle ride, or public transportation trip. These neighborhoods tend to be relatively walkable and support a greater baseline of residential density.

**Climate:** The “average weather” generally over a period of three decades. Measures of climate include temperature, precipitation, and wind.

**Climate change:** Any significant change in the average climate of a region lasting for decades or longer. Can be measured through substantial changes in temperature, precipitation, or wind. Climate change may result from natural factors and from human activities that change the atmosphere’s composition and land surface.

**Climate refugia:** Areas that continue to resist the impacts of anthropogenic climate change, allowing valued and culturally significant physical, ecological, and socio-cultural resources to continue to survive and even thrive amidst a changing landscape.<sup>1</sup>

**Environmental Justice (EJ):** The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to environmental laws, rules, and policies (RCW) 70A.02.010(8). Environmental justice includes addressing unfair environmental and health impacts in all laws, rules, and policies by:

- prioritizing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities,
- the equitable distribution of resources and benefits, and
- eliminating harm.

**Food Justice:** Assumes consistent access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally relevant food to be a human right that should be secured and protected.

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<sup>1</sup> Morelli, T.L.; Millar, C. 2018. Climate Change Refugia. USDA Forest Service Climate Change Resource Center. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/ccrc/topics/climate-change-refugia>

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



**Frontline Community<sup>2</sup>:** Those communities that experience the effects of climate change “first and worst” while also having significantly lower capacity to adapt and reduced access to resources and political power to respond to those risks. Though not limited to these groups, frontline communities generally include communities of color, Indigenous peoples, and low-income communities. These communities have also not historically had access to City decision making processes.

**Gray-green infrastructure:** stormwater management systems used in places where gray infrastructure cannot be entirely phased out without losing functionality, but some green elements can be introduced to increase the resilience of the system and improve the local ecology.

**Green infrastructure:** Stormwater management systems that mimic natural systems, capturing and absorbing or diverting rainwater where it falls.

**Greenhouse gas (GHG):** Any gas that absorbs heat in the atmosphere; examples include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, and water vapor.

**Managed retreat:** The voluntary movement and transition of communities away from regions likely to become unsustainable for life due to climate change impacts. Primarily a tool used in coastal regions to move communities away from sea level rise impacts, but increasingly a tool used in planning for other climate hazards.

**Native species:** Any plant, fungus, or animal species native to our area. In the US, this only includes species present in the region prior to the arrival of European settlers.<sup>3</sup>

**Overburdened Community<sup>4</sup>:** According to RCW 70A.02.010 (11), denotes a geographic area where vulnerable populations face combined, multiple environmental harms and health impacts, and includes, but is not limited to, highly impacted communities as defined in RCW 19.405.020.

**Passive survivability:** Building to ensure that residences will remain at a safe temperature for occupants if the power goes out and that they will overall require less power to keep at a regulated temperature. Can also entail building single-family residences with one room designed to maintain comfortable temperatures or multifamily residences with a designated common area designed to serve this same function. Building for passive survivability also reduces demand on local energy infrastructure.

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<sup>2</sup> In the Climate Element the term “frontline community” is preferred as it does not carry the disempowering and othering connotations of the terms “overburdened community” and “vulnerable population.” However, the latter terms carry legislative meaning, with precise definitions in Washington State law and policies that direct funding for and engagement with these groups. All three terms will be used throughout the goals, policies, and implementation actions contained in this Element. “Frontline communities” will be the preferred term where the legislative context is not relevant, while “overburdened community” and “vulnerable population” will be used where the precise definitions are key to enacting the policy

<sup>3</sup> United States Department of Agriculture, n.d. “What is a native plant?” <https://www.usda.gov/peoples-garden/gardening-advice/why-native-species-matter>

<sup>4</sup> See Note 1

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



**Vulnerable Populations<sup>5</sup>:** According to RCW 70A.02.010 (14), includes population groups that are more likely to be at higher risk for poor health outcomes in response to environmental harms, due to: adverse socioeconomic factors, high housing and transportation costs relative to income, limited access to nutritious food and adequate health care, linguistic isolation, and other factors that negatively affect health outcomes and increase vulnerability to the effects of environmental harms; and sensitivity factors, such as low birth weight and higher rates of hospitalization. Vulnerable populations can include but are not limited to: racial or ethnic minorities, low-income populations, populations disproportionately impacted by environmental harm, and populations of workers experiencing environmental harm.

DRAFT

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<sup>5</sup> See Note 1

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



## 1. Introduction

The Climate Element is part of Tumwater's Comprehensive Plan that was created to meet the State Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW) requirements to adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate.

This section of the Climate Element specifies goals, policies, and actions meant to set forth a direction to advance equity, sustainability, and resilience in Tumwater. The goals, policies, and actions also serve to ensure coordination with separate Comprehensive Plan Elements, regional plans, and County-Wide Planning Policies. Additionally, they serve as the plan for implementing certain actions within the Climate Element.



### A. How to Read this Element

The City's Vision, Mission, and Belief Statements provide overarching direction for the future of the community are found in the Comprehensive Plan Summary.

The Summary of Element Goals and Strategies provides a high-level overview of the Climate Element's sixteen goals and supporting policies and actions.

The remaining document presents each goal in full detail, with introductory text, explanation of the lead and timeline for each policy and implementation action, and identification of priority items.

Actions and policies are marked with the appropriate icon if they fall into any of the below categories:

	<p><b><u>Equity-focused Action</u></b> Action helps the City achieve equity goals. These actions include financial programs, outreach activities, legislative changes, and other strategies designed to empower frontline and historically excluded communities to pursue climate adaptation and mitigation activities.</p>
	<p><b><u>Publicly Identified Priority</u></b> Action was developed out of conversations with and feedback from Tumwater community members. Community members contributed their input through an in-person workshop, a virtual open house, and a Climate Policy Advisory Team (CPAT) that worked closely with the City to develop specific policy language.</p>

## 2. Growth Management Act – Element Goals

The State Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW) requires that the City show that each Element in its Comprehensive Plan meets the relevant fifteen planning goals contained within the Act. The fifteen goals guide the development and adoption of the City’s Comprehensive Plan and development regulations.

The following is a summary of how the new Climate Element addresses the goal related to climate change and resiliency. The state legislature added this goal in 2023.

- 15. **Climate change and resiliency.** Ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies under RCW 36.70A.210 and chapter 47.80 RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate; support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled; prepare for climate impact scenarios; foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards; protect and enhance environmental, economic, and human health and safety; and advance environmental justice.*

The Conservation Element, Land Use Element, and Transportation Plan of the Comprehensive Plan will need to address this as a new goal in coordination with the new Climate Element. A new overarching Comprehensive Plan goal will address the dual goals of increasing climate resiliency and mitigating Tumwater’s contributions to climate change by promoting sustainability, reducing pollution, promoting healthy habitats, and supporting clean air and water.



## 3. County-Wide Planning Policies

The Growth Management Act requires that comprehensive plans be consistent with Thurston County's County-Wide Planning Policies, as amended in 2015. The sections of the County-Wide Planning Policies relevant to this Element are cited below. All County-Wide Planning Policies are adopted as Appendix B to the Comprehensive Plan. .

The Climate Element has goals, policies, and actions that address County-Wide Planning Policies 1.1 through 1.14. These goals, policies and actions support a regional vision for sustainable communities which will thrive in the face of climate change impacts and lead efforts to mitigate future impacts.

### II. Urban Growth Areas

*2.2 The boundaries of designated urban growth areas must meet the following criteria:*

*[...]*

*d. be compatible with the use of designated resource lands and critical areas.*

*[...]*

### III. Promotion of Contiguous and Orderly Development, Provision of Urban Services, and Protection of Rural Areas

*3.4 Provide Capacity to accommodate planned growth by:*

*[...]*

*b. Protecting ground water supplies from contamination and maintaining groundwater in adequate supply by identifying and reserving future supplies well in advance of need.*

*[...]*

### VII. Economic Development and Employment

*7.2 Support the recruitment, retention, and expansion of environmentally sound and economically viable commercial, public sector, and industrial development and resource uses, including the provision of assistance in obtaining funding and/or technical assistance.*

Resource uses and resource land protection are addressed in Chapters 2 through 4.

*7.5 Build a vital, diverse, and strong local economy, including job opportunities that support community and household resilience, health, and well-being, by;*

*[...]*

*f. Nurturing urban and rural agricultural and food-oriented businesses.*

*g. Protecting resource lands.*

- h. Encouraging the utilization and development of areas designated for industrial use, consistent with the environmental policies in these countywide policies.*
- i. Connecting economic health with personal health and well-being and the advancement of environmental health.*
- j. Adding incentives for business to demonstrate their environmental sustainability including reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.*

[...]

