

Vermont Climate Council Outlook for January-March 2025 Council Meetings

Draft – 1/13/2025

Overview

The Vermont Climate Council aims to complete the draft core content of an updated Climate Action Plan by late March, early April, to kick off a month-long public comment period. This document sketches out the five Council meetings that would support this goal.

Meeting Schedule

January 13 (virtual, 3 hours)

- Focus on the priority actions
 - Dedicate most of the meeting to this.
 - Councilors will have received a survey in early January that lists the priority actions offered by the subcommittees in December and asks Councilors to select one of three options for each action (Looking good, coming together well; Looking good, and I have comments to make it better; This needs further discussion, I have serious concerns)
 - Using the survey results, we will focus discussion around key areas needed discussion.
- Report to the Legislature
 - Each year the Climate Action Office needs to prepare a report to the legislature about the Vermont Climate Council's activities. The Steering Committee will look at a draft on January 6, and the Council will confirm the draft, with notes if needed, in this meeting. The report is due at the end of the week.
- Confirm writing assignments
 - Confirm specific Councilor roles and deadlines.
- Managing public comment
 - Confirm the approach for managing public comment during these meetings.

January 27 (recommend switching to an in-person 6-hour meeting)

- Focus on the detailed recommendations from each subcommittee.
- Include dedicated reading time (and well as an expectation of pre-reading)
- Focus on the specific issues Councilors most need to address given their core concerns / interests
- Include time to connect as Councilors around our shared goals (likely facilitated by Indra Acharya)

February 10 (virtual, 3 hours)

- Focus on the Cap and Invest study, and its implications for the updated Climate Action Plan
- Provide an update on the Business as Usual study
- Offer guidance to writing individuals/groups

March 10 (in-person, 6 hours)

- Review of draft chapters and any revisions to priority actions and other specific actions
- Develop a punch-list of work needed prior to March 31 meeting.
- Confirm method for signing off on draft material that will be part of the public comment process in April.

March 31 (virtual, 3 hours)

- Review of Business and Usual and Scenarios modeling
- Final review and sign-off of materials for April public comment