

Climate Action and Resilience



What Olympia Values:

Olympians value innovative, community-driven, and justice-centered climate solutions that (1) achieve net-zero emissions, (2) prepare for and adapt to a changing climate, and (3) promote thriving communities for current and future generations.

Our Vision for the Future:

A thriving, net-zero city that is resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Read more in the Community Values and Vision chapter.

Collaboration with the Squaxin Island Tribe

Early in the planning process, the Squaxin Island Tribe indicated to the City which chapters are of most interest to the Tribe. This chapter represents specific priorities for the Tribe, and as such we sought their consultation and collaboration on its content, as envisioned in the [Accord](#) between both governmental entities. Any future amendments to this chapter should include continued collaboration with the Tribe.

Introduction

The City of Olympia recognizes that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from human activity are driving climate change, the consequences of which pose substantial risks to the health, well-being, and prosperity of our community and planet.

Climate change – which manifests through both extreme events and gradual shifts in environmental conditions – is already having profound impacts on the natural environment, built assets, and quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. In Olympia, we are experiencing – and will continue to experience – worsening climate-related challenges. These include rising average temperatures, more days of extreme heat, increased risk of drought and wildfire and greater exposure to wildfire smoke. We also anticipate more frequent flooding from more intense rainfall and rising sea levels. The impacts from these climate shifts threaten public health, the built and natural environment, our economy and cherished ways of life within Olympia.

As of 2023, the State's Growth Management Act requires Olympia to establish a [climate element](#) as part of the City's comprehensive plan. This element must include two sub-elements:

- **A GHG Emissions Reduction Sub-element**, which establishes goals and policies to reduce GHG emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- **A Climate Resilience Sub-element**, which establishes goals and policies to strengthen climate preparedness, adaptation, response and recovery efforts.

These two efforts go hand in hand: while reducing emissions helps slow climate change, resilience ensures our community can withstand its unavoidable impacts. Often, solutions for reducing emissions and building resilience provide co-benefits, or outcomes from a policy or program that have positive impacts in multiple areas. Together, these sub-elements aim to maximize economic, environmental and social co-benefits, while prioritizing environmental justice and mitigating health disparities experienced by vulnerable populations and overburdened communities.

Olympia has been a local leader in addressing climate change for decades, publishing our first Climate Plan, *City of Olympia's Response to the Challenge of Global Climate Change*, in 1991. Over the past 30 years, the City's work to prepare for climate impacts and reduce locally generated greenhouse gas emissions has continued to grow; in 2021 the City established a Climate Program to help advance climate action and resilience in Olympia.

The strategic direction outlined in the new climate element builds upon this strong foundation and further advances the City towards achieving Olympia's vision for the future. Many of the goals and policies presented in the climate element were included in previous comprehensive plans. As a part of this update process, we identified existing goals and policies that already support the City's climate goals and modified some

measures to reflect our evolving understanding of climate trends. Other goals and policies were added to address existing gaps and new opportunities. This work was informed by the City's previous climate planning efforts, including the [Olympia Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#) (2021) and [Carbon Wedge Analysis](#) (2021), the [Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan](#) (2020), [Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) (2024), [Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan](#) (2019), the [Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment](#) (2025), and various City master plans.



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Reducing GHG Emissions

In 2019, the City of Olympia adopted a [Youth Climate Inheritance Resolution](#), committing to working with the youth of Olympia on the collective actions and strategies necessary to achieve net-zero emissions by 2040. Olympia also joined the Cities Race to Zero Campaign in 2021, reaffirming its commitment to inclusive climate action and reducing emissions in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement (2016). In April 2022, Olympia City Council formalized Olympia's Race to Zero [commitment](#), pledging to reduce community-wide GHG emissions 59% below 2019 levels by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2040.

Like many cities across the United States, Olympia's greenhouse gas emissions have continued to grow over time. The City's most recent [GHG inventory](#), completed in 2023

for the year 2021, shows that the primary sources of inventoried GHG emissions in Olympia are:

- Transportation (34%)
- Commercial energy use (27%)
- Residential energy use (22%)

An estimated 616,650 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂e) were emitted community-wide in 2021, which represents a decrease by approximately 22% compared to 2019. Although population growth and hotter summers contributed to an increase in emissions during this time, overall emissions reductions were achieved through changes in electricity fuel mix to cleaner fuels and decreased vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per person. Much of the reduction in VMT during this period can be attributed to reduced travel during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this reduction in VMT has only been partially sustained, with travel patterns partially rebounding to pre-pandemic levels since 2021.

Olympia's GHG inventory follows the [U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions](#) (USCP), a nationally accepted method for estimating GHG emissions at a community-wide scale. This method focuses on GHG emissions produced by activities occurring within Olympia's city limits, such as transportation, energy use and waste management.

The USCP does not require communities to account for emissions resulting from the production and transportation of goods and services consumed locally but produced elsewhere. These emissions are excluded, since local governments have limited ability to influence them. However, they still represent a significant contributor to global emissions. Research by [C40 Cities](#) suggests that in some cities, nearly 85% of emissions associated with goods and services consumed locally are generated elsewhere. As a result, Olympia's total carbon footprint is likely higher than what is captured in the City's GHG inventory.

Olympia's approach to reducing GHG emissions is guided by our understanding of local emission sources, ongoing trends and the policy tools available to local governments to influence meaningful change. The following goals and policies support the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across sectors.

GC1 Olympia reduces community-wide GHG emissions 59% below 2019 levels by 2030 and achieves net-zero emissions by 2040.

PC1.1 Implement local policies and programs to achieve adopted emissions reduction targets. Prioritize actions that advance high-impact strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address community priorities, prioritize environmental justice and provide additional co-benefits.

PC1.2 Continue collaborating with regional partners to implement the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan and coordinate greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies across Thurston County.

PC1.3 Update Olympia's Greenhouse Gas Inventory at least every 3 years to track progress and refine emissions reduction strategies.

Additional goals and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are integrated across all chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Strengthening Climate Resilience

Climate resilience is “the ongoing process of anticipating, preparing for, and adapting to changes in climate and minimizing negative impacts to our natural systems, infrastructure, and communities” (RCW 70A.65.010). In other words, resilience strengthens our community’s ability to withstand and recover from events made worse by climate change. The development of the Resilience Sub-Element fulfills the first part of Olympia’s commitment to the [Cities Race To Resilience](#) Campaign, including conducting a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment, integrating climate adaptation

and resilience across all aspects of city planning, and taking action to improve community-wide resilience.

The Resilience Sub-element serves as a roadmap for addressing climate change impacts that threaten public health, the environment, and the economy while also improving Olympia's ability to withstand and recover from climate impacts on our community. Building resilience requires strategic intervention across all sectors of the community. These strategies include forward-thinking planning, operational preparedness, and physical adaptation.

To develop Olympia's Resilience Sub-element, the City evaluated how current and future climate hazards could affect the people, places, and sectors Olympians value most. In 2025, Olympia published a [Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment](#) (CRVA), which identified the specific community assets most at risk from predicted climate conditions. The CRVA considered:

- **Infrastructure Assets** – Buildings, stormwater and sewer systems, the drinking water system, the transportation network and the energy system
- **Economic and Community Assets** – local businesses, tourism, recreation, community events and community gardens
- **Environmental Assets** – freshwater ecosystems, marine ecosystems and forests
- **Health and Safety Assets** – emergency management and public health

Key findings from the CRVA highlight that Olympia's natural environment, including freshwater, marine, and forest ecosystems, and public health face the greatest threats from rising temperatures, extreme heat, wildfire smoke, and droughts. Flooding from sea level rise also poses a significant challenge to Olympia's emergency response and critical infrastructure over the next 20 years.

Guided by the CRVA, the Resilience Sub-element establishes goals and policies that directly respond to these findings. The goals and policies will help Olympia prepare for and respond to climate hazards that pose a high risk to community assets. While adaptation plays a critical role in minimizing the effects of climate change, not all climate-related impacts or disasters can be predicted or fully prepared for. A resilient Olympia must also be ready to act quickly and recover efficiently, as climate impacts worsen and become more frequent.

The following goals and policies provide a framework to guide the city's efforts to prepare for, adapt and respond to climate change.

GC2 Olympia plans for future climate impacts and takes action to prepare for, adapt and respond to anticipated climate hazards.

PC2.1 Implement local policies and programs to enhance climate resilience. Prioritize actions that reduce significant climate risks, address community priorities, prioritize environmental justice and provide additional co-benefits.

PC2.2 Continue collaborating with regional partners to implement the Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan and other strategies to prepare for and adapt to climate impacts.

PC2.3 Monitor the latest climate science and models to assess how climate change is impacting the region.

PC2.4 Update Olympia’s Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment alongside 10-year Comprehensive Plan updates to reflect the latest understanding of climate trends and their impact on community assets. Adjust resilience strategies as needed to address evolving risks and conditions.

Additional goals and policies to plan, prepare, adapt and respond to climate hazards are integrated across all chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Progressing Environmental Justice

Climate change does not affect all Olympians equally. Some people and groups are already being disproportionately harmed by climate change. These communities, often referred to as frontline communities, are highly exposed to climate risks due to where they live and have fewer resources, safety nets, or political power to respond effectively. People with lower incomes, communities of color, Indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees often experience the consequences of climate change first and worst. Older people, children, people experiencing homelessness, outdoor workers, incarcerated individuals, renters, people with disabilities, and those with chronic illnesses are also particularly vulnerable to negative climate impacts.

Existing social, economic, and environmental challenges, such as lack of affordable housing, rising costs, and pollution, further intensify the effects of more frequent and severe climate-related events. Repeated impacts make it harder for both people and ecosystems to recover from climate disruptions. These interconnected issues can exacerbate financial stress, strain public services, and harm public and environmental health. At the same time, strategic investments, policies and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve climate resilience can help address existing inequities in Olympia when structured properly.

During the implementation of the climate element, we will evaluate the costs and benefits of each policy for its climate impact and spillover effects. This includes identifying and mitigating unintended impacts to closely related issues, including but not limited to, environmental pollution and housing affordability.

By considering environmental justice across all phases of policy development, engagement and implementation, we ensure that climate actions support the most vulnerable residents to its impacts. Environmental justice fosters a resilient community where everyone can participate in and benefit from climate action.

