



**CITY OF WASHOUGAL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Monday, July 14, 2025
5:00 PM**

MEETING INFORMATION

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81211678215>

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- IV. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Community Development: Climate Element Update**
 - B. Fire: Draft Joint Resolution with the City of Camas to Adopt the Regional Fire Authority (RFA) Plan and Place the Formation of an RFA on the November 4th, 2025 General Election Ballot**
 - C. Community Services and Strategy: Arts Commission Funding Requests**
- V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. CITY MANAGER**
 - B. MAYOR**
 - C. CITY COUNCIL**
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Monday, July 28, 2025: Workshop at 5:00 pm and Council at 7:00 pm.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

City of Washougal, Washington

FOR AGENDA OF:

7/14/2025

SUBJECT:

Community Development: Climate Element Update

DEPT. OF ORIGIN:

Community Development

REVIEWED AT:

Washougal Climate Community Advisory Committee: February 3, 2025

Washougal Climate Community Advisory Committee: April 16, 2025

Planning Commission Work Session: July 8, 2025

TO BE RETURNED TO COUNCIL:

Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Climate Element (07-14-2025)
2. 1) Climate Element Workshop Slides (07-14-2025)

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:	BUDGETED:	APPROPRIATION REQ'D:
\$0	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Introduction:

The Climate Element ensures that Washougal can respond to climate change in a way that supports long-term resilience, equity, and sustainability. Policies in this element inform the management of natural systems, community health and well-being, and essential energy, transportation, and waste systems.

Long-term climate planning enables Washougal to protect public health, critical infrastructure, ecosystems, and economic vitality while centering on environmental justice. It also reduces long-term costs by mitigating the impact of climate-driven disasters and increasing efficiency in public and private systems.

As part of the development of the Climate Element, the City conducted several analyses to understand key climate hazards and vulnerabilities facing Washougal and to understand sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions locally, both now and into the future. The policies in this Climate Element address the city's most pressing vulnerabilities, prioritize frontline communities, and chart a clear path toward reducing emissions in key sectors.

Regulatory Framework:

In 2023, the Washington State Legislature passed House Bill 1181, amending the Growth Management Act (GMA) to require that local governments integrate climate change into their comprehensive plans. In accordance with the GMA, the Climate Element includes two sub-elements:

The **Resilience Sub-Element**, required for all fully planning jurisdictions, including Washougal, identifies local climate hazards such as flooding, wildfires, and extreme heat, and outlines strategies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from these risks. Under the GMA, "fully planning jurisdictions" are those cities and counties required to plan under all GMA provisions, including the development of a comprehensive plan and related elements such as climate resilience. Following the Resilience Sub-Element's requirements, the goals and policies in the Climate Element:

- Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change.
- Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster climate resilience, and preserve areas of vital habitat for safe species migration.
- Identify, protect, and enhance community resilience to climate impacts, including social, economic, and built-environment factors, which support adaptation to climate impacts consistent with environmental justice.

The **GHG Emissions Reduction Sub-Element**, required for cities over 6,000 in population within Washington's 11 most populous counties, including Washougal, establishes goals and policies to reduce GHG emissions and vehicle miles traveled (VMT). These city efforts will contribute to the state's target of a 95% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050. Aligning with the GHG Emissions Reduction Sub-Element requirements, the goals and policies in the Climate Element:

- Result in reductions in overall GHG emissions generated by transportation and land use within the jurisdiction without increasing emissions elsewhere in Washington.
- Result in reductions in per capita vehicle miles traveled within the jurisdiction without increasing GHG emissions elsewhere in Washington.
- Prioritize reductions that benefit overburdened communities to maximize the co-benefits of reduced air pollution and environmental justice.

Relationship to Other Elements:

The Climate Element is closely interconnected with other elements of the Comprehensive Plan, as the City seeks to bolster climate resilience across aspects of infrastructure, natural systems, and communities and to address key sources of GHG emissions, which include buildings and transportation and solid waste systems. For example, GHG emissions reduction policies support compact, walkable development and multimodal mobility, which impact the Transportation, Housing, and Capital Facilities Elements. In addition, the Climate Element considers the long-term impacts of climate change on infrastructure and energy systems, which coordinates with the Utilities and Capital Facilities elements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff is just seeking feedback and input from the Council regarding the Draft Climate Element. No formal action or recommendation at this time.



**WASHOUGAL
ONWARD**

Climate Element



CITY OF WASHOUGAL

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Introduction

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Regulatory Framework

Growth Management Act

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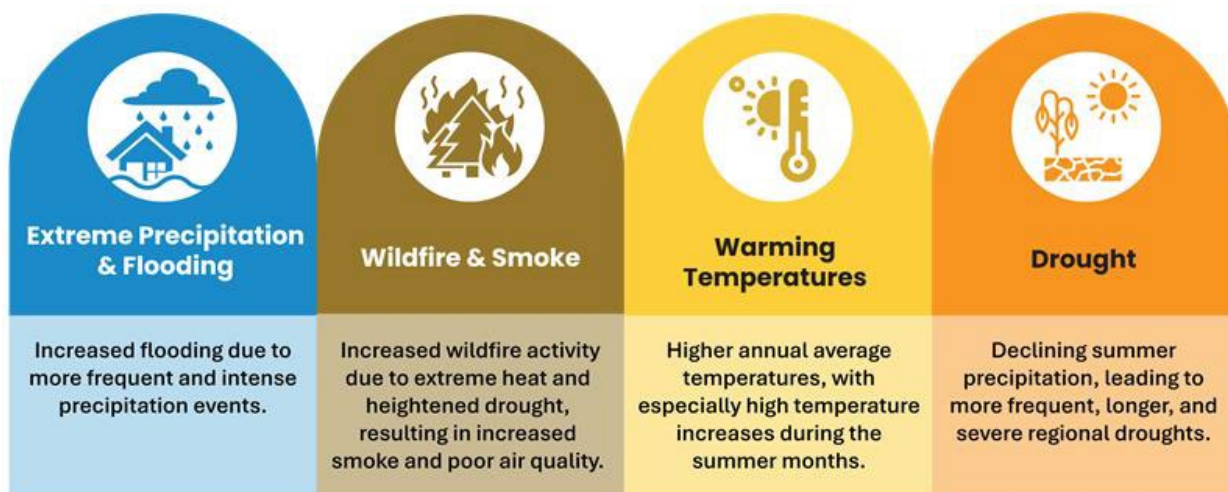
Climate Risks and Vulnerability

Key Climate Risks

Climate change refers to the long-term shifting of environmental conditions and weather patterns that is primarily caused by human activity, particularly the emission of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels. It affects the environment with rising temperatures, drought, flooding, wildfire risk and smoke, which then impact systems like water, energy,

transportation, ecosystems, health, food, and more. The key climate risks facing Washougal are described in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Key Climate Risks in Washougal

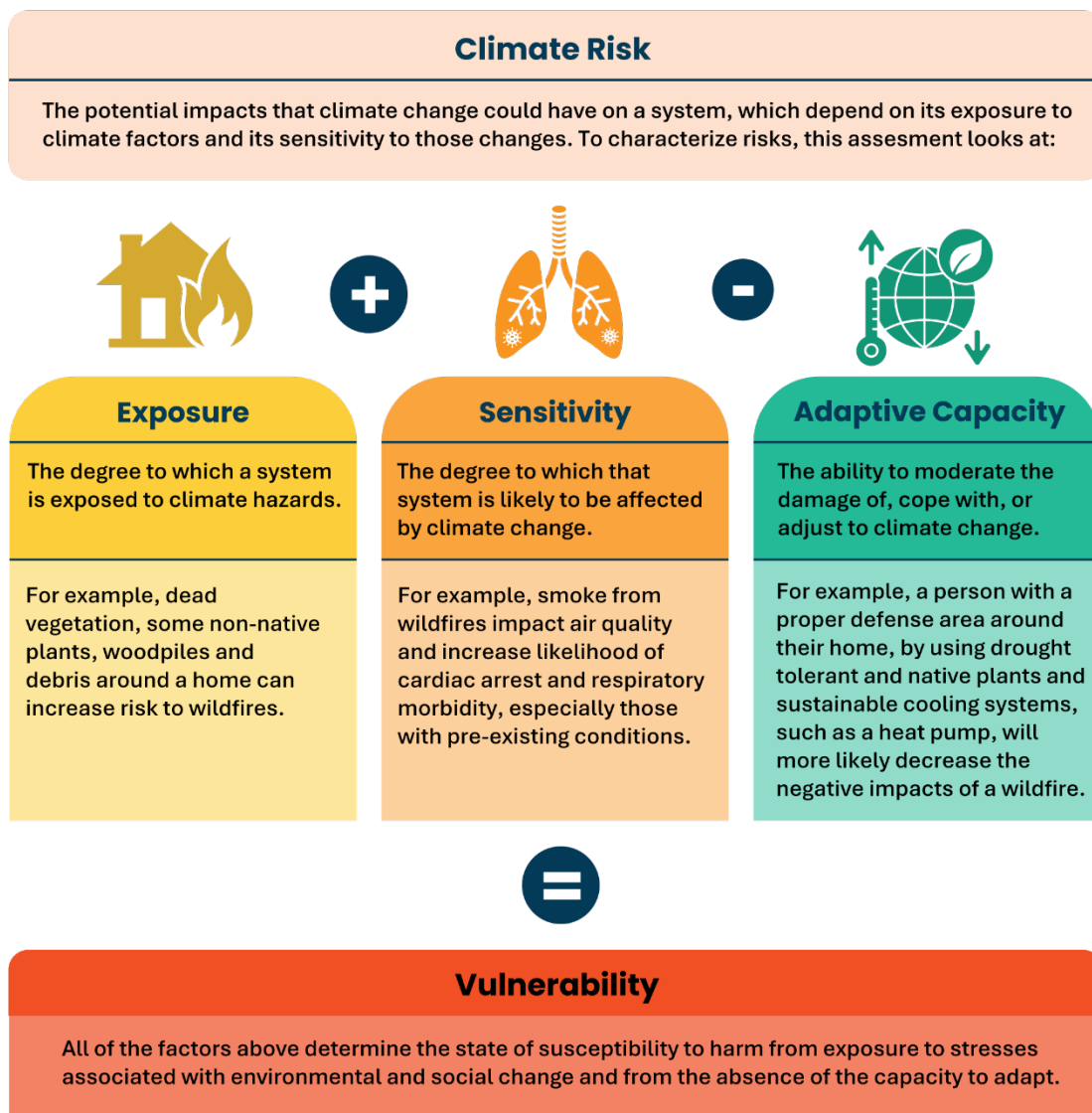


Climate Vulnerability

Washougal's Climate Vulnerability Assessment identifies the climate vulnerabilities of various communities and sectors, including physical assets. The assessment draws on literature review, staff and community engagement, and spatial analysis.

Climate vulnerability is the sum of exposure to a changing climate and the inherent sensitivity/vulnerability of people, infrastructure, and environments to a changing climate, minus the adaptive capacity of the community and place to cope with impacts of a changing climate. This is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Climate Vulnerability Framework



Vulnerable Communities

Climate impacts affect everyone in Washougal, but those impacts are not distributed evenly. Some individuals and communities are impacted first and worst by climate risks (Front and Centered; WA State Department of Commerce, 2023). Table 1 identifies potential vulnerable communities in Washougal and example climate vulnerability considerations (the full Climate Vulnerability Assessment is included as Appendix A).

Table 1: Potential Vulnerable Communities in Washougal and Example Vulnerability Considerations

Vulnerable Populations	Percent of Residents ¹	Example Vulnerability Considerations
Total Non-White Residents	15.1%	Black and African American individuals are projected to face higher impacts of climate change.
Hispanic or Latino Residents	10.9%	Hispanic and Latino people have high participation in weather-exposed industries, such as construction and agriculture, which are especially vulnerable to the effects of extreme temperatures.
Renter-occupied housing units	26.1%	Renters typically have less ability to take actions like making energy efficiency upgrades and adding air conditioners.
People in Poverty	12.6%	Low-income individuals have fewer economic resources to cope with climate impacts like property loss and health impacts.
People with Disabilities (under 65 years)	9.1%	People with disabilities (such as those with low vision or blindness, hearing loss, or mobility issues) face barriers in evacuating during extreme weather events.
Youth under 5 years old	4.9%	Young children are especially vulnerable to the harmful impacts of wildfire smoke.
Youth under 18 years old	22.3%	Youth experience anxiety and depression related to climate change. They are impacted by school closures and cancelled events.
Seniors 65 years+	16.1%	Seniors tend to have reduced ability to regulate body temperature and higher susceptibility to heat-related illnesses.

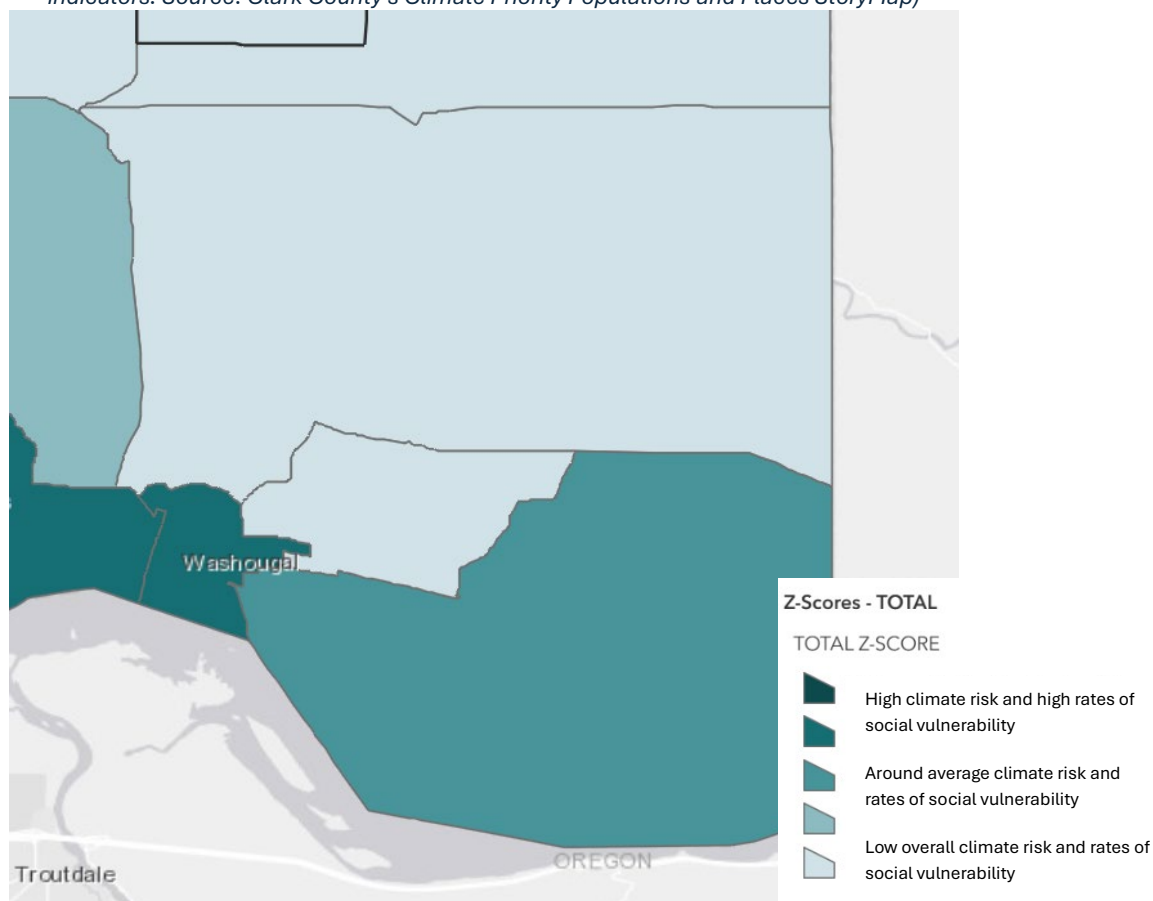
Mapping the locations of higher rates of vulnerable communities can inform place-based strategies.

