

CLIMATE LEADERS

LIVE 

Please wait, we will begin shortly...



CLIMATE 2022

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2021 was a huge leap forward.

We've made exciting and important progress in Washington on transportation, environmental justice, buildings, and economy-wide.

2021 WINS



TRANSPORTATION

Clean Fuel Standard



BUILDINGS

Investments in Building
Electrification and removal
of historic gas preference



CROSS SECTOR

Climate
Commitment Act



ENVIRONMENTAL

JUSTICE

HEAL Act

Clean Fuel Standard

20% reduction in the carbon intensity of transportation fuels by 2038 = 4+ million tons of greenhouse gas emissions eliminated from our top polluting sector

Creates a positive investment cycle for clean fuels

- Utilities will invest in clean transportation infrastructure with a portion directed to communities overburdened by air pollution
- Clean fleet operators and clean fuel providers will generate credits which must be purchased by dirty fuel producers

The result:

More clean fuels, cleaner air, better health, local economic growth, green jobs

Clean Fuel Standard: What's next?

The Clean Fuels rulemaking has kicked off and the Department of Ecology is hosting stakeholder meetings.

Climate Solutions and over 20 other advocacy organizations submitted a joint comment letter encouraging the Department of Ecology to 1) set the most ambitious carbon intensity reduction trajectory that they can under the law (achieve a 20% reduction in 2034) and 2) emphasize the importance of community investments, particularly in overburdened communities.

Climate Commitment Act

Imposes a firm declining cap on GHG emissions. All levels below 1990: 45% by 2030, 70% by 2040, 95% by 2050. By 2037

- Over **\$5 billion** will go to eliminating our reliance on oil including investments in mass transit, bicycle and ped infrastructure, and electrification.
- Over **\$2.8 billion** will go to communities burdened by pollution and climate change
- More than **\$800 million** will go to projects sponsored by tribal nations, and an additional **\$250 million** will be allocated to relocating tribes threatened by sea level rise.
- Billions more will go to other carbon reduction projects, like building electrification, and climate resilience investments, like forest management initiatives to deal with the annual wildfires that threaten lives and livelihoods across our state.

Climate Commitment Act: What's next?

Rulemaking for the Climate Commitment Act has begun with the Department of Ecology.

Building Electrification

Our buildings sector has the fastest emissions growth and the State Energy Strategy indicates electrification is the lowest-cost pathway to meeting our GHG goals. The Legislature adopted a number of incremental steps:

- \$10 million in Clean Energy Fund grants for building electrification
- Research resources to Commerce to continue building electrification analysis, including public utility beneficial electrification study
- Orders the UTC to initiate a Future of Gas docket to evaluate building decarbonization/electrification pathways
- Removed a historic preference for gas in state statute

HEAL Act

Environmental justice is now the law.

- Required use of EJ Analyses for significant agency actions (rulemaking, policy development, capital projects) focused on maximizing benefits and minimizing harms to overburdened communities
- Permanent EJ Council & Interagency Workgroup
- Agencies directed to embed EJ in strategic plans and develop community engagement plans
- Equitable distribution (40% goal) of state environmental investments

**In 2022, we need to
keep on keeping on.**

**There is still more to do to take urgent
action to reduce our carbon pollution
and meet our climate goals.**

2022 PRIORITIES



CLEAN TRANSPORTATION & LAND USE

Transportation package
Air Quality Surcharge
Growth Management Act



CLEAN BUILDINGS

Home Heating
Electrification
State Building Code
Local buildings ordinances



CLEAN ECONOMY

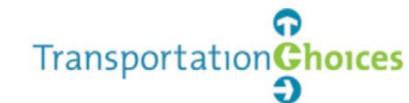
Climate Commitment Act
Buy Clean, Buy Fair
Improve Clean Energy Siting
Organics Management

2022 PRIORITIES: Transportation

IT TAKES TRANSPORTATION

The WA EJ Task Force and WSDOT have already identified climate-forward, performance-based projects that we need to prioritize. We support the priorities already set forth by those agencies.

- Invest based on statewide goals
- Fully fund our transit needs
- Fully fund biking and walking infrastructure
- Accelerate to electric
- Fix and maintain current highway assets first
- Invest in a healthy watershed and salmon habitat



2022 PRIORITIES: Transportation

IT TAKES TRANSPORTATION

Where funding should come from

- Use progressive, stable, carbon-friendly revenue sources, like the Air Quality Surcharge
- Put a price on GHG impact
- Allow us to spend on things other than highways
- Those who can afford to pay more should pay their fair share

Where funding should **not** come from

- Historically under-resourced communities
- Workers and small businesses

Electrification in State Building Codes

Washington's statewide building and energy codes are set by the State Building Code Council. The next commercial energy code is currently being developed, with public comment periods beginning in December and a public hearing in January 2022. The council will also begin work on next residential energy code will begin in April 2022.

Cities and counties across the state are already implementing their own versions of the previous commercial energy code that help eliminate most uses of fossil fuels. We need provisions in the state building code that require highly-efficient electric heat pumps for space and water heating, rather than using fossil fuels or inefficient electric resistance appliances.