## X. Environmental Quality

*10.1 Recognize our dependence on natural systems and maintain a balance between human uses and the natural environment.*

*10.2 Establish a pattern and intensity of land and resource use that is in concert with the ability of land and resources to sustain such use, reduce the effects of the built environment on the natural environment, conserve natural resources, and enable continued resource use, through:*

[...]

*c. Planning for the amount of population that can be sustained by our air, land and water resources without degrading livability and environmental quality.*

[...]

*10.3 Protect the soil, air, surface water, and groundwater quality, including through:*

*Reducing dependence on the use of chemicals and other products that pollute and, when their use is necessary, minimizing releases to the environment.*

*Ensuring adequate clean water is available to support household and commercial needs while sustaining ecological systems through conservation, balancing of uses, and reuse.*

*Protecting ground and surface water and the water of the Puget Sound from further degradation by adopting and participating in comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional programs to protect and monitor water resources for all uses.*

*10.5 Acknowledge that changing weather and climate patterns will impact the human, natural, and built environments and plan for impact such as increase wildfire, flooding, and sea-level rise.*

*10.6 Protect and restore natural ecosystems, such as, forests, prairies, wetlands, surface and groundwater resources, that provide habitat for aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals.*

*10.7 Provide for public access to natural resource lands, while ensuring that uses and economic activity, which are allowed within those lands, are sustainable.*

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



*10.8 Provide for parks and open space and maintain significant wildlife habitat and corridors.*

The Climate Element is based upon the themes of equity, sustainability, and resilience.

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## 4. Summary of Element Goals

The sixteen goals of this Climate Element are guided by the County-wide planning goals discussed above, the City's general goals, and by the vision of a Tumwater that is a vibrant city that fosters sense of place, active transportation, local business prosperity, and provides a safe environment for our coming climate challenges.

Goals are not listed in order of priority.

### A. Overarching Climate Goals

- Goal CL-1      Ensure environmental justice by providing all members of the Tumwater community with an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions to enhance community resilience.
- Goal CL-2      Increase the City's capacity to implement climate action and adaptation priorities.
- Goal CL-3      Address that changing weather and climate patterns driven by human-generated emissions will affect every aspect of life in Tumwater, and plan for impacts such as increased heat, wildfire, and flooding while working to reduce local emissions.

### B. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals

- Goal CL-4      Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all building types through energy conservation measures prioritizing the deployment of financial resources and programs that help finance or subsidize improvements across Tumwater.
- Goal CL-5      Expand the use of on-site renewable energy technology (e.g., solar photovoltaics, battery storage, etc.) across all building types through providing funds, code changes, and educational programs.
- Goal CL-6      Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by making it easier for people to shift to low-/zero-carbon transportation modes through policy, programming, and regional partnerships.
- Goal CL-7      Reduce vehicle miles traveled by using permitting, regulatory, and other land use tools to promote multimodal transportation options and the use of public transit throughout and beyond Tumwater.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Goal CL-8 Strengthen existing policy and regulations to deploy and enhance natural carbon solutions that are ecosystem-appropriate, store carbon, and offer co-benefits such as pollution reduction, wildlife habitat, and climate resilience.

## C. Climate Resilience Goals

Goal CL-9 Ensure that buildings and energy infrastructure can accommodate renewable energy opportunities, keep the community safe, and can withstand and recover from extreme weather and natural hazards worsened by climate change.

Goal CL-10 Increase preparedness for acute climate impacts and improve the resilience of Tumwater's people and systems against climate hazards.

Goal CL-11 Preserve, protect, and sustain cultural sites and resources in alignment with the values and needs of Tribes and frontline communities.

Goal CL-12 With climate, growth, and environmental changes in mind, identify and elevate the protection of key habitats, ecosystem services, and wildlife corridors.

Goal CL-13 Ensure that zoning and development decisions support compact urban development and city-wide resilience, including a resilient local economy.

Goal CL-14 Ensure that the local transportation system, including infrastructure, routes, and non-motorized travel modes, fosters connectivity and can withstand and recover quickly from climate impacts.

Goal CL-15 Protect and improve water quality and availability.

Goal CL-16 Expand local food justice to address climate impacts and increase access to nourishing, affordable, culturally appropriate, and climate-friendly foods while expanding local use of composting.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions





## 5. Element Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

### A. Overarching Climate Goals

**Goal CL-1 Ensure environmental justice by providing all members of the Tumwater Community with an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions to enhance community resilience.**

Environmental justice must be central to any effort to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Tumwater’s frontline communities<sup>6</sup> who experience the impacts of climate change “first and worst” are already feeling the burden of climate impacts, while having contributed the least to causing and worsening climate change. The City must create opportunities for members of frontline communities to make meaningful changes to climate policy and must also ensure frontline communities have access to resources to adapt to climate impacts.






Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-1.1 Conduct intentional outreach with frontline communities to create opportunities for equitable engagement in climate adaptation, mitigation, and education.</b>	WRS, Community Organizers	<b>Start: 2025</b>	
CL-1.1.1 Build and support partnerships with existing organizations (i.e. CBOs) that have the capacity and existing relationships needed to convene diverse coalitions of community members and collaboratively empower their communities to develop and implement climate resilience and mitigation actions and work to address underlying disparities that impact these communities.	City	<b>Start: 2025</b> Ongoing	

<sup>6</sup> Policies CL-1.1 and CL 1.3 and action CL-11.9.3 will help the City identify where Tumwater’s frontline communities live, work, and play and form relationships within these communities and with existing CBOs that have existing relationships.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-1.1.2 Create and implement tailored outreach and education initiatives that will empower frontline communities to respond to climate change threats.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years <sup>7</sup>	
CL-1.1.3 Attend pop-up events with existing CBOs and hold focus groups, office hours, and other events to build trust in both group settings and one-on-one with Tumwater’s frontline community members.	WRS, Community Organizers	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
CL-1.1.4 Conduct outreach and listening sessions in frontline communities to understand existing needs and opportunities and to educate on projected climate impacts.	WRS & ED	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing	
<b>CL-1.2 Prioritize the people of Tumwater and their needs, values, and goals in all future planning efforts by developing and implementing all climate-related adaptation and mitigation tasks in collaboration with equitable representation from all Tumwater communities.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-1.2.1 Prioritize recruiting frontline community members most impacted by climate change when forming any City of Tumwater working group, committee, or task force on climate-related issues. Strive to form all working groups and committees with equitable representation.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	

<sup>7</sup> Estimated times required for completing each action are estimates only based on current projected funding, staff capacity, and alignment with broader City goals. Unforeseen circumstances could cause timelines to be extended beyond estimated completion timelines.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-1.2.2 Plan and conduct community engagement activities to ensure all policies and tasks are co-created with the community and to share new plan information upon completion and update throughout implementation.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
<b>CL-1.3 Develop programs and resources to promote equitable financial access to climate resilience and mitigation activities.</b>	WRS, Finance, & ED	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-1.3.1 Identify funding sources for subsidies for overburdened communities to offset costs associated with climate impacts and mitigation actions. Covered funding could include potential cost increases associated with changing to non-fossil-fuel energy sources, increased energy usage to maintain livable indoor temperatures, and home hardening projects.	WRS, Finance, & ED	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
CL-1.3.2 Establish and initiate a process to consult with frontline communities to identify ways to equitably distribute climate funding.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	

## Goal CL-2 Increase the City’s capacity to implement climate action and adaptation priorities.

The goals, policies, and implementation actions contained in this Element will only lead to effective climate mitigation and adaptation if the City devotes appropriate resources to implement all aspects of the Element.


Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-2.1 Fully staff City positions needed to support the actions outlined in the Climate Element.</b>	WRS, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2026	



# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-2.1.1 Review actions outlined in the Climate Element to determine whether additional support staff (including emergency management personnel) are required.	WRS, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing Every 2 years	
CL-2.1.2 Fill any existing vacant positions that will allow implementation of Climate Element actions, and post and fill any positions identified in CL-2.1.1.	WRS, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing Every 2 years	
CL-2.1.3 Develop a fellowship position to help meet Element goals.	WRS, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2027	
<b>CL-2.2 Develop a program funding strategy to support equitable access to climate mitigation and adaptation programs developed by the City.</b>	WRS, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-2.2.1 Review actions outlined in the Climate Element to determine what kinds of funding will be needed to support the programs created therein.	WRS, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing Every 2 years	
<b>CL-2.3 Educate City Staff and the public on the Climate Element’s goals, policies, and actions.</b>		<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-2.3.1 Develop training materials for the City employees responsible for implementing actions outlined in the Climate Element. Require designated employees to undergo training and offer opportunities to ask clarifying questions.		<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
CL-2.3.2 Develop educational outreach materials on the Climate Element to share with members of the Tumwater community so that they can learn how they can be involved in future climate planning efforts and how they will be impacted by forthcoming policies.		<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



**Goal CL-3 Address that changing weather and climate patterns driven by human-generated emissions will affect every aspect of life in Tumwater, and plan for impacts such as increased heat, wildfire, and flooding while working to reduce local emissions.**

This goal is at the heart of why Tumwater is climate planning. Human-generated emissions are driving unprecedented climate changes, and that fact drives the GHG Reduction Sub-Element, whose goals strive to curb human emissions. Simultaneously, Tumwater and all communities globally must prepare for the inevitable impacts already set in motion.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-3.1 Assess and address the City’s vulnerability to climate change.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-3.1.1 Conduct a comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment that considers climate impacts to communities, physical assets, and City operations and services, including impacts from extreme heat and flooding.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	
CL-3.1.2 Utilize community outreach efforts (see policies CL-1.1, CL-1.2) to discuss community climate impacts and work with any community groups that desire additional adaptation or mitigation planning beyond existing city efforts.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Implement</b> : Ongoing	
CL-3.1.3 Review climate impacts to City operations and adjust operations plans as needed to mitigate climate impacts on services.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	
CL-3.1.4 Develop and implement plans to reduce impacts and vulnerabilities for any existing City facilities, utilities, infrastructure, or other assets vulnerable to projected climate change hazard. Plans will incorporate renewable energy, green infrastructure, and other sustainable additions.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 10-15 years for all facilities	
<b>CL-3.2 Address climate change impacts in all City planning efforts.</b>	WRS, CDD, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2027	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-3.2.1 Integrate planning methods that identify and prioritize multiple potential adaptation pathways into all planning efforts to mitigate the risk of bad investments and account for changes in climate projections.	WRS, CDD, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> Ongoing	
CL-3.2.2 Develop a systematic review process to assess the City’s plan to build and maintain roads, buildings, utilities, and other facilities for potential climate vulnerabilities to planned facilities, utilities, and infrastructure projects (e.g. the Capital Facilities Plan) and address prior to installation.	WRS, TED, PRD, CDD, EXD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> Ongoing, every 2 years	

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# Greenhouse Gas Reduction Sub-Element

This sub-element contains five goals that aim to help the City of Tumwater reach its new goal of net-zero emissions by 2045, ahead of the State’s emissions target. The policies and actions in this element focus on continuing the City’s progress on Climate Mitigation.

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## B. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets

Under HB 1181, cities and counties that are required to prepare Climate Elements as part of their Comprehensive Plans must include a sub-element on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction. **The City of Tumwater's GHG Reduction Sub-Element dictates the City's approach to eliminating GHG emissions towards achieving net-zero emissions by 2045.** The City has identified specific interim targets for municipal emissions (i.e., emissions from City-owned assets, operations, and services) and community-wide emissions (i.e., emissions from various sectors across the city of Tumwater, including but not limited to residential, commercial, and transportation sectors).

### Municipal GHG Emissions Targets

- Reduce municipal emissions by 50% from 2023 levels by 2030.
- Achieve net-zero municipal emissions by 2045.

### Community-wide GHG Emissions Targets

- Reduce community-wide emissions by 45% from 2023 levels by 2030, and 70% by 2040.
- Achieve net-zero community-wide emissions by 2045.

The goals and policies identified in Section C (Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals) are designed to move Tumwater towards these emissions reduction milestones. As with other components of this Climate Element, these goals and policies were developed based on present information and community feedback, but they are subject to revision over time as regulations and technology evolve.

## C. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals

**Goal CL-4** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all building types through energy conservation measures prioritizing the deployment of financial resources and programs that help finance or subsidize improvements across Tumwater.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from buildings and energy use account for over half of the community-wide emissions across Thurston County. This presents significant opportunities for action and impact, which can include prioritizing energy conservation measures and funding programs and incentives that will reduce the City's municipal and community-wide GHG emissions. Community members expressed support for energy efficiency measures to provide financial benefits, particularly for renters and low-income residents.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-4.1 Reduce energy use across building types.</b>			
CL-4.1.1 Provide educational resources and/or technical assistance to industry professionals and building owners and managers on energy-efficient building design, retrofits, and operations for new and existing buildings.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
CL-4.1.2 Partner with public, private, non-profit, and faith-based organizations to construct and highlight high-profile demonstration buildings that use innovative energy efficiency and/or technology to limit energy use.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing	
CL-4.1.3 Establish policies and programs to lower costs and pollution from fossil fuel consumption by incentivizing green building standards (i.e., building frameworks that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient). (see CL. 5.2, 5.3, 5.4).	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing	
CL-4.1.4 Develop data methodology to monitor use and impacts of green building incentives (i.e., encouraging buildings that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient) and inform recommendations for policy or programs.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing	
CL-4.1.5 Partner with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to promote and/or deploy energy efficiency programs, local funds, and customer enrollment in clean energy projects and programs.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
<b>CL-4.2 Reduce energy use in existing residential buildings.</b>			
CL-4.2.1 Require energy performance ratings and disclosures for dwelling units at times of listing for sale so that prospective buyers are informed before making purchasing decisions.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-4.2.2 Require energy performance ratings and disclosures for rental dwelling units at times of application so that tenants are informed before making rental decisions.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-4.2.3 Provide education and outreach to prospective home buyers and renters to ensure that incentives for energy efficiency upgrades are readily available to them, with focus on low-to middle-income earners.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Ongoing	
CL-4.2.4 Develop and adopt policies that require existing dwelling units undertake an energy audit during a substantial remodel. <sup>8</sup>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2029 Ongoing	
CL-4.2.5 Provide incentives for property owners who take part in energy efficiency programs such as property tax breaks for installing energy conservation measures in rental housing.	CDD, EXD, FIN, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-4.2.6 Require baseline levels of energy efficiency as part of building permit review.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2029 Ongoing	<p>Brought up by community members to benefit renters and low-income residents.</p>

<sup>8</sup> “Substantially rehabilitate”, or remodel, refers to extensive structural repair or extensive modeling of premises that requires a permit such as a building, electrical, plumbing, or mechanical permit, and that results in the displacement of an existing tenant (RCW 59.18.200).

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



<b>CL-4.3 Reduce energy use in existing nonresidential buildings.</b>			
CL-4.3.1	Require energy performance ratings for nonresidential buildings be disclosed at the time of application for tenants and at time of listing for sales so that owners, tenants, and prospective buyers are informed before making purchasing or rental decisions.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years
CL-4.3.2	Continue to install LED lighting in City buildings and infrastructure as funding becomes available.	TED, PRFD	Ongoing <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years
CL-4.3.3	Create an incentive program for the installation of cool roofs <sup>9</sup> and living walls on nonresidential buildings to reduce energy consumption and the urban heat island effect.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 Ongoing
CL-4.3.4	Set energy efficiency performance standards for existing nonresidential buildings with gross floor areas smaller than 20,000 square feet which are not yet covered under the state Department of Commerce’s Clean Building Performance Standards.	CDD & WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 Ongoing
<b>CL-4.4 Reduce energy use in new construction, redevelopment, and deconstruction.</b>			
CL-4.4.1	Incentivize projects that meet green building or net-zero carbon certification through land use tools such as floor area ratio, density bonus, height bonus, or parking reductions.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2027 Ongoing
CL-4.4.2	Support CDD staff pursuing green building accreditations and certifications from green building specialists.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing

<sup>9</sup> Roofs designed to reflect more sunlight, thus lowering building temperatures.



# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



CL-4.4.3 Explore developing guidelines for deconstruction and salvaging materials for reuse.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
<b>CL-4.5 Convert to alternative fuel sources.</b>			
CL-4.5.1 Educate community members on options for electric appliances and the benefits of pairing electrification with the installation of renewable energy. Create incentives to support fuel switching.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	

**Goal CL-5** Expand the use of on-site renewable energy technology (e.g., solar photovoltaics, battery storage, etc.) across all building types through providing funds, code changes, and educational programs.