Figure 3, from Clark County², shows priority populations and environmental exposure indicators. The darker teal colors indicate census tracts that have higher-than-average exposure to climate risks (including poor air quality, flooding, and heat) and higher social vulnerability (such as people who have low incomes or disabilities). Washougal's southern census tracts (especially the southwest), have relatively high climate risk and social vulnerability, though lower than parts of Vancouver and Ridgefield (not shown).

¹ Based on U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts, 2024. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/washougalcitywashington>

² Clark County's Climate Priority Populations and Places StoryMap: <https://gis.clark.wa.gov/portal/apps/storymaps/stories/8d457b8399cd4867a1dc54f87c26df7b>

Figure 3: Map showing census tracts with their overall combined rates of vulnerable population and climate risk indicators. Source: Clark County's Climate Priority Populations and Places StoryMap)



Vulnerability of Key Sectors

The Climate Vulnerability Assessment also addresses the vulnerability of four sectors: Built Infrastructure, Businesses and Housing, Environment and Water Resources, and Human Well-Being and Emergency Management. The key findings for climate risks by sector are indicated in **Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference..**

Table 2: Climate Risks: Key Findings by Sector

Sector	 Climate Risks: Key Findings
Built Infrastructure (Transportation and Energy)	- Key roads like State Route 14 may be impacted, limiting evacuations and leading to extensive and costly repairs. - Walking and biking routes can be impacted. - Bus stops lack shelter

Sector	 Climate Risks: Key Findings
	The City's electricity substations and power lines are susceptible to damage from fires, storms, and high winds.
Businesses and Housing	- Businesses face risk of damage caused by flooding, storms, wildfires, and extreme heat, particularly for areas in floodplains (including the Port of Camas Washougal). - The Town Center is not at high direct risk, though may be impacted by road closures. - A lot of housing in Washougal is in the Wildland Urban Interface. Planned growth areas are closer to wildland forests, which brings potential increased risk of fire exposure. - Low-income housing stock may be less resilient to extreme heat and extended wildfire smoke events.
Environmental and Water Resources	- Some of the natural areas and parks are vulnerable to wildfires, summer drought, and extreme heat. - Rivers and streams- and fish- may be impacted by floods and rising water temperatures and changing precipitation patterns. - Summer droughts could place further strain on the water supply. - Water resources and infrastructure may be affected by flooding and extreme storms.
Human Well-Being and Emergency Management	- Community spaces (libraries, schools, health facilities, and parks), may be at risk to flooding, wildfire, and extreme heat. - Smoke and heat events raise health risks- and heat is not distributed equally. - Parks located in low-lying areas, current floodplains or regulatory flood zones are expected to be more exposed to riverine and/or tidal flooding. - Emergency management responses and social systems will be stressed by climate events like flooding, wildfire and heat.

Current and Future GHG Emissions

Climate change is primarily caused by emissions of GHGs from burning fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are burned in daily activities, including using natural gas and gasoline to heat and cool homes and to power cars and other vehicles. As part of the Climate Element development process, the City conducted a GHG emissions inventory to understand what emissions the city contributes to climate change. One study addressed emissions generated within the city (local emissions) and the other addressed emissions from imported goods and food, fuel, air travel, and the purchase of carbon offsets (imported emissions).

Local Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Washougal

In 2022, the Washougal community generated 110,943 MTCO₂e (metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent), a measure of GHG emissions. This quantity of GHGs is equivalent to the carbon captured and stored in one year by about 130,000 acres of average forest land in the U.S., which is about 33 times the size of Washougal. Annual local emissions are nearly 6.4 MTCO₂e per resident. Emissions come from building energy and heating (56%), transportation including car and truck (39%), industrial process and product use (4%), and solid waste and wastewater (1%), as shown on the left side of Figure 4 **Error! Reference source not found..**

Imported Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Imported emissions (also called consumption-based emissions) are produced outside of Washougal to produce and provide the goods, food, services, air travel, and production and transport of fuels used by local households on a daily basis. For Washougal, imported emissions add up to 174,337 MTCO₂e, which are in addition to sources of local emissions. Figure 4 compares the scale of local emissions to imported emissions.

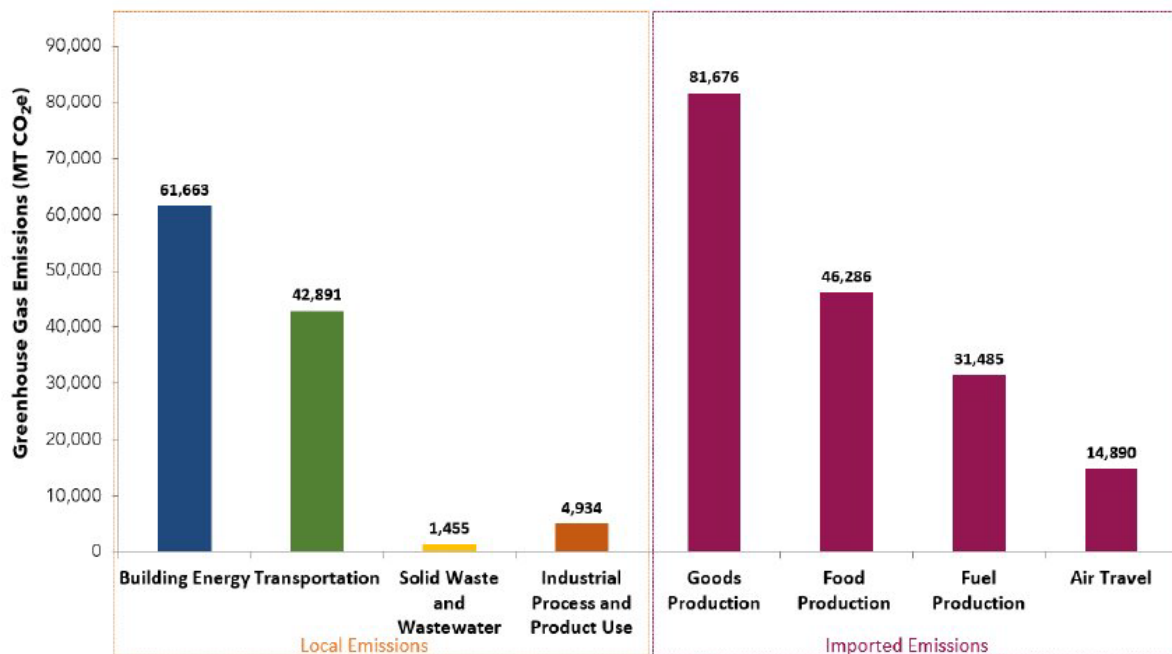
Within goods, the largest purchasing categories are furniture, clothing, construction materials, vehicles and parts, and electronics. Within food, the largest emissions are from the consumption of meats, particularly beef products. The production of gasoline, diesel, electricity, and natural gas at its source and air travel from flights taken by residents (regardless of airport location) are also significant sources of imported emissions.

With a population of 17,390, all 2022 GHG emissions combined (local and imported) for City of Washougal totaled
285,280 MT CO₂e

16.4
 MT CO₂e
 Per Capita



Figure 4: Local and Imported Emissions



Future Greenhouse Gas Emissions

According to the Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) Guidance,³

- Washougal should use 2022 as its emissions baseline year and set incremental targets that lead to achieving net zero emissions in 2050, consistent with Washington's statewide target.
- When selecting goals and policies that reduce emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled, Washougal will need to report on its five-year progress implementing the measures. Washougal should identify measures for which it is able to track and report implementation progress to Commerce.

Addressing GHG emissions requires the combined efforts of local, state, federal, and regional policy change. The following federal, state, and regional policies, as well as Clark

³ Department of Commerce (2023). Climate Element Planning Guidance. [IntermediatePlanningGuidance_FINAL.pdf](#) | Powered by Box

County policies and plans will advance GHG emissions reductions and support Washougal in meeting its GHG emissions reduction targets:

- Washington State Energy Code (SB 5854)
- Washington Clean Buildings Act (HB 1257)
- Federal Vehicle Regulations (CAFE)
- Washington Clean Fuel Standard (HB 1091)
- Washington Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Standards
- Washington Hydrofluorocarbon Policies (HB 1112 & HB 1050)
- Washington Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA)
- Washington Climate Commitment Act (E2SSB 5126)

However, the above policies will not get Washougal all the way to the state goals alone. The goals in the GHG Emissions Reduction Sub-element address Washougal's remaining emissions after accounting for the reductions driven by these state and federal policies. Local policies that help the city reduce emissions from on-road transportation and natural gas use in buildings will be especially critical in the coming decades, as these will make up increasingly large percentages of the remaining emissions.

Goals and Policies

Resilience Sub-Element

Key analyses for this sub-element include the Climate Impacts Summary and Climate Vulnerability Assessment.

GOAL 1: To support community health and well-being in the context of climate change, particularly the health of vulnerable and overburdened communities.

Policy 1-A: Ensure that vulnerable and overburdened communities are prioritized when allocating climate resilience investments such as increased tree canopy and green infrastructure, which help mitigate environmental stresses and improve quality of life.

Policy 1-B: Provide all residents, especially vulnerable and overburdened populations, diverse opportunities to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and co-develop equitable mitigation and recovery strategies that reflect community needs and priorities. For example, offer educational materials in multiple languages and formats to facilitate access and understanding.

Policy 1-C: Expand local food security and the food-related economy to address climate impacts and increase access to healthy, affordable, and climate-friendly foods. Build on existing local efforts, including community gardens, farmers markets, food banks and pantries, and meal services.

Policy 1-D: Support organizations that facilitate a green jobs pipeline within vulnerable and overburdened communities. Prioritize programs that:

- a. Create living-wage green jobs
- b. Promote green industry sectors such as solar panel installation, green roof installation and maintenance, urban forestry, and ecosystem restoration
- c. Support workers displaced from carbon-intensive industries
- d. Support local businesses in strengthening their climate friendly practices

GOAL 2: To protect ecosystems from impacts of climate change while balancing development goals.

- Policy 2-A: Expand habitat protection and improve habitat quality and connectivity through conservation area designations, buffers, and open space corridors.
- Policy 2-B: Pursue an urban forestry ordinance that maintains and improves the city's tree canopy, includes climate change considerations, and supports biodiversity.
- Policy 2-C: Support the protection, enhancement, and, where possible, restoration of streams, wetlands, and corridors between wetlands to provide biological and hydrological connectivity. This connectivity will foster ecosystem resilience to climate impacts, such as high stream temperatures and flooding.

GOAL 3: To strengthen emergency response systems to climate hazards by improving coordination, infrastructure, and community preparedness.

- Policy 3-A: Develop and support resilience hubs, which are community-serving facilities that are designed to support residents, coordinate communication, distribute resources, and reduce carbon pollution while enhancing quality of life.
- Policy 3-B: Integrate climate vulnerability assessment results into hazard mitigation planning and emergency management planning.
- Policy 3-C: Collaborate with energy utilities to improve the safety and reliability of infrastructure vulnerable to climate change.
- Policy 3-D: Coordinate with local agencies to identify risk areas, develop targeted response plans, and ensure equitable access to education, outreach, resources, and recovery assistance. Prioritize clear communication and access to information before emergencies occur.

GOAL 4: To enhance community resilience to wildfire, smoke, and extreme heat by strengthening infrastructure and community systems.

- Policy 4-A: Develop, support and coordinate with programs that distribute or incentivize heat pumps, improve building weatherization, and/or implement building passive cooling techniques, prioritizing households with residents who are most vulnerable to extreme temperature events (such as low-income seniors).
- Policy 4-B: Develop and support public education campaigns to raise awareness of the risks of heat and poor air quality and to connect residents with

available resources during heat waves and smoke events (such as access to libraries, community centers, and other indoor community spaces with proper air conditioning and quality). Ensure widespread distribution through multiple channels such as online, community centers, local events, and multilingual outreach.

Policy 4-C: Implement and encourage the use of cooling infrastructure such as trees, permeable pavement, and other heat-resistant features near high-traffic transportation areas with elevated temperatures and in locations where sensitive populations congregate, such as schools, elder care facilities, and medical facilities.

Policy 4-D: Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire-resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, protect the economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery.

Policy 4-E: Educate businesses on protocols regarding extreme heat and poor air quality and consider implementing and supporting outreach efforts to businesses and outdoor workers to promote safety, ensure compliance, and reduce exposure to climate-exacerbated hazards.

GOAL 5: To manage water resources and natural spaces to build resilience to drought and flooding impacts.

Policy 5-A: Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation and wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management.

Policy 5-B: Encourage construction and maintenance of water storage systems to provide back-up water supplies during droughts and support climate resilience. This could include systems such as water cisterns/tanks, rainwater harvesting, and ponds. Support education related to water storage for drought resilience.

Policy 5-C: Expand municipal reclaimed water systems and allow onsite non-potable water systems to reduce water demand in private-sector commercial and residential buildings.

Policy 5-D: Encourage the use of green infrastructure and low-impact development in new developments and major retrofits to address increased storm intensities and stormwater runoff.

GOAL 6: To reduce the contributions of buildings and energy consumption to climate change.

- Policy 6-A: Streamline permitting and approval processes for energy efficiency upgrades, passive heating/cooling techniques, building electrification retrofits, and clean energy projects, with the goal of reducing GHG emissions from buildings while maintaining grid capacity and reliability.
- Policy 6-B: Seek and support funding for programs that focus on energy efficiency and building weatherization with an emphasis on vulnerable communities (such as renters and low-income households).
- Policy 6-C: Incentivize green building certification to improve energy and environmental performance (such as through timely review of permit applications).
- Policy 6-D: Maximize renewable energy sources for the supply of electricity and heating/cooling to new and existing buildings, such as by supporting solar panel installations and community solar programs.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Sub-Element

Key analysis for this sub-element includes the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.

