AGENDA

JOINT CLIMATE RESILIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING
May 12, 2023
9:OO A.M.

CITY HALL
UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM
VIA ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84228773747?pwd=UG5IMUgramRLSWJ3M1dmalFzZ3lEQT09

Meeting ID: 842 2877 3747
Passcode: 073704

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

   A. Approval of April 14, 2023 Joint Climate Resiliency Committee Meeting

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/PRESENTATION

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

   A. Review presentation to the City Council and County

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

   A. Discussion of what's next for the committee? Quarterly meetings? Dissolve?

8. Next Meeting: June 9, 2023

9. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting conducted Via ZOOM

Prepared by/
Jean Corbin, Secretary

Climate Resiliency Committee

"To address the increasing impacts of climate change; we will recommend local, affordable, and achievable actions and strategies to the City of The Dalles and Wasco County"

MINUTES

JOINT CLIMATE RESILIENCY COMMITTEE
April 14, 2023
9:00 a.m.

VIA ZOOM/IN PERSON

PRESIDING: Chairman Dan Richardson

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Randall; Brian Reel; Debi Ferrer; Ryan Bessette; Eric Hansen; Kelly Howsley-Glover,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paula Grendel; Lisa Gambee; Bruce Schwartz; Kurt Conger

STAFF PRESENT: Tylor Stone, Jean Corbin,

GUESTS: Tonya Brumley, NW Natural Gas
Mark Radabaugh, Community Member, Jim Dowd Community Member

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Richardson at 9:03 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Jean Corbin conducted Roll Call; Present 4 in person; 2 via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Ferrer and seconded by Randall to approve the April 14, 2023 agenda as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

DRAFT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ferrer and seconded by Bassette to approve the March 10, 2023 Climate Resiliency Committee meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/PRESENTATION

Jim Dowd community member asked if this will be the Joint Climate Resiliency's last meeting due to the fact that we will be presenting the committee's recommendations to City Council. Richardson stated that the group has not discussed what the plans are.

Brumley shared that NW Natural headquarters was excited that the committee was able to incorporate their information from their department into the Developing Climate Resilience in Wasco County Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Richardson shared with the committee a diagram of the committee's end goal during the past year of meetings. The goals consisted of creating a report that would be brought before Council from the Climate Resiliency Committee with recommendations directing staff or securing a technically informed consultant to poll the community for feedback to help set priorities among these recommendations, to be accomplished by mid-summer 2023.

Richardson asked the committees thoughts round table style on the Developing Climate Resilience in Wasco County Report. **See Exhibit A** Did they feel it was ready to be presented?
Bessette feels the committee has "hit the nail on the head" with this document.
Randall feels the committee is ready for presentation, Hansen stated he felt the document gave guidelines that the city could use to incorporate into City projects.

DRAFT

Ferrer asked if the City Council approved the report, how the committee would know if the City or County had completed any of the action items from the report?
Richardson suggested going to City Council meetings and during the audience participation portion to ask council for updates on current or completed projects.

Stone asked the question of "how do we fund these recommendations?" Stone has spoken to the City Manager about putting monies towards Global Grant Services, this company would locate and write grants for the city and county. He feels this would be a better solution than a consulting firm.

Richardson felt the committee was ready to vote on adopting the report as written to present to council.

It was moved by Howsley-Glover and seconded by Bessette to present as written the Developing Climate Resilience in Wasco County Report dated 4.12.2023 to The Dalles City Council for their approval and adoption. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ferrer and Gambee will be presenting the report at the April 24th City Council Meeting
Ferrer asked if anyone is interested in helping to please email her.
Bessette mentioned he will be attending the Wasco County presentation, and would be available to help then if needed.

DRAFT

Next Meeting: May 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

_____

Submitted by/
Jean Corbin, Secretary

SIGNED: _____
Dan Richardson, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Jean Corbin, Secretary

DRAFT

EXHIBIT A

Developing Climate Resilience in Wasco County

3/24/2023 | Draft edited 4.12.23

Report of The Dalles - Wasco County Joint Ad Hoc Climate Resiliency Committee
Wasco County, Oregon

Executive Summary

The Dalles-Wasco County Joint Climate Resiliency Committee recommends that local governments set policies, budgets, and projects, and show leadership, to buffer adverse local climate effects, while improving government operations and quality of life. The Committee's recommendations for action are grouped under five problem/opportunity statements in this report:

A. Green House Gas (GHG) emissions have far-reaching environmental and human health impacts.
B. Fossil fuel use is a significant local contributor to GHG – and should be reduced.
C. The built environment can both generate a large percentage of GHG emissions, and offer opportunities to buffer climate impacts.
D. Climate change will result in increasing average temperatures, and erratic and extreme weather events.
E. Ongoing changes – in Northwest climate patterns, natural resource concerns, state and national policies, and local priorities – require continued attention.

Introduction

The Dalles and Wasco County are already experiencing the initial impacts of climate change. We should take action to prepare for larger impacts and adapt to them – while also potentially creating local jobs and improving our quality of life in the process.

Recent examples of the local climate change impacts include the 2021 Northwest-wide "heat dome" with its record high temperatures, and the late snowstorm of April 2022. Climate scientists predict we can expect less-predictable seasons and more extreme weather variability; warming average temperatures, the threat of hotter summers; less snowpack, and thus, a less consistent community water supply; and, more frequent and destructive wildfires, threatening both our homes and our air quality.[1]

These climate effects paint an unsettling picture.[2] We can expect stresses on both people and infrastructure. While this global problem is too much for any community or country to resolve, we cannot wait or hope for a solution from state or federal government. Responding to local climate stresses is an opportunity to build a healthier and more prosperous community in the face of these changes.