Local on-site renewable technology, such as solar photovoltaics and battery storage, will provide increased renewable energy options to Tumwater community members. Additionally, the development of local renewable energy resources strengthens Tumwater’s resilience during future extreme weather events. Developing local renewable energy resources can also strengthen the local economy through job creation.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-5.1 Increase the production of local renewable energy.</b>			
CL-5.1.1 Install solar photovoltaics on all available and feasible municipal sites (including building rooftops, city hall, police and fire stations, community centers, parking lots, and municipal water pump sites) in collaboration with key community partners, like Olympia Community Solar and/or Puget Sound Energy	TED, PRFD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-5.1.2 Support and implement local development code amendments that require solar-ready construction for all building types.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-5.1.3 Pursue public-private partnerships to seek funding sources to accelerate clean energy projects.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-10 years	

# Climate Element



Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-5.1.4 Support existing community solar initiatives from Olympia Community Solar and PSE by providing educational resources, promoting programs, and identifying opportunities for Tumwater residents to participate.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	

**Goal CL-6** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by making it easier for people to shift to low-/zero-carbon transportation modes through policy, programming, and regional partnerships.

Transportation is the second largest source of GHG emissions in Thurston County. Tumwater can significantly reduce emissions by creating policies and programs that support zero emissions transportation modes, including increasing the number of electric vehicles and charging stations throughout the city and encouraging active transportation such as biking and walking. Community members strongly expressed the desire for improved sidewalks and an increased number of bike lanes to enable active transit.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-6.1 Promote increased use of active forms of travel such as bicycling, walking, and other nonmotorized options.</b>			
CL-6.1.1 Coordinate with the bike and pedestrian plans of the and other cities toward a large regional plan to expand walking and bicycling infrastructure, per goals laid out in the Transportation Plan to maximize funding mechanisms and opportunities.	TED, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	 Many people want to bike or walk more but feel unsafe due to lack of bike lanes or sidewalks.
CL-6.1.2 Promote biking, walking, and rolling by investing in accessible and attractive street-level elements per goals included in the Transportation Plan like seating, shaded sidewalks, ADA ramps, enhanced signals and crossings, and protected bike lanes.	TED, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-6.1.3 Develop a rebate program for community members who wish to buy a bicycle or electric bicycle, with priority for low-income residents or households with greater barriers to vehicles.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-6.1.4 Continue support for InterCity Transit’s Walk N Roll program that focuses on a walking and bicycling incentive program with safety education for families, in coordination with Tumwater School District.	TED, WRS	Ongoing	
CL-6.1.5 Reevaluate long term plans, such as the Transportation Plan and Capital Facilities Plan, and update to prioritize non-motorized transportation. Set goals and plans for shifting to non- motorized transportation, like developing car-free corridors in commercial and mixed-use areas to encourage mode shift.	TED	<b>Start:</b> 2025, <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
<b>CL-6.2 Increase adoption of electric vehicles (EVs).</b>			
CL-6.2.1 Partner with industry experts and environmental organizations to increase consumer awareness about EV options and incentives for use and purchase.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. <1 year	
CL-6.2.2 Provide educational resources for community members seeking to install EV chargers at home, with specific incentive support for smaller-scale and multi-family property owners.	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-6.2.3 Explore more opportunities to expand the city’s publicly available EV charging network.	WRS, TED, PRFD	Ongoing	



# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



**Goal CL-7** Reduce vehicle miles traveled by using permitting, regulatory, and other land use tools to promote multimodal transportation options and the use of public transit throughout and beyond Tumwater.

In addition to increasing the adoption of electric vehicles and encouraging active transportation in Tumwater, increasing multimodal options and public transit ridership can greatly affect the city’s GHG emissions. Promoting public transit ridership includes short term efforts, such as public awareness campaigns and expand transit lines, and long-term efforts, such as urban planning to reduce urban sprawl. Land use tools, such as street network connectivity improvements, can also contribute to reduced vehicle miles traveled, or VMT, which in turn lead to reduced emissions, air pollution, and traffic congestion.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-7.1 Continue land use policies that support increased urban density and efficient transportation networks and reduce urban sprawl.</b>			
CL-7.1.1 Develop and implement a strategy for eliminating parking minimums and establishing parking maximums, in alignment with statewide requirements.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
CL-7.1.2 Create a safe, regionally well-connected, and attractive bike and pedestrian network to encourage active transportation both within Tumwater and between neighboring jurisdictions.	CDD, TED	Ongoing <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-10 years	 Interest in increased transit to centralized commercial hubs.
CL-7.1.3 Collaborate with City departments to increase the number of 15-minute neighborhoods (i.e., walkable environment, destinations that support a range of basic living needs and a residential density), in coordination with goals outlined in the Land Use Element. Help identify key infrastructure components needed to increase the number of 15-minute neighborhoods, prioritizing low- and middle-	CDD	Ongoing <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<p>income residents, then change zoning and codes if needed and coordinate with other cities to make public investments where necessary.</p>			
<p><b>CL-7.2 Increase efficiency of the transportation system.</b></p>			
<p>CL-7.2.1 As part of the Transportation Plan, fund programs and projects to increase transportation efficiency, reduce delay, and reduce emissions. Examples include traffic signal timing improvements, reevaluating speed limits, deploying roundabouts vs. signalized intersections, promoting street connectivity, and other traffic flow control tools.</p>	<p>TED</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Added benefits are decreased pollution due to idling and improved fuel efficiency leading to cost savings.</p>
<p>CL-7.2.2 Develop educational campaigns and programs about benefits of properly inflated tires, including signage at gas stations and local businesses and partnering with schools.</p>	<p>TED, WRS, Stream Team</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. &lt;1 year</p>	<p>Benefits of proper tire inflation include reduced GHG emissions, increased fuel efficiency, safety, salmon recovery, etc.</p>
<p>CL-7.2.3 Work with Intercity Transit to increase local public transit routes or frequency with a focus on ensuring the greatest number of riders have access to a low-carbon transportation option. Any expansion of service should include an analysis of climate impacts to ensure the program does not result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p>CDD, TED</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years</p>	
<p>CL-7.2.4 Work with Intercity Transit to identify and implement programs that help people move to and from transit,</p>	<p>CDD, TED</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years</p>	

# Climate Element


Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<p>reduce GHG emissions, and use street-level improvements to connect neighborhoods without the population to support fixed routes transit options. Tumwater will engage homeowners' associations for representation and feedback. Expansion of service will include an analysis of climate impacts to ensure the program does not result in an increase in GHG emissions.</p>			

**Goal CL-8** Strengthen existing policy and regulations to deploy and enhance natural carbon solutions that are ecosystem-appropriate, store carbon, and offer co-benefits such as pollution reduction, wildlife habitat, and climate resilience.

Natural carbon solutions play an important role in the local environment by sequestering carbon through tree canopy and natural open space. In conjunction with reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the source, natural carbon solutions reduce atmospheric carbon, pollutions, and reduce urban heat. Community members have expressed strong support of preserving the tree canopy in Tumwater.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<p><b>CL-8.1 Preserve tree canopy and support habitat restoration and conservation to sequester carbon.</b></p>			
<p>CL-8.1.1 Adopt and implement a coordinated reforestation and afforestation program guided by the UFMP with goals and policies to support stormwater management. Consider how existing or future tree canopy can support stormwater management and water quality improvements in receiving waters. Include goals for maintaining or increasing canopy in overburdened communities.</p>	<p>WRS</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years</p>	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-8.1.2 Establish goals for preserving existing mature tree canopy in alignment with TMC 16.08 . Include guidelines and incentives for maintaining larger, more established trees.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. >1 year	
CL-8.1.3 Support implementation of habitat conservation plans (HCPs) that allow for state required development and provide for preservation and restoration of prairie habitat for endangered and threatened prairie species.	CDD	Ongoing	
CL-8.1.4 Continue to champion statewide conservation efforts to protect, restore, and manage wetlands and riparian habitat.	CDD	Ongoing	
CL-8.1.5 Build relationships and capacity among regional partners to ensure successful and effective data coordination and program alignment.	WRS	Ongoing	
CL-8.1.6 Maximize tree canopy coverage in surface parking lots. Establish an initiative for identifying impervious surfaces across parking lots for potential reforestation or conversion.	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	

# Resilience Sub-Element

This sub-element contains eight goals that aim to help the City of Tumwater guide climate adaptation efforts to protect its communities against unavoidable climate impacts. The policies and actions in this element focus on expanding and improving the City's work on Climate Adaptation.