GOAL 7: To enable and encourage residents to drive less and turn to alternate modes of transportation.

- Policy 7-A: Coordinate with land use and transportation planning partners to expand public transit access.
- Policy 7-B: Develop a complete, long-term multimodal network plan and consider complete streets policies and ordinances.
- Policy 7-C: Implement complementary, mixed land uses versus traditional zoning, to promote cycling and walking and reduce driving.
- Policy 7-D: Create a safe, well-connected and attractive bicycle and pedestrian network to encourage active transportation.
- Policy 7-E: Improve street connectivity and walkability, including sidewalks and street crossings, to encourage carbon-free transportation and to serve as potential evacuation routes.

Policy 7-F: Prioritize, develop, and maintain mobility hubs (convenient places for accessing multiple alternative transportation options and for switching between modes) in transportation-efficient locations—especially in overburdened communities experiencing a scarcity of transportation alternatives.

GOAL 8: To promote development that advances climate planning and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Policy 8-A: Pursue a policy to reduce parking minimum requirements and establish parking maximums where relevant.

Policy 8-B: Implement complementary, mixed land use and transit-oriented development, such as locating businesses, parks, and schools in residential neighborhoods where relevant and increasing density in areas well-served by transit.

Policy 8-C: Support the expansion of electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout the community—including at municipal buildings, multifamily developments, major commercial areas, and parking garages—to advance the decarbonization of the transportation sector developments.

Policy 8-D: Convert public-owned fleets to zero-emission vehicles (e.g., electric) as they need to be replaced and as soon as feasible according to City-defined criteria.

GOAL 9: To reduce waste generation and increase recycling rates.

Policy 9-A: Set and achieve specific goals around waste generation and periodically measure waste via waste characterization studies, in partnership with the City's waste collection service provider.

Policy 9-B: Focus on reducing generation and disposal of high-emissions materials, such as organic waste and paper. Consider implementing food rescue policies.

Policy 9-C: Conduct equitable outreach and engagement and support residents and businesses in waste reduction, recycling, and composting of food and yard waste.

Policy 9-D: Seek opportunities to reuse construction materials and incentivize recycling of construction and demolition waste.

Appendices

Appendices will be added to the final draft Climate Element:

Appendix A: Climate Vulnerability Assessment

Appendix B: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

Washougal Climate Element

Monday, July 14, 2025 | City Council Workshop

Presented by Meg Horst and Maddie Seibert | Cascadia Consulting Group

Washougal City Hall Council Chambers



City of Washougal



Agenda

- **10 minutes:** Introductions and Climate Element Overview
- **15 minutes:** Findings from Community Engagement, GHG Emissions Inventory, Climate Impacts Summary, and Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- **35 minutes:** Review & Discuss Draft Policies

Climate Element Overview



City of Washougal

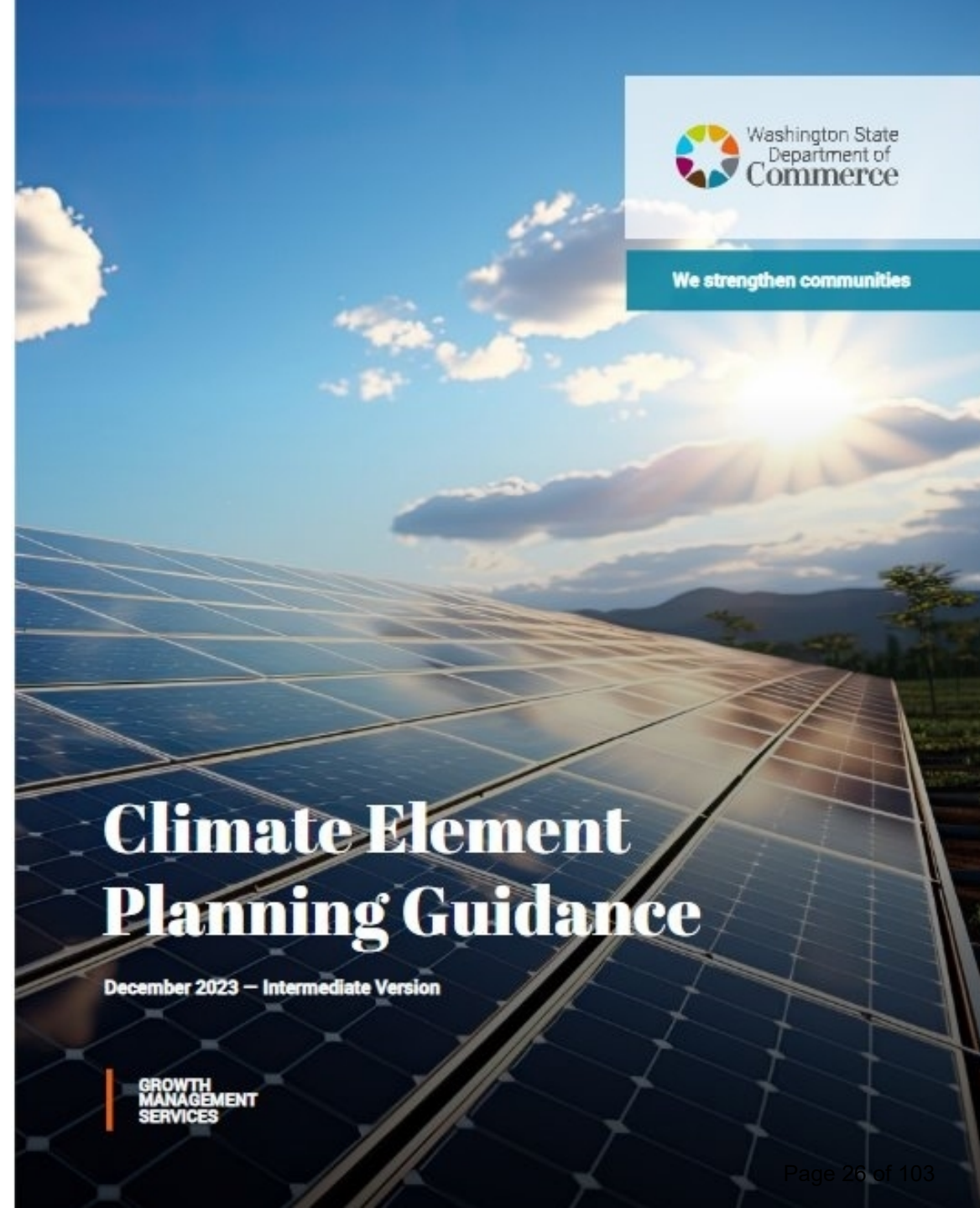


Climate Element

The GMA was amended in 2023 under Washington House Bill 1181, requiring cities and counties to **integrate climate resilience and GHG emission reduction policies into comprehensive plan updates.**

Washougal's Climate Element is:

- Compliant with HB-1181 requirements.
- Informed by data and community engagement.
- Integrated with other plans & other Comp Plan elements.
- Supported by community, City staff, and decision-makers.
- Clear, feasible, and provides a path to implementation.



An **emissions reduction sub-element** is required for 11 of the state's largest and fastest-growing counties and their cities, and includes:



A **resilience sub-element** is required for all jurisdictions planning fully under the Growth Management Act, and includes:

Emissions Reduction Measures to reduce GHG emissions and per-capita vehicle miles traveled



Adaptation Measures to improve resilience to climate impacts like flooding, heat, smoke, & wildfires



Frontline/vulnerable communities: People who experience the first and worst consequences of climate change. Such residents' health and livelihoods are often highly vulnerable to climate-exacerbated hazards and economic disruptions, and their communities often lack basic support infrastructure and suffer disproportionately from the compounding impacts of pollution, discrimination, racism, and poverty.

Climate Element Development

Policy Audit	Climate Impacts Summary	Vulnerability Assessment	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory	Draft Climate Element
2024	2025			
Assessed current Comprehensive Plan policies and 8 other policy documents for climate gaps and opportunities.	Described key climate hazards facing Washougal: • Extreme precipitation and flooding • Wildfire and smoke • Warming temperatures • Drought	Identified climate vulnerabilities of Washougal’s communities and physical assets.	Assessed the emissions the city contributes to climate change, including local emissions and imported emissions.	Integrated findings from community and staff engagement and each component of analysis.
Community engagement throughout: Fall online survey, fall Comprehensive Plan carnival, social media outreach, and 3 Climate Subcommittee meetings				

Community Engagement

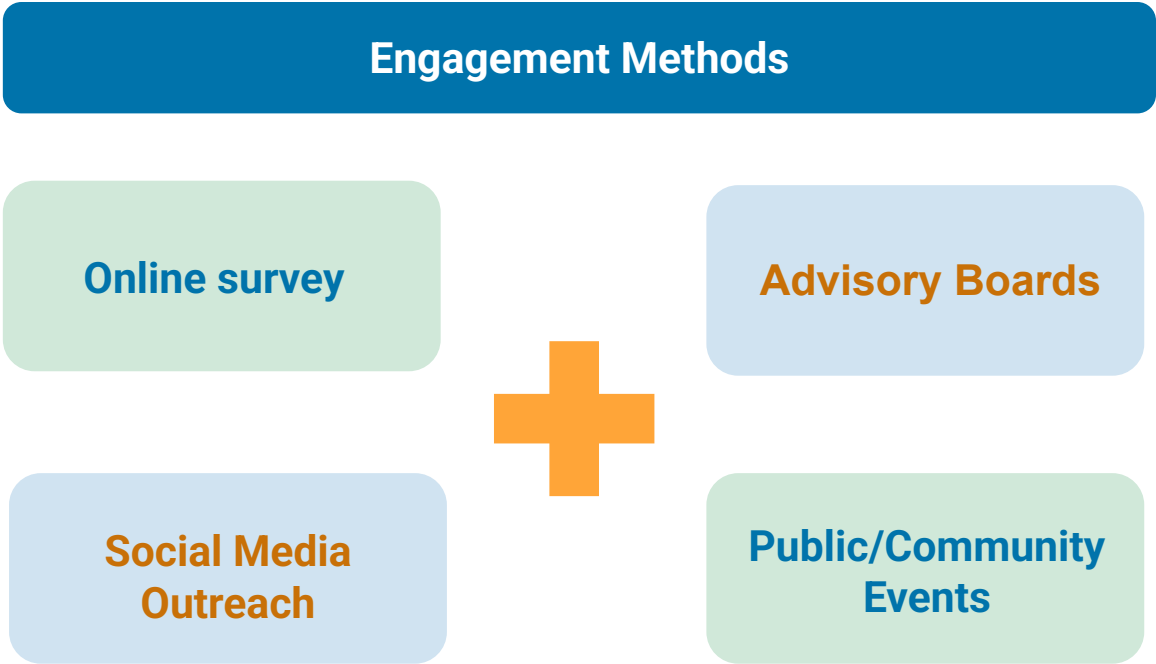


City of Washougal

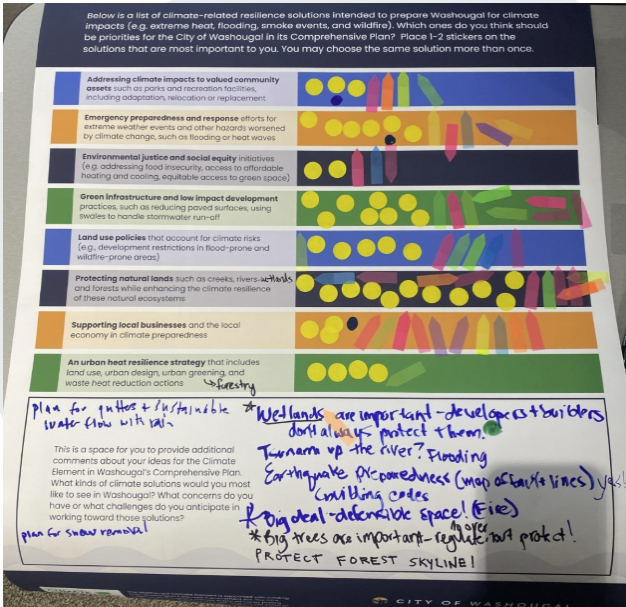
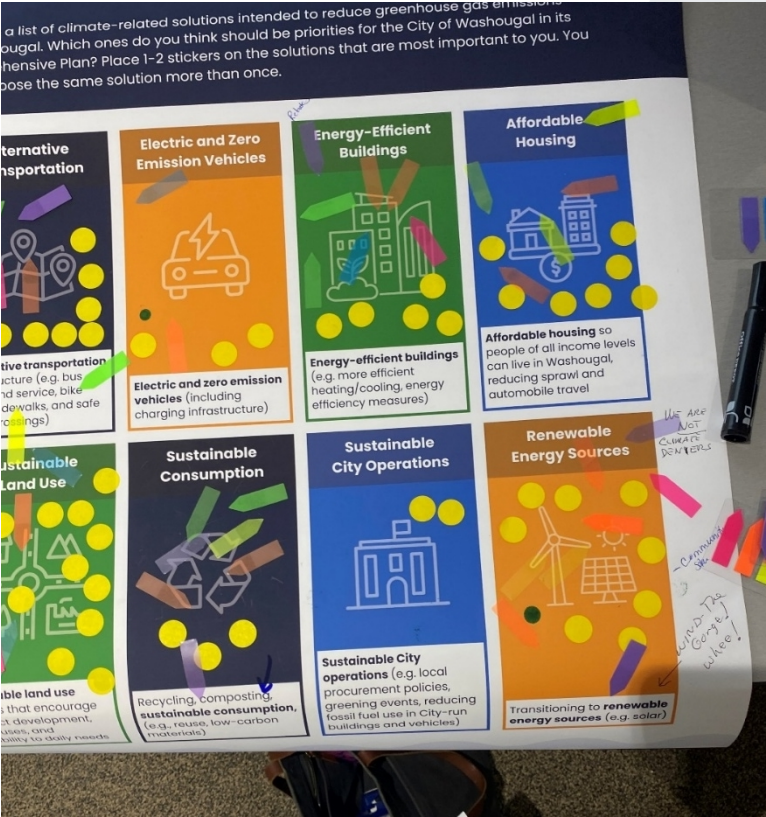
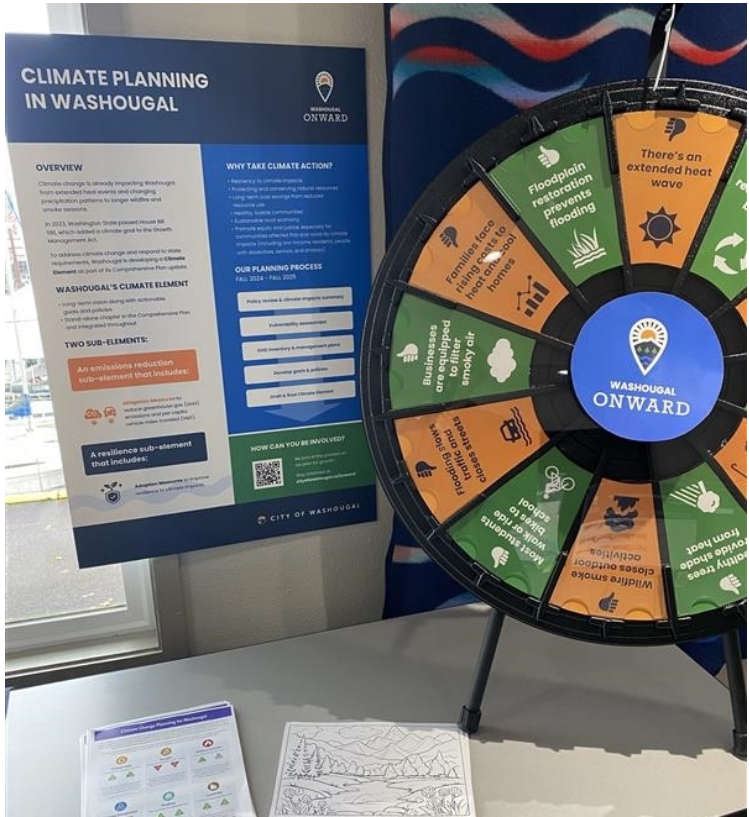


Washougal Community Engagement Overall

Objective: Gather community input to inform the comprehensive plan update.



