

# 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update Climate Element

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



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City Council June 22, 2025

# Overview

- Recap on State Requirements
- What we heard
- How we incorporated feedback
- Prioritization



# State Requirements – GHG Emission Reduction - 1

- Result in reductions in overall greenhouse gas emissions generated by transportation and land use within the jurisdiction but without increasing emissions elsewhere in Washington
- Result in reductions in per capita vehicle miles traveled within the jurisdiction but without increasing greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere in Washington



# State Requirements – GHG Emission Reduction - 2

- Prioritize reductions that benefit overburdened communities to maximize the co-benefits of reduced air pollution and environmental justice
- Use 2022 as a baseline year and set incremental targets that lead to achieving net zero emissions in 2050, consistent with Washington's statewide target



# State Requirements – Resilience Sub-Element - 1

- Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, including sea level rise, landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke, wildfire, and other effects of changes to temperature and precipitation patterns
- Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster climate resilience, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe species migration
- Identify, protect, and enhance community resilience to climate impacts, including social, economic, and built-environment factors, which support adaptation to climate impacts consistent with environmental justice



# State Requirements – Resilience Sub-Element - 2

- Equitably enhance the resilience of communities and ecological systems to climate change
- Be consistent with best available science and scientifically credible climate projections and impact scenarios
- Prioritize and benefit overburdened communities that will suffer disproportionately from environmental impacts and climate-exacerbated natural hazards



# What We Heard

- We received more than 240 comments



# What We Heard - Themes

- Support for climate action
- Support for active transportation
- Fear that active transportation may be a zero-sum game for cars
- Disagreement on the direction of Tumwater's growth (good vs bad)
  - *We are mandated by the state to accommodate growth.*
- Polarized views on equity
  - *We're required by the state, and Council direction, to incorporate equity*
- Differing opinions on incentives vs mandates
- Emphasis on the need for the City to adapt and build resilience





# Comment Register

Method of receiving feedback	Comment	Author	Staff Response	Feedback incorporated?
Email	<p>Buildings &amp; Energy</p> <p>Phase out natural gas use in existing publicly owned facilities by [insert target date] and retrofit with electric heat pumps.</p> <p>Prioritize the preservation and weatherization of housing in overburdened communities, particularly at higher densities, to reduce emissions and increase resilience.</p> <p>Maximize renewable energy sources for the supply of electricity and heat to new and existing buildings.</p> <p>Install distributed renewable energy generation and battery infrastructure at public facilities to store renewable electricity generated on site and provide emergency power that ensures continuity of operations.</p> <p>Provide overburdened communities subsidies to offset potential cost increases associated with conversion to non-fossil-fuel energy sources.</p> <p>Zoning</p> <p>Consider climate change, including sea-level rise, extreme precipitation, increased winter streamflow, and other impacts, in floodplain management planning.</p> <p>Identify and protect agricultural and forested lands that provide climate resilience benefits from conversion to more developed land use types.</p> <p>Consider future climate conditions during siting and design of capital facilities, including changes to temperature, rainfall, and sea level, to help ensure they function as intended over their planned life cycle.</p> <p>Ecosystems</p> <p>Adopt a forest master plan and implementing ordinances to maintain and expand tree canopy cover, improve tree and watershed health, prioritize carbon sequestration, and build climate resilience.</p> <p>Econ</p> <p>Ensure that the local economy is resilient to climate disruptions and fosters business opportunities associated with climate mitigation and adaptation.</p>	Mason Rolph Executive Director, Olympia Community Solar	Because of Initiative 2066, we cannot prohibit, penalize, or discourage the use of gas for any form of heating or for any uses related to any appliances or equipment in any building. Policy CL-9.4 intends to expand weatherization. CL-9 and CL-5 seeks to expand renewable energy generation. CL9.2 addresses renewable and battery storage for existing city facilities. Goal CL-10 and CL-13 seek to address considering climate change's impacts in zoning and planning. The City of Tumwater already has an Urban Forestry Management Plan and is in the process of implementing it, including canopy measures. Goal CL-13 addresses the local economy and climate resilience.	✓
Email	<p>I think the "Summer Maximum Temperature" row in Table 2 on p. 22 is supposed to include "increase" after the numbers.</p> <p>Page 22 says, "Although Tumwater is not projected to experience drastic sea level rise in this period..." What does the City expect about the effects of significant high tides on the old Brewery and the adjacent park after the dam is removed and various amounts of sea level rise occur?"</p> <p>The labels for Table 5 and Table 6 have ended up shifted to the next page.</p>	Thad Curtz	Edits made.	✓
Email	CEMP update integration?	Thad Curtz	We will incorporate the Climate Element into the	

# Priorities

**High Impact Climate Actions.** CPAT prioritized actions because they will drive the greatest amount of emissions reductions and/or reduce casualties due to climate hazards immediately or in the near term

**Easy Wins.** CPAT prioritized actions because they will be easier to accomplish, allowing the Tumwater community to feel motivated by real and visible progress

**Futureproofing for Everyone.** CPAT prioritized actions because they will help to untangle potential future conflicts and allow the City to create policies and legislate on the side of climate action



# Priorities

**Everyday concerns (equity).** CPAT prioritized action because they create a more equitable and just community immediately or in the near-term, addressing issues of economic injustice and making it possible for Tumwater's community members to access basic needs

**Building longevity.** CPAT prioritized action because they create a more equitable, just, and resilient community in the long term but require action now to build that future







## Discussion & Questions