

Council Study Session

February 3, 2020

Agenda Item	Climate Policy Commission Recommendation	
From	Adam Hanks Stu Green	Assistant City Administrator Climate and Energy Analyst
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Item Type	Requested by Council <input type="checkbox"/> Update <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Direction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	

SUMMARY

The Climate Policy Commission (CPC) is presenting Council with a draft Climate Emergency Declaration, a list of climate action related requests for Council's direction, as well as an initial list of topics and issues that each of the three CPC sub-committees have determined to be focus areas for the upcoming nine to twelve months.

The Commission has brought forward the declaration and the list of climate action requests separately for a discussion of whether or not Council is interested in the Commission working with staff to formalize either or both items for final Council review and approval at a future Business Meeting.

The Climate Policy Commission also asked the Ashland School District to present their incorporation of the Climate Energy and Action Plan (CEAP) in their district bond projects.

POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED

Value Services – Higher Priority

b. Address Climate Change

BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At the second CPC meeting on [October 10, 2019](#), the Commission discussed and agreed upon their annual work plan. As part of this plan, the Commission also looked at what items could be presented to Council for more immediate implementation and furtherance of progress locally on climate change. The list of climate action requests was generated from this discussion and deliberation.

At the [December 3, 2019](#) Council meeting, Councilor Seffinger announced that the Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission had recommended that the City Council look into declaring a climate emergency in the City of Ashland that would accelerate climate action at their [November 13, 2019](#) Commission meeting. Councilor Graham stated that the Climate Policy Commission would create and present the Climate declaration at a later Council meeting.

At the January 9, 2020 Climate Policy Commission meeting, the Commission moved to authorize submission of the draft Climate Emergency Declaration resolution with the list of climate action requests included in the resolution as well as the list of climate action requests as an independent document to Council for feedback and direction.

FISCAL IMPACTS

City staff has not conducted any financial analysis of the information the Commission is putting forward for Council's direction. Some of the items have relatively little initial financial impacts upon acceptance as they are primarily process related to ensure greater climate integration into current and future planning, policy and

projects that come before Council for deliberation and decision. However, decisions and actions taken in support of these recommendations could have much more significant financial impacts.

With affirmative Council direction, staff will evaluate each of the items, work with the CPC on any clarifications of intent, and develop financial impact summary.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) How would Council like to proceed with the Climate Emergency Declaration resolution?
- 2) Are the objectives of the Climate Emergency Declaration adequately embedded in the draft resolution? If not, what elements need to be included?
- 3) Should the proposed climate action requests be integrated into the resolution or be addressed as a stand-alone document for review and direction?
- 4) Is Council comfortable with providing affirmative direction on the Climate Action requests from the CPC as currently drafted? If not, how would the Council prefer to proceed?
- 5) Does Council have any direction or comment on the CPC's list of subcommittee work topics?

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS

Climate Emergency Declaration

If Council would like to proceed with the development of a final draft of the Climate Emergency Declaration resolution, staff will work with the City Attorney to review and produce a final resolution that incorporates Council input. This draft could then be presented to the CPC for their review and recommendation, then brought back before Council for final deliberation and decision.

Climate Action Requests

If Council provides affirmative direction on the list of Climate Action requests put forward by the CPC, staff will develop a financial and implementation summary document that can either be brought back to Council for review, or used to assist the City Administrator in accomplishing the objectives contained in the requests with Climate staff providing updates to the CPC as the integration/accomplishment of these requests occur.

CPC Sub-Committee Focus Areas (work plan)

City staff will continue to support the CPC in their exploration of these workplan topics, providing technical and legal review and evaluation of stakeholder and community benefit and impacts of each of the topics under initial consideration.

REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Climate Emergency Declaration

Attachment 2: List of Climate Asks

Attachment 3: Climate Policy Commission Work Plan

COMBINED CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION AND LIST OF ASKS

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

WHEREAS, in April 2016 world leaders recognized the urgent need to combat climate change by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep global warming “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and to “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C;”

WHEREAS, the harm to people and nature already wrought by current average global warming of 1°C demonstrates that the Earth is already too hot for safety and justice, as evidenced by increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts, and extreme weather;

WHEREAS, according to the United Nations’ Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty, 1.5°C of global warming could expose 500 million people to water poverty, 36 million people to food insecurity because of lower crop yields, and 4.5 billion people to heat waves;

WHEREAS, in October 2018, the United Nations released a special report which projected that limiting warming to even the 1.5°C target this century will require an unprecedented transformation of every sector of the global economy by 2030;

WHEREAS, climate change and the global industrialized economy’s overshoot of ecological limits are driving the Sixth Mass Extinction of species, could devastate much of life on Earth for many millennia, and may pose as great a risk to humanity as climate change, according to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services;

WHEREAS, the United States of America has disproportionately contributed to the climate and ecological emergencies and thus bears an extraordinary responsibility to rapidly solve these crises;