A number of local entities are already engaged with climate issues, though overall, efforts are modest. See Appendix B. The City of The Dalles has taken important steps in securing future water supplies with improvements now underway. Nevertheless, The City of The Dalles (COTD) and Wasco County (WC) governments must take more energetic actions to buffer our community against some of the expected effects of climate change. There are feasible, affordable, and local policies, programs, and leadership opportunities that could reduce our vulnerability to the extremes of erratic seasons and weather – and also improve our quality of life.

We believe that actions by COTD and WC (together, "local government") would demonstrate important leadership, and secure a "triple win" for our community:

- Mitigating or buffering some of the expected impacts.
- Making some local government operations cleaner, more efficient, and/or more resilient.
- Increasing our community's quality of life.

This brief report lays out several paths we believe could help achieve the triple win for The Dalles and Wasco County in the face of climate change. The time to take action is now, as national and state policy priorities seem to be aligning with many of the CRC's recommendations, and allocating significant funds for them. (See Appendix A for potential funding sources.)

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[1] For a brief graphical overview of Northwest climatic changes in coming decades, see this story map: https://uw.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=0fca8dcc02e84279a2fa10a6a5f07481

For additional scientific grounding on Northwest climate impacts, see:

- US Climate Resilience Toolkit for the Northwest: https://toolkit.climate.gov/regions/northwest
- USDA's page "Climate Impacts in the Northwest": https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/northwest/topic/climate-change-impacts-northwest
- University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group: https://cig.uw.edu/

[2] Almost uniquely unsettling: One study suggests The Dalles is just one of two communities in the Northwest to be simultaneously threatened by climate-intensified wildfire, drought, and flooding. https://www.opb.org/article/2021/02/25/cascadia-mapping-shows-communities-most-vulnerable-to-effects-of-climate-change/)

Call to Action and Next Steps

The Committee encourages the CoTD City Council and WC Board of County Commissioners to adopt this report as a part of a policy to mitigate local climate change impacts, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and seize opportunities for community benefits.

The Committee recommends directing staff or securing a technically informed consultant to poll the community for feedback to help set priorities among these recommendations, to be accomplished by mid-summer 2023. The consultant or staff should then review the recommendations with partners to identify actions based on feasibility, and those with resources already allocated, as well as including any additional recommendations that arise from their work. Within the prioritization, staff should weigh differential impacts of climate change on those who are particularly vulnerable, and offer actions to address inequities in impacts and resources.

This set of recommendations, in other words, is not the final word on climate change and The Dalles and Wasco County. We hope, rather, that this is a start. These recommendations are a mix of ideas large and small. Some are already in discussion in local government, others have not yet been raised to our knowledge.

We encourage The Dalles and the greater community of Wasco County to thoughtfully and meaningfully act on opportunities to mitigate climate impacts and realize benefits of efficiency, resilience, and improved quality of life.

Respectfully submitted for consideration,

The members of the Joint Climate Resiliency Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

[Problem Statements are in orange, Value Statements are in green, action items are bullets]

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have far-reaching environmental and human health impacts.

We value efficient use of energy.

- Conduct energy audits of City/County Facilities.
    - Evaluate solar installation at local government buildings.
- Explore a local incentive fund for residential/commercial solar installations and electrification that replaces fossil fuel use.
- Host workshop to share ROI, lifecycle cost analysis, and incentives, for residents, businesses considering local solar installation.

We value reducing our GHG emissions, to help mitigate the impacts of climate change.

- Develop a formal, technically informed, community-wide climate action plan
    - Include interested local governments (city, port, school district, county, etc.).
    - Set GHG emissions targets for local governments, other participating entities.
    - Incorporate emissions goals into capital improvement plans for City/County
    - Include tree canopy, urban heat island, electrification, solar power and other locally actionable elements in the plan.
- Consider directing staff, and possibly sharing staff resources with other organizations, to focus on numerous funding opportunities available for local climate action.

Fossil fuel use is a significant local contributor to GHG – and should be reduced.[1]

We value alternative fuel sources that can support a thriving community and economy.

- Right-size public fleets to electric vehicles where duty-cycle allows.
    - Consider "clean diesel" or other fuel sources where electric is not available.
- Provide strategically placed recharging stations and priority parking for electric vehicles -- both the public, and public agency fleets.
- Assess and experimentally implement an EV car-share program like CRuSE.

We value encouraging multi-modal transportation to reduce fossil fuel dependency and promote local air quality and health.

- Prioritize multi-modal transportation and linkages to trails/paths.
    - Create and budget for annual investment in walking (multiuse) trails and lanes, with emphasis on cross-community commuting, recreation, and safe routes to school.
    - Support/build an expanded multi-use urban path system linking Riverfront Trail to both N-S and E-W paths, shopping, schools.
    - Build several pedestrian/bike "nodes" or trailheads with appropriate safety, lighting, to access urban paths -- e.g., downtown plaza.
    - Evaluate commercial district and arterial street designs (lanes, sizing, traffic calming) to encourage safe use of bikes and pedestrians.
    - Encourage use of The Link public transit system.