Comprehensive Plan Carnival: Climate Element Activities

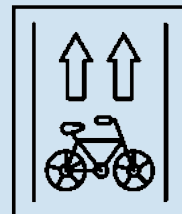


What We Heard



Environmental Protection & Climate Resilience

- Strong demand for **tree and green space preservation**.
- High interest in **community solar grids** and local renewable energy projects.
- Concern about **wildfire risks, flooding, and stormwater management**.
- Interest in **low-impact development**.



Transportation & Infrastructure

- Broad support for **walkability and alternative transportation**
- Concerns over **limited public transportation** options.
- Growing **interest in electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure**, though residents cite challenges.
- **Debate over parking availability**.



Energy & Electrification

- Widespread **support for clean energy**, but concerns about costs, infrastructure placement, and feasibility.
- Interest in **on-site renewable energy**, particularly through community solar and wind projects.
- Interest in **energy efficiency in buildings**.
- Frustration over **high energy costs**.



Housing, Land Use & Economic Development

- Concerns about **rapid development**.
- Mixed opinions on **density in housing**.
- Strong preference for **supporting local businesses**, with a focus on sustainability-driven economic growth.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions



City of Washougal



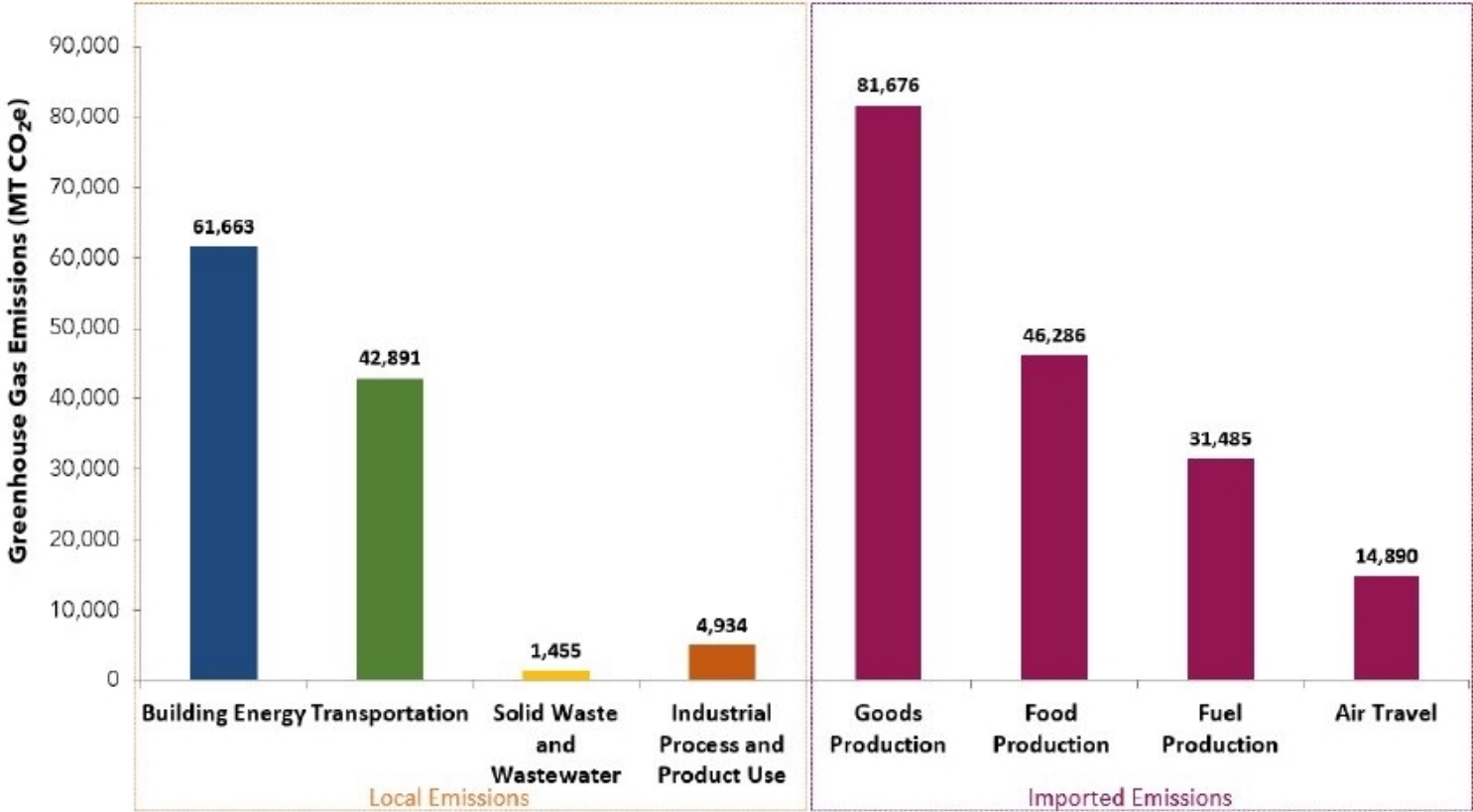
Washougal's 2022 GHG Emissions

16.4
MT CO₂e
Per Capita



With a population of 17,390, all 2022 GHG emissions combined (local and imported) for City of Washougal totaled

285,280 MT CO₂e



Targets & Measurement

According to Commerce's guidance...

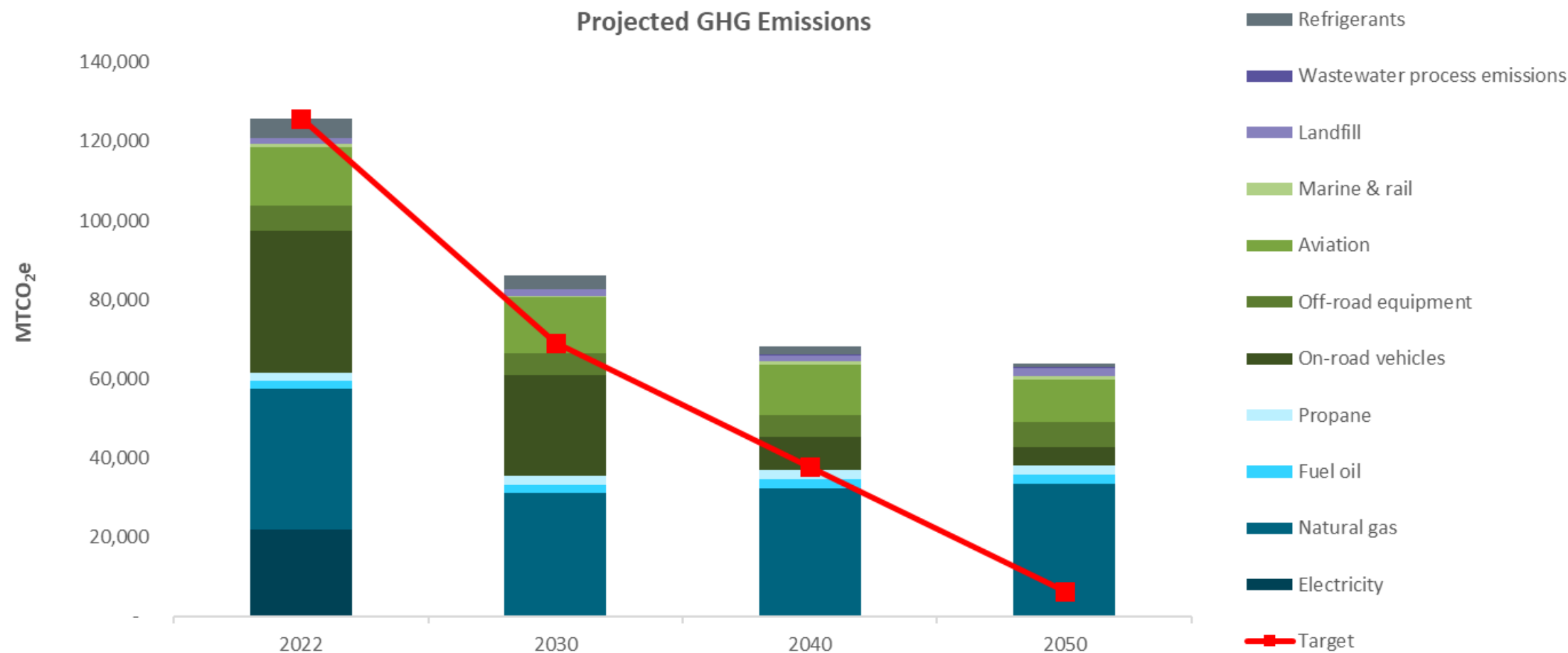
- Washougal should use 2022 as its emissions baseline year and set incremental targets that lead to achieving **net zero emissions by 2050**, consistent with Washington's statewide target.
- When selecting goals and policies that reduce emissions and per-capita vehicle miles traveled, **Washougal will need to report on its five-year progress implementing the measures.** Washougal should identify metrics which it is able to track and report implementation progress to Commerce.

State & Federal Policy Contributions

Addressing GHG emissions requires the combined efforts of local, state, federal, and regional action. Several federal and state policies will support Washougal in meeting its targets:

- Washington State Energy Code (SB 5854)
- Washington Clean Buildings Act (HB 1257)
- Federal Vehicle Regulations (CAFE)
- Washington Clean Fuel Standard (HB 1091)
- Washington Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Standards
- Washington Hydrofluorocarbon Policies (HB 1112 & HB 1050)
- Washington Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA)
- Washington Climate Commitment Act (E2SSB 5126)

GHG Emissions: Local Action



Climate Impacts & Vulnerability



City of Washougal



Key Climate Impacts



Extreme precipitation and flooding

Increased flooding due to more frequent and intense extreme precipitation events



Wildfire & smoke

Increased wildfire activity due to extreme heat and heightened drought, resulting in increased smoke and poor air quality.



Warming temperatures

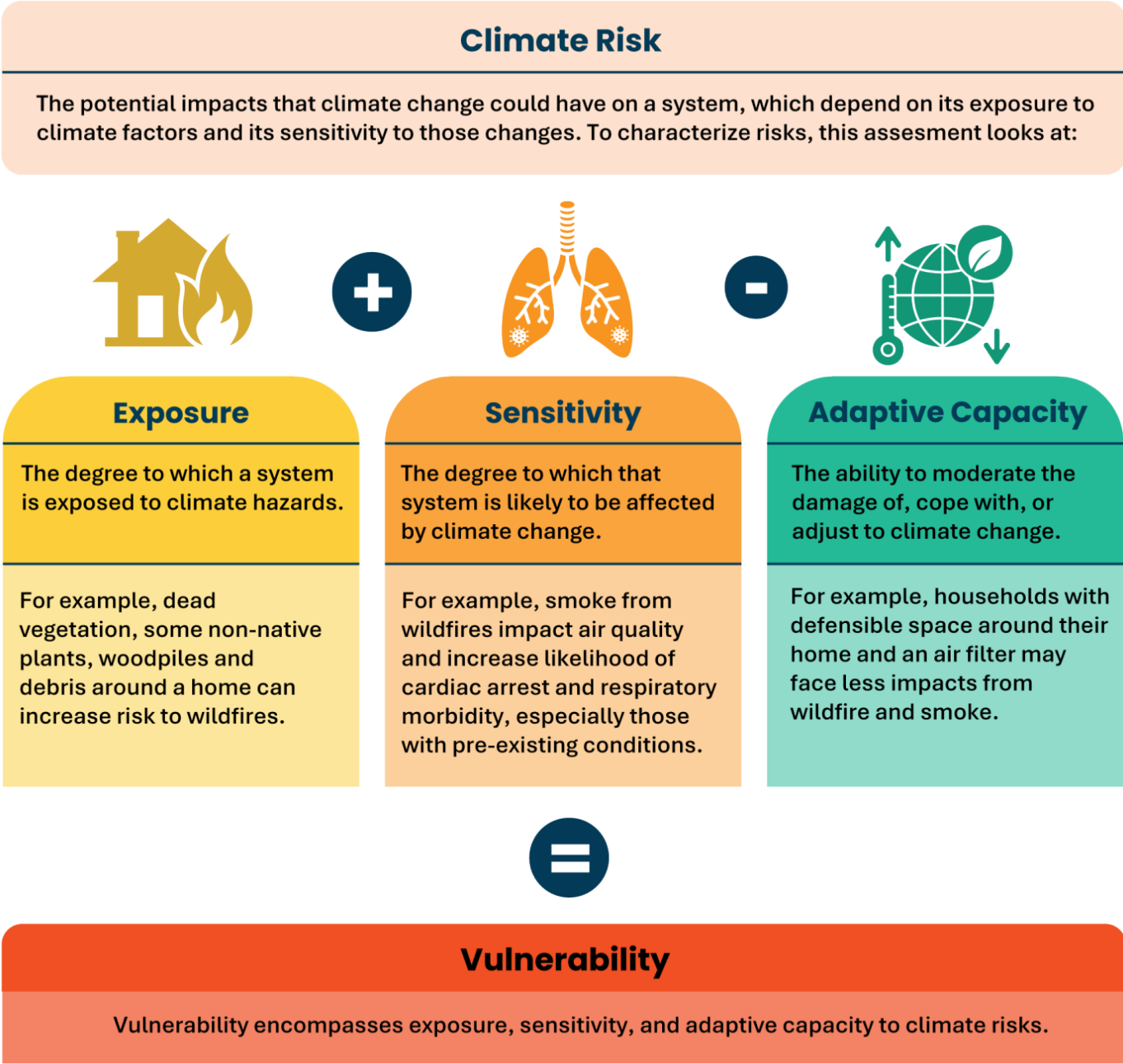
Higher annual average temperatures, with especially high temperature increases during the summer months.