GC3 All community members – especially those most affected by climate change – benefit from climate action and have equitable opportunities to influence policy decisions.

PC3.1 Conduct intentional outreach with frontline communities and youth to enable equitable engagement in the development and implementation of climate action and resilience initiatives.

PC3.2 Partner with community-based organizations to engage diverse groups in developing and implementing climate solutions while addressing existing disparities. Support these organizations in building capacity for climate action.

PC3.3 Provide guidance and resources, such as technical support, rebates and other incentives, to reduce barriers to climate action for all community members. Prioritize strategic investments to support frontline communities and address existing disparities in Olympia.

PC3.4 Evaluate and address unintended impacts of policies and programs for Olympians across all income levels.

Building Institutional Capacity for Climate Action

Olympia must continue building institutional capacity to effectively address climate change and ensure long-term resilience. A well-equipped city workforce, with the necessary staffing, resources, and expertise, is critical to implementing climate policies, responding to emerging challenges, and fostering community-wide engagement. By investing in training, professional development, and cross-departmental collaboration, the City can strengthen its ability to integrate climate action across all sectors. Securing sustainable funding and refining strategies through data-driven evaluation will further enhance Olympia's ability to meet climate goals, adapt to changing conditions, and support equitable climate action for all residents.

GC4 Olympia has the staffing, resources, and funding to effectively implement climate action and resilience measures.

PC4.1 Fully staff City positions needed across all departments to support climate-related actions and hazard response.

PC4.2 Develop a comprehensive funding strategy to support the implementation of climate policies and programs.

PC4.3 Develop City-wide staff capacity through training and professional development to enhance expertise in climate resilience, emissions reduction and equitable community engagement.

PC4.4 Integrate climate resilience and emissions reduction efforts across all City departments to ensure a coordinated, comprehensive approach to climate action. Coordinate implementation with regional partners to the greatest extent possible.

PC4.5 Monitor the effectiveness of climate programs and policies, using data-driven evaluation to refine strategies and improve outcomes over time.

An Integrated Approach

Olympia's climate element is not a standalone chapter, but an integrated strategy woven throughout the entire Comprehensive Plan. Recognizing that climate change affects all aspects of our community, and that our community's contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions are influenced by all sectors and systems, climate goals and policies have been embedded across multiple chapters. This method ensures a collaborative, cross-sectoral approach. Because these challenges are interconnected, the solutions must also be comprehensive.

An overview of how each chapter contributes to the climate element is included below. For a complete list of climate goals and policies that have been integrated across all chapters of the Comprehensive Plan, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Natural Environment

Strengthening the Environment's Ability to Withstand Climate Change

Freshwater, marine, and forest ecosystems will be strained in the coming 20 years as temperatures increase, droughts become more frequent, rainfall events become more intense, and sea levels rise. Drought and extreme heat could disrupt pollinator cycles, trigger pest outbreaks in forests and agriculture, and cause algal blooms in aquatic ecosystems. Regional trends in ocean acidification and sea level rise will continue to threaten our marine ecosystems. Restoration projects and land management strategies will require more resources to support ecosystems in enduring more extreme weather conditions. Strengthening our natural environment's ability to adapt makes our communities more livable in the face of a changing climate.

Climate goals and policies within the Natural Environment chapter focus on protecting priority species, maintaining sensitive habitats, and enhancing ecosystem structure, function, and processes to help the environment adapt to climate change. These strategies involve changing how we plan, design, and maintain both the built and natural environment to reduce the impact of future climate conditions and support carbon storage.

Supporting goals and policies from the natural environment chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Cultivating a Connection to Nature

Olympians hold a strong connection to our natural environment and value all that it brings to our lives. As climate change puts local ecosystems at risk, we recognize the inherent value our community places on the environment and the potential mental health impacts that climate change may have on our community. Through environmental education programs, public art installations, and collaborations with the Squaxin Island Tribe, we will work to cultivate a sense of connection to and promote stewardship of the natural world.

Supporting goals and policies from the natural environment chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Land Use and Urban Design

Planning for Density and Future Climate Conditions

Like many communities, Olympia must address cost-of-living, housing supply, and future climate risks over the next 20 years. Decisions about how and where we develop

and redevelop directly impact GHG emissions, our ability to adapt to climate change and other community priorities. At times, these goals may appear to be at odds. For example, maintaining tree canopy cover might seem to conflict with efforts to expand solar energy access or increase housing density. However, these solutions do not need to be applied universally to be effective.

Through smart urban design and development, we can pursue solutions that address multiple community priorities at the same time. By creating denser, walkable neighborhoods, people can more easily access their daily needs without a vehicle. This reduces transportation emissions and improves community bonds. By directing development to urban corridors and supporting infill development, we can provide ample housing, while reducing urban sprawl. This helps preserve agricultural and forest lands in rural areas of Thurston County, reduces exposure to climate hazards along the wildland urban interface, and supports carbon sequestration. As we develop, we can incorporate green infrastructure, such as trees and green spaces throughout our community, to improve air quality, mental health, and overall resilience to climate impacts for current and future generations.

Supporting goals and policies from the land use and urban design chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Adapting the Built Environment to Reduce GHG Emissions and Protect Public Health

Energy use in buildings is a significant source of GHG emissions in Olympia, accounting for 49% of emissions from residential and commercial buildings alone. Local analyses show that we can meet our emissions reduction targets by improving the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings, electrifying heating and cooling to phase out fossil fuels, and supporting the transition to 100% renewable electricity. While the Washington State Building Code already supports high efficiency standards for new buildings, additional work is needed to retrofit and increase the energy efficiency of existing buildings.

At the same time, building upgrades can protect public health and contribute to greater community resilience. Older buildings in Olympia often lack the infrastructure needed to protect the health and wellbeing of our community to extreme heat, wildfire smoke, and flooding. Supporting energy efficiency and preparing our homes for oncoming climate conditions will require significant investment across the community and all levels of government.

In addition to the energy used in buildings, the materials used to construct buildings and infrastructure also contribute to GHG emissions in Olympia. Millions of tons of carbon emissions are released during the lifecycle of common construction materials like concrete, steel and insulation. These materials account for [11% of global GHG emissions](#). Finding ways to reuse existing buildings and reduce the use of high-embodied carbon materials for new development can support the reduction of GHG emissions.

Supporting goals and policies from the land use and urban design chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Promoting Local Energy Infrastructure

While energy production and grid resilience are largely the responsibility of our energy utility, Puget Sound Energy, we can support the transition to renewable energy through smaller-scale renewable energy installations. Local solutions, such as rooftop solar and battery storage, reduce energy costs, support grid reliability, and provide backup power during outages.

Supporting goals and policies from the land use and urban design chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Enabling the Transition to Electric Mobility

Reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is the most effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation. However, it will take many decades to achieve the land use and transportation infrastructure changes that will make walking, biking, or taking transit the best choice for most trips in Olympia. In the meantime, electric vehicles (EVs) and other types of electric micromobility, such as e-bikes, play an important role in reducing transportation-related GHG emissions.

State [requirements](#) for all new light-duty vehicles to be zero-emission vehicles by 2035 will support an increase in EV ownership in Olympia. However, adequate charging infrastructure is needed to support the transition to electric vehicles. Concerns about the lack of available and sufficient EV charging stations is a commonly cited barrier to EV adoption. This is particularly true for renters, who often face additional challenges in accessing EV charging at home. Ensuring equitable access to low-cost charging stations for all community members, regardless of where they live or work, is a critical step to support the transition to electric vehicles.

Supporting goals and policies from the land use and urban design chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Housing

Addressing Housing and Climate Challenges Together

The challenges and solutions to affordable housing and climate change are directly linked. A lack of affordable housing contributes to urban sprawl, which leads to increasing transportation-related emissions as people need to drive longer distances and depend on personal vehicles to access jobs, services, and amenities. These development patterns also expose more people to climate hazards, particularly along the wildland-urban interface. At the same time, climate hazards also exacerbate the housing and affordability crisis, by reducing the supply of housing, and increasing costs for food, energy, and other basic needs.

Addressing these shared challenges requires a similarly integrated approach. We can address both climate and housing goals by preserving existing housing stock, supporting infill development and adaptive reuse, and retrofitting existing housing to improve energy efficiency and climate resilience. Maintaining naturally occurring affordable housing, or housing that is affordable without federal subsidies, helps prevent displacement of low-income residents, while avoiding the greenhouse gas emissions associated with new construction. Retrofitting existing homes to improve energy efficiency and climate resilience lowers utility costs, while also improving occupant health, safety, and comfort.

Supporting goals and policies from the housing chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Providing Stability and Services during Climate Emergencies

Responding to events worsened by climate change will take both human and financial resources, stretching our existing capacity and personnel. Making sure our community social service providers are prepared for and can respond to unexpected, acute events can save lives. Many public health adaptation strategies focus on sheltering indoors to protect from extreme weather. Emergency providers can fill an immediate gap for unsheltered individuals in the aftermath of a climate-related event. Long-term, we strive for everyone in Olympia to have a stable source of affordable and safe housing. This will protect human health and wellbeing during more frequent and intense climate-related events and reduce the burden on our emergency services in responding to these events. Housing affordability and climate resiliency are one and the same.

Supporting goals and policies from the housing chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Transportation

Supporting Electric Vehicle Adoption

Because the changes to the City's infrastructure needed to support VMT reduction will take time, electric vehicles (EVs) can play an important role in reducing transportation-related GHG emissions. Ensuring 100% of gasoline vehicles and 75% of diesel vehicles are electric or fueled by green hydrogen by 2040 will help Olympia achieve our GHG reduction targets.

Supporting goals and policies from the transportation chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Preparing our Streets for Extreme Weather

Climate hazards, including extreme heat, extreme precipitation and sea level rise, will impact our transportation network over the next 20 years. Rising temperatures and extreme heat may cause street surfacing to crack or buckle. Rising sea levels may flood

critical transportation routes, delaying emergency services and disrupting key transportation infrastructure, like the downtown Transit Center. Heavy rain could flood intersections and increase runoff, polluting local water bodies.