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## D. Climate Resilience Goals

**Goal CL-9 Ensure that buildings and energy infrastructure can accommodate renewable energy opportunities, keep the community safe, and can withstand and recover from extreme weather and natural hazards worsened by climate change.**



Tumwater’s energy infrastructure and buildings need to be protected against projected climate impacts, creating safe and reliable space for community members. Renewable energy does not just offer climate mitigation benefits: locally generated and stored renewable energy is also more resilient under an uncertain climate future.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-9.1 Require that planned facilities, utilities, and infrastructure projects and existing vulnerable sites be built or hardened to avoid or withstand climate impacts, including extreme heat, extreme precipitation, and sea level rise.</b>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-9.1.1 Identify potential funding sources to bury existing power lines and associated infrastructure, or to make more resilient to climate impacts where burial is not feasible.	CDD, TED, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> Ongoing	
CL-9.1.2 Identify potential funding sources to develop and maintain a grant program that will enable affordable housing development projects to bury new power lines and associated infrastructure as required, or to make more resilient to climate impacts where burial is not feasible.	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> Ongoing	 
CL-9.1.3 Review existing and planned capital facilities to ensure they will be able to function as intended over their planned life cycle, creating and implementing plans to strengthen any capital facilities with identified vulnerabilities.	TED, PRFD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> Ongoing	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions





Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-9.2 Plan energy infrastructure to be able to integrate with an increase in renewable energy sources, including increasing energy storage capacity to improve energy grid resilience.</b>	CDD, WRS, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-9.2.1 Identify key public facilities that must remain operational during a hazard event that impacts power availability.	CDD, TED, PRFD, WRS, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. <1 year	
CL-9.2.2 Identify sites to install local microgrid solar and battery storage facilities that will lead to negligible or low impacts on local habitats, infrastructure, and human health.	TED, PRFD, WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2-3 years	
CL-9.2.3 Install locally distributed renewable energy generation and battery storage infrastructure at identified key public facilities to ensure continuity of operations for a minimum of 24 hours.	TED, PRFD, WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-10 years	
<b>CL-9.3 Require buildings in high-risk areas<sup>10</sup> to be designed and built to be resilient to natural hazards and extreme weather worsened by climate change.</b>	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-9.3.1 Adopt and enforce fire-resilience standards for new and redeveloped sites in high-risk wildfire areas identified by the State of Washington's Wildland-Urban Interface Map (forthcoming).	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 4-5 years	Period contingent on release of revised WUI map.
CL-9.3.2 Require a hazard assessment and climate risk planning for new and existing buildings in designated high-risk areas, designing for enhanced resilience and mandating building practices that.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2032 Ongoing	

<sup>10</sup> High risk areas to be identified by the City's Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment, which should be completed by 2028. Weatherization and hardening building codes should be developed based on identified risks and land use designations of at-risk land parcels.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions





Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-9.3.3 Develop and maintain a fund to subsidize the cost of hazard risk assessments and climate risk planning for low-income property owners and low-income housing development projects.	CDD, WRS, FIN	<b>Start:</b> 2028 Ongoing	
CL-9.3.4 Amend Tumwater building code to require that all residential development and redevelopment projects be appropriately weatherized and built to be livable and comfortable during extreme weather events. Requirements may include installing heat pumps or air conditioning units if it cannot be proved the building is built for passive survivability. <sup>11</sup>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 10 years	
<b>CL-9.4 Encourage property owners to increase the resilience of existing buildings to natural hazards and extreme weather worsened by climate change.</b>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-9.4.1 Develop Climate Resilience Guidelines demonstrating how to design buildings for passive survivability, <sup>7</sup> at a minimum providing one common room for residents that provides refuge from heat and power during extended outages for medical necessities. Share this guidance with developers and property owners through outreach activities.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
CL-9.4.2 Secure and maintain funding for an incentive program for retrofit of existing buildings to meet established Climate Resilience Standards.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2033 Ongoing	

<sup>11</sup> See Part 2: Technical Information for more information on heat projections, passive survivability, and building code.

# Climate Element


Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-9.4.3 Develop and maintain a rebate program for low-income residents who do not qualify for weatherization assistance through the Community Action Council or whose dwellings are considered vulnerable, such as manufactured homes, to weatherize their homes against extreme weather.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> Ongoing	 
<b>CL-9.5 Work with energy utilities to improve the safety and reliability of infrastructure vulnerable to climate change.</b>	WRS, Puget Sound Energy, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-9.5.1 Establish partnerships with all regional energy utilities and develop short- and long-range plans to assess and mitigate the risk of climate hazard impacts on energy generation and transmission infrastructure.	WRS, Puget Sound Energy	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	
CL-9.5.2 In partnership with local energy utilities, explore large-scale energy storage options to use in Tumwater as part of a transition to reliable renewable energy.	WRS, Puget Sound Energy, CDD, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	

## Goal CL-10 Increase preparedness for acute climate impacts and improve the resilience of Tumwater’s people and systems against climate hazards.






Research has shown that climate change impacts frontline communities first and worst, while these communities also contribute the least to worsening climate change. System-wide changes need to be implemented to protect all of Tumwater’s community members from both chronic and acute climate harm, with particular attention to frontline communities.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-10.1 Improve community outreach on and response capabilities for climate health and hazard issues, prioritizing frontline communities to address economic, social, and health disparities.</b>	WRS & ED	<b>Start:</b> 2025	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<p>CL-10.1.1 Partner with a philanthropic organization or a CBO to build a volunteer network to develop and manage a vulnerable population database that includes community members who require aid and/or check-in calls during and after emergencies. This database can be built on the existing Lifeline Program members.</p>	<p>WRS, Fire and EMS, County</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year</p>	 
<p>CL-10.1.2 Transition management of the vulnerable population database to the City and secure long-term funding and staffing to keep the database up to date and oversee its use during emergencies.</p>	<p>WRS, Fire and EMS, County</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years</p>	 
<p>CL-10.1.3 Develop and adopt a Pre-Event Recovery Ordinance using American Planning Association’s guidance that will allow the City to establish a Local Recovery Management Organization (LRMO) charged with planning for long-term, resilient disaster recovery and coordinating with the Tumwater Disaster Recovery Group and County Disaster Recovery Team after a disaster to align long-term planning with short-term needs.</p>	<p>CDD, EXD, City Attorney, County, Fire &amp; EMS</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> &lt; 1 year</p>	
<p>CL-10.1.4 Develop climate-resilient redevelopment guidelines to help guide disaster recovery decisions. Utilize recommendations from FEMA’s <i>Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning Guide for Local Governments</i>.</p>	<p>CDD, EXD, Fire and EMS, LRMO</p>	<p><b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years</p>	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.1.5 Require that all City employees that participate would serve a role in EOC activation complete FEMA training courses on disaster recovery and achieve functional expertise in FEMA post-disaster processes.	City	Ongoing	
<b>CL-10.2 Develop resources to mitigate the risks posed by extreme heat.</b>	City	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-10.2.1 Implement the Thurston County Extreme Heat, Emergency Response, and Illness Prevention Plan.	WRS, County, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-10.2.2 Preserve and expand tree and shade cover to reach the 2040 goal of 39% recommended in the UFMP to reduce urban heat.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 10-15 years	
CL-10.2.3 Assess potential partnerships with CBOs and regional agencies that can serve as resilience hubs that provide resources such as heat pumps and emergency supplies for community members to check out during emergencies.	WRS, Fire and EMS, Community-Based Organizations, County	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	
CL-10.2.4 Explore feasibility of implementing and maintaining a program to distribute portable cooling units and install heat pumps, prioritizing households with residents most vulnerable to extreme temperature events such as renters and low-income seniors.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
<b>CL-10.3 Increase regional wildfire resilience, preparedness, and response capabilities in Tumwater.</b>	WRS, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-10.3.1 Collaborate with regional partners to develop a community wildfire protection plan.	WRS, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	Later expected start due to uncertainty around WUI mapping

