

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNATING A) RESOLUTION NO. 08-3971
COUNCIL PROJECT AND LEAD COUNCILOR)
FOR THE CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN) Introduced by Councilor Rex Burkholder

WHEREAS, the development and/or implementation of certain Metro projects have policy implications that require the attention of the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, some projects with policy implications are of a scope and complexity that, for purposes of efficiency, benefit from the focused attention of a subset of the Council and are called "Council Projects"; and

WHEREAS, a new Council Project will be defined for "Climate Change Action Plan: Phase 1, Scoping and Convening"; now therefore

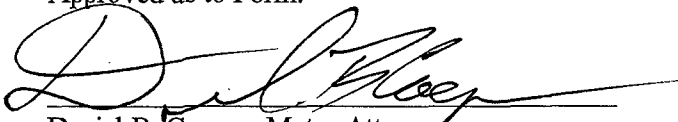
BE IT RESOLVED:

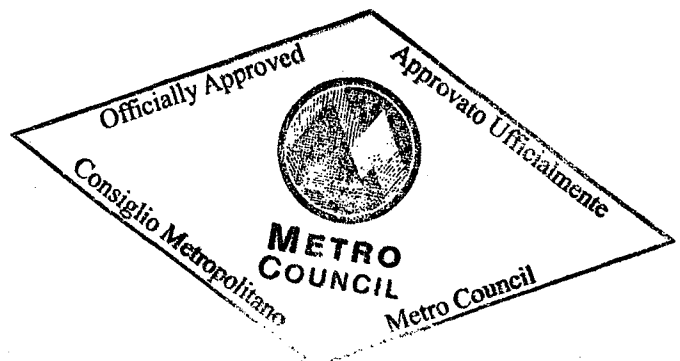
1. The Metro Council confirms the project proposal for "Climate Change Action Plan: Phase 1, Scoping and Convening," including project definition, lead councilor assignment, and councilor liaison assignments as specified in Exhibit A.
2. The Council directs that Phase 1 of the Climate Change Action Plan project will sunset as a project on July 31, 2009.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 21st day of August, 2008.


David Bragdon, Council President

Approved as to Form:


Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney



**Metro Council Project Proposal
August 21, 2008**

- 1) **Project Title:** Climate Change Action Plan: Phase 1, Scoping and Convening
- 2) **Lead Councilor:** Rex Burkholder
- 3) **Council Liaisons:** David Bragdon, Carlotta Collette, Kathryn Harrington, Carl Hosticka, Robert Liberty, Rod Park
- 4) **Project Begin Date:** August 2008
- 5) **Estimated Date of Completion:** July 2009
- 6) **Project Description**

Metro's sustainability initiative is an effort to create a collaborative and coordinated strategy to address sustainability issues in the metro region.

Increased concern over climate change has led governments and businesses across the region to take action, signing commitments to reduce waste and energy use, creating long-term sustainability plans, hiring sustainability staff, and creating public outreach programs. While these actions are laudable, organizations often have limited resources with which to pursue them. Furthermore, the challenges posed by climate change are global in nature, and transcend organizational boundaries. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to a sustainable level will require extensive coordination between governments, businesses and the public in order to enact policies that create incentives for businesses and residents to reduce their use of fossil fuels without damaging the economy or harming quality of life.

At the same time, Metro has many programs that aim to create livable and affordable communities, make transportation more efficient, and preserve rural

lands and wildlife habitat. These goals and policies are all vital to the overall goal of achieving economic, environmental, and social sustainability, but many of them date from an era when it was common practice to pursue such efforts on an individual basis rather than develop an integrated approach to sustainability. As a result, we lack methods to identify, quantify, balance, and unify these different goals, identify internal and external opportunities for collaboration, and to communicate progress toward meeting these goals to a public that is increasingly concerned with climate change and use of natural resources.