Adapting the transportation network through climate-smart design, maintenance, and planning can help prevent these impacts. A well-connected street grid enables fast emergency response during localized events, like tidal flooding from sea level rise, while promoting cycling, walking, rolling and transit. The City will continue working with regional and state partners to monitor at-risk transportation assets and will make repairs and improvements when needed. These strategies will help reduce economic and community disruptions from both short-term and long-term climate events, ensuring that Olympians can safely and easily get to where they live, work, shop and play.

Supporting goals and policies from the transportation chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Making it Easier to Walk, Roll, Bike, and Take Transit

The single largest contributor of GHG emissions in Olympia is the transportation sector, making up 34% of inventoried emissions. Among transportation-related emissions, passenger vehicles are the largest source, followed by heavy duty trucks and other commercial vehicles. One of the most important ways for the transportation sector to reduce GHG emissions is to significantly reduce Olympia's "vehicle miles traveled," or VMT. This refers to the number of miles people travel in Olympia in vehicles in a year. To achieve Olympia's GHG reduction targets, we must reduce annual VMT for on-road gasoline vehicles by 20%, or 93,466,000 miles, by 2040.

Strategies to reduce VMT include improving infrastructure to support walking or rolling, biking, or taking transit. Streets with shaded sidewalks and street trees keep pedestrians and cyclists safer in rising temperatures. More inviting streets make it more enjoyable to walk or roll, instill community pride, and support economic development. As we reshape our city to expand pedestrian-, bicycle- and transit-supportive infrastructure, we must also shorten the distances people travel by concentrating housing and key services along frequent transit routes. We can do this best by continuing our long-standing support for the region's approach of increasing density along urban corridors (see Transportation chapter for more information). Additionally, we must also continue working with regional partners to make it easier to get around the region without driving.

Supporting goals and policies from the transportation chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Parks, Arts & Recreation

Ensuring Parks are Resilient to Climate Impacts and Advance Climate Action

Over the next 20 years, Olympia's parks will face increasing climate pressures, including extreme heat, drought and increasing risk of landslides from extreme precipitation. These conditions will affect the health of our urban forests and may temporarily close park amenities, limiting people's ability to enjoy outdoor activities. Rising temperatures may increase the use of parks, while wildfire smoke and extreme heat episodes may impact the accessibility and enjoyment of parks, trails and public spaces.

To address these challenges, we will need to change how we design and manage Olympia's parks and recreation activities. We will make sure future investments support timely recovery of our park infrastructure and environment to potential climate disruptions. At the same time, we will identify opportunities for our parks to contribute to broader community-wide resilience and climate action. This includes designing public

spaces that are ready for climate challenges and mitigate hazards and building new trail networks to make it easier to get around without a car.

Supporting goals and policies from the parks, arts and recreation chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Fostering Community Connection and Belonging

Building community and creating a sense of togetherness are critical but often overlooked components of climate resilience. Fostering community and belonging helps to combat climate anxiety and feelings of helplessness, while also strengthening our collective capacity to respond to climate challenges. Resilient communities know their neighbors, care about their wellbeing, and are better prepared to face climate challenges together.

Olympia's parks, arts and recreation programs play an important role in achieving these goals. Parks provide spaces for people to gather, play and celebrate. Public art, cultural events and recreation programs strengthen shared connections, while multimodal trails encourage walking, rolling, and biking, making it easier to get around while spending

meaningful time outdoors. Nature parks provide opportunities to experience the outdoors and contribute to the protection of urban forests.

Supporting goals and policies from the parks, arts and recreation chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Utilities

Supporting the Transition to a Zero-Waste City

In many communities, a large portion of greenhouse gas emissions come from the consumption of goods and services, rather than direct activities occurring within the community. While these emissions are challenging to measure on a community scale, national trends suggest that they are often larger than the sector-based emissions typically measured by cities. Addressing these emissions is an important part of local climate action, including here in Olympia.

We can work towards reducing these consumption-based emissions by transitioning toward a circular economy, which minimizes material use, redesigns materials and products to be less resource intensive, and recaptures “waste” as a resource to manufacture new materials and products. While local governments have limited influence over global supply chains and individual consumer behavior, there are still steps we can take to advance this goal. This includes implementing programs and policies to reduce waste generation for businesses and individuals, while increasing capacity for waste diversion through material reuse, recycling and composting programs.

Supporting goals and policies from the utilities chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Monitoring and Protecting Water Resources

As rainfall events become more intense, existing impervious surfaces can lead to water runoff, reduce groundwater recharge and transport pollutants to streams and water bodies. These impacts threaten water quality and aquatic ecosystems. While our drinking water supplies already have significant resilience built in, hotter and drier summers mean we must actively monitor potential impacts to drinking water systems and aquatic ecosystems to ensure they remain protected.

The City will focus on integrating nature-based "green infrastructure" solutions to manage stormwater; encourage water conservation, reclamation and reuse; and prevent excess water from entering stormwater and wastewater systems.

Supporting goals and policies from the utilities chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Reducing Flooding from Extreme Rainfall and Sea Level Rise

Heavy rainfall and rising sea levels pose a substantial challenge for Olympia. Extreme rainfall events could overwhelm the combined stormwater and sewer system, leading to flooding, localized backups and discharge of untreated wastewater into Budd Inlet. Rising sea levels will increase the frequency of tidal flooding events, threaten critical infrastructure located downtown and require City resources to respond to the events.

We will need to invest significant financial and staff resources to address these impacts. The City will identify emerging challenges, improve our response and upgrade vulnerable infrastructure to prepare for future climate conditions. We will stay updated on new scientific findings to improve how we design and manage stormwater, sewer and drinking water systems. At the same time, the City will continue to be an active member of the Olympia Sea Level Rise Collaborative, working to reduce the risk of flooding due to sea level rise in downtown Olympia.

Supporting goals and policies from the utilities chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Securing the Energy Grid

More frequent extreme heat and higher wildfire risks could threaten our energy supply in several ways. On hot days, increased demand could overload the power grid, causing blackouts that disrupt homes, businesses and essential services. During extreme heat and drought events, utility operators may need to shut off power lines to reduce wildfire risk.

These power outages and shutoffs can have serious effects on health and daily life. Our strategies focus on working closely with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to strengthen our energy infrastructure and add backup systems to keep essential services running while expanding renewable energy production in line with state requirements. Burying utility lines underground also helps make our energy systems less vulnerable to extreme weather events. Supporting the development and installation of distributed energy grids can further add redundancy to energy for critical infrastructure systems and protect the health of vulnerable populations.

Supporting goals and policies from the utilities chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



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Economy

Developing a Climate-Smart Economy and Workforce

The shift to a low-carbon economy is underway, spurring the adoption of climate-friendly businesses practices and growth of the workforce to support climate action. Fueled by public and private investment, along with strong state and local climate goals, we anticipate the need for hundreds of skilled workers, such as solar installers and electric vehicle technicians, and new industries to help us transition to a net-zero community and circular economy. Olympia's youth value businesses and professions that align with climate action and resilience. By supporting local sectors that bring these values to life, we can build a sustainable economy that future generations will be proud to call their own.

The City will partner with local workforce development organizations and schools at all levels to ensure that Olympia and our youth are prepared for the next generation of "green jobs". We will also work with local and regional partners to encourage the

establishment of local circular economy hubs, which enable the collection, processing, and distribution of re-used and recycled materials.

Supporting goals and policies from the economy chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Supporting Businesses in Preparing for Climate Impacts

Climate change presents growing challenges for local businesses, including disruptions from extreme weather, supply chain uncertainties and rising costs. Brick-and-mortar businesses may experience reduced foot traffic during extreme heat and smoke events, while outdoor events could see a decline in visitors and tourists. Industries that rely on outdoor labor, such as construction, may need to shift work schedules to accommodate hotter summers. More frequent flooding due to sea level rise will also impact downtown Olympia, the economic and cultural heart of our city and region.

Managing these climate impacts may be particularly challenging for small, locally owned businesses that may have fewer resources to bounce back after disruptions. As extreme heat, heavy rainfall and flooding from sea level rise become more common over the next 20 years, it's important for businesses and community events to plan and prepare for potential impacts. We will build and maintain a strong and diverse economy that is resilient to climate hazards and provide planning support to ensure that local businesses are prepared for and can recover from climate impacts.

Supporting goals and policies from the economy chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

Public Safety

Protecting Public Health through Emergency Preparedness and Response

Extreme heat, wildfire smoke and extreme precipitation pose serious public health risks, particularly for children, older people and people experiencing homelessness. Extreme heat can cause heat stroke, and wildfire smoke can worsen pre-existing respiratory and cardiovascular conditions. During extreme events, both heat and smoke can make it unsafe to be outside for long periods of time, and increased emergency calls and hospitalizations during these events can strain our healthcare and emergency systems.

Protecting public health and well-being is at the heart of our City's mission. Through proactive planning, outreach and investment, we can reduce the impact of extreme

heat and smoke events. When these events happen, we'll have the resources and plans in place to communicate with our partners, agencies, and organizations to protect community wellbeing. The City will support existing community centers and social service providers to deliver vital services and assist those who are most vulnerable. Ensuring that residents know how to stay safe, what resources are available, and how to access them, are key to building resilience.

Supporting goals and policies from the public safety chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).



Caption placeholder

Capital Facilities Plan

Making Climate-Smart Investments in Public Infrastructure

Heavy rainfall, sea level rise, and extreme heat events can strain the engineering and design capacities of our public infrastructure. As these events become more frequent and intense, we must ensure that public infrastructure and capital facilities are designed, engineered, and constructed to withstand future conditions. Systematically

accounting for climate projections across the lifespan of capital projects in the design and development phases will ensure that we are making smart investments for the future and reducing failure risks. Capital projects can also provide additional GHG emissions reduction benefits by supporting development priorities, such as urban infill and street connectivity.

Supporting goals and policies from the capital facilities plan chapter will be listed here. For more information, see the Climate Element Goals and Policies Index (Appendix A).

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For More Information

- The Climate Element Implementation Plan provides additional guidance for implementing climate measures, including the implementation lead, timeframe, and examples of implementation actions. *The Implementation Plan is still under development and will be linked here when complete.*
- The [2021 GHG Emissions Inventory](#) provides a more detailed assessment of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Olympia.
- The [2021 Emissions Reduction Analysis](#) describes sector-based targets necessary for the City of Olympia to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions.
- The [Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment](#) outlines the current and future impacts of climate change on the Olympia community and prioritizes actions to reduce those impacts.
- The [Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan](#) provides comprehensive strategies for minimizing and preventing flooding downtown.
- The [Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan](#) serves as a road map for ongoing regional collaboration to reduce local contributions to climate change.
- The [Race to Resilience Challenge](#) is a commitment by city governments to improve resilience.