Drought

Declining summer precipitation, leading to more frequent, longer, and severe regional droughts.

Vulnerability Framework



Vulnerable Communities

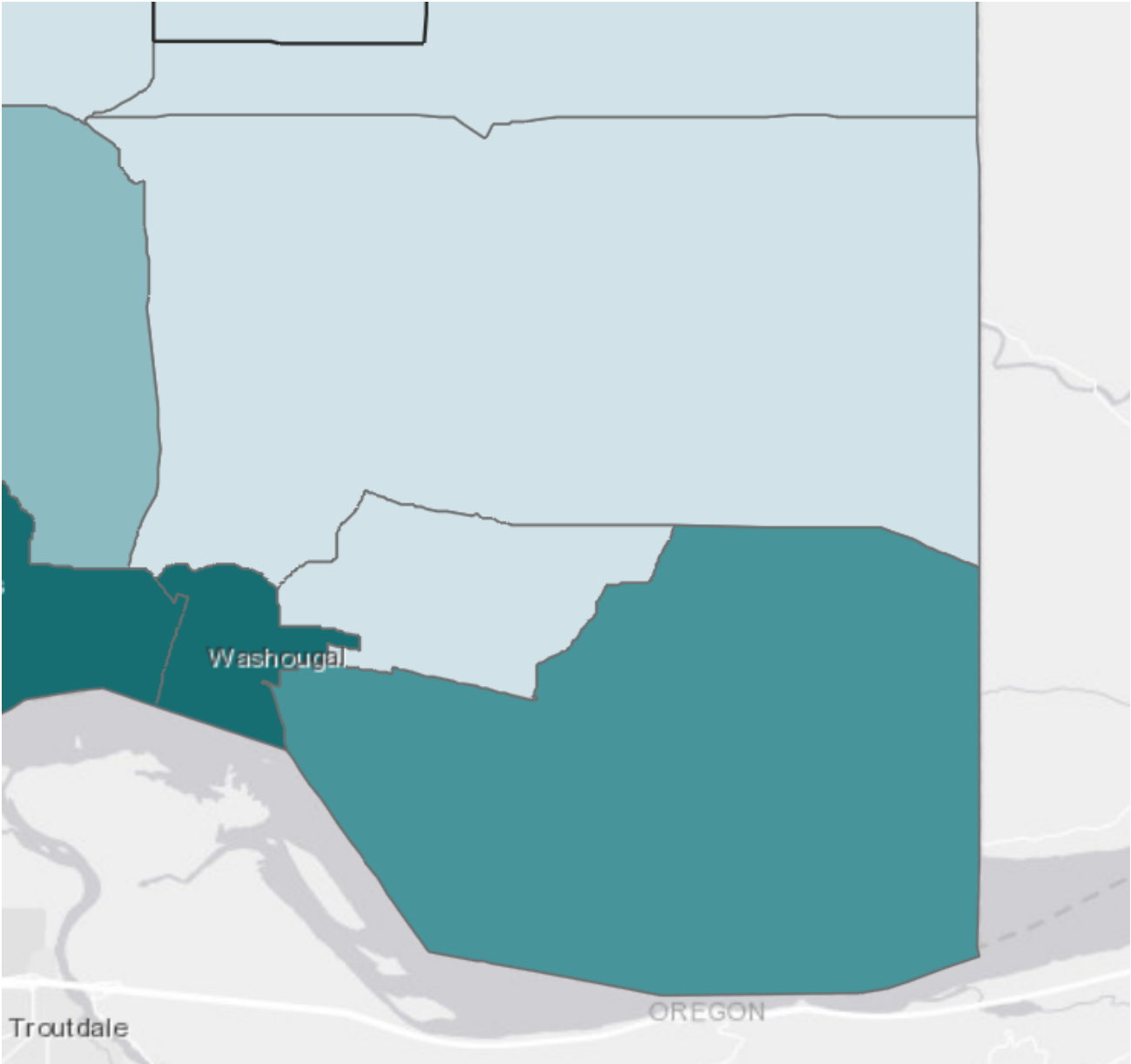
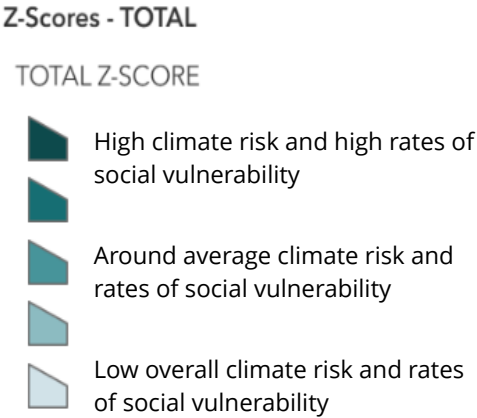
Populations	Percent of Residents	Vulnerability Considerations
Total Non-White Residents	15.1%	Black and African American individuals are projected to face higher impacts of climate change.
Hispanic or Latino Residents	10.9%	Hispanic and Latino people have high participation in weather-exposed industries, such as construction and agriculture, which are especially vulnerable to the effects of extreme temperatures.
Renter-occupied housing units	26.1%	Renters typically have less ability to take actions like making energy efficiency upgrades and adding air conditioners.
People in Poverty	12.6%	Low-income individuals have fewer economic resources to cope with climate impacts like property loss and health impacts.

Vulnerable Communities Continued

Populations	Percent of Residents	Vulnerability Considerations
People with Disabilities (under 65 years)	9.1%	People with disabilities (such as those with low vision or blindness, hearing loss, or mobility issues) face barriers in evacuating during extreme weather events.
Youth under 5 years old	4.9%	Young children are especially vulnerable to the harmful impacts of wildfire smoke.
Youth under 18 years old	22.3%	Youth experience anxiety and depression related to climate change. They are impacted by school closures and cancelled events.
Seniors 65 years+	16.1%	Seniors tend to have reduced ability to regulate body temperature and higher susceptibility to heat-related illnesses.

Vulnerable Communities

This map shows census tracts with their overall combined rates of indicators for vulnerable populations and climate risks.



Results At a Glance

	Climate Risks
Built Infrastructure (Transportation and Energy)	• Key roads like State Route 14 may be impacted, limiting evacuations and leading to extensive and costly repairs. • Walking and biking routes can be impacted. • Bus stops lack shelter. • The City’s electricity substations and power lines are susceptible to damage from fires, storms, and high winds.

Results At a Glance

Businesses and Housing

Climate Risks

- Businesses face risk of damage caused by flooding, storms, wildfires, and extreme heat, particularly for areas in floodplains (including the Port of Camas Washougal).
- The Town Center is not at high direct risk, though may be impacted by road closures.
- A lot of housing in Washougal is in the Wildland Urban Interface. Planned growth areas are closer to wildland forests, which brings potential increased risk of fire exposure.
- Low-income housing stock may be less resilient to extreme heat and extended wildfire smoke events.

Results At a Glance

Environmental and Water Resources

Climate Risks

- Some of the natural areas and parks are vulnerable to wildfires, summer drought, and extreme heat.
- Rivers and streams- and fish- may be impacted by floods and rising water temperatures and changing precipitation patterns.
- Summer droughts could place further strain on the water supply.
- Water resources and infrastructure may be affected by flooding and extreme storms.

Results At a Glance

Human Well-Being and Emergency Management

Climate Risks

- Community spaces (libraries, schools, health facilities, and parks), may be at risk to flooding, wildfire, and extreme heat.
- Smoke and heat events raise health risks- and heat is not distributed equally.
- Parks located in low-lying areas, current floodplains or regulatory flood zones are expected to be more exposed to riverine and/or tidal flooding.
- Emergency management responses and social systems will be stressed by climate events like flooding, wildfire and heat.

Climate Element Policies



Climate Element Goals

Resilience:

1. To support community health and well-being in the context of climate change, particularly the health of vulnerable and overburdened communities.
2. To protect ecosystems from impacts of climate change.
3. To strengthen emergency response systems to climate hazards by improving coordination, infrastructure, and community preparedness.
4. To enhance community resilience to wildfire, smoke, and extreme heat by strengthening infrastructure and community systems.
5. To manage water resources and natural spaces to build resilience to drought and flooding impacts.

GHG Emissions Reduction:

6. To reduce the contributions of buildings and energy consumption to climate change.
7. To enable and encourage residents to drive less and turn to alternate modes of transportation.
8. To promote development that advances climate planning and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
9. To reduce waste generation and increase recycling rates.

Goal 1. To support community health and well-being in the context of climate change, particularly the health of vulnerable and overburdened communities.

ID	Climate Resilience Draft Policy
CE1.1	Ensure that vulnerable and overburdened communities are prioritized when allocating climate resilience investments such as increased tree canopy and green infrastructure, which help mitigate environmental stresses and improve quality of life.
CE1.2	Provide all residents, especially vulnerable and overburdened populations, diverse opportunities to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and co-develop equitable mitigation and recovery strategies that reflect community needs and priorities. For example, offer educational materials in multiple languages and formats to facilitate access and understanding.
CE1.3	Expand local food security and the food-related economy to address climate impacts and increase access to healthy, affordable, and climate-friendly foods. Build on existing local efforts, including community gardens, farmers markets, food banks and pantries, and meal services.
CE1.4	Support organizations that facilitate a green jobs pipeline within vulnerable and overburdened communities. Prioritize programs that: a. Create living-wage green jobs b. Promote green industry sectors such as solar panel installation, green roof installation and maintenance, urban forestry, and ecosystem restoration c. Support workers displaced from carbon-intensive industries d. Support local businesses in strengthening their climate friendly practices

Goal 2. To protect ecosystems from impacts of climate change.

ID	Climate Resilience Draft Policy
CE2.1	Expand habitat protection and improve habitat quality and connectivity through conservation area designations, buffers, and open space corridors.
CE2.2	Pursue an urban forestry ordinance that maintains and improves the city’s tree canopy, includes climate change considerations, and supports biodiversity.
CE2.3	Support the protection, enhancement, and, where possible, restoration of streams, wetlands, and corridors between wetlands to provide biological and hydrological connectivity. This connectivity will foster ecosystem resilience to climate impacts, such as such high stream temperatures and flooding.

Goal 3. To strengthen emergency response systems to climate hazards by improving coordination, infrastructure, and community preparedness.

ID	Climate Resilience Draft Policy
CE3.1	Develop and support resilience hubs, which are community-serving facilities that are designed to support residents, coordinate communication, distribute resources, and reduce carbon pollution while enhancing quality of life.
CE3.2	Integrate climate vulnerability assessment results into hazard mitigation planning and emergency management planning.
CE3.3	Collaborate with energy utilities to improve the safety and reliability of infrastructure vulnerable to climate change.
CE3.4	Coordinate with local agencies to identify risk areas, develop targeted response plans, and ensure equitable access to education, outreach, resources, and recovery assistance. Prioritize clear communication and access to information before emergencies occur.

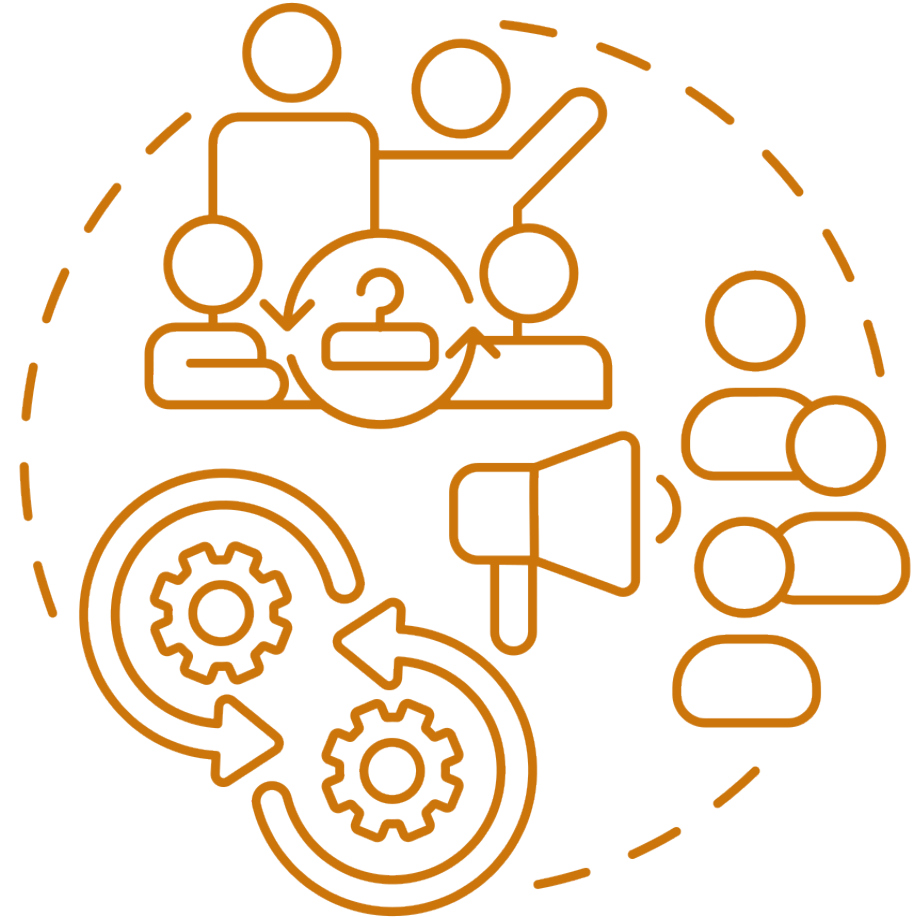
Goal 4. To enhance community resilience to wildfire, smoke, and extreme heat by strengthening infrastructure and community systems.

ID	Climate Resilience Draft Policy
CE4.1	Develop, support and coordinate with programs that distribute or incentivize heat pumps, improve building weatherization, and/or implement building passive cooling techniques, prioritizing households with residents who are most vulnerable to extreme temperature events (such as low-income seniors).
CE4.2	Develop and support public education campaigns to raise awareness of the risks of heat and poor air quality and to connect residents with available resources during heat waves and smoke events (such as access to libraries, community centers, and other indoor community spaces with proper air conditioning and air quality). Ensure widespread distribution through multiple channels such as online, community centers, local events, and multilingual outreach.
CE4.3	Implement and encourage the use of cooling infrastructure such as trees, permeable pavement, and other heat-resistant features near high-traffic transportation areas with elevated temperatures and in locations where sensitive populations congregate, such as schools, elder care facilities, and medical facilities.
CE4.4	Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire-resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, protect the economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery.
CE4.5	Educate businesses on protocols regarding extreme heat and poor air quality and consider implementing and supporting outreach efforts to businesses and outdoor workers to promote safety, ensure compliance, and reduce exposure to climate-exacerbated hazards.

Goal 5. To manage water resources and natural spaces to build resilience to drought and flooding impacts.