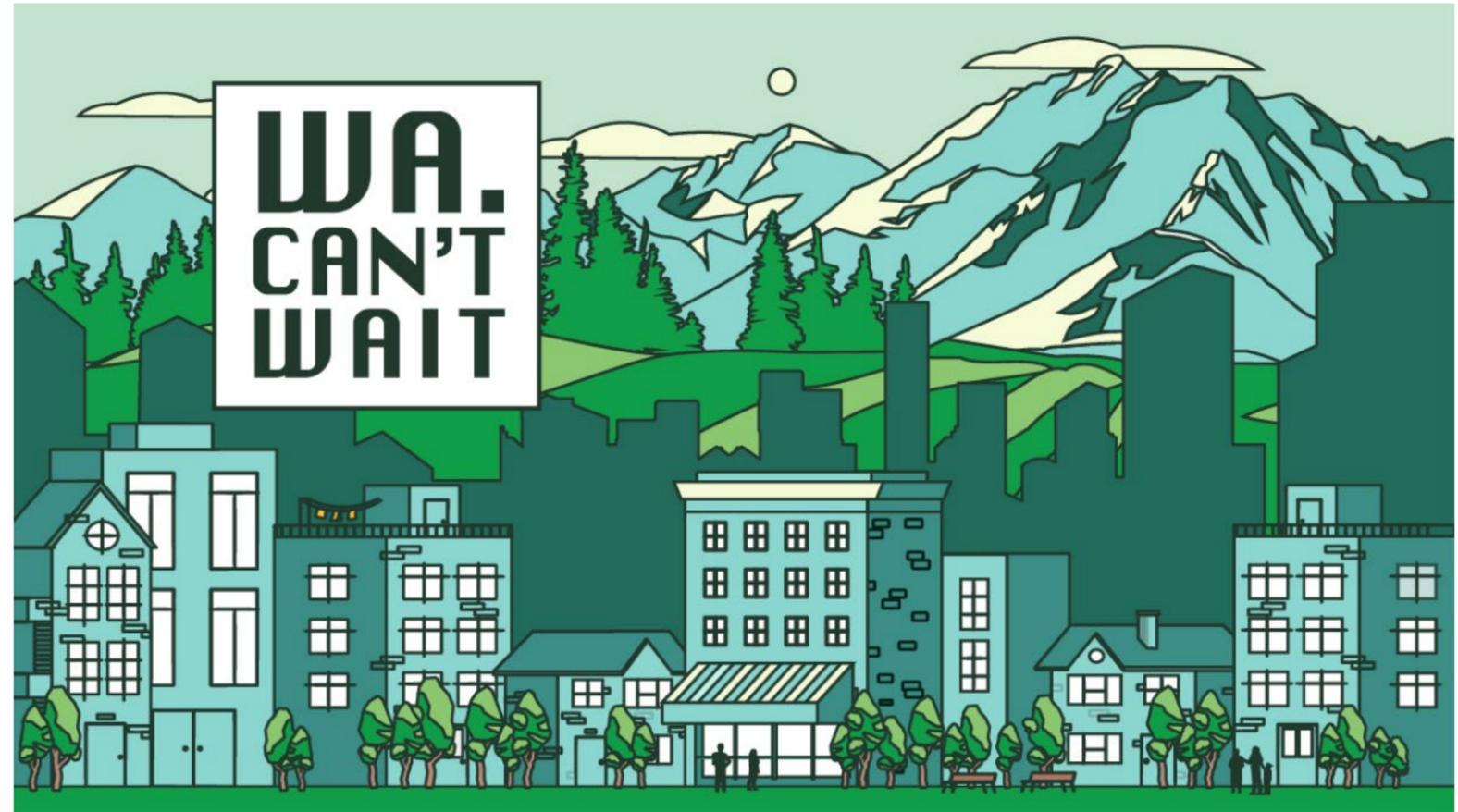
Home Heating Electrification

A home heating electrification plan would clarify that public utilities have the authority to develop and demonstrate a business case for electrification incentives such as rebates to utility customers to invest in efficient, clean electric appliances.

- ***Incentives and customer choice:*** Currently, a customer that relies on a nonelectric heating source—such as wood stoves, heating oil, or a gas furnace—is ineligible to receive incentives from their public electric utility to upgrade to electric appliances.
- ***Equity:*** With the passage of the Clean Energy Transformation Act, all low-income customers are able to receive public assistance to pay their electric bills, so being able to make the switch with utility assistance is crucial for equitable outcomes.
- ***Net system benefits:*** Utility research from Seattle City Light, Tacoma Public Utilities, and others indicates that new electric load isn't just good for the individual customer, it's good for all customers and can prevent rate increases.

Growth Management Act

Currently our state's Growth Management Act (GMA) fails to address climate change. The GMA should be updated to reflect climate change, housing affordability, and issues of environmental justice and ensure our long-range planning leads to reduced climate pollution, more resilient communities, and adequate affordable housing.



Improve Clean Energy Siting

Washington needs to replace our expansive fossil fuel infrastructure—oil refineries, natural gas power plants, and more—with new clean replacements and improved siting laws: clean manufacturing, green hydrogen production, renewable energy generation, new transmission capacity, biofuel refining and more.

This includes clarity for project proponents around the state's expectations, certainty and predictability around review timeline, and more—we need to uphold and clarify Washington's environmental protections and welcome new job-creating development.

2022 PRIORITIES: Economy

Climate Commitment Act

- Restore tribal consent for projects funded with carbon dollars
- Trajectory for EITE that protects the integrity of the cap and ensures that all sectors do their fair share.
- Develop a program to reduce the 2.7 million tons of pollution from landfill emissions

Organics Management

- Statewide target for diversion of organic material and a separate target for edible food diversion to food rescue groups.

Buy Clean, Buy Fair

- Mandates that emissions from certain materials be documented and considered when contracting for state-funded infrastructure projects
- Requires sub/contractors to report on domestic labor law compliance in the countries where they produce goods and services, incentivizing clean and fair manufacturing

Questions



CLIMATE LEADERS

LIVE 

Thanks for joining us! Check our website for our upcoming events!

And don't miss our special event on Dec 8 from 12-1!

Momentum Embarking on a New Era of Climate Leadership with Dr. Robert Bullard, Sam Ricketts, and Paula Sardinas

www.climatesolutions.org/events