

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update Kick-off Events

PURPOSE

Introduce the Climate Action Plan update process and empower people to understand how to participate over the coming year. Receive public input regarding the focal areas of the CAP Update.

- GOAL for Councilor & Subcommittee participation: **All** Councilors and subcommittee co-chairs attend one event. **At least half** of all subcommittee members attend one event. **All** subcommittee members who cannot attend watch a recording and read breakout room notes.

AGENDA

0-10 min: Welcome & Introductions (10 min – **One Legislatively Appointed Councilor & one Administrative Councilor**)

- Poll (Zoom?): Where in the state are you calling in from? Have you engaged with State of Vermont's Climate Action Plan efforts before, and if so how?
- Explain what the Vermont Climate Council is and what its subcommittees do. Give context of the Global Warming Solutions Act.
 - *We could ask everyone who is not on the VCC/subcomms to turn off their camera and have VCC/subcomm members turn on their cameras and wave so people can 'meet' them.*
- *Do we also need to explain/introduce CAO? Or explain the relationship to ANR?*

10-20 min: High level overview of the Climate Action Plan (10 min – **Climate Action Office, Jane Lazorchak**)

- What you will find in the CAP
 - Broad overview of the sections
 - Give two tangible examples of actions that have advanced: one action that has advanced by Legislature & one action that has advanced by a State Agency
- How the CAP works and how it can be used
 - Explain that it is a guide and roadmap for how to get to the State's climate goals. Some actions relate to Legislature, some to State Agencies, and some to non-governmental organizations such as Universities.
 - Explain the 'teeth' or power behind it (rulemaking can be done for mitigation actions, but not for resilience or carbon sequestration/storage actions)

20-30 min: Overview of what the subcommittees will be doing to update the Climate Action Plan (10 min – **One Legislatively Appointed Councilor & one Administrative Councilor**)

30-35 min: Frame up breakout rooms (**Consensus Building Institute - David**)

35-60 min: Three to five breakout rooms (25 minutes)

- **One breakout room for each focal area of the CAP Update** (see pgs. 4-5 of [Guidance for Subcommittees document](#))
 - Cross-Sector Mitigation's focal areas
 - Rural Resilience & Adaptation's focal areas
 - Agriculture & Ecosystem's focal areas
- Each breakout room should have at least one Subcommittee Co-Chair, at least one Climate Councilor, at least one non-Council subcommittee member, one Just Transitions subcommittee member, plus either CAO or CBI staff. **The Co-Chair & Councilor are prepped with the questions to drive the discussion.** CAO/CBI staff members can provide facilitation support, but the Co-Chair and Councilor are the ones asking the questions and reflecting back what they're hearing.

60-75 min: Report-backs from breakout rooms

- *While I really like the way we did this last time with David asking for major themes and seeing whether other groups had those, I think a different approach will be better this time since the rooms are each focusing on separate content. What if we asked Councilors who are present to respond to a question... the theme of that question that comes to mind for me is: What was one thing you heard that surprised you? That made you think about something in a new or different way? Or what was a perspective with a fresh take on your subcommittee's work?*

75-85 min: How to stay involved

- Survey—
 - A member of Just Transitions suggested offering some kind of survey where members of the public could indicate their priorities for the CAP and/or state what they think is missing.
 - Jane suggested laying out options for sending in comments (phone, written form) and asking in the survey, what else? How else do you want to weigh in?
 - Invite people to tell us about community-hosted events we should show up at to talk with people about the CAP update.
- Comment portal (could take the form of a well-crafted survey, but an ongoing way for people to submit written comment) **Double check if our comment portal functions with the Google Translate widget??*
- Phone number where you can call and leave a message if you prefer to talk instead of write (Google Voice number)
- VCC, Subcommittees, CAO, and CBI will be showing up at community-based events—if you have an event you think we should show up at, please let us know using the survey.
- Public welcomed to come to subcommittee meetings—where to find those.