

DRAFT PORTLAND/VANCOUVER AREA COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

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Department: Planning, Development and Research
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Length: 45 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

The greater Portland region, like many places in the world, is experiencing the impacts of climate change in the form of hotter summers, more extreme weather events and increased wildfire activity. Metro is currently leading development of a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for the 7-county Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area. The CCAP is the **most comprehensive climate action plan the region has ever created**. It is a **roadmap for climate leadership that will help coordinate and track climate action** across the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area. The purpose of today's work session is to hear and discuss Council feedback on the actions outlined in the draft CCAP and the draft resolution for CCAP adoption prepared by staff.

Since the July Council work session, Metro released the draft CCAP (Attachment 5) for public comment in August 2025; Metro has also created a draft executive summary (Attachment 4) of the plan. The CCAP includes:

- A **greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) inventory** that provides a snapshot of how many GHG emissions the metropolitan area produces and where those emissions come from.
- **GHG emissions targets** based on state climate goals in Oregon and Washington.
- **GHG emissions projections** that forecast reductions due to state-level policies and programs and identify the remaining gap between forecasted emissions and climate goals. The CCAP aims to fill this gap.
- **Climate actions** that aim to reduce emissions from transportation; buildings; and food, goods, and services, which contribute the majority of the metropolitan area's GHG emissions.
- An **equity and benefits analysis** that estimates the cost savings to households and reduction in air pollution due to each action in the CCAP, and qualitatively discusses which actions benefit health and safety, economic development, and resilience and access to nature—and which actions risk creating negative impacts for low-income and disadvantaged people.
- A **workforce planning analysis** that describes an approach to identifying the priority occupations that are needed to implement the CCAP and the steps needed to train and develop workers in key occupations. The final CCAP will include the results of this analysis.
- A description of **coordination and outreach** that shaped development of the plan.

- **Technical appendices**, including information on the methods and data used to inventory and project GHG emissions and analyze the costs and benefits of actions.

The CCAP does not commit Metro or its partner agencies to implementing or funding specific actions, nor does it replace other state, regional or local climate action plans. With this in mind, Metro has taken steps throughout the development of the CCAP to engage and collaborate with local agencies, community organizations and other implementation partners across the metropolitan area.

Next steps (now through 2028):

- **November 13, 2025:** Metro Council considers endorsing the CCAP by Metro resolution.
- **By December 31, 2025:** Metro staff submits the final CCAP to EPA, as required by the federal grant funding this work.
- **2026-28:** Relevant CCAP actions and analyses are incorporated into the updates to the Regional Transportation Plan and Climate Smart Strategy.
- **August 28, 2027:** Metro staff submit a status report that covers any progress implementing CCAP actions, to EPA, as required by the federal grant funding this work.

ACTION REQUESTED

No formal action is requested at this time. Council may provide feedback to staff regarding the draft CCAP and the draft resolution staff prepared for Council consideration in November 2025.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Metro Councilors and other decision-makers have highlighted the need to advance climate leadership while also addressing current challenges due to limited resources and uncertainty about the federal government's approach to climate change. The CCAP identifies near-term opportunities to advance climate-related projects and policies that are already in existing plans while also identifying longer-term opportunities for Metro and partners to further reduce climate pollution that may require follow-up planning and resource development.

The CCAP not only addresses climate change, but has the potential to create jobs, save people money, clean the air and improve quality of life for everyone, including the region's most vulnerable community members, who often bear the brunt of high energy costs and climate-related disasters. It focuses on climate actions that also benefit people in other ways, like making it easier to get around without driving, reducing the amount of energy used by our homes and buildings and making it easier to repair and reuse products.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

- Does Council have feedback about the draft CCAP or the proposed changes to the draft CCAP in response to public comments?
- Does Council have feedback about the draft resolution?