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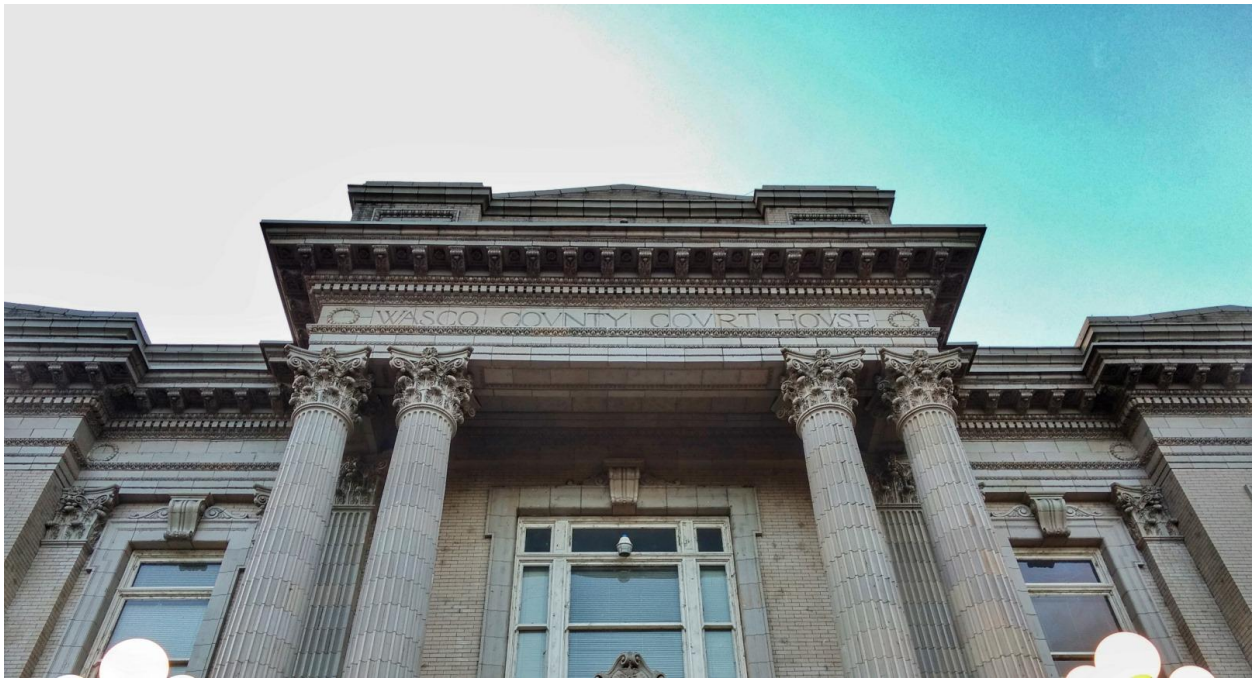
[1] Transportation contributed 35% of Oregon's GHG in 2021, according to the state. See: https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/Pages/GHG-Inventory.aspx



The built environment can both generate a large percentage of GHG emissions[1], and offer opportunities to buffer climate impacts.

We value a built environment that is resilient to extreme weather and minimizes GHG emissions.

- Assess government buildings for durability under extreme events (long "heat domes", dense wildfire smoke).
- Identify solutions for reducing built environment emissions starting with city/county facilities.
- Review local codes and design standards to appropriately support and incentivize increased energy efficiency, solar panels (both residential, commercial, and potentially shading over parking lots), low-water landscaping, and use of gray water.
- Consider installing a demonstration lattice wall (aka green wall) on appropriate government buildings.

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[1] The built environment – residential and commercial buildings – emit approximately one-third of Oregon's GHG, according to the state. See: https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/Pages/GHG-Inventory.aspx

Climate change will result in increasing average temperatures, and erratic and extreme weather events.

We value safe spaces to congregate that will lower urban heat island effects.

- Increase tree canopy throughout The Dalles to offset increased temperatures and increase livability.
    - Analyze current city-wide tree canopy and develop an Urban Forest Management Plan to improve canopy cover, lower heat island effects, promote walkability, and address tree canopy benefits equitably.
    - Re-orient staff (public projects, maintenance, transportation staff and engineers) to understand large shade trees as critical infrastructure.
    - Budget and support public maintenance of streets, sidewalks, underground utilities, and other infrastructure impacted by large shade trees, to preserve those trees.
    - Consider hiring permanent tree maintenance and tree-planting position.
    - Consider city mini-grants to assist homeowners in planting trees; and maintaining large-diameter, "heritage" trees.
    - Consider support for cooling and heating shelters open during extremes in weather.

We value other opportunities for reducing GHG emissions.

- Partner with solid waste entities, health organizations, and environmental agencies to study fugitive emissions from the landfill and ways to capture for potential reuse.
- Partner with utilities to provide education, incentives for home energy audits, electrification, and energy efficiency.

We value empowering citizens to learn more about climate change.

- City/county host central contact point of contact for relevant climate info, carbon footprint reduction measures, incentives, etc. for residents, such as web site; and, potentially, a single staff point of contact (possibly shared across organizations).

We value support for other organizations and residents to reduce their carbon footprints, and to become more climate-resilient.

- Assess potential for a climate action revolving loan program (for nonprofits, education, et al, to institute renewables and other climate practices in alignment with a formal climate action plan).

Ongoing changes – in Northwest climate patterns, natural resource concerns, state and national policies, and local priorities – require continued attention.

We value local governments and leaders being diligent on climate change.