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions







Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.3.2 Collaborate with emergency managers and fire experts to educate and empower homeowners to make changes to their homes and properties that lower their wildfire risk, encouraging measures that do not decrease canopy cover where possible. Enroll 75% of residents in wildfire risk areas in the Wildfire Ready Neighbors program.	WRS, Fire and EMS, Thurston Conservation District	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-7 years	Longer expected period due to uncertainty around WUI mapping
CL-10.3.3 Incentivize communities and homeowners in the WUI to invest in wildfire hardening and mitigation strategies to protect their homes and properties, encouraging measures that do not decrease canopy cover where possible. Mitigate wildfire risk for at least 60% of homes.	CDD, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-7 years	Longer expected period due to uncertainty around WUI mapping
CL-10.3.4 Secure funding to provide grants to low-income community members to follow recommended changes to their homes and properties to lower their wildfire risk.	CDD, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-10.3.5 Provide educational resources to aid community members in developing personal wildfire evacuation plans, prioritizing residents in the WUI.	WRS, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
<b>CL-10.4 Collaborate with regional partners to develop resources that address projected increases in risks and impacts associated with climate change.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-10.4.1 Develop and share guidance for navigating post-disaster mental health and social resources, translated into multiple languages.	WRS, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> < 2 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.4.2 Coordinate with the County and LeMay Pacific Disposal to develop an emergency waste management plan that includes contingencies for waste pickup schedules in the event of flooding predictions or other hazards that can be mitigated in advance.	City & LeMay Pacific Disposal Thurston County	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
CL-10.4.3 Develop and implement a regional wildfire and smoke resilience and response strategy.	WRS, Fire and EMS, ORCAA	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-7 years	
CL-10.4.4 Develop a protocol for using the County emergency alert system to issue alerts for wildfire risk, smoke exposure, and evacuation information. Create alert messaging that uses plain language to communicate risks and information.	WRS, Fire and EMS, ORCAA, County	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	
<b>CL-10.5 Improve community resilience, health equity, and environmental justice by ensuring that all community members can walk or roll to public green spaces within ½ a mile and connected by sidewalks or protected walkways.</b>	TED, WRS, PRFD	<b>Start:</b> 2027	 
CL-10.5.1 Utilize data from the Trust for Public Land and from community outreach efforts to find any gaps in equitable access to public green spaces.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
CL-10.5.2 Engage community members who lack equitable access to green spaces to determine how they would like to improve their access. Options can include better transportation options, addition of new green space, and improved safety of active transportation routes, among others.	TED, WRS, PRFD	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	



# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.5.3 Obtain funding to finish the Deschutes Valley Trail, aiming to complete construction by 2040.	TED, WRS, PRFD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 10 years	
<b>CL-10.6 Position the city to qualify for more funding opportunities to adapt to climate impacts.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-10.6.1 Explore opportunities to partner with academic research institutions to study hazard events of all magnitudes to provide a fuller understanding of the community's hazard characteristics — including those affected by climate change.	WRS, SPSCC, Evergreen State College, St. Martins University	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-3 years	
CL-10.6.2 Analyze how well the municipal water system would maintain adequate pressure during a major wildfire event with multiple structures burning, and how it will look under current and projected drought conditions. Generate a report with specific recommendations for increasing the resilience of the water system.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2-3 years	
CL-10.6.3 Incorporate findings from the City's Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment into the Tumwater Annex of the Thurston County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Identify specific projects and opportunities that the City can leverage to maximize funding.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2-3 years	
CL-10.6.4 Develop a specific, phased plan for completing a large-scale tree planting program to secure funding for this program.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-4 years	
<b>CL-10.7 Increase understanding of how climate change impacts vector-borne disease outbreaks. Make a plan to protect against projected increases in frequency and severity.</b>	WRS, County Health Department	<b>Start:</b> 2027	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.7.1 Identify and map areas in Tumwater that are at high risk to become disease vectors, including developed areas with poor drainage and standing water that serves no ecological purpose.	WRS, TED, County Health Department	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-10.7.2 Coordinate with the County Health Department to develop strategies to mitigate projected increases in disease and pest risk.	WRS, County Health Department	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
<b>CL-10.8 Develop programs that enable and empower community members to protect themselves from poor air quality.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027	
CL-10.8.1 Collect data to determine how many Tumwater community members are vulnerable to poor air quality and the neighborhoods in which these residents live, using both quantitative and qualitative data from tools like EJScreen and from community outreach efforts. Use collected data to set target thresholds for shelter occupancy and locations and air conditioner/heat pump and air filtration distribution programs.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
CL-10.8.2 Establish and maintain a stable funding source to distribute personal protective equipment to populations vulnerable to poor air quality.	WRS, Thurston County Health Department, & Community Based Organizations	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years <b>Maintain:</b> ongoing	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.8.3 Identify facilities that serve high-risk populations to create incentive programs encouraging infrastructure updates for clean indoor air. Updates should include HVAC system improvements.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-5 years	
<b>CL-10.9 Ensure community members have resources to shelter in place or to adequately reach temporary shelter.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-10.9.1 Coordinate with other agencies and jurisdictions to provide more cooling centers with 24-hour capacity. Offer 24-hour capacity for all of Tumwater’s heat-vulnerable residents including seniors, low-income, and houseless individuals. Shelter locations should be sited equitably throughout the city, with priority for opening locations near the highest concentrations of heat-vulnerable residents.	WRS, County Health Department	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-10 years	
CL-10.9.2 Coordinate with local businesses, community centers, and other neighborhood hubs to assess the potential of using these spaces as cooling centers. Provide sites that agree to participate in this program with resources detailing how to set up an equitable and functional cooling center.	WRS, County Health Department	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-10 years	
CL-10.9.3 Develop outreach programs or materials to increase awareness and education on individual emergency preparedness (e.g. Two Weeks Ready).	Fire and EMS, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. <1 year	
<b>CL-10.10 Increase language accessibility of emergency services, plans, and resources.</b>	ASD, CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-10.10.1 Establish on-call contracts for language interpretation and translation services, including ASL.	ASD, CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. <1 year	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-10.10.2 Utilize on-call contracts for language services to translate all emergency resources and plans.	ASD, CDD, WRS	Ongoing upon adoption of relevant plans	

## Goal CL-11 Preserve, protect, and sustain cultural sites and resources in alignment with the values and needs of Tribes, traditional stewards, and frontline communities.

Tumwater is built on land traditionally stewarded by the Coast Salish people. Their descendants in the Nisqually, Squaxin Island, and Chehalis Tribes continue to live on and steward the land today but are also unfairly impacted by climate change and excluded from key climate decision-making. Tumwater must elevate the goals, values, and needs of the region’s Indigenous communities.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-11.1 Enhance partnership between the Tribes and the City, integrating Tribal expertise, opinions, and values into climate planning efforts, projects, and programs.</b>	ED, WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-11.1.1 In collaboration with the Tribes, establish guidelines and standards for incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge into City programs and planning efforts to adapt to climate change impacts.	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
CL-11.1.2 Integrate the Tribal Stewards Curriculum or an alternative approved by Tribal representatives into regular City training schedules.	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
<b>CL-11.2 In accordance with Tribal treaty rights, protect, enhance, and restore ecosystems and culturally important consumptive and non-consumptive resources including foods, medicinal plants, places, and materials that could be adversely impacted by climate change.</b>	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2025	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-11.2.1 Work with local partners, especially representatives of the Tribes, to establish and sustain a native plant nursery and seed bank to support long-term ecological restoration and ensure continued access to culturally significant plants.	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 4 years	
CL-11.2.2 In collaboration with the Tribes, identify consumptive and non-consumptive resources that will be adversely impacted by climate change.	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
CL-11.2.3 In collaboration with the Tribes, develop and implement a plan to protect, enhance, restore, and/or preserve cultural resources that have been identified as threatened by climate change.	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
<b>CL-11.3 Collaborate with the Tribes to ensure the preservation of archaeological sites and traditional cultural properties that are vulnerable to climate impacts.</b>	WRS, CDD, PRFD, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-11.3.1 Request recommendations from the Tribes for actions the City can take to preserve historic sites and cultural properties.	WRS, PRFD, Tribes, DAHP	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
CL-11.3.2 In collaboration with the Tribes, develop guidelines for protecting, enhancing, and restoring affected historic sites and cultural properties.	WRS, Tribes	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	

## Goal CL-12 With climate, growth, and environmental changes in mind, identify and elevate the protection of key habitats, ecosystem services, and wildlife corridors.