- Does Council need any additional information to prepare to take action on the CCAP at the November 13, 2025 Council meeting?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

At today's work session, the Council may provide staff with feedback on:

- Proposed changes to the draft CCAP to address public comments
- Other feedback about the draft CCAP
- Draft legislation prepared for Council endorsement of CCAP

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council review the proposed changes to the draft CCAP in response to public comments and the draft resolution prepared for Council consideration in November. Council feedback on the proposed changes and draft resolution will help staff prepare the final CCAP and legislation for consideration by Council on November 13.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Reducing climate pollution is a core tenet of Metro policies and guiding frameworks, including the following:

- Metro Council's five-year strategic targets, adopted in 2023, include a target titled "Meeting our Climate and Resilience Goals" that states, "we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions."
- Metro's [six desired outcomes](#), adopted in 2008, include "The region is a leader on climate change, on minimizing contributions to global warming."
- "Lead efforts to reduce impacts of climate change and minimize release of toxins in the environment" is one of the values that guides Metro's 2030 [Regional Waste Plan](#).
- The [Climate Smart Strategy](#), adopted in 2014, guides Metro's efforts to reduce climate pollution through its land use and transportation planning activities in order to meet targets set by the state.

All of the documents above address both climate and equity, and aim to reduce climate pollution in a way that increases opportunities for marginalized community members.

The CCAP builds on Metro's legacy of climate and equity leadership by recommending actions that are highly effective at reducing climate pollution based on current conditions, existing plans and best practices research, and uplifts those actions that have the potential to save people money or otherwise benefit marginalized communities.

BACKGROUND

Development of the CCAP is funded by a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Planning Grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The CCAP is the second deliverable developed under this grant; the first was a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) submitted to EPA in February 2024. The PCAP was a 5-year plan focused on identifying actions that were eligible for implementation grants to combat climate change. The CCAP is a 25-year plan that expands upon the PCAP by looking more broadly at how to meet long-term climate goals. The states of Oregon and Washington also have parallel CPRG planning grants, and Metro coordinates with both states to ensure that the resulting

plans are aligned and mutually supportive. See Metro's CPRG webpage¹ for more information on the CPRG grant, including the submitted PCAP and draft CCAP.

CCAP development

Metro and its consultant team's extensive process for developing the CCAP is documented throughout the draft plan. This process included:

- **A review of local and regional climate-related plans (CAPs) produced by public agencies and community-based organizations in the metropolitan area.** Metro used these plans to identify potential climate actions to include in the CCAP and develop assumptions about how these plans would be implemented. Metro also used the information in these CAPs to develop screening criteria to evaluate potential climate actions for the CCAP, especially criteria related to equity. The plans reviewed highlighted several ways in which climate actions can advance equity and often included detailed outreach to community members on equity benefits and impacts. Appendix 4 in the CCAP technical appendices² summarizes the plans reviewed.
- Extensive **stakeholder engagement**, with different groups providing different information based on their focus and expertise. This included internal engagement with the Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES), Capital Asset Management (CAM), and Parks and Nature departments, and Metro's Climate Justice Task Force, and externally with a wide variety of stakeholders throughout the metropolitan area, including:
 - The **Climate Partners' Forum**, a group of agency and non-profit staff focused on climate-related work, provided feedback on every aspect of the draft CCAP, with a focus on ensuring that the CCAP reflected relevant climate plans and data, included the most beneficial actions, and identified realistic pathways to implementing each action. The coordination and outreach section of the draft CCAP includes a summary of Climate Partners' Forum meetings and a list of member organizations.³
 - **Regional advisory committees** offered feedback on aligning the CCAP actions and targets with relevant regional transportation and land use planning efforts. The coordination and outreach section of the draft CCAP includes a summary of these committee engagements.⁴
 - Members of the public provided feedback on the CCAP through two **online open houses** that focused on understanding which actions that community members see as most beneficial and why. This information was used to analyze co-benefits and highlight co-benefits that are particularly important for disadvantaged communities. The coordination and outreach section of the draft CCAP includes a summary of findings from the first online open

¹ <https://oregonmetro.gov/climategrant>

² <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/05/Draft-Metro-CCAP-technical-appendices.pdf>, beginning on p. 111-119.