WHEREAS, in July 2019, Oregon Representative Earl Blumenauer and congressional colleagues introduced a resolution to declare a national climate emergency in the United States, calling for a “national, social, industrial, and economic mobilization of the resources and labor of the United States at a massive scale to halt, reverse, mitigate, and prepare for the consequences of the climate emergency and to restore the climate for future generations;”

WHEREAS, restoring a safe and stable climate requires a Climate Mobilization, an emergency mobilization on a scale not seen since World War II in order to reach zero greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors of the economy; to rapidly and safely drawdown and remove excess carbon from the atmosphere until pre-industrial greenhouse gas levels are restored; and to implement measures to protect people and nature from the consequences of abrupt climate destabilization;

WHEREAS, such necessary measures to restore a safe climate include:

- a) A rapid, just, managed phase-out of fossil fuels;
- b) Ending greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible to establish a zero-emissions economy;
- c) A widespread effort to safely drawdown excess carbon from the atmosphere;
- d) A full transition to a regenerative agriculture system; and
- e) Widespread conservation and restoration of ecosystems;

WHEREAS, fairness requires that disadvantaged communities, which often experience the impacts of climate change “first and worst” participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort and that they benefit from the transition to a climate-safe economy;

WHEREAS, the massive scope and scale of action necessary to stabilize the climate and biosphere will require unprecedented levels of public awareness, engagement, and deliberation to develop and implement effective, just, and equitable policies to address the climate emergency;

WHEREAS, the City of Ashland can act as a global leader through rapid implementation of its Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP) and by advocating for regional, national, and international efforts necessary to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the City of Ashland declares that a climate and ecological emergency threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs staff to collaborate with the Climate Policy Commission to develop a comprehensive energy plan, including electric and gas utility plans, that charts a course for Ashland to meet its near and long-term climate mitigation and adaptation goals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council commits to opening conversations with Bonneville Power Administration and advocating for adjustments to the current contract in order to allow the community of Ashland to pursue renewable energy production without financial penalty;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs staff to collaborate with the Climate Policy Commission to incorporate the goals of the CEAP into all city plan updates, including but not limited to Master Plans, Comprehensive Plans and Updates, and Capital Improvement Program plans;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs staff to prioritize climate action in future budget processes until the climate crisis is addressed to the point where human and ecological communities are no longer in danger due to an unsafe climate;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council requires all Council, Commission, and Ad Hoc Committee work and decisions incorporate CEAP goals as appropriate and that those bodies are educated about the climate crisis by staff and/or the Climate Policy Commission or the Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs staff to immediately implement efficiency recommendations from the City facilities water and energy audits throughout City facilities and vehicle fleet;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs the City Administrator to work with the relevant departments to include greenhouse gas impact statements in all relevant Council motions, much as it currently includes fiscal impact statements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs staff in collaboration with the Climate Policy and Conservation and Climate Outreach Commissions to develop a website to track progress against CEAP goals, and demonstrate actions individual citizens, businesses, and organizations can take to help the Ashland community meet its climate mitigation and adaptation goals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council directs staff to build on existing internal climate education efforts to ensure that all City staff receive annual training on the climate crisis and the City of Ashland's climate goals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council requires that management level hiring decisions prioritize climate knowledge and demonstrated leadership in helping communities meet climate goals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ashland City Council recognizes that additional policy and program recommendations will be coming forward with urgency from the Climate Policy Commission and commits to prioritizing consideration of those recommendations in the normal course of Council business;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Ashland joins a national-wide call for a regional, national, and international climate emergency mobilization effort focused on rapidly catalyzing effective action at all levels of government to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Ashland supports House Congressional Resolution 52 and Senate Congressional Resolution 22, "Expressing the sense of Congress that there is a climate emergency which demands a massive-scale mobilization to halt, reverse, and address its consequences and causes," as well as any legislation that would initiate a national emergency-speed mobilization to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis, as described in the text of this Resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Ashland calls on the State of Oregon, the United States Congress, the President of the United States, and all governments and people worldwide to declare a climate emergency, initiate a Climate Mobilization to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis, and provide maximum protection for all people and species of the world; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in furtherance of this resolution, the City of Ashland shall submit a certified copy of this resolution to Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, Representative Greg Walden, State Senator Jeff Golden, State Representative Pam Marsh, and County Commissioners Ricky Dyer, Colleen Roberts, and Bob Strosser, and request that all relevant support and assistance in effectuating this resolution be provided.