- Form a local multigovernmental, interagency stakeholders group or steering committing to explore collaborative climate policies, outreach, and action.
    - Invite participation by other local governments with significant infrastructure, vehicle fleets, and energy system responsibility.
    - Invite nonprofit groups that are working on these issues.
    - Incorporate climate impacts and mitigation opportunities into analysis of budgets and projects.
- Engage with regional technical groups, such as the “Public Sector Round Table” of Northwest public utilities.
- Schedule semi-annual or annual climate impacts and actions review (whether referencing this report or an alternate local technical plan), involving both staff and elected officials.
    - Invite state or regional climate impacts researchers to share data and outlook for near-future climate effects.
    - Consider forming a scientific steering panel or advisory group to make annual assessments and recommendations for next-actions.

We value follow-through on critical issues, starting with water supply.

- Prioritize analysis and funding of water system storage, leak-reduction, and conservation efforts, both in The Dalles and for Wasco County’s rural communities.

Appendix A: Climate Resilience Funding and Technical Assistance Opportunities

Oregon – General Categories

Oregon Department of Energy -

https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Pages/index.aspx

This is the first place to start when looking for technical assistance and funding for a variety of projects. Examples range from help to homeowners such as rebates for solar installations, to rebates for landlords to install energy efficient heat pumps, to energy audits for rural small businesses and agriculture, to grants to communities of up to $1,000,000 for renewable energy or climate resiliency projects. Subscribe to selected updates from the ODOE here - http://web.energy.oregon.gov/cn/a6n53/subscribe

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Climate Change and Public Health Program

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/HealthyEnvironments/climatechange/Pages/index.aspx

The program offers a great deal of technical assistance related to the intersection of public health with climate adaptation and mitigation. There may also be some grants awarded through regional public health departments.

Oregon Global Warming Commission

https://www.keeporegoncool.org/

This commission, formed in 2007, has as its mission to recommend ways to coordinate state and local efforts to reduce Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions, and to help the state, local governments, business, and Oregonians prepare for the effects of climate change. Thus far, all effort toward achieving greenhouse gas emissions goals has been voluntary, and has fallen short of meeting its interim targets. SB 522, Modernization of the Global Warming Commission, would, if passed, expand the scope of the commission, increase staffing to better serve Oregonians, update state greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals, and require state agencies to report on progress toward achieving those goals. The OGWC will likely continue to be an important resource for information and technical assistance.

Federal Funds – General Categories

There are many opportunities for federal funding via recently passed federal legislation relating to infrastructure and climate action.

Guidebook to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments and Other Partners

https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/BUILDING-A-BETTER-AMERICA-V2.pdf

This is essentially 500 pages of funding opportunities for a variety of infrastructure projects, not all related to climate change, but a significant number could apply. For example, there is funding for electric vehicle charging stations to help build out a national network of 500,000 vehicle chargers. There is capital funding available for low or no-emissions public and school bus projects. There is funding for a variety of projects related to clean energy, improving the resilience of the grid, carbon sequestration, and much more.

Guidebook to the Inflation Reduction Act's Investments in Clean Energy and Climate Action

https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Inflation-Reduction-Act-Guidebook.pdf

This is 180+ pages of funding opportunities, ALL of which are related to Climate Action.

Trees and Green Infrastructure

There is a growing number of funding opportunities for Green Space or Street Tree projects, particularly when those projects prioritize environmental equity within communities, and when communities have tree or green infrastructure plans in place.

The Arbor Day Foundation

The Arbor Day Foundation has long been promoting trees in communities. While they do provide many small trees to individuals for Arbor Day, they also have some corporate partners that help with large grants ($20,000) to organizations in the form of community green space awards. https://www.arborday.org/programs/BankofAmericaGrant/

Oregon Community Trees

https://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org/

Mission is to promote healthy urban and community forests through leadership, education, awareness and advocacy. This organization will assist community groups, local governments, and schools with their expertise and limited resources. OTC offers small grants of up to $500 to cities to boost their Arbor Month activities. https://www.oregoncommunitytrees.com/grants

Oregon Department of Forestry Urban and Community Forest Program

https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/pages/urbanforests.aspx

This program offers expertise of urban forestry staff, tools for communities such as the Urban Forestry Toolkit and TreePlotter Inventory software, as well as grants.

Education

Here are just a few of the many funding sources available in Oregon related to education about climate change.

- Oregon Community Foundation
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Gray Family Foundation

Community Resilience And Climate Justice

NOAA Climate and Societal Interactions grants (from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)

https://cpo.noaa.gov/Funding-Opportunities/CPO-Climate-and-Societal-Interactions-CSI-Division-Bipartisan-Infrastructure-Law-BIL-Funding-Opportunity

Supports collaborative research and community engagement projects that improve climate adaptation planning and action.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development Economic Resilience Programs

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/economic_resilience

The Office of Economic Development (OED) offers a wide range of funding and other assistance in a variety of categories. Here are just a few: Financing High-performance infrastructure, Community Resilience, Multi-family Better Buildings Challenge, and the

Renew300 Initiative, which aims to help federally assisted housing properties manage utility costs through the installation of onsite or community-based renewable energy technology.

US Climate Resilience Toolkit

https://toolkit.climate.gov/content/funding-opportunities

This website is a clearinghouse for a variety of funding opportunities for communities to increase climate resilience.

EPA Environmental Justice Funding and Technical Assistance

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-grants-funding-and-technical-assistance

This website is a clearinghouse for funding opportunities and technical assistance related to Environmental and Climate Justice.

EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities

https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/building-blocks-sustainable-communities

Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities provides quick, targeted technical assistance to selected communities using tools that are designed to address a variety of challenges in many different local contexts. The purpose of delivering these tools is to stimulate a discussion about growth and development and strengthen local capacity to implement sustainable approaches.

Transportation

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

There are a variety of funding opportunities available through ODOT. Here are a few:

- **Small Urban and Rural Carbon Emissions Reduction Projects -**

  $13 million is available in 2023 under an ODOT-managed competitive grant program. Eligible projects must reduce emissions from transportation and be in urban and rural areas of the state with populations fewer than 200,000. This is part of the federal Carbon Reduction Program that will bring $82 million to Oregon over the next five years. Here is more information about this project. ODOT is hosting a webinar for potential applicants on March 15 at 2 pm. Someone from The Dalles and Wasco

County really should attend to help our community apply for these funds. Here is the link to register.

- **Connect Oregon**

  https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Programs/Pages/ConnectOregon.aspx
  This state initiative specifically invests in "non-highway modes of transportation. Previously, this included bicycle/pedestrian and transit projects, though these will have different funding sources going forward. Future projects will include aviation, rail, and marine projects.

- **Oregon's Five Year EV Charging Infrastructure Roadmap**

  https://www.oregon.gov/odot/climate/Pages/NEVI.aspx
  $100 million has been committed by ODOT over the next five years to public EV charging stations. Local governments and businesses can express their interest in hosting public charging stations here.

The Built Environment

Oregon Energy Grants, Loans, Rebates and Incentives

http://www.energy-grants.net/

This website is a clearinghouse for funding opportunities specifically for homeowners and small business owners to increase energy efficiency of their residences and businesses.

Federal Homeowner Tax Credit FAQs

https://www.irs.gov/pub/taxpros/fs-2022-40.pdf

This Fact Sheet issues frequently asked questions about energy efficient home improvements and residential clean energy property credits.

Potential State Legislation

Buildings

The 2022 Oregon Legislative Session resulted in the Resilient Efficient Buildings Task Force with the goal of reducing climate pollution from our built environment. The REBuilding Task Force held 17 public meetings over nine months and was made up of more than two dozen members from across Oregon, representing a variety of stakeholders: lawmakers, health

experts, contractors, architects, local governments, community organizations, labor unions, climate experts, consumer watchdogs, and representatives from electric utilities and the gas industry. Their task was to produce recommendations for legislation related to the Task Force's goal. Here are the four bills that resulted. Note that these are not in their final form, but it's thought they are very likely to pass in some form, due to the bipartisan nature of the task force. If these bills pass, there will be additional technical support and funding for

- **SB 868 Healthy Heating and Cooling for All**

  This bill aligns energy efficiency programs with state climate goals, sets a heat pump target for the state, supports workforce development, and improves navigation of federal and state incentives for energy efficiency and retrofits of homes and businesses. Here is a one-pager from the bill sponsors while the bill text is being drafted.

- **SB 869 Build Smart from the Start**

  Buildings are the second largest source of carbon emissions in Oregon. An existing Executive Order (20-04) requires the Building Codes Division to evaluate and report on Oregon's current progress toward achieving goals for new residential and commercial buildings, and options for achieving that goal. This bill would codify this executive order into law and do a few other good things, too. Here is a one-pager from the bill sponsors while the bill text is being drafted.

- **SB 870 Building Performance Standards**

  Older buildings consume more energy and produce more carbon emissions than newer buildings. This bill will establish building performance standards for large commercial buildings to reduce their energy use and climate emissions over time, requiring them to meet energy and emissions reduction targets over time from a flexible menu of improvements. It is modeled after Washington State BPS, which passed in 2019. Here is a one-pager from the bill sponsors while the bill text is being drafted.

- **SB 871 Smart State Buildings**

  This bill removes barriers to accelerate energy retrofits and upgrades in state buildings, allowing the state to lead by example, and demonstrate how increasing resilience and efficiency and transitioning to clean energy is feasible, affordable, and beneficial. Here is a one-pager from the bill sponsors while the bill text is being drafted.

SB 522 - Modernization of the Global Warming Commission

This bill would, if passed, expand the scope of the commission, increase staffing to better serve Oregonians, update state greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals, and require state agencies to report on progress toward achieving those goals. The OGWC will likely continue to be an important resource for information and technical assistance.
https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/SB522

HB3016 – Green Infrastructure / TREES Act

https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/HB3016

This bill, currently in the Oregon legislature, has received its first public hearing with overwhelming support. In fact, there is currently no opposition to it. If passed, the bill will provide grants to Oregon communities specifically to assist with improving their urban tree canopy. This is a well-drafted bill that incentivizes communities to hire local workforce for their green infrastructure projects, it addresses the well-documented disparity in tree canopies between affluent and less affluent neighborhoods, and it provides technical assistance communities will need (from the Oregon Department of Forestry) to plan and implement their projects successfully.

HB 2990 – Community Resilience Hubs

https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/HB2990

This bill would provide funding for local communities to plan and build resilience strategies that make sense for their community, to help build local resilience and adapt to climate change.

Appendix B: Local Climate Asset Map

The table below compiles organizations and their climate mitigation/adaptation actions.