Appendix A: Climate Element Goals and Policies Index

To capture the collaborative approach that is needed to address climate action in the City of Olympia, the Climate Element goals and policies are integrated throughout the Comprehensive Plan. The draft goals and policies below include **existing** language from each of the Comprehensive Plan chapters as well as **new** language to strengthen the City's efforts. Some of the existing language has been **modified** to better address the City's climate goals. Where existing language has been modified, proposed changes are shown as redline edits.

Each goal and policy can be referenced using their unique ID below. These IDs do NOT correspond to existing goal and policy identifiers in the Comprehensive Plan. The previous IDs from the Climate Element draft published on February 18, 2025 are included for reference. Based on public comment feedback, some language has been modified and new goals and policies added to this draft. The new IDs will be used for this draft only.

Changes to Draft based on Public Comment:

The most significant change to this draft is the inclusion of Climate specific goals and policies. The Climate goals and policies will only be shown in the Climate Element and are meant to provide overarching guidance for climate action across all chapters. These goals and policies focus on tracking overall progress in meeting greenhouse gas reduction targets and resilience goals as well as prioritizing justice in our work. Housing goals and policies have also been cross-listed in this draft in response to concerns about housing affordability. We have also grouped all goals and policies under key themes to more clearly communicate climate priorities.

The [Public Comment Summary](#) report provides a full accounting of feedback we received and how it was incorporated into this draft.

Acronym List:

TCMP - Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan

SLRP – Sea Level Rise Response Plan

OMC – Olympia Municipal Code

WWMP - Wastewater Management Plan

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Natural Environment Chapter

Climate goals related to habitat restoration, preservation, enhancement, and connectivity are well addressed throughout the Natural Environment chapter and accompanying Shoreline Master Program. While many goals and policies within the natural environment chapter support climate action and resilience, only high-level habitat restoration, protection, and connectivity measures are cross-listed with the Climate Element (shown below).

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Strengthening the Environment's Ability to Withstand Climate Change			
1	20	GOAL: Important ecosystem structure, function, and processes are protected by Olympia's planning and regulatory activities.	Existing; TCMP
1.1	20.1	POLICY: Promote programs and policies that protect and restore natural systems such as wetlands, streams, riparian areas, shorelines, and stands of mature trees.	Existing; TCMP
1.2	20.2	POLICY: Increase the use of low impact development and nature-based ("green") infrastructure methods through education, technical assistance, incentives, regulations, grants, and private-public partnerships.	Existing
1.3	20.3	POLICY: Design, build, and retrofit public projects using sustainable design and green building methods that require minimal maintenance, fit naturally into the surrounding environment, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Existing; TCMP
1.4	N/A	Limit development in areas that are environmentally sensitive, such as steep slopes and wetlands. Direct development and redevelopment to less-sensitive areas.	Existing
2	21	GOAL: Prioritized land is preserved and sustainably managed.	Existing
2.1	21.1	POLICY: Evaluate, acquire and manage land by a set of priorities that considers the full spectrum of environmental, social, cultural, and economic benefits. These priorities include Tribal treaty rights, stormwater management, wildlife habitat, access to nature, recreation opportunities, environmental justice, and climate resilience .	Existing - modified
2.2	21.2	POLICY: Preserve land and acquire new parcels when there are opportunities to reduce habitat fragmentation, expand and connect habitat , and protect the most environmentally sensitive or socially important landscapes.	Existing - modified
2.3	21.3	POLICY: Identify, remove, and prevent the use and spread of invasive plants and wildlife.	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
2.4	21.4	POLICY: Design improvements to public land using vegetation that is attractive, adapted to a changing climate, supports a variety of wildlife, and requires minimal, long-term maintenance.	Existing
2.5	21.5	POLICY: Conserve and restore wildlife and aquatic habitat in both existing habitat corridors and other ecologically important sites. Consider salmon, amphibians, migratory birds, and other similarly protected or prioritized species.	Existing
2.6	21.6	POLICY: Increase awareness of the importance of pollinator species for food security and habitat health. Promote landscaping, gardening, and habitat stewardship practices that support pollinators.	Existing
3	22	GOAL: A healthy and diverse urban forest is protected, expanded, and valued for its contribution to the environment and community.	Existing; TCMP
3.1	22.1	POLICY: Consider climate resilience and adaptation strategies when developing planting plans, including species selection, planting locations, stock type, invasive pest susceptibility, and materials sourcing and maintenance.	Existing
3.2	22.2	POLICY: Provide new trees with the necessary soil, water, space, and nutrients to grow to maturity, and plant the right size tree where there are conflicts, such as buildings, overhead utility wires or sidewalks.	Existing
3.3	22.3	POLICY: Adopt and promote vegetation management practices that decrease climate-exacerbated risks to both human and ecosystem health from severe wildfires.	New
3.4	N/A	POLICY: Protect the natural structure and growing condition of trees to minimize necessary maintenance and preserve the long-term health and safety of the urban forest.	Existing
4	23	GOAL: The waters and natural processes of Budd Inlet and other marine waters are protected from degrading impacts and significantly improved through upland, riparian and shoreline preservation and restoration.	Existing
4.1	23.1	POLICY: Remain engaged as a key stakeholder through future phases of planning and implementation toward restoring habitat and adapting the Deschutes Estuary and surrounding shorelines of Budd Inlet.	Existing
4.2	23.2	POLICY: Support shellfish production and eelgrass planting that promotes bio nutrification in polluted marine areas.	New
5	24	GOAL: Healthy aquatic habitat is protected and restored.	Existing
5.1	24.1	POLICY: Maintain or improve healthy stream flows and wetlands that support a diverse population of aquatic life. Manage beaver	Existing - modified

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
		populations using least invasive strategies and only when threats exist to public health, safety, or infrastructure. Increase aquatic habitat resilience to low summer flows by increasing water residence time, storing water on the landscape, conserving water, protecting groundwater, riparian restoration, and protecting water quality.	
6	25	GOAL: Risk to human health and damage to wildlife and habitat due to harmful toxins, pollution, or other emerging threats is tracked by appropriate agencies and significantly reduced or eliminated.	Existing
6.1	25.1	POLICY: Maintain City land and properties using non-chemical methods whenever possible; use standard <i>Integrated Pest Management</i> practices and other accepted, natural approaches to managing vegetation and pests.	Existing
Cultivating a Connection to Nature			
7	26	GOAL: All members of the community can experience the natural environment through meaningful volunteer experiences, active recreation, and interactive learning opportunities.	Existing
7.1	26.1	POLICY: Give all members of our community opportunities to experience, appreciate, and participate in volunteer stewardship of the natural environment. Ensure that the many benefits and opportunities provided by this work reaches all Olympia's communities equitably.	Existing
7.2	26.2	POLICY: Honor and incorporate Indigenous history, knowledge, stewardship practices, cultural connections to the land, and promote outcomes related to Tribal treaty rights.	Existing
7.3	26.3	POLICY: Foster a sense of place and community pride by carefully stewarding the trees, plants, and wildlife unique to Puget Sound. Preserve the Indigenous history of stewardship on these lands since time immemorial.	Existing

Land Use and Urban Design Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Planning for Density and Future Climate Conditions			
8	10	GOAL: Development standards and site designs reduce exposure to climate hazards, enhance climate resilience and improve livability.	New
8.1	10.1	POLICY: Require new development to meet appropriate minimum standards, such as landscaping and design guidelines, stormwater and other engineering standards, and building codes, and address risks, such as geologically hazardous areas, extreme weather, and climate-exacerbated hazards ; and require existing development to be gradually improved to such standards.	Existing – modified
8.2	10.3	POLICY: Establish and update development standards that incorporate best practices for reducing the risk and impacts of wildfire and smoke, extreme heat, intense rainfall, and sea level rise.	New
8.3	10.5	POLICY: Incentivize new commercial and residential construction to include on-site rainwater harvesting facilities, exceed required low impact development standards, and incorporate green stormwater infrastructure approaches. Encourage de-paving on properties where applicable.	New
8.4	10.6	POLICY: Encourage shoreline development and waterfront attractions that are consistent with the Sea Level Rise Response Plan.	New
8.5	10.9	POLICY: Encourage and sometimes require buildings and site designs that result in energy efficiency, passive survivability , and/or use of solar and other renewable energy. This includes street and lot orientation at the time property is subdivided or developed.	Existing - modified
8.6	10.10	POLICY: Consider and evaluate current and future wildfire risk when updating future land use maps and development standards to mitigate the risk to lives and property posed by wildfires.	New
9	18	GOAL: Land use patterns, densities and site designs are sustainable and support increased urban density, reduce urban sprawl, and decrease automobile reliance.	Existing – modified; TCMP
9.1	18.1	POLICY: Ensure that new development is built at urban densities or can be readily modified to achieve those densities; and require that development lacking municipal utility service be designed to cost-effectively transform when services become available.	Existing; TCMP
9.2	18.2	POLICY: Focus development in locations that will enhance the community and have capacity and efficient supporting services, and where adverse environmental impacts can be avoided or minimized.	Existing

