

# Cross-Sector Mitigation Draft Work Plan – *for discussion purposes*

Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee Charge (from [specific charge](#) assigned by the Climate Council)

The Cross-Sector Mitigation Sub-committee will focus on comprehensively “*identifying the most scientifically and technologically feasible strategies and programs*” to achieve the GHG emissions reduction requirements of the GWSA. It should be noted that local and regional land use planning and decision-making has long-term impacts on GHG emissions that should be incorporated into the work of this Subcommittee. Initiatives, strategies, and programs found to be feasible will then be evaluated through economic analyses to determine the equity considerations, economic case, and relative cost-effectiveness of each strategy or program.

The Cross-Sector Mitigation Sub-committee will establish a framework for consistently evaluating initiatives, strategies, and programs, with support from the Science and Data Sub-committee. The framework should include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

- GHG mitigation potential;
- Cost-effectiveness;
- Affordability and impacts on vulnerable populations;
- Ability to identify and track measurable outcomes;
- Demonstrated/proven effectiveness;
- Legal authority (existing or needed) to support implementation;
- Co-benefits

In service of this effort, it is anticipated that the Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee will need to establish sector-specific task leads to ensure the capacity and expertise needed in order to identify and evaluate a full range of sector-specific initiatives, strategies and programs. Because of the scope of this Subcommittee, the membership may need to be somewhat larger than the other Subcommittees.

[Decision-making by Subcommittees \(Vermont Climate Council Governance Document\)](#)

The Subcommittees will also strive for consensus, as defined above for the Council, when making recommendations to the Council for their consideration. For disagreements that can't be resolved in a Subcommittee as part of a consensus set of recommendations to the Council, the Council members of the Subcommittee will determine what is forwarded to the Council. What is forwarded may include:

- The recommendations supported by all or most of the Council members of that Subcommittee
- A slate of options for a particular issue or recommendation, together with the advantages and disadvantages of these options as developed by the Subcommittee.

Climate Action Office staff also developed a [logistical guide](#) to support Subcommittees.

## Substantive areas of focus that are a priority for the Council ([Guidance](#))

### Cross-Sector Mitigation

- Must generate a suite of recommendations that allow the state to meet equitably its statutory emissions reductions goals.
- Transportation: Specific focus on additional action in the transportation sector
- Other sectors: Review of implementation of actions across all sectors to consider complementary actions needed to meet climate goals equitably.
- Low-income households: Emphasize implementation and impacts/opportunities for vulnerable communities and low-income Vermonters
- Workforce: Development of strategies and action to support workforce development

## Timeline for Updating the 2025 Climate Action Plan ([Additional Guidance](#))

### April - June 2024

- Review Existing Recommendations
- Identify high-level gaps and priority areas to update

### June – September 2024 (*maintain monthly subcommittee meetings*)

- Develop any **additional or revised** pathways / strategies / actions that are needed to fill gaps.
  - Focus not only on new recommendations but review of existing recommendations to bring forward, drop, or revise.
  - How are the current Pathways/Strategies/Actions addressing (or not) existing inequities?
  - How can we design new or revised Pathways/Strategies/Actions in ways that recognize and address any existing inequities?
  - Provide questions to the community engagement team on existing Pathways/Strategies/Actions and potential new or revised Pathways/Strategies/Actions to guide the content of their outreach.
- *Task Groups should meet bi-weekly to identify and research potential policy options for the CSM Subcommittee's consideration and recommendation to the Council by September.*
- **Task Group Expectations for July Cross-Sector Meeting**
  - Bring forward pathways/strategies/actions to consider for deletion, revision, or addition
  - Propose complementary actions needed to meet climate goals **equitably** for consideration and their pros and cons
  - Identify key stakeholders and data needs to inform potential recommendations

- **Task Group Expectations for August Cross-Sector Meeting**
  - Present options for additional policies for Subcommittee consideration, how they address potential inequities, and workforce considerations, if appropriate

**September – November 2024:** Prioritizing and refining (TBD)

Cross Sector Mitigation Priority Areas of Focus

	<b>Buildings/Thermal</b>	<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Electricity</b>	<b>Non-Energy</b>
<b>Suite of Recommendations</b> <i>Bold = existing</i> <i>Italic = proposed</i>	<b>Clean Heat Standard</b>	<b>ACC II Rule</b> <i>Cap and Invest</i>	<b>Renewable Energy Standard</b>	Refrigerant Management Program; Control fugitive emissions from WWTFs; Reduce process emissions from semi-conductor manufacturing
<b>ID Gaps</b>				
<b>Key Stakeholders</b>	CHS Equity Advisory Group		Distribution Utilities	
<b>Data Needs</b>				
<b>Equity Considerations</b>	Cost impacts	Cost impacts	Cost impacts	
<b>Workforce Considerations</b>	CH Measures & Weatherization WF			
<b>Task Group</b>	Christine Donovan, Dave Farnsworth	Liz Miller, TJ Poor	Johanna Miller, Bram Kleppner, Gina Campoli, Andrea Wright, Deirdre Ritzer	