Organization	Climate Impact Actions
CONSUMPTION AND WASTE	
Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling https://tricountyrecycle.com/ 541-506-2632	• Household Hazardous Waste collection events • Recycling information • Composting and other waste reduction information
The Dalles Disposal https://www.thedallesdisposal.com 541-298-5149	• Residential Collection of yard waste, Commingled Recycling and Glass • Commercial collection of cardboard, organics, recycling, construction and demolition debris
Dirt Hugger Landscape Supply https://www.dirthugger.com/ 541-946-3478	• Produce organic compost using locally available feedstocks such as fruit, wood and beer yeast. By composting, organics don't go to the landfill where they create methane, a greenhouse gas 23 times more harmful than CO2.
Gorge Gleaning http://gorgegleaning.com/ 541-490-6420	• Collect fresh fruits and vegetables from public, private orchards and backyard gardens to donate to hunger relief groups in the Columbia River Gorge
BUILDINGS AND ENERGY	
Mid-Columbia Community Action Council https://www.mccac.com/energy-and-utility-assistance 541-298-5131	• Provide weatherization services to reduce home energy usage • Energy Education classes • Transitional Housing & Shelter Services (shelter for homeless)
Northern Wasco County People's Utility District	
https://www.nwascopud.org/ (541) 296-2226 • **Climate Impact Resources:** Educational programs and project funding to support terrestrial and aquatic improvements https://www.nwascopud.org/about/kids/ https://www.nwascopud.org/programs-and-services/mcnary-fisheries-compensation-committee/	

Organization	Climate Impact Actions

https://www.mcnary.fish/what-we-do

- **Sources of Electrical Energy:** Hydroelectric power, renewable energy options, and the history of power resources in the District
https://www.nwascopud.org/about/power-sources/
https://www.nwascopud.org/programs-and-services/pure-power-program/
https://www.nwascopud.org/local-power-supply/

- **Electric Vehicles:** Information about the technology, GHG reduction potential, incentives, and features
https://www.nwascopud.org/programs-and-services/electric-vehicles/

- **Energy Efficiency Upgrade Programs**: Rebates for weatherization, appliances, heat pumps, and commercial buildings
https://www.nwascopud.org/programs-and-services/energy-efficiency-and-rebate-programs/

- **Net Metering for Renewable Energy**: Customers service policies for Net Metering available to Residential and Commercial customers
https://www.nwascopud.org/wp-content/uploads/Customer-Service-Policy-March-2022.pdf Policy 41 at page 24
https://www.nwascopud.org/residential/residential-rates/
https://www.nwascopud.org/commercial/commercial-rates/

NW Natural

Website: nwnatural.com
503-610-7954

- **Energy Efficiency Upgrade Programs:** Rebates for weatherization, heat rated fireplaces, water heaters, commercial buildings, residential single and multi-family buildings.

https://www.nwnatural.com/ways-to-save/savings-programs
https://www.energytrust.org/commercial/multifamily-cash-incentives/
https://www.energytrust.org/commercial/existing-buildings-oregon-cash-incentives/
https://www.energytrust.org/residential/incentives/
https://energytrust.clearesult.com/explore_app/

- **Smart Energy programs**: *Commercial & Residential*- Mitigating carbon emissions from the natural gas use through projects that reduce or prevent the release of greenhouse gasses.

https://www.energytrust.org/residential/incentives/

Organization	Climate Impact Actions
• **Developed Low Carbon Pathway-** Our mission to work with stakeholders on a voluntary carbon savings goal of 30% by 2035, and be a carbon neutral energy provider by 2050. https://www.lesswecan.com/ • **Vision 2050- Destination Zero-** NW Natural report on carbon neutrality future. https://www.nwnatural.com/about-us/the-company/carbon-neutral-future • **Complimentary Equipment inspections-** Tech will perform annual equipment inspection for residential and commercial sites. Tech can identify areas where improvements or repairs can be performed for better equipment efficiency. https://www.nwnatural.com/business/services/inspections-tune-ups/schedule-inspection • **Facts and Analysis About Our Energy System** NW Natural is committed to effectively addressing climate change by actively supporting sound energy policy informed by facts and transparent analysis in service to those that depend on us.	
Wasco Electric Co-Op https://www.wascoelectric.com 541-296-2740	• Offers weatherization audits • Offers rebates on energy efficient items like windows and doors, insulation, washer/dryer, smart thermostat, heat pumps, etc.
NATURAL RESOURCES / SYSTEMS / LAND USE	
Columbia River Gorge Commission http://www.gorgecommission.org/ 509-493-3323	• Climate Change Action Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
City of The Dalles Beautification Committee Tree Project	• The Beautification Committee is working with the City to pursue a Tree Project. The mayor and the city council are in support of this and have given the Beatification Committee $20K this budget cycle to start the Tree Project. Some of the things being considered right now are a tree inventory, a canopy cover inventory, hiring an arborist to help figure out why the downtown trees aren't surviving and what we need to do differently (probably it will involve larger wells and reliable irrigation). We are also considering the scope of the project. Right now, the group wants to target the downtown area to create shade, lower summertime temps, and improve the appearance of the downtown area.Trees sequester and store CO^2, a greenhouse gas, and certain trees

Organization	Climate Impact Actions
	remove significant particulate pollutants from the environment.
Oregon Department of Forestry https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Pages/index.aspx 503-945-7410	• *Climate Change and Carbon Plan - excerpt from Principles section*: Climate change is a serious threat. We have less than a decade to alter behaviors if we want to avoid catastrophic impacts. We must be innovative, creative, and proactive in working toward solutions, not simply react to the results of climate change. • Climate Change page: https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/pages/climate-change.aspx • *Landscape Resiliency Program* - The Landscape Resiliency Program was established through Senate Bill 762, Section 18 (2021) to improve forest restoration and resiliency. This grant program will fund landscape-scale projects that reduce wildfire risk on public and private forestlands and rangelands, and in communities near homes and critical infrastructure through restoration of landscape resiliency and reduction of hazardous fuels. • *Firewise USA residential fire protection program by the National Fire Protection Association* - Every year, devastating wildfires burn across the United States. At the same time, a growing number of people are living where wildfires are a real risk. While these fires will continue to happen, there are things you can do to protect your home and neighborhood as well as your family's safety. The Firewise USA® program is here to help you get started.
Wasco County Planning Department https://www.co.wasco.or.us/departments/planning/index.php 541-506-2560	• Designated management agency for the Miles Creek Subbasin and John Day Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plans • Works collaboratively with partners on natural hazard planning, including Wasco County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan • Implements Statewide Climate Change Land Use Planning goals and policies
City of The Dalles Community Development Department	• Designated management agency for urban portion of Miles Creek Subbasin TMDL