9.3	18.3	POLICY: Direct high-density development to areas with existing development where the terrain is conducive to walking, bicycling and transit use, where sensitive drainage basins will not be impacted and impacts from climate hazards are low or cannot be mitigated.	Existing
9.4	18.4	POLICY: Require functional and efficient development by adopting and periodically updating zoning consistent with the Future Land Use Map.	Existing; TCMP
9.5	18.5	POLICY: Provide for a compatible mix of housing and commercial uses in commercial districts and village sites that enables people to walk or roll to work and shopping, supports transit, and includes convenience businesses for residents. Integrate adjacent uses with walkways and bike paths leading from residential areas to commercial districts and neighborhood-oriented businesses.	Existing; TCMP
9.6	18.6	POLICY: Prioritize frequent transit service, support housing, utilize existing infrastructure, provide public improvements and concentrate new major shopping, entertainment and office uses downtown, in the medical services area of Lilly Road, near the Capital Mall, and in the urban corridors.	Existing; TCMP
9.7	18.7	POLICY: Require direct and convenient pedestrian access to commercial and public buildings from streets, bus stops and parking lots and encourage sheltered seating and other uses of vacant sections of the street edge.	Existing; TCMP
9.8	18.8	POLICY: Require businesses along transit routes to accommodate transit use by including building entrances near bus stops or other features such as transit shelters or on-site bus access.	Existing; TCMP
9.9	18.9	POLICY: Encourage major commercial projects to include display windows, small shops with separate entrances, and plazas with seating and other well-landscaped gathering spaces.	Existing
9.10	18.10	POLICY: Require new, and encourage existing, businesses to provide bicycle parking. Encourage the provision of secure bicycle parking.	Existing; TCMP
9.11	18.11	POLICY: Increase the number of 10-minute neighborhoods through zoning and code changes that support an easily accessible environment, and destinations that serve a range of basic living needs.	New; TCMP
10	19	GOAL: Infill development and the redevelopment of underutilized areas are prioritized to prevent urban sprawl, preserve agricultural lands and forests in rural areas of Thurston County, and reduce emissions associated with transportation and land conversion.	New

10.1	19.1	POLICY: Participate in a County-wide “transfer of development rights” program in which a density bonus and climate resilience benefits are achievable through purchase of transferred development rights from agricultural lands in the rural portion of the county.	Existing
10.2	19.2	POLICY: Maintain a stable urban growth area to reduce development pressure on natural and working lands within Thurston County.	New; TCMP
11	12	GOAL: Land management and landscape practices increase the resilience of the built environment, ecosystems and communities to climate change.	New
11.1	12.1	POLICY: Collaborate with private landowners to follow best management practices, particularly for properties abutting park, forest land, and environmentally sensitive areas.	New
11.2	12.2	POLICY: Provide resources to community members living in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas to implement fire prevention (e.g., Firewise) practices and support application of such practices through incentives, outreach, and development standards.	New
11.3	12.3	POLICY: Encourage residents to install landscape design features and to keep storm drains clear to reduce risks from changes in seasonal precipitation.	New
11.4	N/A	POLICY: Promote installation of building and landscape design features that encourage water conservation in new and existing construction.	New
Adapting the Built Environment to Reduce GHG Emissions and Protect Public Health			
12	11	GOAL: Improvements are made to the built environment to withstand future climate conditions, improve energy efficiency, and protect public health.	New
12.1	11.1	POLICY: In pedestrian-oriented commercial areas, require sidewalk awnings, shading features , or other weather protection on new and substantially remodeled buildings.	Existing - modified
12.2	11.2	POLICY: Support development of local microgrid solar and battery storage facilities, especially for critical infrastructure and community centers.	New
12.3	11.3	POLICY: Prioritize equity by incentivizing weatherization upgrades and energy redundancy for homes and facilities serving vulnerable populations.	New
13	13	GOAL: Local Thurston County food production is encouraged and supported to increase self-sufficiency, reduce environmental impact, adapt to future climate conditions, promote health, and the humane treatment of animals, and support the local economy.	Existing - modified
13.1	13.1	POLICY: Encourage home gardens as an alternative to maintaining a lawn.	Existing

13.2	13.2	POLICY: Partner with community organizations to help educate community members who are interested in urban agriculture on how to address and plan for climate impacts such as drought and extreme heat and encourage the production of climate-friendly foods.	Existing
14	14	GOAL: All new and existing buildings are electrified by 2040. New buildings achieve minimum energy efficiency standards, and all existing buildings receive energy efficiency retrofits by 2040.	New
14.1	14.1	POLICY: Support state building and energy code development and implementation to improve energy efficiency and electrify new buildings. Adopt local policies to support energy efficiency and electrification of new and existing buildings to the greatest extent feasible.	New; TCMP
14.2	14.2	POLICY: Partner with regional jurisdictions to develop and implement a local policy for assessment and disclosure of residential energy performance ratings at the time sale, lease, or rent.	New; TCMP
14.3	14.3	POLICY: Evaluate and consider establishing baseline energy efficiency standards for rental properties while minimizing displacement and financial burden for renters.	New; TCMP
14.4	14.4	POLICY: Evaluate and consider establishing building performance standards for multifamily and non-residential buildings that exceed state minimum standards.	New; TCMP
14.5	14.5	POLICY: Provide resources, such as technical support, rebates and other incentives to electrify and reduce energy consumption in existing buildings. Prioritize retrofits in overburdened communities and include protections to avoid displacement and financial burden on renters and small businesses.	New; TCMP
14.6	14.6	POLICY: Foster partnerships with organizations serving overburdened communities to ensure building electrification outreach and incentive programs build capacity and alleviate cost burdens for all residents.	New; TCMP
14.7	14.8	POLICY: Reduce energy use and phase out natural gas use in existing city-owned facilities and public infrastructure. Require new city-owned and funded facilities to be built all-electric.	New; TCMP
15	15	GOAL: New construction and redevelopment prioritize reuse of existing buildings and reduce the use of high-embodied carbon materials to the greatest extent feasible.	New
15.1	15.1	POLICY: Encourage and incentivize the preservation and reuse existing buildings and building materials.	New
15.2	15.2	POLICY: Evaluate and address development regulations that may pose barriers to reuse and adaptive reuse of existing buildings.	New
15.3	15.3	POLICY: Evaluate and consider mechanisms to encourage efficient use of building materials and reduce high-embodied carbon materials in new construction and building retrofits.	New

15.4	15.4	POLICY: Evaluate and consider opportunities to encourage design for deconstruction and reuse of materials rather than demolition.	New
Promoting Local Energy Infrastructure			
16	16	GOAL: The production of local renewable energy increases communitywide.	New
16.1	16.2	POLICY: Install solar photovoltaics on all available and feasible city-owned properties, including but not limited to building rooftops, municipal water pump sites, parking lots and fences.	New; TCMP
16.2	16.3	POLICY: Facilitate the development of community-owned, small-scale renewable energy generation projects, such as solar and geothermal energy.	New
16.3	16.4	POLICY: Incentivize or require solar panels, when feasible, on new buildings with large rooftops, as well as within or over parking areas.	New; TCMP
16.4	16.5	POLICY: Evaluate and identify opportunities to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in historic buildings.	New
16.5	16.6	POLICY: Encourage the use and development of bidirectional energy systems to support renewable energy production and manage peak demand on the electric grid.	New
Enabling the Transition to Electric Mobility			
17	17	GOAL: Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is sufficient to support the transition to electric vehicles.	New; TCMP
17.1	17.1	POLICY: Continue to require EV charging infrastructure and EV-ready parking in new and renovated buildings and parking lots.	New; TCMP, OMC
17.2	17.2	POLICY: Evaluate barriers to equitable access to EV charging and develop a strategy to ensure all community members can access low-cost EV charging regardless of where they live or work.	New; TCMP
17.3	17.3	POLICY: Provide public EV charging at city-owned facilities and parking lots.	New; TCMP
17.4	17.4	POLICY: Encourage and incentivize the provision of low-cost EV charging for multifamily housing.	New

Housing Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Addressing Housing and Climate Challenges Together			
18	N/A	GOAL: The range of housing types and densities are consistent with the community's changing population needs and preferences.	Existing
18.1	N/A	POLICY: Require that multi-family structures be located near a collector street with transit, or near an arterial street, or near a neighborhood center, and that they be designed for compatibility with adjacent lower density housing; and be 'stepped' to conform with topography.	Existing
18.2	N/A	POLICY: Encourage adapting non-residential buildings for housing.	Existing
18.3	N/A	POLICY: Encourage preservation of existing houses.	Existing
18.4	N/A	POLICY: Encourage new housing on transportation arterials and in areas near public transportation hubs.	Existing
18.5	N/A	POLICY: Consider energy affordability alongside other fixed housing costs in affordable housing policies and programs.	New
18.6	N/A	POLICY: Ensure future climate-exacerbated hazards and their impacts are mitigated in new and existing construction.	New
19	N/A	GOAL: The existing low-income housing stock is preserved.	Existing
19.1	N/A	POLICY: Continue to fund the repair and rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family housing using federal, state, and local funding sources.	Existing
20	N/A	GOAL: Affordable housing is available for all income levels throughout the community.	Existing
20.1	N/A	POLICY: Take steps to ensure housing will be available to all income levels based on projected community needs.	Existing
Providing Stability and Services during Climate Emergencies			
21	N/A	GOAL: Special needs populations, such as people with developmental disabilities, the homeless, the frail elderly, and others who have difficulty securing housing, have adequate, safe, and affordable housing.	Existing
22	N/A	GOAL: Our community is safe and welcoming and social services are accessible to all who need them.	Existing
22.1	N/A	POLICY: Support non-profit and faith-based charitable organizations that provide funding and/or oversight for social service funding.	Existing

22.2	N/A	POLICY: Support programs and projects that assist low-income people and those at risk of homelessness with public funding.	Existing
23	N/A	GOAL: There is enough emergency housing, transitional housing, permanent housing with supportive services, and independent affordable housing.	Existing
23.1	N/A	POLICY: Evaluate regulations so the City can be more flexible in locating shelters and increasing capacity.	Existing
24	N/A	GOAL: New low-income housing is created to meet demand.	Existing
24.1	N/A	POLICY: Support non-profit and faith-based organizations in their efforts to provide emergency homeless shelters.	Existing

Transportation Chapter

Climate goals related to VMT reduction and vehicle electrification are well addressed throughout the Transportation chapter. While many goals and policies within the Transportation chapter support climate action and resilience, only high-level VMT reduction and vehicle electrification measures are cross-listed with the Climate Element (shown below).