Protecting Tumwater’s local ecosystems is key to building both ecological and community resilience to expected climate impacts. Resilient ecosystems will ensure vital native species are able to survive and thrive in the coming decades, while also continuing to provide key ecosystem services to Tumwater’s human residents.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions






Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-12.1 Manage Tumwater’s urban forest in line with the most recent UFMP and current climate projections and guidance.</b>	City	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-12.1.1 Enact the updated Tree Ordinance.	City	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> < 1 year	
CL-12.1.2 Protect and enhance the climate resilience of urban forests by implementing the most recent UFMP. Prioritize implementation of UFMP actions that provide benefits for frontline communities.	WRS	Ongoing	
CL-12.1.3 Update the UFMP every five years, including updated tree species selection and planting guidance, and integrate the most recent available climate data into each new edition of the Plan. Climate guidance consideration should include projections for heat, precipitation, pests, and any other relevant emergent information.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 Reassess every 5 years	
CL-12.1.4 Develop and share guidance with community members that identifies native drought- and pest-resistant trees, shrubs, and grasses. Encourage their use over non-native, non-resilient species in urban forest plantings and in restoration efforts to support climate resilience.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-12.1.5 Develop a program to analyze and address the climate impacts and risks of pests and disease on Tumwater’s urban forest.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5-7 years	
CL-12.1.6 Assess tree canopy and forests including parks, greenbelts and urban forests to identify potential wildfire risk zones and develop strategies to mitigate that risk.	WRS, PRFD	<b>Start:</b> 2038 <b>Complete:</b> est. 8 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-12.2 Protect, restore, and connect streams, riparian zones, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains to increase resiliency to climate change and reduce flood risk.</b>	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-12.2.1 Conduct inventory of watersheds throughout Tumwater, including an assessment of overall health and connectivity and the type and degree of restoration or protection needed	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
CL-12.2.2 Protect and restore wetlands and corridors between wetlands to provide biological and hydrological connectivity that fosters resilience to climate impacts.	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2031 <b>Complete:</b> est. 8 years	
CL-12.2.3 Protect and restore riparian vegetation to reduce erosion, provide shade, and support other functions that improve the climate resilience of streams.	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2031 <b>Complete:</b> est. 8 years	
CL-12.2.4 Collaborate with relevant parties to prioritize where and how beavers can be incorporated strategically to address climate change impacts on water quality, streamflow volume, and riparian habitat without causing any adverse impacts to Oregon Spotted Frog habitat.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
<b>CL-12.3 Manage Tumwater’s natural resources to protect, restore, and connect native ecosystems and foster habitats that are resilient to climate change.</b>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030	
CL-12.3.1 Collaborate with other regional partners to inventory potential climate refugia sites in Tumwater that will require protection and to assess existing habitat protections, habitat quality levels, and connectivity.	WRS, Tribes, County, TRPC, Climate Refugia Coalition	<b>Start:</b> 2032 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-12.3.2 Develop an Ecosystem Restoration Plan or a Natural Resource Management Plan and adopt relevant measures from other relevant existing plans. The plan(s) must address existing stressors, consider climate change impacts, emphasize taking a precautionary approach to reduce risk of environmental harm, and guide adaptive management.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	Use National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy
CL-12.3.3 Locate funding to implement the Ecosystem Restoration Plan and/or Natural Resource Management Plan	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2035 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
<b>CL-12.4 Increase the climate resilience of native fish species and aquatic ecosystems by reducing the impact of threats such as aquatic invasive species, invasive plants, pollutants, and changes in seasonal water flow.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-12.4.1 Conduct a study of existing threats to native fish and aquatic ecosystems to prioritize which threats are addressed.	WRS, TRPC	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-12.4.2 Develop an Aquatic Resilience Strategy that addresses each unique threat identified.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	
CL-12.4.3 Implement the Aquatic Resilience Strategy.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
<b>CL-12.5 Advocate for prioritizing maintenance of habitat integrity and function when working with regulatory agencies to determine allowed activities and uses within protected wetlands and Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (FWHCAs).</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-12.5.1 Identify programs that will have a substantive impact on fish and wildlife habitat.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	



# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-12.5.2 Review and amend local policies, rules, and management activities to eliminate potential negative impacts on fish and wildlife habitat and take advantage of opportunities to incorporate positive impacts.	WRS, TED, PRFD, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 Ongoing	
<b>CL-12.6 Take early action to eliminate or control non-native invasive species, including insects and plants that take advantage of climate change, especially where invasives threaten native species or ecosystem function.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-12.6.1 Develop and implement a monitoring plan to assess how invasive species are spreading and impacting local plant communities.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-12.6.2 Partner with regional stakeholders and experts to develop an Invasive Insect and Pest Management Plan based on collected data. Utilize an integrated approach that includes a wide variety of strategies, including at a minimum: (a) management of established pest infestations, (b) widespread use of and restoration of native plants resilient to regional pest threats; (c) regular monitoring activities, and (d) requirements to include invasive species prevention plans in future projects.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	

**Goal CL-13 Ensure that zoning and development decisions support compact urban development, prevent displacement, and foster system-wide resilience, including a resilient local economy.**

Compact, walkable, and transit-oriented cities are vital to building community resilience. Zoning decisions should support this future, while also striving to ensure equity in decision-making.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions









Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-13.1 Develop anti-displacement programs in overburdened communities when increasing densities.</b>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-13.1.1 Review existing anti-displacement and equity decision-making tools and use these to develop guidance specific to Tumwater for future housing and zoning decisions.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-13.1.2 Conduct extensive outreach activities in frontline communities at risk of displacement to collaboratively develop a set of anti-displacement strategies.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
CL-13.1.3 Review land use maps and Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment findings to identify regions at high-risk of disaster displacement such as barriers to rebuilding housing in high-risk areas and develop strategies in collaboration with impacted communities to develop solutions.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
<b>CL-13.2 Form a working group to secure Tumwater’s economic resilience.</b>	EXD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-13.2.1 Develop partnerships within the local business community and in collaboration with existing economic organizations and other stakeholders to set up a working group to analyze projected economic impacts on Tumwater.	EXD, WRS, Chambers of Commerce, EDC	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-13.2.2 Provide resources to the local Economic Resilience Working Group to inform the development of an economic resilience component of the Economic Development Plan.	EXD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions





Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-13.2.3 Coordinate with partners to incorporate continuity of operations thinking into the County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.	EXD, WRS, Economic Resilience Working Group, County	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 4 years	
CL-13.2.4 Form partnerships with organizations that aid workers affected by climate change who are transitioning to new fields of employment to share their services with Tumwater community members.	EXD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 7 years	 
<b>CL-13.3 Embed environmental justice in City land use decisions.</b>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	 
CL-13.3.1 Develop an Environmental Justice Audit process, using the State Department of Ecology guidance as well as US EPA guidance to inform Tumwater's audit process.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> 3 years	
CL-13.3.2 Conduct a city-wide environmental justice audit prior to amending land use designations.	WRS & CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 Ongoing as needed	
<b>CL-13.4 Restore and maintain critical areas, non-regulated open space areas, and the floodplain to maximize climate resilience and ecosystem benefits.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-13.4.1 Inventory existing and projected vulnerabilities of critical areas, open spaces, and floodplain-adjacent parcels.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-13.4.2 Identify maintenance and restoration actions needed to keep critical areas and open spaces resilient. Prepare a report outlining the recommended actions which should incorporate green and gray-green infrastructure that will enhance natural systems into recommended actions.	WRS & TED	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> 3 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-13.4.3 When new State best available science is issued, update critical areas ordinances.	CDD	Ongoing	
CL-13.4.4 Coordinate with FEMA to update floodplain and flood risk maps for the region based on projected extreme precipitation, increased winter streamflow, and sea-level rise due to climate change.	CDD, FEMA	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 6 years	
CL-13.4.5 Review best available science for buffers and setbacks for steep slopes vulnerable to erosion exacerbated by climate change, and establish new minimums, if necessary, so that improvements are not required to protect structures during their expected life.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Reassess every 2 years	
<b>CL-13.5 Identify and implement strategies for reducing residential development pressure in the wildland-urban interface.</b>	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2030	
CL-13.5.1 Identify areas with high fire risk and explore the feasibility of land use changes to reduce further development in these areas.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2032 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-3 years	Longer expected period due to uncertainty around WUI mapping
CL-13.5.2 Establish incentives and regulations to maintain open space buffers to reduce wildfire risk.	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	
<b>CL-13.6 Encourage the location of new development in areas where exposure to climate hazards is low and ecological impacts are minimized.</b>	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-13.6.1 Develop design guidelines for climate-resilient multi-use development. Guidelines should require residential development to be designed for passive survivability under future climate projections.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-13.6.2 Update the regional Transfer of Development Rights program to meet state-mandated growth requirements while preventing urban sprawl and protecting key ecosystems.	County, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
CL-13.6.3 Develop hazard-specific overlay zones and create design guidelines, codes, and guidebooks that will lead to climate resilient development.	WRS, CDD, TED	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 10 years	
CL-13.6.4 Update development regulations on a regular basis to incorporate best practices for reducing the risk of wildfire, extreme heat, flooding, and other climate-exacerbated hazards.	CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Reassess every 5 years	
<b>CL-13.7 Support local businesses' efforts to bolster climate preparedness and continuity of operations.</b>	EXD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2035	
CL-13.7.1 In partnership key stakeholders, draft recommendations for new building codes and incentive programs that help installation of on-site renewable energy and battery storage.	EXD, Chambers of Commerce, Thurston EDC, Economic Resilience Working Group	<b>Start:</b> 2035 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
<b>CL-13.8 In areas with significant vulnerability to climate hazards, facilitate and support long-term community visioning including consideration of managed retreat.</b>	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-13.8.1 Utilize information from the Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment to identify areas at high risk from climate impacts that will require substantial adaptation activities or the managed retreat of the entire community.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 7 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-13.8.2 Conduct regular outreach activities with identified high-risk communities and other key stakeholders (Transportation, developers, etc.) to educate them on risks.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 Ongoing	
CL-13.8.3 Review adaptation plans for communities in other cities and neighborhoods facing similar risks.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	
CL-13.8.4 Establish long term action plans with at-risk communities, with distinct phases for different increasing levels of risk.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-5 years	