Organization	Climate Impact Actions
https://www.thedalles.org/department/community_development_planning/index.php 541-296-5481	• Works collaboratively with partners on natural hazard planning, including Wasco County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan • Implements Statewide Climate Change Land Use Planning goals and policies

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Wasco County Soil & Water Conservation District

http://wascoswcd.org/
541-296-6178

- *Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)* - Conservation cover is a permanent vegetative cover usually located on past grain cropland. Plants that produce high volumes of organic matter are recommended when this practice is applied to increase carbon sequestration, build soil health, improve water quality and strengthen benefits to wildlife or pollinator habitat.
- *Residue and Tillage Management (No-Till / Direct Seeding)* - No-till limits soil disturbance to manage the amount, orientation and distribution of crop and plant residue on the soil surface. No-till may increase soil carbon sequestration while reducing emissions from the field and delivering the co-benefits of reducing fossil fuel use, increasing plant-available moisture, and improving water quality. No-till reduces the amount of soil carbon released into the atmosphere when compared to soil disturbance practices, while also reducing emissions and sequestering carbon.

- *Prescribed Grazing* - Prescribed grazing is managing the harvest of vegetation with grazing or browsing animals to achieve specific ecological, economic and management goals. Prescribed grazing may sequester carbon in perennial biomass and soils while delivering the co-benefits of enhancing or maintaining desired plant species for forage, improving water quality, increasing stocking rates and livestock vigor, and building soil health.

- *Riparian Forest Buffer (CREP)* - A riparian forest buffer is an area covered by trees or shrubs that is located along a body of waterbody (i.e. stream). Riparian forest buffers may generate carbon sequestration in perennial biomass and soils while generating the co-benefits of improving water quality, restoring diversity of riparian plant communities, providing wildlife habitat, and improving stream conditions for certain species.

- *Tree and Shrub Establishment* - This conservation practice establishes woody vegetation by planting seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding or through natural regeneration. Established trees or shrubs may increase carbon sequestration in perennial biomass and soils while delivering the co-benefits of maintaining or increasing plant diversity, establishing wildlife or pollinator habitat, reducing erosion, and improving water quality.

Organization	Climate Impact Actions
	• *Upland Wildlife Habitat Management* - This practice supports land managers in establishing and maintaining upland habitats and connectivity within the landscape for wildlife. Examples include creating food plots and planting cool season grasses or legumes, forbs, trees, or other woody vegetation depending on the target wildlife species. Upland wildlife habitat may increase carbon sequestration in perennial biomass and soils while generating the co-benefits of improving wildlife and plant species diversity, increasing wildlife and pollinator habitat, and improving water quality. • *Forest Stand Improvement* - The manipulation of species composition, stand structure, and stocking by cutting or killing selected trees and understory vegetation. Pre-commercial thinning is the removal of non-merchantable trees (either due to size, condition, or species) to maximize site's potential for remaining trees. Environmental Benefits Include: ○ Improve and sustain forest health and productivity. ○ Reduce damage from pests and moisture stress. ○ Initiate forest stand regeneration. ○ Reduce fire risk and hazard and facilitate prescribed burning. ○ Restore or maintain natural plant communities. ○ Improve wildlife and pollinator habitat. ○ Alter quantity, quality, and timing of water yield. ○ Increase or maintain carbon storage. • *Provide Technical and Financial assistance to landowners in Wasco County*. Through cost share programs and financial payments through both NRCS and FSA by enrolling into programs that include the conservation practices above.
TRANSPORTATION	
Mid-Columbia Economic Development District https://www.mcedd.org/ 541-296-2266	• Reduces carbon emissions by providing public transportation (The Link) • MCEDD Energy & Project Manager
NETWORKS	
Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network https://cgcan.org/about/	The Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network (CGCAN) educates, organizes and motivates Columbia Gorge activists to reduce and eliminate fossil fuel usage and climate change, at all levels from individual to global. We encourage clean local renewable energy, conservation, community sustainability and resilience throughout our National Scenic Area. • Political Action/Direct Action • Education/Personal Footprint • Community Footprint • Divestment

Other Community Climate Action Plans

- Hood River Energy Plan - https://www.mcedd.org/industry-development/special-projects/
- Port Townsend / Jefferson Co, WA Climate Action Committee - https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/637/Climate-Action-Committee
- City of Bend Climate Action Plan - https://www.bendoregon.gov/city-projects/sustainability/community-climate-action-plan
- Eugene Climate Action Plan 2.0 - https://www.eugene-or.gov/4284/Climate-Action-Plan-20
- CRGC Climate Action Plan (draft) - http://www.gorgecommission.org/initiatives/climate-change
- Oregon Climate Action Plan – EO 17-20 https://www.oregon.gov/gov/Documents/executive_orders/eo_17-20.pdf
    - Two Year Progress Report March 2022 - https://assets.nationbuilder.com/reneworegon/pages/1321/attachments/original/1647119874/Two_Year_OCAP_Progress_Report_2022.pdf?1647119874
- Ashland Climate Action Plan - https://ashlandor.org/climate-energy/climate-plan/
- ·Corvallis Climate Action Plan - https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/community/page/corvallis-climate-action
- Acton, MA CAP - https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7404/CAP-Blueprint

