



CALL TO ACTION

We Need Your Voice!

The Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan is an effort of the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC), Thurston County, and the cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater to prepare for and reduce the impacts of climate change.

This plan includes actions that local governments will take to make progress toward greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. It focuses on reducing emissions from transportation and buildings as the two largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions and includes strategies and actions to address emissions from water, waste, and land management.

Climate change is an important issue and TCRA supports continued work on it, however, because the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan includes specific actions that will impact our industry and there are concerns regarding process, TCRA is in opposition to the plan at this time.

The Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan will likely have **significant** impacts to transportation, housing inventory and real estate transactions. The [full plan](#) is currently open for comment until **5:00 pm, Friday, October 16th**. Below are some talking points to get you started but feel free to add your own thoughts. **You can email** comments to climate@trpc.org.

We need your voices – we need your involvement!

Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Talking Points

I am a local REALTOR and based on my expertise, this plan will increase regulatory burdens and costs for homebuyers. I am worried that that will especially hurt my clients who are lower income, seniors, and people of color. This plan will decrease access to homeownership and increase inequality.

I support the goals of this plan, but I think it is irresponsible to move forward as quickly as you are when the only options for engagement are digital. Please slow down this process until we can have real, in-person, conversations about what this plan will mean for Thurston County.

The list of assessed actions is very vague! How am I supposed to know how this plan will affect my life and my community if I don't know how jurisdictions will implement this? Let us get involved!

I'm concerned about action B1.1, requiring residential energy performance ratings for homes at time of sale, lease, or rent, and action B1.2, requiring residential properties to undertake an energy audit at the time of sale or during a substantial remodel. We have a housing crisis and can't afford to make it harder or more expensive to buy a home in Thurston County.

With over 70 proposed actions I cannot support this plan until I know how it will be funded. This pandemic has hurt businesses and increased unemployment – this isn't the time to add more financial stress on individuals, industry or city reserves! It is irresponsible to exclude funding discussions during the public comment period.

Banning natural gas and natural gas appliances is not a good choice for Thurston County! Natural gas is almost always the cheaper option – all gas appliances decrease utility bills by 30%. Converting to electric requires infrastructure costs to run an electric line and cap the gas line, which will cost at least \$350 per line. People in my community deserve to choose what is best for their home and financial ability.

Erin Hall
TCRA Government Affairs Director