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Supporting Electric Vehicle Adoption			
25	54	GOAL: 100% of light-duty vehicles within Olympia will be electric by 2040. 75% of heavy-duty vehicles will be either electric or fueled by green hydrogen by 2040.	Existing; TCMP
25.1	54.1	POLICY: Support the state of Washington’s law that all new light-duty passenger vehicles sold, purchased, or registered will be electric starting with the model year 2030.	Existing; TCMP
25.2	54.2	POLICY: Seek ways to encourage people to replace gas-powered vehicles with electric vehicles.	Existing; TCMP
25.3	54.3	POLICY: Encourage Intercity Transit’s transition to green fuel buses.	Existing
25.4	54.4	POLICY: Encourage the Port of Olympia to transition diesel-powered freight vehicles serving the Port to green fuels.	Existing
25.5	54.5	POLICY: Encourage the school district to transition diesel-powered school buses to green fuels.	Existing
25.6	54.6	POLICY: Convert City fleet to zero-emission vehicles and develop supporting infrastructure and programs.	New; TCMP
Preparing our Streets for Extreme Weather			
26	60	GOAL: The local transportation system — including infrastructure, routes, and travel modes — is able to withstand and recover quickly from the impacts of extreme weather events and other hazards exacerbated by climate change.	New
26.1	60.1	POLICY: Use the most up-to-date hazard data to map transportation infrastructure that is vulnerable to repeated floods, sea level rise, and other physical hazards. Designate alternative travel routes for critical transportation corridors when streets must be closed. Align with regional planning efforts.	New
26.2	60.2	POLICY: Facilitate quick recovery of the whole multimodal transportation system after disruption from disasters or extreme weather events.	New

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
26.3	60.3	POLICY: Continue to collaborate with WSDOT on bridge monitoring, maintenance, and impacts from extreme heat and extreme weather.	New
26.4	60.4	POLICY: Factor climate impacts into management and maintenance of streets and transportation assets.	New
27	57	GOAL: As new streets are built and existing streets are reconstructed, add multimodal features consistent with the policies in this plan and specified in the City of Olympia Engineering Design and Development Standards.	Existing
27.1	57.1	POLICY: Use innovative designs to reduce or eliminate stormwater run-off.	Existing
27.2	57.2	POLICY: Seek opportunities to add shade and cooling features with sidewalk and street projects.	New
28	58	GOAL: The street network is a well-connected system of small blocks, allowing short, direct trips for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, drivers, and service vehicles.	Existing
28.1	58.1	POLICY: Build new street connections so that emergency vehicles, transit, and other service vehicles have direct and efficient access.	Existing
Making it Easier to Walk, Roll, Bike, and Take Transit			
29	52	GOAL: The transportation system will support meeting the target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040.	Existing; TCMP
29.1	52.1	POLICY: Reshape the transportation system so that it's easier to walk or roll, bike, or take transit than to drive.	Existing; TCMP
30	53	GOAL: Vehicle miles traveled will be 25% lower than 2021 levels by 2040.	Existing
30.1	53.1	POLICY: Build and retrofit streets to support walking, rolling, biking, and taking transit.	Existing; TCMP
31	N/A	GOAL: A mix of strategies is used to encourage infill development in the city, which both supports and is supported by walking, rolling, biking, and transit.	Existing
31.1	N/A	POLICY: Increase allowed densities in the downtown core and along parts of the urban corridors, where walking, rolling, biking, and transit are more viable for the majority of trips people need to make.	Existing; TCMP
32	N/A	GOAL: Bicycling is safe and inviting, and many people use their bikes to both travel and stay active.	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
32.1	N/A	POLICY: Seek ways to encourage people to replace vehicles with e-bikes by helping them access financing, rebates, grants, or other resources.	New; TCMP
32.2	N/A	POLICY: Support education and encouragement programs to promote and improve the safety of bicycling	Existing; TCMP
32.3	N/A	POLICY: Educate the public about street safety and behaviors that ensure the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians.	Existing
33	56	GOAL: Streets are designed to reduce the urban heat island effect.	Existing
33.1	56.1	POLICY: Include street trees in street design to shade sidewalks, protect asphalt from heat, and buffer pedestrians. Proper selection, care, and placement are critical to long-term maintenance of trees along streets, pavement, and sidewalks	Existing; TCMP
33.2	56.2	POLICY: Include vegetation in street designs to reduce heat island and stormwater impacts and to improve the visual appeal of streets.	Existing
33.3	56.3	POLICY: Where feasible, use pavement and sidewalk materials that reduce heat island and stormwater impacts.	Existing
34	61	GOAL: All streets are safe and inviting for pedestrians and bicyclists. Streets are designed to be human scale and encourage safe driving.	Existing
34.1	61.1	Create attractive streetscapes with sidewalks, trees, planter strips, and pedestrian-scale streetlights. In denser areas, provide benches, building awnings, and attractive and functional transit stops and shelters.	Existing
35	N/A	GOAL: Urban corridors have high-quality transit service, allowing people to ride the bus spontaneously and easily replace car trips with trips by bus.	Existing
35.1	N/A	POLICY: Develop a system with fast, frequent, and predictable service on urban corridors. Transit service should operate at least every 15 minutes on weekdays where surrounding land uses support it.	Existing
36	59	GOAL: Intercity Transit's short- and long-range plans are supported.	Existing
36.1	59.1	POLICY: Coordinate with Intercity Transit in requiring developers to provide facilities that help transit riders easily walk, roll, or bike to and from stops, such as shelters, awnings, bike parking, walkways, benches, and lighting.	Existing
37	55	GOAL: Parking is provided in a way that makes its costs more clear to the driver, so people can make better informed choices about whether to drive.	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
37.1	55.1	POLICY: Manage the cost and supply of parking to prioritize on-street parking for customers over commuters.	Existing
37.2	55.2	POLICY: Where paid parking exists, develop policies to ensure that people pay for parking the day or hour they use it. Avoid the sale of weekly, monthly, or yearly parking permits, so that people make the decision to drive on a daily basis. This may make them more inclined to walk, roll, bike, or take transit.	Existing
37.3	55.3	POLICY: Work with the state of Washington on consistent parking strategies to help meet the commute trip and vehicle miles reduction goals of the region.	Existing
37.4	55.4	POLICY: Allocate curb space strategically. Repurpose some vehicle parking stalls for active uses that complement adjacent land uses.	Existing
37.5	55.5	POLICY: Limit parking spaces near transit-oriented development to encourage use of transit and decrease single-occupancy vehicle travel.	New

Climate Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions			
38	N/A	GOAL: Olympia reduces community-wide GHG emissions 59% below 2019 levels by 2030 and achieves net-zero emissions by 2040.	New
38.1	N/A	POLICY: Implement local policies and programs to achieve adopted emissions reduction targets. Prioritize actions that advance high-impact strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address community priorities, prioritize environmental justice and provide additional co-benefits.	New
38.2	N/A	POLICY: Continue collaborating with regional partners to implement the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan and coordinate greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies across Thurston County.	New
38.3	N/A	POLICY: Update Olympia's Greenhouse Gas Inventory at least every three years to track progress and refine emissions reduction strategies.	New
Strengthening Climate Resilience			
39	N/A	GOAL: Olympia plans for future climate impacts and takes action to prepare for, adapt and respond to anticipated climate hazards.	New
39.1	N/A	POLICY: Implement local policies and programs to enhance climate resilience. Prioritize actions that reduce significant climate risks, address community priorities, prioritize environmental justice and provide additional co-benefits.	New
39.2	N/A	POLICY: Continue collaborating with regional partners to implement the Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan and other strategies to prepare for and adapt to climate impacts.	New
39.3	N/A	POLICY: Monitor the latest climate science and models to assess how climate change is impacting the region.	New
39.4	N/A	POLICY: Update Olympia's Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment along-side 10-year Comprehensive Plan updates to reflect the latest understanding of climate trends and their impact on community assets. Adjust resilience strategies as needed to address evolving risks and conditions.	New

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Progressing Environmental Justice			
40	N/A	GOAL: All community members – especially those most affected by climate change – benefit from climate action and have equitable opportunities to influence policy decisions.	New
40.1	N/A	POLICY: Conduct intentional outreach with frontline communities and youth to enable equitable engagement in the development and implementation of climate action and resilience initiatives.	New; TCMP
40.2	N/A	POLICY: Partner with community-based organizations to engage diverse groups in developing and implementing climate solutions while addressing existing disparities. Support these organizations in building capacity for climate action.	New; TCMP
40.3	N/A	POLICY: Provide guidance and resources, such as technical support, rebates and other incentives, to reduce barriers to climate action for all community members. Prioritize strategic investments to support frontline communities and address existing disparities in Olympia.	New
40.4	N/A	POLICY: Evaluate and address unintended impacts of policies and programs for Olympians across all income levels.	New
Building Institutional Capacity for Climate Action			
41	N/A	GOAL: Olympia has the staffing, resources, and funding to effectively implement climate action and resilience measures.	New
41.1	N/A	POLICY: Fully staff City positions needed across all departments to support climate-related actions and hazard response.	New
41.2	N/A	POLICY: Develop a comprehensive funding strategy to support the implementation of climate policies and programs.	New
41.3	N/A	POLICY: Develop city-wide staff capacity through training and professional development to enhance expertise in climate resilience, emissions reduction and equitable community engagement.	New
41.4	N/A	POLICY: Integrate climate resilience and emissions reduction efforts across all City departments to ensure a coordinated, comprehensive approach to climate action. Coordinate implementation with regional partners to the greatest extent possible.	New
41.5	N/A	POLICY: Monitor the effectiveness of climate programs and policies, using data-driven evaluation to refine strategies and improve outcomes over time.	New

Parks, Arts & Recreation Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Ensuring Parks are Resilient to Climate Impacts and Advance Climate Action			
42	30	GOAL: A lively public waterfront contributes to a vibrant Olympia.	Existing
42.1	30.2	POLICY: Incorporate the Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan strategies into future design, maintenance, and operations of Percival Landing and West Bay Park.	Existing – modified; SLRP
43	32	GOAL: An urban trails system interconnects parks, schools, neighborhoods, open spaces, historical settings, neighboring jurisdictions’ trails systems, important public facilities, and employment centers via both on- and off-street trails.	Existing
43.1	32.1	POLICY: Encourage walking, bicycling and other non-vehicular access for recreation and transportation purposes by linking parks to multi-modal routes, streets and trails in coordination with the Transportation Master Plan. Where appropriate, add facilities that support people arriving by various modes, such as a bicycle repair facility or additional bicycle parking facilities	Existing; TCMP
44	28	GOAL: The City leverages its investments in parks, arts and recreation programs and facilities.	Existing
44.1	28.1	POLICY: Identify and plan for climate impacts, including extreme precipitation, drought, and sea level rise, to valued community assets such as parks, trails, and recreation facilities. These strategies may include relocation, replacement, or adaptive design.	New
44.2	28.2	POLICY: Consider climate-exacerbated hazards in all siting, planning, and life cycle assessments of new and redeveloped capital Park assets.	New
44.3	29.3	POLICY: Consider how acquisition and management of new and existing Parks properties can contribute to community-wide resilience and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.	New
45	33	GOAL: Olympia’s park system is resilient and provides climate mitigation and adaptation benefits.	Existing
45.1	33.1	POLICY: Cooling Restore and plant climate resilient vegetation and trees utilizing scientific best practices. Maintain and support Olympia’s street trees to help cool streets and neighborhoods.	Existing - modified