Resources

City of Hood River Energy Audit
https://cityofhoodriver.gov/analysis-city-energy-use-summer-2020/

Grant Resources

https://www.nwascopud.org/programs-and-services/energy-efficiency-and-rebate-programs/
https://www.nwascopud.org/programs-and-services/electric-vehicles/
https://www.commuteoptions.org (Kim Curley, Kathy Fitzpatrick)
https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Incentives/Pages/CREP.aspx
https://oregoncounties.org/oregon-department-of-energy-announces-12-million-in-grant-funding-for-renewable-energy-and-energy-resilience-projects/
https://www.energy.gov/funding-financing
https://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/current-funding-opportunities
https://energycommunities.gov/funding-opportunities/
https://www.insidephilanthropy.com/fundraising-for-climate-change

Appendix C : The Committee Process

The Dalles City Council and the Wasco County Board of Commissioners established the Joint Climate Resiliency Committee in June 2022. The committee's purpose was, by resolution, to "Provide recommendations to the City Council of the City of The Dalles and the Wasco County Board of Commissioners for possible regulations, programs, or policies regarding climate resiliency for the community." The committee was given a one year period.

Members of the committee include:

- Lisa Gambee, Wasco County, County Clerk;
- Tyler Stone, Wasco County, Administrative Officer; who was later replaced on the CRC by Wasco County Planning Director Kelly Howsley-Glover;
- Scott Randall, City of The Dalles, City Councilor;
- Dan Richardson, City of The Dalles, City Councilor – elected as committee chairman;
- Eric Hansen, City of The Dalles, Assistant Public Works Director;
- Brian Reel, Oregon Department of Forestry, Stewardship Forester;
- Ryan Bessette, Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District, District Technician;
- Bruce Schwartz, Citizen
- Debi Ferrer, Citizen.

Additionally, several citizens and representatives of agencies such as Northern Wasco County PUD and Northwest Natural participated in many of the CRC meetings. The committee met monthly, and later appointed a subcommittee to make additional working meetings on specific points. Committee members early on discussed how to approach such a potentially overwhelming topic as climate change. By consensus, after initial discussions, the committee agreed to a mission statement:

"The Mission of the Climate Resiliency Committee (CRC) is to address the increasing impacts of climate change; we will recommend local, affordable, and achievable actions and strategies to the City of The Dalles and Wasco County."

Local, affordable, and achievable – these became guiding principles of the group. We did not define those precisely, but rather used them as a "gut check" on whether a proposed area of work or topic of discussion was within our purview. National policies? No, not local and not something we were likely to make any achievable progress on. Local government vehicle fleets' electrification? Yes: local, and at least potentially affordable, certainly achievable. Whether a given policy or area of work is actually affordable is, of course, up to staff and especially elected leaders.

The question of how a community might address climate change is not a new question. Communities around the Northwest have been wrestling with this question for years. There are a number of reports and plans written in the past 10 years. Among these are, for example, the Corvallis Climate Action Plan (2017) and the Hood River Energy Plan (2018).[1]

There is a large field of literature with regard to climate plans. Washington State published a plan for how local governments could create a climate plan.[2] One useful short document – we recommend staff and elected leaders to review this – is Bend's "A Primer on Climate Action Plans: What are Other Western and U.S. Cities Doing?"[3]

CRC members read several of these Northwest climate plans for ideas. There are a number of common themes or project ideas committee members harvested for consideration in The Dalles/Wasco County. The CRC also welcomed participation from several technically informed individuals, including representatives from Northern Wasco County PUD, public works departments, Wy'East RC&D, and Haley Ellett, management analyst with the city of Hood River and formerly a key staff person in development Hood River's Energy Plan. Between these various sources, CRC members came up with nearly 100 potential projects or policies for COTD/Wasco County to explore. Over several discussions and iterations, the list was condensed into the current form.

There are two very significant climate impacts the Climate Resiliency Committee's members decided not to investigate: Potential stresses to water supply, specifically to the city of The Dalles; and, increased frequency and intensity of wildland fires. These are arguably two of the most severe likely effects of global warming as felt in Wasco County. However, the City is already moving to markedly increase its water storage capacity via aquifer-recharge, and also study the larger issue via the ongoing "water system master plan study," now underway. Likewise, there are statewide and local efforts to help residents reduce wildland fire hazards and adapt to more fire-prone conditions. The Committee felt it unnecessary to spend additional time emphasizing the need for these two areas of work.

The Committee's resulting set of recommendations, above, are outlined as a series of value statements and areas of staff-work and policy considerations to begin addressing various other problems in a systematic fashion. Committee members wish to emphasize that this report's recommendations are not comprehensive. The CRC did not have the resources, expertise, or time to write a "climate plan." This report is a set of policy ideas and initiatives to explore – one of which could be a more comprehensive, technically rich climate plan. This report is a first effort to direct policy considerations and, potentially, on-the-ground staff-work. We hope other local governments, non-for-profits, agencies, and citizens draw inspiration for joining this conversation about gaining the "triple wins" in the face of climate change.

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[1] See: https://hrccd.hoodrivercounty.gov/images/uploads/documents/Hood-River-Energy-Plan_6-18-18.pdf

[2] See: https://mrsc.org/stay-informed/mrsc-insight/october-2020/climate-change-what-can-local-governments-do

[3] https://www.bendoregon.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=27470