ID	Climate Resilience Draft Policy
CE5.1	Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation and wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management.
CE5.2	Encourage construction and maintenance of water storage systems to provide back-up water supplies during droughts and support climate resilience. This could include systems such as water cisterns/tanks, rainwater harvesting, and ponds. Support education related to water storage for drought resilience.
CE5.3	Expand municipal reclaimed water systems and allow onsite non-potable water systems to reduce water demand in private-sector commercial and residential buildings.
CE5.4	Encourage the use of green infrastructure and low-impact development in new developments and major retrofits to address increased storm intensities and stormwater runoff.

Your Feedback



Climate Element Goals

Resilience:

1. To support community health and well-being in the context of climate change, particularly the health of vulnerable and overburdened communities.
2. To protect ecosystems from impacts of climate change.
3. To strengthen emergency response systems to climate hazards by improving coordination, infrastructure, and community preparedness.
4. To enhance community resilience to wildfire, smoke, and extreme heat by strengthening infrastructure and community systems.
5. To manage water resources and natural spaces to build resilience to drought and flooding impacts.

GHG Emissions Reduction:

6. To reduce the contributions of buildings and energy consumption to climate change.
7. To enable and encourage residents to drive less and turn to alternate modes of transportation.
8. To promote development that advances climate planning and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
9. To reduce waste generation and increase recycling rates.

Goal 6. To reduce the contributions of buildings and energy consumption to climate change.

ID	GHG Emissions Draft Policy
CE6.1	Streamline permitting and approval processes for energy efficiency upgrades, passive heating/cooling techniques, building electrification retrofits, and clean energy projects, with the goal of reducing GHG emissions from buildings while maintaining grid capacity and reliability.
CE6.2	Seek and support funding for programs that focus on energy efficiency and building weatherization with an emphasis on vulnerable communities (such as renters and low-income households).
CE6.3	Incentivize green building certification to improve energy and environmental performance (such as through timely review of permit applications).
CE6.4	Maximize renewable energy sources for the supply of electricity and heating/cooling to new and existing buildings, such as by supporting solar panel installations and community solar programs.

Goal 7. To enable and encourage residents to drive less and turn to alternate modes of transportation.

ID	GHG Emissions Draft Policy
CE7.1	Coordinate with land use and transportation planning partners to expand public transit access.
CE7.2	Develop a complete, long-term multimodal network plan and consider complete streets policies and ordinances.
CE7.3	Implement complementary, mixed land uses versus traditional zoning, to promote cycling and walking and reduce driving.
CE7.4	Create a safe, well-connected and attractive bicycle and pedestrian network to encourage active transportation.
CE7.5	Improve street connectivity and walkability, including sidewalks and street crossings, to encourage carbon-free transportation and to serve as potential evacuation routes.
CE7.6	Prioritize, develop, and maintain mobility hubs (convenient places for accessing multiple alternative transportation options and for switching between modes) in transportation-efficient locations—especially in overburdened communities experiencing a scarcity of transportation alternatives.

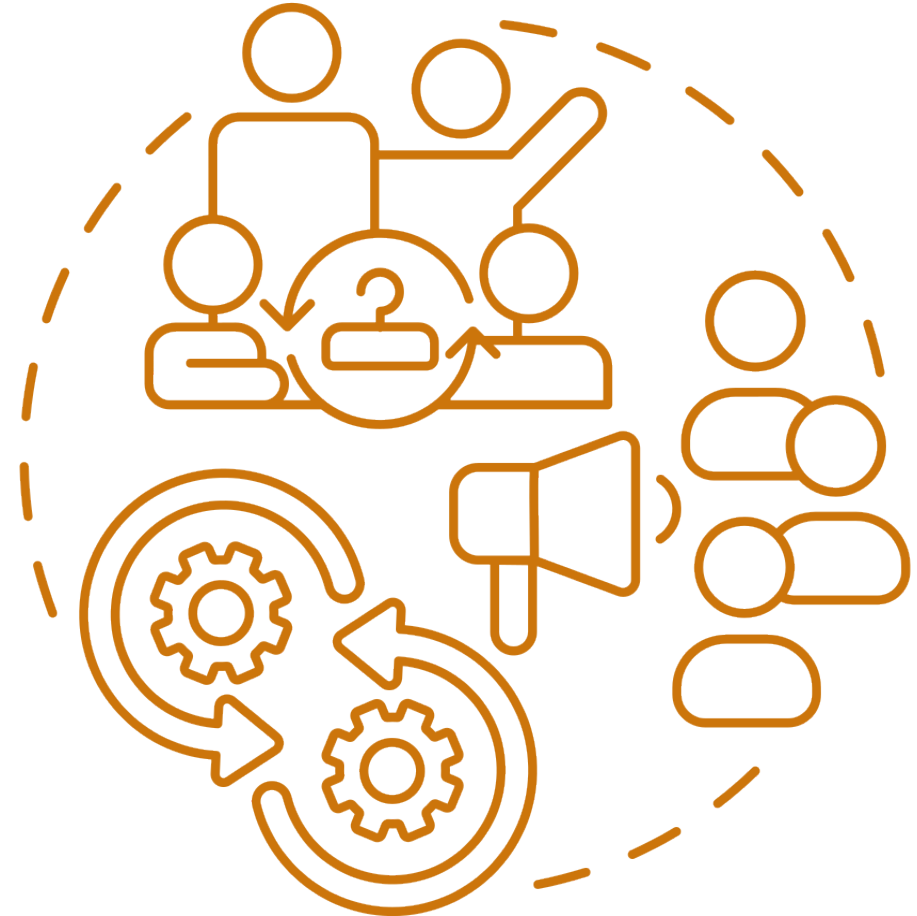
Goal 8. To promote development that advances climate planning and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

ID	GHG Emissions Draft Policy
CE8.1	Pursue a policy to reduce parking minimum requirements and establish parking maximums where relevant.
CE8.2	Implement complementary, mixed land use and transit-oriented development, such as locating businesses, parks, and schools in residential neighborhoods where relevant and increasing density in areas well-served by transit.
CE8.3	Support the expansion of electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout the community—including at municipal buildings, multifamily developments, major commercial areas, and parking garages—to advance the decarbonization of the transportation sector developments.
CE8.4	Convert public-owned fleets to zero-emission vehicles (e.g., electric) as they need to be replaced and as soon as feasible according to City-defined criteria.

Goal 9. To reduce waste generation and increase recycling rates.

ID	GHG Emissions Draft Policy
CE9.1	Set and achieve specific goals around waste generation and periodically measure waste via waste characterization studies, in partnership with the City's waste collection service provider.
CE9.2	Focus on reducing generation and disposal of high-emissions materials, such as organic waste and paper. Consider implementing food rescue policies.
CE9.3	Conduct equitable outreach and engagement and support residents and businesses in waste reduction, recycling, and composting of food and yard waste.
CE9.4	Seek opportunities to reuse construction materials and incentivize recycling of construction and demolition waste.

Your Feedback

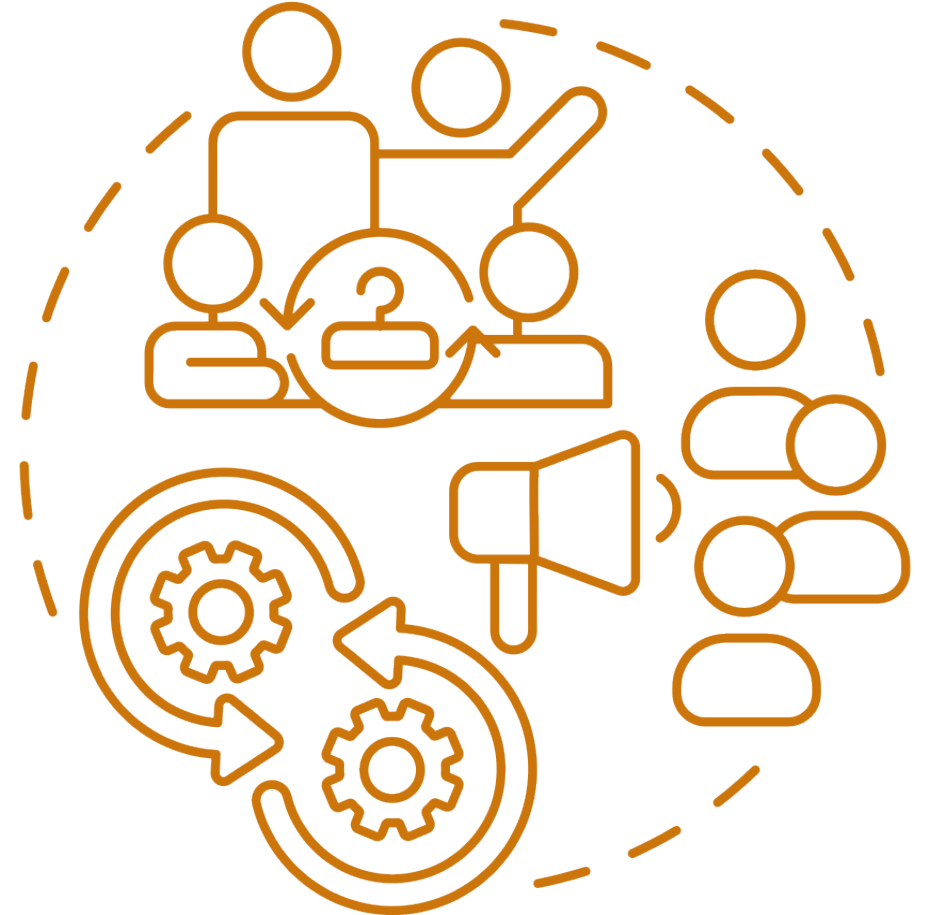


Next Steps

- **Revise Climate Element based on feedback**

The broader process:

Onward Comprehensive Plan Update



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

City of Washougal, Washington

FOR AGENDA OF:

7/14/2025

SUBJECT:

Fire: Draft Joint Resolution with the City of Camas to Adopt the Regional Fire Authority (RFA) Plan and Place the Formation of an RFA on the November 4th, 2025 General Election Ballot

DEPT. OF ORIGIN:

Finance

REVIEWED AT:**TO BE RETURNED TO COUNCIL:**

Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Joint Resolution RFA 7 14 2025 draft
2. RFA Presentation

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:	BUDGETED:	APPROPRIATION REQ'D:
N/A	N/A	N/A

SUMMARY STATEMENT

On January 29, 2024, Camas and Washougal executed a modification and conditional extension of the Interlocal Agreement between the Cities of Camas and Washougal for the formation and operation of the Camas-Washougal Fire Department.

Item #1 of the Modification and Conditional Extension provides that “...the parties bind themselves to place the RFA Plan on the ballot for April 2025 and, if necessary, for November 2025.”

The results of the April 22, 2025, special election indicated that the RFA Plan was not approved by participating voters.

Therefore, in accordance with the Modification and Conditional Extension Plan, the Camas City Council and the Washougal City Council have determined that it is appropriate to place before voters within the proposed service boundaries of the RFA at the general election to be held on November 4, 2025, a proposition calling for the creation of a RFA which shall be known as the Camas-Washougal Fire Authority to be funded by a \$1.05 per \$1,000 assessed value property tax levy and the approval of the Plan, all in accordance with state law. If the Joint Resolution is approved, the formation of a regional fire authority (RFA) would be placed on the ballot for voter consideration at the general election to be held on November 4th, 2025.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

To adopt the RFA Plan and place the formation of an RFA on the general election ballot to be held on November 4th, 2025 through the adoption of a Joint Resolution with the City of Camas on July 28, 2025.

JOINT RESOLUTION
CITY OF CAMAS RESOLUTION NO. _____
CITY OF WASHOUGAL RESOLUTION NO. _____

A **JOINT RESOLUTION** of the City Council of the City of Camas, Washington, and the City Council of the City of Washougal, Washington, providing for the submission to qualified electors of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal, at the general election to be held on November 4, 2025, of a proposition that, pursuant to Chapter 52.26 of the Revised Code of Washington, approves a plan to form a Regional Fire Protection Authority to be known as the Camas-Washougal Fire Authority within the boundaries of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal, effective September 1, 2026.

RECITALS

- A. The ability and demands to respond to emergency situations by fire protection and emergency medical service agencies has increased and progressed with community needs and special service demands. Providing an effective fire protection and emergency medical service system requires a collaborative partnership and responsibility among local and regional governments and the private sector.
- B. There are efficiencies that can be gained by regional fire protection and emergency medical service delivery, while maintaining local control.
- C. The City of Camas ("Camas") and the City of Washougal, ("Washougal") have had a long-standing cooperative partnership, striving to provide the highest level of fire and emergency medical services to their citizens within the confines of available resources. This cooperative partnership began in the 1970s with the provision of a regional ambulance service and culminated with an interlocal agreement in 2014, which provided for a consolidation of services as the Camas Washougal Fire Department, with Camas providing services to Washougal. While this cooperative relationship has served the public well for many years, as a result

of the needs of a growing community and demands for enhanced fire and EMS services, Camas and Washougal have determined that it is in the public interest to place a measure before the voters that if approved would result in the formation of a Regional Fire Authority (RFA).

- D. Pursuant to RCW 52.26.030 and 52.26.040 the cities of Camas and Washougal formed an RFA Planning Committee to evaluate the feasibility of creating a new and separate regional fire authority to provide the fire protection and emergency services within the boundaries of Camas and Washougal. The members of the Planning Committee included three City Council members from Camas and three City Council members from Washougal. Over a period of several months, the Planning Committee met and created a Regional Fire Authority (RFA) Plan ("Plan") providing for the governance, design, financing, and development of fire protection and emergency services.
- E. The Planning Committee held its final meeting on October 16, 2024, and recommended approval of the Plan to the Camas City Council and Washougal City Council. The Camas City Council and Washougal City Council met in joint work session on November 6, 2024, to review the recommended Plan. By adoption of this Joint Resolution, the Plan is formally adopted and certified to the ballot pursuant to RCW 52.26.060 by both the City of Camas and the City of Washougal. Copies of the Plan are available from the administrative offices of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal.
- F. Authority to form a RFA is authorized by Chapter 52.26 RCW. Chapter 52.26 RCW requires that in order to form an RFA, the Plan must be approved by the voters of the area affected by the Plan. Therefore, in accordance with the Plan and state law, the Camas City Council and the Washougal City Council placed before voters within the proposed service boundaries of the RFA at a special election held on April 22, 2025, a proposition calling for the creation of a RFA which shall be known as the Camas-

Washougal Fire Authority to be funded by a \$1.05 per \$1,000 assessed value property tax levy and the approval of the Plan, all in accordance with state law.