³ <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/05/Draft-Metro-comprehensive-climate-action-plan.pdf>, p. 150-153.

⁴ <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/05/Draft-Metro-comprehensive-climate-action-plan.pdf>, p. 153-156.

house, held in December 2025 and January 2025,⁵ and Appendix 5 of the CCAP technical appendices provides more detailed information on results.⁶ **A summary of the second online house and survey, which was held between August 5 2025 and September 4 2025, is enclosed as Attachment 1.**

- Metro accepted **public comments** on the draft CCAP via email between August 5 2025 and September 4 2025, and continued to accept additional comments from agency partners in response to CCAP committee presentations in September. **Staff created a comment log (Attachment 2) with all comments received and proposed changes in response to comments received.**
- **Quantitative and qualitative analysis**, led by Metro staff and consultants, that helped to estimate current and future GHG emissions, select climate actions, and estimate their costs and benefits. This included a qualitative screening of potential actions based on criteria such as implementation readiness and scalability, which was used to prioritize actions for inclusion in the plan, as well as a quantitative analysis of the costs and benefits of each action. The Metro team drew on existing guidance and best practices to identify methods to estimate costs and benefits and on adopted plans to provide the inputs needed for these methods. Stakeholder input helped to identify relevant plans and data sources and interpret and communicate results. The summary of costs and benefits in the draft CCAP⁷ contains more details.

Proposed November 13 Council CCAP action

Metro staff prepared a draft resolution for Council consideration at the November 13, 2025 meeting. Provided in Attachment 3, the draft resolution:

- **Endorses the greenhouse gas inventory, projections, actions and recommendations** in the CCAP.
- **Encourages partner agencies to incorporate these elements** into their climate-related plans where relevant and work with Metro to ensure consistency between these plans and the CCAP.
- Directs Metro staff to:
 - **Use the CCAP greenhouse gas inventory, projections, actions and recommendations** to inform future updates to other Metro-led plans that address goals or requirements to reduce climate pollution.
 - **Pursue resources** to implement the CCAP actions and to update the inventory, projections and cost-benefit analyses of actions in the CCAP.
 - **Report on progress** in implementing CCAP actions within Metro's jurisdictional boundary as part of future updates to Metro-led plans that aim to reduce climate pollution.

⁵ <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/05/Draft-Metro-comprehensive-climate-action-plan.pdf>, p. 156-159.

⁶ <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/05/Draft-Metro-CCAP-technical-appendices.pdf>, p. 120-129.

⁷ <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2025/08/05/Draft-Metro-comprehensive-climate-action-plan.pdf>, p. 34-48.

This resolution does not commit Metro or partners to implementing any of the climate actions contained within the CCAP. The grant that funds the CCAP requires the plan to extend beyond Metro's boundary and cover the entire 7-county metropolitan statistical area, and to cover all sources of climate pollution instead of just transportation and waste, which are the sources over which Metro has the most oversight. Metro staff will continue to look for opportunities to collaborate throughout the 7-county region when implementing the CCAP, building on the Climate Partners' Forum and other networks created during CCAP development.

If approved by Council, the resolution would help ensure future updates to Metro-led plans would consider the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan's assessment of costs, benefits, and implementation readiness, and other relevant information to help prioritize actions. Recommendations in the draft CCAP (pages 52-57), identify key opportunities for Metro and its agency partners in the metropolitan area to advance these actions in the near term.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Summer 2025 online open house survey summary
- Attachment 2: Summary of public comments received and recommended changes
- Attachment 3: Draft Metro Council resolution for the purpose of endorsing the findings and recommendations in the draft CCAP
- Attachment 4: Draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Executive Summary
- Attachment 5: Draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan