

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Direct City bureaus to implement policies and programs to keep Portland on a path to reduce local carbon emissions 80 percent from 1990 levels by 2050 (Resolution).

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:Purpose of Agenda Item:

This resolution directs City bureaus to implement “early action” policies and programs outlined in the 2015 Climate Action Plan. The resolution specifically identifies key bureaus responsible for implementing and collaborating on selected actions in the Plan. See the impact statement for the accompanying Resolution to adopt the resulting 2015 Climate Action Plan for more information on that process.

History of Agenda Item/Background:

The 2015 Climate Action Plan is a joint City of Portland and Multnomah County plan. It is an update of the previously adopted 2009 Climate Action Plan and works toward Council’s established 2050 carbon emissions reduction goal of 80 percent below 1990 levels (and 40 percent by 2030). The updated plan identifies actions to be completed by 2020.

The actions in the Climate Action Plan are reviewed and updated every five years. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and the Multnomah County Sustainability Office will report annually on local carbon emission trends, fossil, fuel usage, and progress on implementing the actions in the Climate Action Plan. Annual progress reports will include updates on the integration of the Equity Objectives in the implementation of the actions.

This plan builds on years of Portland climate action, including the Energy Policy of 1990, the 1993 Carbon Dioxide Reduction Strategy, the 2001 Local Action Plan on Global Warming, and the 2009 Climate Action Plan.

In addition, this plan connects to existing and future efforts and plans, including the Climate Change Preparation Strategy, the Portland Plan, the updated Comprehensive Plan, the updated Transportation Systems Plan, the Bike Master Plan, the Streetcar System Plan, the Urban Forestry Management Plan and Urban Forest Action Plan, the Portland Watershed Management Plan, Portland Parks & Recreation 2020 Vision, the Portland Development Commission’s economic development strategies, the Regional Transportation Plan, the Portland Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and Metro’s Climate Smart Strategy, among others.

Portland and Multnomah County have had notable success in reducing carbon emissions to 14 percent below 1990 levels in 2013, which represents a per capita decrease of 35 percent. This decrease is markedly in advance of the national trend, which shows emissions declining in recent years but still seven percent above 1990 levels in 2013.

Various community members, organizations and City and County staff contributed to the development of the 2015 CAP. Project staff collaborated with the following City and County departments: the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Bureau of Transportation, the Office of Management and Finance, Parks and Recreation, the Water Bureau, Multnomah County Department of County Assets, Multnomah County Health Department and the Multnomah County Office of Sustainability. A Steering Committee and an Equity Work Group guided the development of the proposed plan.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Implementation of the major activities in the Climate Action Plan will require subsequent Council action, and financial impacts will be evaluated on an individual basis when each is considered.

Community impacts and community involvement:

An Equity Work Group and a Steering Committee of residents, businesses, local organizations, nonprofits, community-based organizations and academia representatives guided the development of the 2015 Climate Action Plan, which was released for public comment in March 2015. The City held open house meetings and presented at various stakeholder meetings to discuss the draft plan with residents, businesses and community organizations. More than 50 people participated in the open house meetings, and an additional 450 individuals submitted written comments through an online survey, by email or in letters. The Climate Action Plan was significantly revised in response to the comments received during the public comment period.

There was broad support for the actions contained in the draft Climate Action Plan, including a strong sentiment that the City and County should take a very active role in reducing regional carbon emissions. In general, public commenters were pleased with the scope and scale of the actions proposed in the plan, and many suggested revisions to improve clarity and alignment with existing plans and programs, and to make several aspects of the plan more aggressive.

Staff reviewed each comment as they considered potential revisions to the plan. City and Council staff added, removed or revised actions and narrative to reflect public and agency feedback. Staff editors also restructured several sections and revised other elements of the document to improve readability or update information and data. See the 2015 Climate Action Plan – Summary of Public Comment and Document Revisions memo to the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission memo dated June 3, 2015 (<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/532832>) for a full summary of the main themes of the public’s feedback and an outline of the resulting changes to the plan that resulted.

Portland’s work to protect the climate has already delivered community benefits. However, the resulting economic and health benefits have not been shared equitably. In particular, many

communities of color and low-income people have been left out. The City and County are committed to leveling this playing field. Policies and implementation approaches in the plan are prioritized to share the opportunities and benefits of climate action equitably.

Representatives from the following organizations are anticipated to testify at the Council hearing: CAP Steering Committee members, Equity Work Group members, County representatives, City Bureau Directors, a local scientist, representatives from local public and government organizations, utility representatives, local business representatives, and local climate activist organizations.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES: Please complete the information below.
- NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount