



Meeting Notes

Meeting Topic and Number: Climate Policy Advisory Team; Meeting No. 1

Meeting Date and Time: January 30th, 2025; 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams and 2095 Main Street, Ferndale, WA 98248, Main Conference Room

Recorded by: Natalie Sacker

Attendees: Michael (Mike) Cerbone, City of Ferndale
Kyla Boswell, City of Ferndale
Hayden Richardson, Whatcom Transportation Authority
David Strich, WSDOT
Lauren Clemens, Whatcom County
Eric Weden, Weden Engineering
Kurt Baumgartner, Port of Bellingham
Ryan O’Larey, Ferndale City Council
Jose Manuel Reta, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Local Business Owner

Distribution: All Attendees, File

Agenda and Introductions

1. Community Development Director Mike Cerbone and facilitator Vivian Ericson provided an overview of the group’s purpose and meeting agenda.
2. The group went through a round of introductions

Background and CPAT Role

1. To establish a shared baseline of knowledge, Vivian provided an overview of Washington’s Growth Management Act, Comprehensive Plans, and the new Climate Element requirement.
2. The CPAT will provide technical expertise and community knowledge to inform the development of GHG reduction goals and policies. Their activities will include:
 - a. Reviewing and discussing planning topics and draft materials at Advisory Group meetings

- b. Provide feedback on the comprehensive plan update to the Planning Commission or City Council
 - c. Sharing updates on the plan update with community groups and networks
 - d. Suggesting ways to improve outreach and engagement
3. Vivian outlined the schedule for developing Climate Element greenhouse gas (GHG) goals and policies, and how CPAT meetings will nest with other efforts.
- a. January, Meeting 1: Overview and visioning
 - b. February, Meeting 2: GHG emissions background and SWOT analysis
 - c. March, Meeting 3: Review potential goals and policies
 - d. May, Meeting 4: Review survey and GHG inventory results
 - e. June, Meeting 5: Review of refined goals and policies

Vision Statement Development

1. Using periods of individual reflection, small group, and full group discussion, the group generated ideas for a vision statement for the City of Ferndale's Climate Element.
2. The draft vision statement is based on words and phrases that were identified by CPAT members as potential key elements during the discussion:
 - a. Pragmatic
 - b. Innovative
 - c. Leader (there was some discussion within the group on this element should be included)
 - d. Adaptive
 - e. Sustainability
 - f. The City of Ferndale institutionalizes practices across operations.
 - g. Regional consistency and local specificity
 - h. Integrated and woven throughout the plan and may not always be named directly.
 - i. Embed in normal way of working.
 - j. The entire community can access sustainable living practices (equity)
 - k. Contribute to regional goals for climate mitigation.
 - l. Leave it better than we found it.
 - m. Keep Ferndale Green, people help each other within the community.
3. The following vision statements were collected from CPAT members and informed the vision statement:
 - a. Build capacity to respond to climate hazards and reduce contributions to climate change.
 - b. Incorporate Climate impacts into land-use decisions.
 - c. Create alignment between Ferndale's Climate goals and regional goals.
 - d. Encourage and promote multi-modal transportation, green infrastructure.
 - e. Increase access to more sustainable options (housing, recreation, community, work, transportation, etc.)
 - f. Climate change to keep Ferndale Green, under a way to safeguard people or community.
 - g. To contribute to Ferndale's port to the regional climate resiliency goals for the next 20 years.

- h. Embed climate policy into Ferndale’s normal way of working.
 - i. To work towards a {word missing} for the community where we are in harmony with our changing world.
 - j. Leave it better than we found it.
4. The vision statement drafted is as follows:
- a. To build a resilient and sustainable community by embedding climate-conscious practices into daily decisions, supporting regional goals, and expanding access to green infrastructure, transportation, and housing.

Action Items:

Item No.	Description	Person Responsible	Date Due
1	Synthesize group input to a draft vision statement, and send to City for review	Vivian	1/30/2025
2	Schedule CPAT Meeting #2	Natalie	2/18/2025
3	Review draft vision statement	All CPAT members	2/27/2025

Schedule:

February 27, 2025 CPAT Meeting #2