LIST OF CLIMATE ASKS ONLY

Direct staff to collaborate with the Climate Policy Commission to develop a comprehensive energy plan, including electric and gas utility plans, that charts a course for Ashland to meet its near and long-term climate mitigation and adaptation goals;

Open conversations with Bonneville Power Administration and advocate for adjustments to the current contract in order to allow the community of Ashland to pursue renewable energy production without financial penalty;

Direct staff to collaborate with the Climate Policy Commission to incorporate the goals of the CEAP into all city plan updates, including but not limited to Master Plans, Comprehensive Plans and Updates, and Capital Improvement Program plans;

Direct staff to prioritize climate action in future budget processes until the climate crisis is addressed to the point where human and ecological communities are no longer in danger due to an unsafe climate;

Require all Council, Commission, and Ad Hoc Committee work and decisions incorporate CEAP goals as appropriate and that those bodies be educated about the climate crisis by staff, the Climate Policy Commission, or the Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission;

Direct staff to immediately implement efficiency recommendations from the City facilities water and energy audits throughout City facilities and vehicle fleet;

Direct the City Administrator to work with the relevant departments to include greenhouse gas impact statements in all relevant Council motions, much as it currently includes fiscal impact statements;

Direct staff in collaboration with the Climate Policy and Conservation and Climate Outreach Commissions to develop a website to track progress against CEAP goals, and demonstrate actions individual citizens, businesses, and organizations can take to help the Ashland community meet its climate mitigation and adaptation goals;

Direct staff to build on existing internal climate education efforts to ensure that all City staff receive annual training on the climate crisis and the City of Ashland's climate goals;

Require that management level hiring decisions prioritize climate knowledge and demonstrated leadership in helping communities meet climate goals; and

Recognize that additional policy and program recommendations will be coming forward with urgency from the Climate Policy Commission and commit to prioritizing consideration of those recommendations in the normal course of Council business.

Climate Policy Commission
Future Meeting Schedule
DRAFT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1/20/20

Date	Meeting Topics	Subcommittee
2/13/20	Climate Emergency Declaration & Council Asks	Administration
	Water Master Plan	Utilities
	CEAP Update	Administration
3/12/20	Small Engine Ordinance	Built
	Natural Gas Franchise	Utilities
4/9/20	Natural Gas Appliances	Built
	Measurement	Administration
5/14/20	Bicycle Transportation	Built
	Electric Department Strategic Plan	Utilities
6/11/20	Building Energy Performance Score	Built
	Residential Construction Standards	Built
7/9/20	Work Program Development	Administration

CPC Built Environment Working Group
- 2020 Work Program -

Timeframe	Strategy
0 - 2 months	Ban gas (two stroke) lawn/landscape maintenance equipment (excluding chain saws)
0 - 2 months	Ban the installation of new natural gas furnaces, fireplaces and water heaters
3 - 12 months	Make the bicycle a functional and safe mode of travel
	Establish specific goal for bicycle mode share and modify the existing transportation system to ensure that the bicycle network is suitable for use by all ages and abilities
	Draft suggestions for Transportation Systems Plan
	Develop incentives for the purchase of both new and used bicycles (including e-bikes)
	Reduce the posted speeds on streets within residential districts to 20 miles per hour pursuant to State law (ORS 810.180(10)).
3 - 12 months	Outreach and coordination with SOU and Ashland School District on future phase-out of NG.
7-12 months	Require Building energy performance score program for existing buildings
7-12 months	Adopt the CEAP as an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan pursuant to State law (ORS 197.010(2)(b)) and provide for its implementation and enforcement through the City's Development Code.
7-12 months	Budget development for incentives (in total) including the identification of new revenue sources
7 - 12 months	EV ready wiring in new residential construction
7-12 months	Work Program Development 2021 - 2023

	From 12/12/19 Meeting					
CPAC Utilities Subgroup CEAP 2020 Actions						
		CEAP Focus Areas - Measurement, Mitigation, Adaptation				
		Utility Goals - Just and Reasonable rates, Safe, Reliable, Resilient, Redundant, Minimize GHG emissions				
TIMEFRAME	ACTION	Dependencies	Work Items	Notes	Date	Owner
6-12mo	Electric Utility Master Plan that Incorporates CEAP Goals	Bonneville Contract Pacific Power	Read current Master and Comprehensive plans Requirements needed for Future Sustainability Customer Electric Rate Tiers Define Renewable Generation Components Microgrids supporting natural emergencies What is renewable electricity definition What are other Oregon cities doing? Research model Utilities ie GMP, etc Future goal discussion with city, public	Current plan July 2014 next 2024? No mention of Renewables. Microgrids etc When is Comp Plan update?		
6-12mo	Fossil Fuel Natural Gas Phase Out	Avista Franchise	What are other cities doing to reduce, ban NG What is a realistic Ashland Goal Determine voluntary and involuntary measures Propose Gas Franchise Fee for CEAP revenue? Is there a RNG supplier Ashland can use	Franchise agreement renew in 2025		
0-6mo	Water / Waste Water Master Plans that Incorporate CEAP Goals	New Master study session Jan 6 2020	Review New Water Master Draft wrt CEAP goals Attend Council study session for Water Master How accurate is the future water demand projections New Water Treatment Plant build wrt CEAP goals	Current plan April 2012 Les	1/5/20 1/6/20	

Administrative Subcommittee

Task
coordinate with Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission
shepherd requests to Council
CEAP update