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
45.2	33.2	POLICY: Implement tree selection, care and maintenance best practices that account for drier and hotter future climate conditions.	New; TCMP
45.3	33.3	POLICY: Enhance protection of parks from wildfire by periodically updating wildfire protection standard operating procedures based on evolving climate conditions and best practices for proper mitigation of wildfire risk.	New
45.4	33.4	POLICY: Absorb—Conserve forested areas that provide carbon sequestration and use best practices for stormwater management. Identify opportunities for using existing and new parks and open space for stormwater management to the extent possible while providing recreational opportunities.	Existing - modified
45.5	33.5	POLICY: Protect - habitat, restore natural areas, manage shorelines, and plan for climate change impacts.	Existing - modified
45.6	33.6	POLICY: Practice water conservation measures and implement water-smart designs in park properties and operations.	New
45.7	30.1	POLICY: Encourage the acquisition of saltwater shoreline property and easements to create more public access to the waterfront <u>while restoring and enhancing shoreline ecosystems.</u>	Existing - modified
45.8	N/A	POLICY: Seek opportunities for installing constructed and natural cooling features in parks, such as park shelters and splash pads.	New
45.9	33.7	POLICY: Continue to support urban agriculture such as community gardens and pollinator gardens on Parks owned properties.	New
Fostering Community Connection and Belonging			
46	27	GOAL: Unique facilities, public art, events, and recreational programming encourage social interaction, foster inclusive and collaborative community building, and enhance the visual character and livability of Olympia.	Existing
46.1	27.1	POLICY: Continue to provide extraordinary parks and community activities that contribute to our high quality of life and attract tourism and private investment to Olympia.	Existing
47	29	GOAL: A vibrant park system that meets current and future community needs.	Existing
47.1	29.1	POLICY: Provide parks with gathering spaces in close proximity (within ½ mile) to all residents. The distance should be measured by following an accessible travel route suitable for walking or small mobility device	Existing
47.2	29.2	POLICY: Ensure that Olympia's park system includes opportunities for its residents to experience nature.	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
48	31	GOAL: Community members gather and recreate together.	Existing
48.1	31.1	POLICY: Support contingency planning for outdoor events, programming, and recreation potentially disrupted by climate-exacerbated hazards.	New
48.2	31.2	POLICY: Encourage timely recovery, reopening, and reconstruction of damaged park assets after a natural disaster to ensure continuity of high-quality services.	New
49	34	GOAL: Olympia's parks and public art support environmental stewardship and awareness of climate change.	New
49.1	34.1	POLICY: Educate parks visitors and the community about environmental stewardship, conservation, and climate change impacts and solutions.	Existing; TCMP
49.2	34.2	POLICY: Inspire community members to act by leading through example in environmental stewardship, visible changes in the way we do business and how we plan for the future.	Existing

Utilities Chapter

Climate goals related to low impact development and drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater systems infrastructure upgrades are well addressed throughout the Public Utilities chapter. While many goals and policies within the utilities chapter support climate action and resilience, only high-level flood and drought mitigation measures are cross-listed with the Climate Element (shown below).

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Supporting the Transition to a Zero-Waste City			
50	39	GOAL: Reliable utility service is provided at the lowest reasonable cost, consistent with the City's aims of environmental stewardship, social equity, economic development and the protection of public health.	Existing
50.1	39.1	POLICY: Ensure that utility fees, such as rates and general facility charges, are structured to reasonably reflect the actual cost of providing services to each customer rate-service class. Fees must also encourage customers to conserve water, reduce their demand on our wastewater treatment system, <u>reduce waste generation, and maximize waste diversion</u> to the greatest extent feasible.	Existing – modified
51	40	GOAL: Solid waste is managed as a resource to provide environmental, economic, and social benefits.	Existing
51.1	40.1	POLICY: Maintain and update the Waste ReSources Management Plan, Engineering Design and Development Standards, and Olympia Municipal Code to ensure sanitary conditions are realized, solid waste collection operations are safe and efficient, <u>waste prevention and diversion are optimized, and programs and services support a circular system where all waste is diverted from landfills.</u>	Existing – modified; TCMP
51.2	40.2	POLICY: Support state legislation to establish extended producer responsibility policies and programs, increase reuse and repair of consumer goods and materials, improve/increase recycling and composting, reduce natural resource consumption, and reduce household hazardous waste and harmful chemicals.	Existing; TCMP
52	41	GOAL: Solid waste disposed of in landfills is 75% lower than 2021 levels by 2040.	New; TCMP
52.1	41.1	POLICY: Reduce waste associated with city operations and encourage recycling through the City's purchasing, recycling and disposal policies.	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
52.2	41.2	POLICY: Follow the solid waste management hierarchy established in federal and state legislation, which sets waste reduction as the highest priority management option, followed by reuse, recycling/composting and responsible disposal.	Existing
52.3	41.3	POLICY: Expand the City's recycling, composting, and waste reduction programs, to the greatest extent feasible, to ensure all community members have access to waste reduction, reuse, composting, and recycling programs and services. Prioritize programs and services that maximize community-wide waste reduction and diversion of material from disposal into remanufacture and reuse.	Existing; TCMP
53	42	GOAL: Olympia reduces waste associated with construction, renovation, and demolition of buildings and infrastructure.	New
53.1	42.1	POLICY: Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to minimize waste associated with all phases of building construction, including demolition.	New
53.2	42.2	POLICY: Collaborate with local businesses and public agencies to develop local facilities and programs to enable reuse and recycling of construction and demolition debris.	New
53.3	42.3	POLICY: Develop incentives and technical assistance programs to encourage reuse and recycling of construction and demolition debris.	New
Monitoring and Protecting Water Resources			
54	44	GOAL: Use Olympia's water resources efficiently to meet the needs of the community, reduce demand on facilities, and protect the natural environment.	Existing; TCMP
54.1	44.1	POLICY: Encourage and allow re-use techniques, including: rainwater collection, greywater systems, and the use of Class A reclaimed water as alternatives to the use of potable water. This can enhance stream flows or recharge aquifers, while also protecting water quality consistent with local and State regulations.	Existing; TCMP
54.2	44.2	POLICY: Support conservation programs and resources that provide incentives to urban farmers to implement best management practices that address impacts of climate change and invest in solutions to adapt to future climate conditions.	New
55	45	GOAL: Adequate supplies of clean drinking water are available for current and future generations and instream flows and aquifer capacity are protected.	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
55.1	45.1	POLICY: Maintain and implement a comprehensive drought resilience strategy that factors in projected climate impacts and sets action levels for different drought stages	New
55.2	45.2	POLICY: Develop and maintain multiple, geographically dispersed sources of water to supply to increase the reliability and redundancy of the system	Existing
55.3	45.3	POLICY: Continue water level monitoring of existing City-owned production and monitoring wells and expand monitoring well network as may be needed. Maintain numerical groundwater models to better define aquifer characteristics and impacts, if any, from climate change and to accurately evaluate the impacts of the City's withdrawals.	Existing
55.4	45.4	POLICY: Assess and mitigate the risk wildfire poses to drinking water utility systems.	New
Reducing Flooding from Extreme Rainfall and Sea Level Rise			
56	43	GOAL: Utility and land use plans are coordinated so that utility services can be provided and maintained for proposed future land uses.	Existing
56.1	43.1	POLICY: Evaluate land use plans and utility goals periodically to ensure growth is guided by our knowledge of current environmental constraints. This includes risks from climate change and the latest available utility technology and up-to date growth and development projections, including those that incorporate climate migration considerations.	Existing
56.2	43.2	POLICY: Make necessary improvements to utility facilities that do not currently meet minimum standards. Prioritize capital improvements to existing systems based on age, condition, risk of failure, and capacity to support infill development and increase climate adaptation , while also balancing the fair distribution of services and benefits to the entire community.	Existing - modified
57	46	GOAL: The wastewater collection system is designed and operated as to minimize long term costs, provide sufficient capacity for projected demand, promote equity, and protect the natural environment.	Existing
57.1	46.1	POLICY: Separate combined wastewater/stormwater pipes in conjunction with stormwater and road improvements or residential repairs, when economically feasible.	Existing
58	47	GOAL: The frequency and severity of flooding are managed and hazards are eliminated, except during major storm events.	Existing
58.1	47.1	POLICY: Prioritize City upgrades and retrofits to improve stormwater systems in areas that are vulnerable to overland flooding and sea level rise.	Existing - modified

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
58.2	47.2	POLICY: Emphasize the importance of emergency preparedness.	Existing
58.3	47.3	POLICY: Support knowledge sharing with private stormwater system owners about ways to upgrade or retrofit systems for increased precipitation intensity expected under future climate conditions.	New
58.4	47.4	POLICY: Prioritize solutions to flooding that serves overburdened neighborhoods.	Existing
58.5	N/A	POLICY: Prioritize solutions that reduce flooding from sea level rise to the transportation system, especially for transportation corridors used in emergency management.	New
58.6	47.5	POLICY: Reduce the volume of sewer overflows annually.	New; WWMP
58.7	47.6	POLICY: Evaluate and assess approaches to appropriately size stormwater facilities for increased precipitation intensity expected under future climate conditions.	New
58.8	47.7	POLICY: Adapt wastewater infrastructure to accommodate forecast precipitation trends.	New; WWMP
59	48	GOAL: The Utility considers the interrelationship and complexity of its three missions to manage flooding, improve water quality and protect and enhance aquatic habitat in its decisions and involves other City departments in this effort.	Existing
59.1	48.1	POLICY: Where feasible, retrofit existing streetscapes with water quality and quantity stormwater system improvements to minimize pollution from roadway runoff to natural drainage systems and the waters of Puget Sound.	Existing
59.2	48.2	POLICY: Implement a Capital Improvement Program that maintains and improves the municipal separate storm sewer system in a manner that enhances and protects the City's natural environment, mitigates flooding problems, improves water quality, adapts to future climate conditions , promotes a reliable and safe transportation network and provides the community a safe and healthy place for living, working and recreating.	Existing - modified
60	51	GOAL: The stormwater and wastewater systems are resilient to the impacts of sea level rise and increased precipitation intensity.	New; SLRP
60.1	51.1	POLICY: Continue to implement sea level rise adaptation measures, such as flood gates and stormwater pumps, to reduce the risks and impacts of flooding to infrastructure systems and operations.	New; SLRP
60.2	51.2	POLICY: Continue to support and partner with the Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Collaborative members to implement the long-term adaptation strategies identified in the Olympia Sea Level Rise Response Plan.	New; SLRP