- G. The result of the April 22, 2025, special election indicates that the RFA Plan was not approved by participating voters.
- H. On January 29, 2024, Camas and Washougal executed a *MODIFICATION AND CONDITIONAL EXTENSION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITIES OF CAMAS AND WASHOUGAL FOR THE FORMATION AND OPERATION OF THE CAMAS-WASHOUGAL FIRE DEPARTMENT DATED DECEMBER 4, 2013*.
- I. Item #1 of the Modification and Conditional Extension provides that “...the parties bind themselves to place the RFA Plan on the ballot for April 2025 and, if necessary, for November 2025.”
- J. Therefore, in accordance with the Modification and Conditional Extension, Plan and state law, the Camas City Council and the Washougal City Council have determined that it is appropriate to place before voters within the proposed service boundaries of the RFA at the general election to be held on November 4, 2025, a proposition calling for the creation of a RFA which shall be known as the Camas-Washougal Fire Authority to be funded by a \$1.05 per \$1,000 assessed value property tax levy and the approval of the Plan, all in accordance with state law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMAS, WASHINGTON, AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHOUGAL WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

RESOLUTION

SECTION 1. - Adoption of Plan for the Camas-Washougal Fire Authority. The City Council

of the City of Camas and the City Council of the City of Washougal hereby formally adopt the 2025 Regional Fire Authority (RFA) Plan. A true and correct copy of which is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by this reference.

SECTION 2. - Findings of Camas City Council and Washougal City Council. The City Council of the City of Camas, Washington, and the City Council of the City of Washougal, Washington, hereby adopt each of the recitals above as findings and further find that it is in the best interest of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal to submit to the qualified electors of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal at the general election to be held on November 4, 2025, a proposition to adopt the Plan that creates a RFA which shall be known as the Camas-Washougal Fire Authority, which if approved will be funded by a property tax not to exceed \$1.05 per thousand of assessed value. If approved by a majority of the total persons voting on the ballot measure within the boundaries of the authority in accordance with RCW 52.26.060, effective September 1, 2026, this proposition would create a RFA as provided in Chapter 52.26 RCW with boundaries coextensive with the boundaries of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal.

SECTION 3. - Proposition for Voter Submittal. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Camas and the City of Washougal for their approval or rejection, at the general election on November 4, 2025, the question of whether or not the RFA known as the **Camas-Washougal Fire Authority** should be created in accordance with the Plan and funded with the real property tax levies referenced above. The City Council of the City of Camas and the City Council of the City of Washougal hereby request that the auditor of Clark County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, call such election and submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. ____

The City Council of the City of Camas and the City Council of the City of Washougal have

adopted a Joint Resolution approving the Regional Fire Authority Service Plan ("Plan") concerning the creation of a Regional Fire Protection Authority ("RFA").

This proposition would approve the Plan and create a Regional Fire Authority to be known as the Camas-Washougal Fire Authority, effective September 1, 2026, to provide fire protection and emergency medical services in the City of Camas and the City of Washougal. The RFA would be funded by property tax (\$1.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value).

Shall the registered voters residing within the cities of Camas and Washougal approve the formation of a regional fire authority (RFA) and approve the RFA Plan proposed by the cities of Camas and Washougal?

Yes _____

No _____

SECTION 4. Without further action of the Camas City Council and the Washougal City Council the ballot proposition language set forth in Section 3 above may be revised to correct scrivener's errors and to conform with statutory requirements.

SECTION 5. - Pro and Con Committee Appointments. The Camas City Council and the Washougal City Council hereby assign to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee the task of appointing members to a committee to advocate voters' approval of the proposition and to a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the proposition.

SECTION 6. - Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

SECTION 7. - Ratification. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this Resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

SECTION 8. - Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

SECTION 9. - **Triplicate Originals.** Three originals of this Resolution are signed by the City of Camas and the City of Washougal.

PASSED at a regular or special open public meeting by the City Council of the City of Camas, Washington, this **7th** day of **July, 2025** OR **21st** day of **July, 2025** OR **4th** day of **August, 2025.**

PASSED at a regular or special open public meeting by the City Council of the City of Washougal, Washington, this **28th** day of **July, 2025.**

EXHIBIT A

2025 Regional Fire Authority Plan

Proposed Regional Fire Authority Plan

7/14/2025 Council Workshop



City of Washougal

1

What We'll Discuss

- Proposed RFA Plan
- Enhanced Services
- Property Tax Implications
- Resolution Approving the RFA Plan and Placing on the November 4, 2025, General Election Ballot
- Resolution of Intent to Reduce Property Tax Levy
- Next Steps



City of Washougal

2

2



Overview of Plan Components:

Jurisdictional Boundaries

Finances

Transfer of Assets

Governance

Organizational Structure

Operations and Services

3

ELEMENT OF THE PLAN

Jurisdictional Boundaries:

On the Effective Date, the Jurisdictional Boundaries of the RFA shall be the legal boundaries of the Participating Jurisdictions.

4

ELEMENT OF THE PLAN

Finances:

- Interim Finances: Support for FD expenses from (Jan 1 thru June 1, 2027).
 - Proportionally allocated
 - Paid back 3 years.
- Initial Rate: \$1.05 per 1,000 valuation of combined service area.

5

ELEMENT OF THE PLAN

Transfer of Assets:

- Real Property
 - Fire Stations 42 – On Effective Date
 - Fire Station 41 – Upon Issuance of C of O
 - Fire Station 43 – Upon Issuance of C of O
- Non-Real Property
 - Apparatus
 - Equipment
 - Supplies, etc.
- Other
 - EMS Levy Funds, ERR Funds, GEMT Funds, Code Enforcement Fees, etc...

6

ELEMENT OF THE PLAN

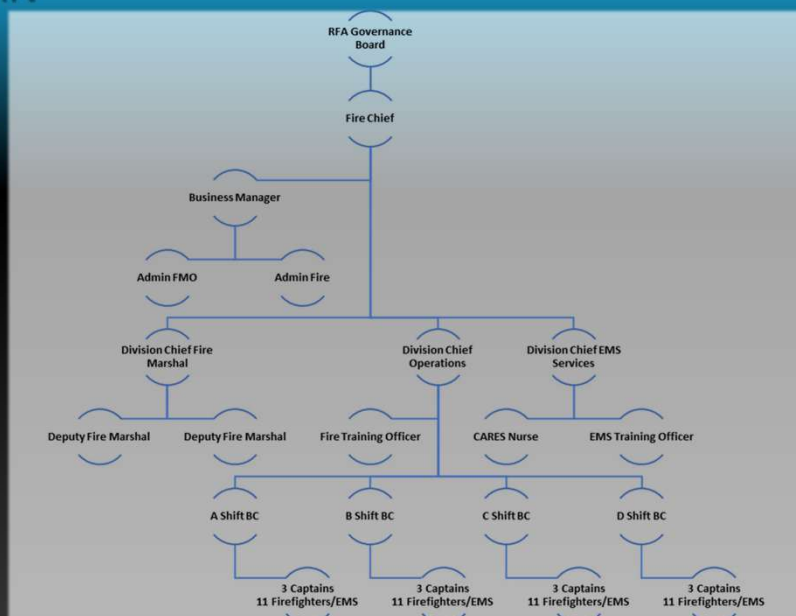
Governance:

- Initial:
 - (3) Appointed members Camas Council
 - (3) Appointed members Washougal Council
- Transition Jan 1, 2029:
 - 5 Commissioner Districts
 - Cities retain the right to appoint members

7

ELEMENT OF THE PLAN

Organizational Structure:



8

ELEMENT OF THE PLAN

Operations and Services:

- Standard of Cover
 - Fire Protection
 - Ambulance Services
 - Code Management
 - Public Education

9

Enhanced Services

- 3-person engine companies by 2028
- No out-of-pocket expenses for ambulance services for residents of Camas and Washougal



City of Washougal

10

10

Property Tax Implications

- Proposed 2027 levy rate for new RFA: \$1.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV)
- EMS levy proceeds will be sent directly to RFA beginning in 2027 (approved at \$0.50 per \$1,000 AV in 2023, expires after 2029) – RFA will need to renew the EMS levy in 2029 to be effective in 2030
- Recommended coincident reduction for City of Washougal's general levy to equal the 2026 adopted expenses for Fire (net of the EMS levy) – approximately \$3.4M (approximate estimated cumulative rate reduction of at least ~ \$0.88 per \$1,000 AV
- The current Levy Lid Lift for Fire/EMS (approved at \$0.10 per \$1,000 AV in 2020) expires after 2026
- Projected City of Washougal 2027 general levy reduction of at least ~ \$0.88 per \$1,000 AV (will depend upon the 2027 AV data from Assessor – Council adopts 2027 levy in November 2026)
- No renewal of Fire/EMS levy lid lift needed on 2026 ballot



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Resolutions

- Joint Resolution with Camas to adopt the RFA Plan and place the formation of an RFA on the November 4, 2025, general election ballot.
- Resolution of intent to reduce property tax levy in 2027



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Next Steps

- Approval of both resolutions on July 28th regular meeting
- November 4, 2025: General Election date
- December 2025 – August 2026: Transition planning, including development of necessary interlocal agreements between the two cities and the RFA to facilitate the transition (to be approved once RFA is effective)
- September 1, 2026: Official effective date of RFA



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Questions?



City of Washougal

14

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

City of Washougal, Washington

FOR AGENDA OF:

7/14/2025

SUBJECT:

Community Services and Strategy: Arts Commission Funding Requests

DEPT. OF ORIGIN:

Community Services & Strategy

REVIEWED AT:

TO BE RETURNED TO COUNCIL:

Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Arts Commission Minute June 2025 Excerpts regarding funding
- 2. Pickleball Mural Application
- 3. Pickleball Mural Rendering
- 4. Pickleball Mural Budget
- 5. Washougal Songcraft 2025 Funding Application
- 6. Washougal Songcraft 2025 Festival Budget - Sheet1
- 7. Washougal Songcraft-2024-festival-recap-slides
- 8. Washougal Songcraft 2025 -reach
- 9. Washougal Songcraft 2025 -employment
- 10. Washougal Songcraft 2025 -timeline
- 11. Washougal Songcraft 2025 -impact
- 12. Washougal Songcraft 2025 -concept-and-purpose

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:	BUDGETED:	APPROPRIATION REQ'D:
Type Here	Type Here	Type Here
Yes	Yes	
	No	

SUMMARY STATEMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION

**WASHOUGAL ARTS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Washougal City Hall - Council Chambers
1701 C Street Washougal, WA 98671
June 25, 2025, at 4:00 pm

Join [Zoom Link](#)

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER at 4:04 pm.
- II. ROLL CALL
 - Melanie Poe – Chair
 - Christopher Corbell - Vice Chair
 - Jim Cooper
 - Theresa Nguyen
 - Kelly Jones
 - Teena Winski
 - John Kivlen - A
 - Susan Fronckowiak
 - Royce Jones, Student
 - Michelle Wagner – Council Liaison
 - Molly Coston – Council Alternate
 - Rose Jewell, Comm. Engagement Manager
- III. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME – Susan Fronckowiak shared her background. The members introduced themselves and shared their backgrounds.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
 - A. April 23 and May 28, 2025
- V. FINANCIAL REPORT – Daniel Layer
- VI. PRESENTATIONS
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT
- VIII. NEWL BUSINESS
 - A. Arts Commission Funding Application for a Mural at the Pickleball Court City Owned Shed – Lynda Boesel and Travis London. Melanie confirmed the image in the packet was the most recent proposal. Lynda confirmed the digital image noting that it would be full size. Melanie inquired about the budget and total matching funds.

Motion: approve \$800 for the project. Jim/Royce Lynda noted that Travis London would like to the work during the summer month. Melanie, Rose and Michelle explained the process. Passed
 - B. Washougal Songcraft Funding Application – Christopher Corbell presented the application stating that this is the third year and read the nonprofits mission. He reviewed the diversity and styles of the participating musicians and last year’s event. He explained the budget and reimbursement requests, adding that LTAC funding was awarded and funding raising efforts are in progress.

Motion: To approve \$1000 for the Washougal Songcraft Festival. Kelly/Jim Passed.

Rose Jewell

From: noreply@cityofwashougal.us
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 2:24 PM
To: Rose Jewell
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Arts Commission Funding Application

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email Warning! Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Arts Commission Funding Application

For requested document attachments to this form, please attach .docx or .pdf files.
For media attachments, please attach .zip files.

Type of Organization:	Individual
Project Manager Resume, Bio, and/or URL to this information: (provide URL or attach PDF if needed)	Lynda Boesel, president Camas / Washougal Pickleball Club
Attach Project Manager Document Here:	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Organization Mission and History, and/or URL to this information: (provide URL or attach PDF if needed)	Columbia River Pickleball Club
Attach Mission and History Document Here:	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Project Name:	Wolfe Mural on Old Pump House Hathaway Park
Type of Project:	Permanent public artwork
Other:	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Brief Description of Project:	Will have a mural painted on the side of the pump house building

Date/Time of Project Start:	7/12/2025 12:00 PM
Date/Time of Project Completion	7/27/2025 4:00 PM
Project Budget (including all expenses, and other revenue sources): (attach PDF)	\$1300.00
Attach Project Budget Here:	BEFORE BUILDING.jpg
Requested Funding Amount (up to \$2,000):	\$1300.00
Describe how the requested funding amount will be spent:	The painting of the mural will be \$1,000, \$300 will be the Anti Graffiti Sealant
Describe manager or organization past experience with projects of this kind:	Travis London, Deep Green Arts. Travis has painted murals around the Washougal area.
Describe the project's general hiring process and policies:	We met with Travis at the park to discuss his ideas on the project.
Describe the project's artist selection or arts curation process and policies:	Travis is an art school teacher that teaches art.
Describe the project's education aspects, if applicable:	Art Teacher
Describe how this project benefits or serves under-represented or traditionally marginalized communities, if applicable:	This project will make the old building have some new life with lots of color.

Describe your outreach approach and identify the groups that you will be engaging:	We have our Camas / Washougal Pickleball Club at the courts at Hathaway. This will encourage more visitors to come to our courts and bring in more revenue around the Washougal area.
The City of Washougal will require insurance coverage for your event or work on City property (see requirements and indemnification language below). Describe the project's plan for obtaining insurance:	Our club carries our own insurance
Describe the project's need for city permits, and plan for obtaining:	We would like funding to pay the artist for the initial painting and the general upkeep if needed.
Add any other notes you would like for consideration by the Washougal Arts Commission:	There is a lot of activities that use the green space between the courts and the gazebo. This would attract more visitors, organizations and give the park some color.
Attach a document and any supporting media needed for a complete description of the project including: 1. <i>Project concept and purpose</i> 2. <i>Expected impact of the project on the arts in Washougal</i> 3. <i>Detailed project timeline from preparation to completion, with major milestones</i> 4. <i>The number of individuals the project will employ (including volunteers)</i> 5. <i>The number of individuals you expect the project to reach, if applicable (attendance, visits, views, etc.)</i> 6. <i>Any images, diagrams, or other media needed to convey the project</i> 7. <i>Links to any media samples or online resources needed to convey the project</i> <i>(Attach additional documents as needed - PDFs or ZIP file)</i>	
Attach Concept and Purpose Document Here:	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Attach Impact Document Here:	<i>Field not completed.</i>

Attach Timeline Document Here: *Field not completed.*

Attach Employment Document Here: *Field not completed.*

Attach Reach Document Here: *Field not completed.*

Attach Media Here: [BUILDING ARTWORK.jpg](#)

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)





**To paint a mural on
this entire building
will be \$1,300.00 with
an anti graffitti
sealant.**

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

noreply@cityofwashougal.us

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 10:53 AM

Rose Jewell

Online Form Submittal: Arts Commission Funding Application

External Email Warning! Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Arts Commission Funding Application

For requested document attachments to this form, please attach .docx or .pdf files.
For media attachments, please attach .zip files.