**Goal CL-14 Ensure that the local transportation system, including infrastructure, routes, and non-motorized travel modes, fosters connectivity and can withstand and recover quickly from climate impacts.**





Although the Tumwater Transportation Plan lays out a framework for an equitable, accessible, and multimodal future for the City, it is important to address the intersection of Transportation planning and climate resilience.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-14.1 Improve street connectivity, transit accessibility, and walkability, including sidewalks and street crossings, to ease emergency evacuation.</b>	TED	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-14.1.1 Assess Tumwater’s street network to find gaps in street connectivity and transit access.	TED	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
CL-14.1.2 Redesign streets in alignment with complete streets mandate where possible, eliminating connectivity gaps to facilitate smoother evacuations and create whole communities connected by safe walking routes.	TED	<b>Start:</b> 2035 <b>Complete:</b> est. >10 years	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-14.1.3 Work with Intercity Transit to expand their transit program that provides evacuation aid to community members who do not or cannot drive, utilizing the vulnerable population database established by CL-10.1.2.	Intercity Transit, Fire and EMS	<b>Start:</b> 2029 <b>Complete:</b> est. 8 years	
<b>CL-14.2 Prioritize access to and restoration of water bodies and water-adjacent sites when designing and siting new and expanded transportation infrastructure.</b>	TED, WRS	Ongoing	
<b>CL-14.3 Improve habitat connectivity wherever possible when constructing and redeveloping roadways.</b>	TED, WRS. WSDOT	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-14.3.1 Integrate habitat connectivity considerations into road construction and redevelopment projects, reviewing plans for opportunities to make roads more permeable for both aquatic and terrestrial species through actions like widening culverts.	TED, WRS, WSDOT	<b>Start:</b> 2028 Ongoing	
<b>CL-14.4 Facilitate quick recovery of the whole multimodal transportation system after disruption from disasters or extreme weather events.</b>	TED	<b>Start:</b> 2028	
CL-14.4.1 Develop transportation recovery plans that ensure recovery of one aspect of the transportation system does not inhibit recovery of other forms of transportation. For example, snow plowing should not restrict access to bike lanes.	TED	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 5 years	
CL-14.4.2 Prioritize infrastructure needed for the recovery of Intercity Transit in the aftermath of an extreme weather event.	TED, Intercity Transit	Ongoing	


## Goal CL-15 Protect and improve water quality and availability.

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Climate change will cause drastic and uncertain impacts to regional watersheds. Tumwater needs to prepare for potential droughts, changes in seasonal water flow, and impacts to aquatic life.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-15.1 Manage Tumwater’s water sustainably, ensuring there is adequate quantity and quality of water available for future generations.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-15.1.1 Develop guidance for Tumwater residents, businesses, and developers on sustainable water management practices. Topics may include smart irrigation, drought tolerant plant selection, etc.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
CL-15.1.2 Study projected climate hazard impacts on water quality & quantity and develop strategies to protect and preserve water for Tumwater's future.	WRS	Ongoing (as new projections are available)	
CL-15.1.3 Evaluate the long-term adequacy of water delivery infrastructure to ensure that changes in hydrological patterns can be anticipated and managed effectively. Changes in hydrological patterns may include increases in flooding frequency or reduction of late-summer water availability associated with climate change.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3-4 years	
CL-15.1.4 Assess current groundwater reservoirs for any projected climate impacts, including saltwater intrusion, contamination, and reduced quantities. If necessary, develop and implement strategies to mitigate impacts.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2028 <b>Complete:</b> est. 4-5 years	
<b>CL-15.2 Improve the City’s drought resilience through water reclamation and conservation measures, drought-tolerant landscape design, and advocacy.</b>	WRS, CDD	<b>Start:</b> 2025	



# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-15.2.1 Expand use of reclaimed water at City facilities when resources are available and expand municipal reclaimed water systems.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 Reassess every 2 years	
CL-15.2.2 Allow onsite non-potable water systems such as rain cisterns to reduce water demand in private-sector commercial and residential buildings.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 4-6 years	
CL-15.2.3 Promote rain gardens, dormant lawns and lawn alternatives, as well as native and drought-tolerant landscaping choices. Secure funding to establish an incentive or rebate program for community members who use native and drought-tolerant landscaping options.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
CL-15.2.4 Establish a demonstration area for lawn alternatives that highlights native and drought-tolerant landscaping.	WRS & Parks, Recreation, & Facilities Department	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	
CL-15.2.5 Lobby at the county health department and state level agencies for the reuse of greywater on-site in buildings for flushing toilets, irrigation.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
CL-15.2.6 Lobby at state level to prioritize using water resources in alignment with public interests.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
<b>CL-15.3 Develop and implement a comprehensive drought resilience strategy that factors in projected climate impacts and sets action levels for different drought stages.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-15.3.1 Conduct outreach to understand current water resource needs (i.e. water-reliant livelihoods).	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-15.3.2 Draft measures to ensure low-income residents and residents whose income relies on water availability continue to receive water at a fair rate.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
<b>CL-15.4 Increase use of Low-Impact Development (LID) infrastructure projects that help capture, filter, store, and reuse stormwater runoff.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-15.4.1 Continue to prioritize funding for LID infrastructure projects using Stormwater Utility Funds.	WRS	Ongoing	
CL-15.4.2 For all stormwater project designs, require use of improved stormwater runoff modeling that uses future rainfall projections.	WRS	Ongoing	
CL-15.4.3 Share guidance for different types of LID best management practices with developers to use in future projects.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 Ongoing	
<b>CL-15.5 Assess current and projected future water demand and water storage.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030	
CL-15.5.1 Evaluate current water storage capacity against projected water availability and population growth to discover whether additional storage is required.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2 years	
CL-15.5.2 Identify preferred methods and sites for more water storage through community outreach and a comprehensive review of water storage options.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2032 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
CL-15.5.3 Construct and maintain new water-storage systems as needed.	WRS	Ongoing	

**Goal CL-16 Expand local food justice to address climate impacts and increase access to nourishing, affordable, culturally appropriate, and climate-friendly foods while expanding local use of composting.**

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions







Climate change will have inevitable impacts on access to nourishing and culturally appropriate foods, but Tumwater has an opportunity to secure a sustainable food future. At the same time, the City can address waste reduction goals by shifting food waste into composting waste streams.

Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
<b>CL-16.1 Improve local food justice through collaboration, education, and advocacy.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	
CL-16.1.1 Implement the Food System Plan, updating it periodically as necessary.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-2 years	
CL-16.1.2 Identify relevant stakeholders who can further sustainable, climate-adapted, and equitable food distribution in Tumwater.	CDD, WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	
CL-16.1.3 Establish opportunities for the community to provide and engage in local and sustainable food production and consumption, such as farmers markets and community gardens.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2-5 years	
CL-16.1.4 Work with urban farms and community gardens to invest in climate-resilient water storage solutions such as natural rainwater collection.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2027 <b>Complete:</b> est. 3 years	
CL-16.1.5 Advocate for state-wide regulations that protect producers and consumers from climate change impacts on the food system.	WRS	Ongoing	
CL-16.1.6 Collaborate with community members to identify culturally important foods and develop strategies to secure access to these, incorporating strategies into an update to the Food System Plan.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2030 <b>Complete:</b> est. 2-3 years	
<b>CL-16.2 Increase composting in urban agriculture and by private residences.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026	
CL-16.2.1 Develop outreach materials to promote and educate on composting methods and systems.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	

# Climate Element

Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Policies and Implementation Actions	Lead	Period	Notes
CL-16.2.2 Develop an incentive program for residents to install and utilize composting systems.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2031 <b>Complete:</b> 1-2 years	
<b>CL-16.3 Expand consistent access to food for Tumwater community members.</b>	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2025	 
CL-16.3.1 Coordinate with the County to expand access to food bank services.	WRS, County	<b>Start:</b> 2025 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1-3 years	
CL-16.3.2 Conduct community outreach to find gaps and barriers in consistent access to nutritious food.	WRS	<b>Start:</b> 2026 <b>Complete:</b> est. 1 year	

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