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
60.3	51.3	POLICY: Establish new partnerships to design, plan, and adapt Olympia's infrastructure systems to prepare for sea level rise.	New; SLRP
60.4	51.4	POLICY: Continue to implement flow reduction programs through partnership with LOTT Clean Water Alliance and Cities of Lacey and Tumwater for single family, multi family, and industry and commercial customers who receive LOTT services.	New; SLRP
Securing the Energy Grid			
61	49	GOAL: Cooperation and coordination exists among jurisdictions and private utility providers.	Existing
61.1	49.1	POLICY: Olympia and Thurston County will coordinate with each other and the cities of Lacey and Tumwater on emergency management related to utility services by following the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Thurston Region.	Existing
61.2	49.2	POLICY: Collaborate with Puget Sound Energy to ensure continuity of operations and service provision during climate-exacerbated emergencies, including extreme heat and wildfire events.	New
61.3	16.1	POLICY: Support the transition of utility energy fuel mixes to renewable sources.	New
62	50	GOAL: Private utilities are located underground whenever possible to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to create a more reliable utility system.	Existing
62.1	50.1	POLICY: Coordinate the undergrounding of both new and existing private utility lines consistent with policies PU 3.1 and PU 3.2 (<i>refers to Public Utilities Chapter policies outside of the Climate Element</i>).	Existing

Economy Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Developing a Climate-Smart Economy and Workforce			
63	4	GOAL: Olympia supports development of the workforce necessary for implementing community-wide climate action and adopting climate-friendly businesses practices.	New
63.1	4.1	POLICY: Support local workforce development partners and trade schools to develop technical job training programs that support climate action within Olympia. Prioritize opportunities for frontline communities, youth, college students, and unemployed people.	New
63.2	4.2	POLICY: Promote local industrial and workforce development to support a zero-waste economy that increases demand for reused and recycled materials and reduces demand for new raw materials.	New
Supporting Businesses in Preparing for Climate Impacts			
64	5	GOAL: Olympia has a thriving and diversified economy with pathways to prosperity available to everyone.	Existing
64.1	5.1	POLICY: Support initiatives that help diversify the local economy to supplement our stable public sector base and reduce reliance on goods and services from outside the community.	Existing
65	6	GOAL: Businesses and entrepreneurs thrive in Olympia and contribute to Olympia's economic diversity.	Existing
65.1	6.1	POLICY: Celebrate Olympia businesses for their support of community goals such as sustainability, climate action and equity. <u>Continue to support and celebrate Olympia businesses pursuing climate resiliency, greenhouse gas reductions, and environmental justice.</u>	Existing – modified
66	7	GOAL: Olympia collaborates with partners to maximize economic opportunity.	Existing
66.1	7.1	POLICY: Collaborate with regional economic development partners and business leaders to prepare for future economic disruptions and emergencies, <u>including climate-exacerbated hazards</u> , and implement effective disaster recovery.	Existing - modified
66.2	7.2	POLICY: Collaborate with regional economic development partners and business leaders to support a circular economy that increases demand for	New

		reused and recycled materials, reduces solid waste generation, and reduces demand for extraction of new raw materials.	
67	8	GOAL: Downtown is a popular destination that contributes to Olympia's economic vibrancy.	Existing
67.1	8.1	POLICY: Encourage and partner with adjacent property owners and private businesses along the waterfront to contribute to sea level rise adaptation.	New; SLRP
68	9	GOAL: Olympia is well prepared to withstand future economic disruptions and emergencies, including extreme weather and climate hazards.	Existing
68.1	9.1	POLICY: Provide resources, technical assistance and guidance for developing contingency plans for community events disrupted by climate-exacerbated hazards.	New
68.2	9.2	POLICY: Develop public-private partnerships to ensure adequate indoor facilities are available for outdoor events impacted by extreme heat or wildfire smoke to continue.	New
68.3	9.3	POLICY: Ensure the local economy is resilient to climate disruptions and fosters business opportunities associated with climate mitigation and adaptation <u>local businesses have access to resources to recover from climate disruptions in a timely manner. Support local businesses in assessing climate risks within their business operations.</u>	Existing - modified

Public Safety Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Protecting Public Health through Emergency Preparedness and Response			
69	35	GOAL: The community has a high level of fire protection, emergency medical services equal to or exceeding the industry standard and community expectations.	Existing
69.1	35.1	POLICY: Ensure equipment and other assets are adequate in capacity to serve the safety needs of our evolving community and changing climate.	Existing – modified
69.2	35.2	POLICY: Continue training and financial support for mutual aid partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions to ensure proper resources to fight wildfires regionally, while maintaining local levels of service.	New
70	36	GOAL: The community proactively prepares for major disasters and is in position to quickly and successfully respond and recover to a wide range of emergency scenarios	Existing
70.1	36.1	POLICY: Coordinate the City’s preparation, mitigation, response and recovery to disasters through an all-hazard Emergency Management program that includes planning for major catastrophic events.	Existing
70.2	36.2	POLICY: Maintain role as a participating agency for post-disaster and pandemic recovery through the coordination of disaster cost recovery, and the facilitation of our community’s short- and long-term recovery goals.	Existing
70.3	36.3	POLICY: Coordinate with regional partners to develop and implement extreme heat and wildfire smoke strategies. Prioritize actions and resources towards populations most vulnerable to extreme heat and wildfire and smoke events.	New
70.4	36.4	POLICY: Support existing and recruit new community centers and social service providers to act as resource hubs (also known as resilience hubs) during emergencies and climate-exacerbated hazards. Ensure these facilities have redundant infrastructure systems and are prepared with necessary resources to protect public health.	New
71	37	GOAL: The community proactively provides emergency preparedness education and training to help prepare our community for catastrophic emergencies and respond to climate change.	New
71.1	37.1	POLICY: Educate community members on how to sustain their households without outside assistance for a minimum of 72 hours during an emergency event or power outage, and that some events, such as a	Existing

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
		severe earthquake, may require them to sustain themselves for five to ten days or more.	
71.2	37.2	POLICY: Work with County partners to expand notification alerts to reduce exposure to climate-exacerbated hazards, including wildfire smoke, tidal flooding, and extreme heat. Encourage the community to sign up for notification alerts through education and outreach.	New
71.3	37.3	POLICY: Prioritize emergency preparedness education, outreach, and resources towards communities most vulnerable to climate-exacerbated hazards and emergencies.	New
71.4	N/A	POLICY: Provide resources and alerts in the most common languages spoken in Thurston County to reach people with limited English proficiency.	New
72	38	GOAL: The City maintains a well-trained, resilient, safe and sustainable Emergency Management organization.	Existing
72.1	38.1	POLICY: Factor climate-exacerbated hazards into the planning and coordination of emergency preparedness, response, and recovery among first-responders and partners. Anticipate and modify staffing and resource needs before projected hazard event for effective and timely response.	New
72.2	38.2	POLICY: Maintain capacity and staff time for emergency management, planning, and preparedness across the City.	New
72.3	N/A	POLICY: Train emergency management professionals and adjacent service providers on trauma informed care and mental health support for preparedness, response, and recovery in extreme weather emergency events and crises.	New

Capital Facilities Chapter

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
Making Climate-Smart Capital Investments			
73	1	GOAL: The Capital Facilities Plan provides the public facilities needed to promote orderly compact urban growth, protect investments, maximize use of existing facilities, encourage economic development and redevelopment, promote private investment, increase public well-being and safety, protect and improve the natural environment and implement the Comprehensive Plan.	Existing
73.1	1.1	POLICY: Evaluate and prioritize proposed capital improvement projects using the following long-term financial strategy principles and guidelines: <u>Consider climate projections in life cycle assessments, planning, and design capacities for all capital projects.</u>	Existing - Modified
73.2	1.2	POLICY: Give priority consideration to projects that: <u>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase climate resiliency, and implement adaptation strategies.</u>	Existing – Modified; TCMP
74	2	GOAL: As urbanization occurs, the capital facilities needed to direct and serve future development and redevelopment are provided for Olympia and its Urban Growth Area.	Existing
74.1	2.1	POLICY: Plan and coordinate the location of public facilities and utilities to accommodate growth in advance of need, and in accordance with the following standards: - Proactively seek opportunities to combine capital facilities projects that are identified in facilities master plans or other City plans, such as sewer and water main extensions, transportation connections/improvements, and <u>projects to address sea level rise.</u> - Prioritize capital facilities projects that provide multiple benefits for the public. Rework any capital projects that may result in <u>maladaptation</u> or interfere with environmentally sensitive areas, contribute to hazards, or <u>would exacerbate current climate vulnerabilities.</u>	Existing - Modified
74.2	2.2	POLICY: When planning for public facilities, consider expected future economic activity, goals for <u>responding to the impacts of climate change</u> , and the need for housing affordable at all income levels as projected in the Comprehensive Plan.	Existing - Modified

ID	ID 2/18 Draft	Goal or Policy Language	New or Existing Measure?
75	3	GOAL: Public facilities constructed in Olympia and its Growth Area meet appropriate safety, construction, durability, sustainability, accessibility, and equity standards.	Existing
75.1	3.1	POLICY: Ensure that the Engineering Development and Design Standards are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, including its goals for <u>adapting to and mitigating climate change</u> , and projected need for housing affordable at all income levels.	Existing - Modified