Type of Organization:	501(c)3
Project Manager Resume, Bio, and/or URL to this information: (provide URL or attach PDF if needed)	Christopher Corbell's Creative CV is attached, with info about other creative projects and performing arts non-profit experience
Attach Project Manager Document Here:	Christopher Corbell — Creative CV.pdf
Organization Mission and History, and/or URL to this information: (provide URL or attach PDF if needed)	https://washougal-songcraft.org/wsf/who-we-are/
Attach Mission and History Document Here:	Field not completed.

Project Name:	3rd Annual Washougal Songcraft Festival
Type of Project:	Performing arts event
Other:	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Brief Description of Project:	Our third annual festival will present 21 different regional songwriters performing solo or with small groups, in a series of concerts. We will provide music for the WACA annual arts fair on August 9, present concerts of our own at Reflection Plaza on August 15 and 16, and also offer songwriting workshops and an open mic at the Community Center on August 17.
Date/Time of Project Start:	8/9/2025 10:00 AM
Date/Time of Project Completion	8/17/2025 7:00 PM
Project Budget (including all expenses, and other revenue sources): (attach PDF)	The budget is attached.
Attach Project Budget Here:	2025 Festival Budget - Sheet1.pdf
Requested Funding Amount (up to \$2,000):	1,000
Describe how the requested funding amount will be spent:	We plan to use this funding to cover our sound system rental and sound engineer for the August 15 and 16 concerts at Reflection Plaza.
Describe manager or organization past	This organization has produced two prior festivals successfully, and numerous smaller song circle performances in Washougal.

experience with
projects of this kind:

Describe the project's
general hiring process
and policies:

We have a non-discrimination policy for all hiring, as well as a conflict of interest policy for our volunteer board of directors. We tend to favor hiring of local contractors and regional songwriters. We are all-volunteer with no paid staff or employees.

Describe the project's
artist selection or arts
curation process and
policies:

Our artistic criteria is described on our website at <https://washougal-songcraft.org/wsf/artists/>. Anyone can apply to perform and we have a diversity and non-discrimination policy for artistic selection. We support artistic excellence but favor originality and community over commercial paradigms.

Describe the project's
education aspects, if
applicable:

As an organization we have begun an educational program at Washougal High School. Specifically for the festival, we will have a set of songwriting workshops for free (donation suggested) at the Community Center on August 17.

Describe how this
project benefits or
serves under-
represented or
traditionally
marginalized
communities, if
applicable:

We are not specifically focused on marginalized communities but with our emphasis on diverse voices we have booked artists from traditionally marginalized communities at our festivals and song circles.

Describe your outreach
approach and identify
the groups that you will
be engaging:

We have two primary audience targets: those immediately in the Washougal area who enjoy performing arts and culture here, and those who live elsewhere who would like to enjoy quality lyrical songwriting in an outdoor festival environment.

The City of Washougal will require insurance coverage for your event or work on City property (see requirements and indemnification language below). Describe the project's plan for obtaining insurance:	We will be obtaining event insurance for the August 15, 16, and 17 events. We are relying on WACA's event insurance for our participation in the August 9 event.
Describe the project's need for city permits, and plan for obtaining:	We have applied for a city special event, but will actually be re-applying today to include a request for a 21-and-over beer garden. We have also applied for a special event liquor license from Washington State LCB for this.
Add any other notes you would like for consideration by the Washougal Arts Commission:	We're very excited for our third year and to be doing all of our performances right in the heart of downtown Washougal!
Attach a document and any supporting media needed for a complete description of the project including: 1. <i>Project concept and purpose</i> 2. <i>Expected impact of the project on the arts in Washougal</i> 3. <i>Detailed project timeline from preparation to completion, with major milestones</i> 4. <i>The number of individuals the project will employ (including volunteers)</i> 5. <i>The number of individuals you expect the project to reach, if applicable (attendance, visits, views, etc.)</i> 6. <i>Any images, diagrams, or other media needed to convey the project</i> 7. <i>Links to any media samples or online resources needed to convey the project</i> <i>(Attach additional documents as needed - PDFs or ZIP file)</i>	

Attach Concept and
Purpose Document
Here:

[WSF-concept-and-purpose.pdf](#)

Attach Impact
Document Here:

[WSF-impact.pdf](#)

Attach Timeline
Document Here:

[WSF-timeline.pdf](#)

Attach Employment
Document Here:

[WSF-employment.pdf](#)

Attach Reach
Document Here:

[WSF-reach.pdf](#)

Attach Media Here:

[songraft-2024-festival-recap-slides.pdf](#)

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

2025 Budget: Washougal Songcraft Festival		
dates: Aug. 9, 15, 16, 17, 2025		
3d ANNUAL FESTIVAL		
# of events: 4		
<u>program expenses:</u>		
artists	\$4,000	15 soloists, 2 duos, 3 bands; workshop / open mic hosts
advertising & printing	\$2,000	
venue	\$300	Downtown only this year
insurance	\$300	
sound & equipment	\$1,000	
merchandise expense	\$1,000	t-shirts and other souvenirs
graphic design / illustration	\$300	
concessions expense	<u>\$150</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$9,050	
<u>program revenue:</u>		
gate donations	\$1,200	
business sponsors / ads	\$1,000	
fundraisers	\$1,200	
merch sales	\$1,200	
concessions sales	\$300	
grants	<u>\$4,200</u>	
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$9,100	
PROGRAM NET:	\$50	



2nd Annual Washougal Songcraft Festival

August 10, 15, 16, 17, 18 2024

24
original
songwriters

3 composers

41
total
performers



Five Concerts at three locations

- Reflection Plaza: Washougal Art Festival, Saturday Aug. 10
- Marina Park: Thursday and Friday, Aug. 15-16
- Washougal Community Center: Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 17-18



Social media responses:

All comments ▼

- 

Lisa Neher
Congratulations, everyone! What a fabulous festival!!
3w Like Reply Hide
- 

Jim Warford
What a wonderful event for Washougal
3w Like Reply Hide
- 

Karen Matz
Can't wait until next year!
2w Like Reply Hide
- 

Lori Buckwalter
YOU'RE CREATING A CULTURAL TREASURE!💜
3w Like Reply Hide 2👍



Susan Elizabeth - The Treehouse Art Studio
A fabulous performance!
4w Like Reply



Gina DeNoble is at **Washougal Waterfront Park.**

August 18 at 10:08 AM · Washougal · 🌐

Scenes from [Washougal Songcraft Festival!](#)

Washougal Songcraft Festival is one of the best organized and most shrewdly curated new festivals in the region. The founders are so thoughtful and passionate about their mission to bring cultural offerings to the Washougal area. They've even started a non-profit in order to get funding to pay artists and build a new venue in town! They are talented artists in their own right ([Raven Fables](#)), so they know what artists need to be comfortable. The sound setup and technician at the festival were top notch. The vibe of the crowd was so friendly. They even had a green room tent stocked with snacks and drinks for us! All the thanks in the world to [Stephanie Corbell](#) and [Christopher Corbell](#) for your hard work and dedication to both the festival artists and your community as a whole. Artist friends, apply for this festival next year and help spread the word!

Thanks to the awesome attendees for listening and supporting local songwriters!

As an added bonus, Friday was one of the perfect summer weather days we LIVE for in the Pacific Northwest AND you could see Mount Hood from the stage! 🌲🏔️🌞 Just a chef's kiss experience.

[#singer](#) [#songwriter](#) [#singersongwriter](#) [#originalmusic](#) [#musician](#)
[#musiciansofinstagram](#) [#singersofinstagram](#) [#voice](#) [#vocalist](#) [#vocals](#) [#acoustic](#)
[#guitar](#) [#acousticguitar](#) [#soulful](#) [#folk](#) [#livemusic](#) [#festival](#) [#musicfestival](#)
[#washougal](#) [#songcraft](#)



Thank You!





WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL

5270 D St. Washougal, WA 98671 • 503-893-9105
info@washougal-songcraft.org

WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL 2025 EXPECTED REACH

This year's festival has two major marketing goals:

- 1) To reach more local residents and bring them downtown for the free concerts
- 2) To reach more out-of-town travelers and have them make the festival and a visit to Washougal part of their summer travel plans

We expect something like a 70% - 30% split between local and out of town visitors.

Our primary reach is in-person attendance. These are our attendance goals; note that due to the duration of concerts and because these are free, these are "rolling" goals not maximum audience size. For example on Saturday August 16 we may only have 100 people present at any given moment, but with people coming and going at different times we hope to reach at least 250 people that day.

ATTENDANCE GOALS:

Saturday 8/9: 300
Friday 8/15: 150
Saturday 8/16: 250
Sunday 8/17: 40

ONLINE / MEDIA REACH:

We will not be posting our performances online, but we think that impressions from online advertising and social media posts will be meaningful to support Washougal's reputation as a cultural destination. We expect to make thousands of impressions on out-of-town people through our online advertising.



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WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL - 2025 EMPLOYMENT

Contractors hired or partnered with:

38 musicians
1 sound engineer
2 graphic designers / t-shirt printers
1 local printer
2 beer-tenders
3 local food vendors

TOTAL CONTRACTORS: 47

Volunteers:

2 (organizers/emcees)
4 (merch booth / donations)
4 (photography & video)
4 (crowd greeting / programs / surveys)
4 (setup, teardown, stage, misc.)

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS: 18

Total festival employment (contractors + volunteers): 65



WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL

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June 23, 2025

WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL - TIMELINE

- [x] before start of year - confirm collaboration with WACA again
- [x] Jan 8, 2025 - approve annual budget
- [x] Jan 15, 2025 - put out application for artists
- [x] Feb 15, 2025 - commission new art for this year's festival
- [x] Feb-March 2025 - multiple grant applications (LTAC, ArtsWA, SoW Tourism, etc.)
- [x] April 10 2025 - file City of Washougal event application * (re-filing in June)
- [x] April 15 2025 - deadline for artist applications
- [x] April 30 2025 - sound system and engineer booking
- [x] May 1, 2025 - confirm artist line-up
- [x] May 20, 2025 - complete design of 3-panel brochure for business sponsorship
- [x] June 1, 2025 - finalize t-shirt designs, schedule printing
- [] June 5, 2025 complete printing of sponsorship brochures
- [] June 5 - July 7 - solicit business sponsors, fundraiser raffle/auction donations
- [x] June 23, 2025 - complete WA LCB special event permit (* delayed by online system issues)
- [] June 23, 2025 - complete Washougal Arts Commission funding application
- [] June 30, 2025 - finalize poster art and handbill design, print
- [] June 30, 2025 - confirm songwriting workshop mentors
- [] June 30, 2025 - purchase event insurance
- [] July 1, 2025 - promote and sell tickets for fundraiser BBQ on 7/20
- [] July 1, 2025 - confirm food/concessions vendors
- [] July 2, 2025 - confirm beer wholesale vendor (or donor, if possible)
- [] July 8, 2025 - press releases and ad buys for festival
- [] July 8 - 15, 2025 - distribution of posters and handbills
- [] July 15 through August 17: daily social media posting and ad buys
- [] July 15, 2025 - deadline for printed program ads
- [] July 20, 2025 - fundraiser BBQ
- [] July 23, 2025 - final printed program and roadsign designs complete, order printing
- [] Aug 1, 2025 - prepare all merch sales equipment
- [] Aug 6, 2025 - pick up final printed materials (programs, signage)
- [] Aug 9, 2025 - present 6 songwriters at WACA event, 10 am - 2:30 pm
- [] Aug 14, 2025 - put out roadside signs for weekend events
- [] Aug 15, 2025 (morning) transport up all needed equipment (tents, chairs/tables, etc.)
- [] Aug 15, 2025 - Reflection Plaza concerts
- [] Aug. 16, 2025 - Reflection Plaza concerts
- [] Aug. 17, 2025 - Community center workshops and open mic



WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL

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June 23, 2025

WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL - IMPACT

This is the third year of our summer festival highlighting original songwriters here in Washougal!

We believe the immediate impact will be to connect excellent songwriters with appreciative audiences, both local and visiting. Good cultural experiences stay with folks even when they go home, whether home is just up the hill or hundreds of miles away. We think that creating these positive memories associated with Washougal in the summertime will, first of all, give everyone a sense of shared meaning and enjoyment.

We hope that our effort will have some positive results in the local cultural economy. We want to bring folks downtown not just for our events but also to support local restaurants, breweries, and other businesses. Beyond August, we hope that this festival will come to be seen as a part of Washougal's cultural identity, and that it will get folks talking about Washougal as a good place to hear (or play) original regional music. This kind of reputation isn't built overnight, but we know the many artists we have brought to town (both for our festivals and smaller song circles) are helping to spread the word.

We also hope to have impact on creative culture and arts education. We got to see firsthand this year how much local students appreciate connection with working songwriters, and we think that is the key to encouraging them to find their own voices and be creative. Also this impact is not just for kids; folks of all ages may be interested in songwriting as a creative outlet, and we think our festival is approachable enough to encourage them (while also presenting some really excellent songwriting, to inspire them).



WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL

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info@washougal-songcraft.org

June 23, 2025

WASHOUGAL SONGCRAFT FESTIVAL - CONCEPT AND PURPOSE

We are surrounded every day by songs that do not connect us to our communities. These are corporate-owned songs that have been played and overplayed through the media through decades, and continue to permeate our public and private commercial spaces, from the aisles of the grocery store to the smartphones in our pockets.

We believe that human creativity is the key to both a life fully lived and a community's culture fully formed. We are not meant to simply be consumers of creative content engineered elsewhere. Culture is a connection of soul to soul, and it can develop anywhere that the people decide to make room for it.

The purpose of Washougal Songcraft Festival is to cultivate original creative community here in Washougal, a town that has no performing arts venue and very little creative infrastructure.

We believe songwriting is an ideal performing arts focus here, for several reasons:

- It does not take a lot of infrastructure or technology to present a singer-songwriter
- We are fortunate to have a great, diverse community of original songwriters in the region
- Songs are at once music, which can be enjoyed viscerally, and utterance, which lets us connect to shared experiences and thoughts
- Singer-songwriter concerts can be intimate and can work with a small audience, which we feel matches the size of our small, semi-rural town

These concepts and values are behind our mission: to promote arts education, to foster, share, and celebrate the craft of songwriting, and to develop the performing arts and creative community of Washougal, Washington and the surrounding region.