

Vermont Climate Council
March 10, 2025, Meeting Agenda
10am-3pm
In-Person Meeting with a Virtual Option
All Councilors are strongly encouraged to attend in person

Virtual meeting link:

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 271 983 741 295

Passcode: Kw33dZ9h

In-person Location:

Agency of Transportation Dill Building, 2178 Airport Road, Berlin, Vermont. Conference Room 135.

Meeting objectives:

- Build greater understanding and agreement around the content of the updated Climate Action Plan that will be shared as a draft for public comment.
- Build agreement around the “caveat” language that will accompany the draft priority actions and other text that will be released for comment
- Agree on how the Council will apply its decision-making protocol in March when releasing the draft plan.

Methodology:

The Council will focus on the **priority actions** and **chapter narratives** that support them. Councilors will work in smaller groups on the same issues simultaneously, and then gather in plenary to test how far they’ve gotten. The purpose of the smaller groups is to encourage all councilors are engaging deeply on all the issues.

The Council will do three rounds of small group work corresponding to the three main topical areas – cross-sector mitigation, agriculture & ecosystems, and rural resilience & adaptation. The Council will work on the cross-cutting issues together in plenary.

For each round, Councilors will ask the same questions of themselves:

- Representatives from each Subcommittee explains how priority actions were selected
- Do I understand these priority actions?
- Are they in good enough shape to go out as a draft to receive public comment?
- In addition to the overall caveat language that will accompany the draft document, do any of these priority actions need additional caveating language in the draft?

The small groups will use physical handouts (oversized flashcards with each priority action, and printouts of the chapter narratives) to assist in the conversations, as well as worksheet to help keep track of key points and/or emerging conclusions.

Prior to reviewing the priority actions, the Council will discuss exactly what content will be shared as a draft, and the caveat language that will accompany it (perhaps as a header on every page). For the priority actions and substantive chapter language, the language may be something like: “This draft document contains priority actions under discussion by the Vermont Climate Council. The Council continues to debate these potential actions and seeks public input prior to making any decisions on them. These draft ideas do not yet reflect a decision by councilors, who have a range of view on them.”

Sample timing:

9:45 AM Climate Council Members Gather

10:00 AM Convene/Welcome/Overview
Secretary Sarah Clark and David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

10:10 AM Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes
David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

10:15 AM Just Transitions Reflection / Summary of Public Comments Received
Sophi Veltrop, Climate Action Office

Action needed by the Council: Digest comments received through the website and other means since the last meeting.

10:20 AM Overview of April Public Engagement Meetings
Sophi Veltrop, Climate Action Office

Action needed by the Council: Sign up for two public engagement meetings per Councilor

10:30 AM Preparing a Draft for Public Comment - Overview
David Plumb

- What content will be shared in April?
- What overall caveat should the document contain?
- Introductory Chapters

10:50 AM Priority Actions and Chapter Narratives – Part 1

- Cross Cutting Issues

11:30 AM Priority Actions and Chapter Narratives – Part 2

- Rural Resilience and Adaption

12:15 PM LUNCH

12:30 PM Public Comment

Note on Public Comment: Participants will be asked to keep comments to two minutes. Public comment time will be up to 20 minutes for this meeting.

12:50 PM Priority Actions and Chapter Narratives – Part 3

- Cross Sector Mitigation

1:50 PM BREAK

2:00 PM Priority Actions and Chapter Narratives – Part 4

- Agriculture and Ecosystems

2:40 PM Applying the Council’s Decision-Making Protocol for the Draft Plan

3:00 PM Adjourn

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