On a regional level we will convene staff, elected officials, and business representatives from across the region to create a climate action plan detailing how the region can meet Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction goals, which call for arresting the growth of greenhouse gas emissions by 2010, reducing emissions to at least 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020, and reducing emissions to at least 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The suggested approach includes collecting information and conducting a greenhouse gas inventory for the region to establish baseline information; surveying existing programs, policies and goals; establishing a Climate Change Steering Committee; hosting a Climate Change Summit; and the convening of a Climate Change Task Force. Metro may be working with the National Policy Consensus Center to undertake this work.

Coinciding with this climate change action plan convening phase, Metro will also implement a sustainability management system to better guide us in making internal, operational decisions with the greatest long-term benefits to both the agency and to the environment. This program complements the Chief Operating Officer's Sustainable Metro Initiative, which calls for the agency to reorganize its management structure by expertise and function rather than by department. A coordinated approach to sustainability at both the internal and regional level will ensure that both Metro departments and regional stakeholders work together to combat climate change and other issues as effectively as possible.

7) Policy Questions

- How can we best engage regional partners to create a climate action plan that is both impactful and actionable ?
- Which organizations should we engage in creating this plan, and at what stage of the process should we engage them?
- How should we structure the process of creating a climate plan?
- Should Metro partner with ICLEI in creating its climate action plan?

8) Outcomes

- Phase 1
 - Initial research, including regional inventory
 - The creation of a Climate Change Steering Committee that will set regional GHG goals, outline roles and set priorities in developing a regional climate action plan;

- A regional climate change summit to ensure widespread involvement in and awareness of the climate action plan;
- Phase 2
 - A regional climate action plan that sets greenhouse gas-reduction goals, identifies programs that will enable the region to meet these goals, and outlines a strategy for implementing these programs;
 - A task force composed of representatives from local governments, businesses, environmental advocacy groups and residents, which will be responsible for creating the climate action plan.
- Phase 3 (Optional)
 - Small project implementations “Climate Solutions” (concurrently with Phase 1 and 2)
 - Associated cost estimate by Oregon Solutions: \$50,000.

9) Connection to Council Goals and Objectives

Sustainability has three components: social equity, environmental health, and economic strength. These components are analogous to the Council’s *Great Places*, *Environmental Health*, and *Economic Vitality* goals, and Metro’s sustainability initiative touches upon all three. The initiative has specific ties to the following objectives:

- 2.2 Our community is inspired to create a better future for wildlife and the environment.
- 2.4 Metro is a model for sustainable business practices.
- 3.4 Stable, affordable sources of energy, combined with energy conservation, position the region for sustained economic growth and stability.

10) Resources Required / Budget Implications

For Phase 1, \$75,000 has been allocated in the FY 2008-09 budget for convening a regional forum and development of a working committee to begin a regional climate action plan. In addition to these allocated funds, there will be further costs associated with data collection (both internal and external), public outreach and professional support to be provided by Oregon Solutions, Oregon Consensus and the National Policy Consensus Center (NPCC). The costs associated with this external support will provide, but not be limited to:

- Assessment: A Critical First Step
- Convening: Creating a Collaborative Environment
- Negotiation: Exploring Interests and Options
- Refining the Agreement
- Initial steps for Implementation

Additional funding will be needed for this first phase as well as future phases. Staff should have a clearer picture of resources that will be needed for future phases in the spring of 2009. The costs for this first phase will surpass the currently allocated \$75,000, as mentioned above; upon convening our regional partners, staff will update Council on additional costs for phase 1 of this project. In addition, staff will work with regional partners and the Governor's office for additional funding sources for this project.

Suggested Timeline:

August 21, 2008	Council presentation and affirmation of CC work plan outline.
August – October 2008	CC information collection and analysis (GHG baseline and etc.) and survey of programs, policies, goals and etc.; Collaborative Solutions design assessment.
October – December 2008	First phase of CC Steering Committee consensus on goals, principles/roles and priorities
January/February 2009	METRO CC Summit
January – July 2009	CC Task Force development of Climate Action Plan(s)
January 2009	Announce METRO Climate Solutions Program
January – July 2009	Climate Solutions Collaborative Projects initiated
July 2009	Award Climate Grants for successful Solutions Projects
July 2009	CC Steering Committee