

Land Use & Climate Change Advisory Committee
Technical Team
Approach to Assignments

The Technical Support Team (Tech Team or Team) has been tasked with providing information to the Land Use and Climate Change (LUCC) Advisory Committee. The tasks include:

1. Description of actions counties and cities are taking to address climate change issues (using readily available information).
2. Descriptions of existing and potential computer modeling and other analytic and assessment tools that could be used by counties and cities in addressing their proprietary and regulatory activities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and our dependence upon foreign oil.
3. Considerations of positive and negative impacts to affordable housing, employment, transportation costs, and economic development that result from addressing the impacts of climate change at the local level.
4. Assessments of state and local resources, financial and otherwise, needed to fully implement recommendations resulting from and associated with any recommended changes to the Growth Management Act or other related statutes from the LUCC Advisory Committee.

The Tech Team has discussed opportunities to gather information in these areas by the timeframes established in the work plan, in order to provide information to the LUCC at the appropriate times. The Team has identified the following approaches:

Task 1: Utilize information provided by the CTED Climate Change Survey of local governments; information from Association of Washington Cities; Washington State Association of Counties; ICLEI – Local Governments from Sustainability; Municipal Research Services Center; regional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies being employed in the state; and look at efforts being undertaken by local governments in the state of California.

Use this information to prepare a summary presentation for the LUCC. Update the information throughout the process, if needed, as more jurisdictions begin to address climate change issues.

Use this information to begin writing the draft chapter of the final report.

Task 2: Utilize information completed by the August 6th meeting as a result of the Request for Proposals the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development

(CTED) issued for a technical consultant to complete an inventory and analysis of computer modeling programs and assessment tools related to estimating greenhouse gas emissions related to land use and transportation scenarios. In addition, the Team will gather information related to known programs, such as ICLEI's Clean Air Climate Protection Software, The Climate Registry and the Climate Registry Information System, and other regional and national programs and tools such as the Environmental Protection Agency's MOVES program.

The Team will also look at the on-going efforts to standardize the protocols currently underway in California. That is a joint effort between California Air Resources Board, California Climate Action Registry, and ICLEI.

Task 3: The Team will look at the ideas and recommendations being put forth by the LUCC and identify potential positive and negative outcomes related to affordable housing, employment, transportation costs, and economic development that may result from them.

Potential areas for assessment include a crosslink with work of the Implementation Working Groups of the Climate Action Team. Data from transit agencies, the Washington State Department of Transportation, and a review of related studies or documentation related to the topics included in LUCC recommendations and policy options will be pursued.

Task 4: Task 4 will build from the LUCC recommendations and work related to Task 3. Again, crosslinks between the LUCC recommendations and the Working Implementation Groups will be sought. Depending on the degree to which the policy recommendations are made, preliminary analysis and fiscal impacts analysis can be made for inclusion in the report.