Climate Action Planning in Washington

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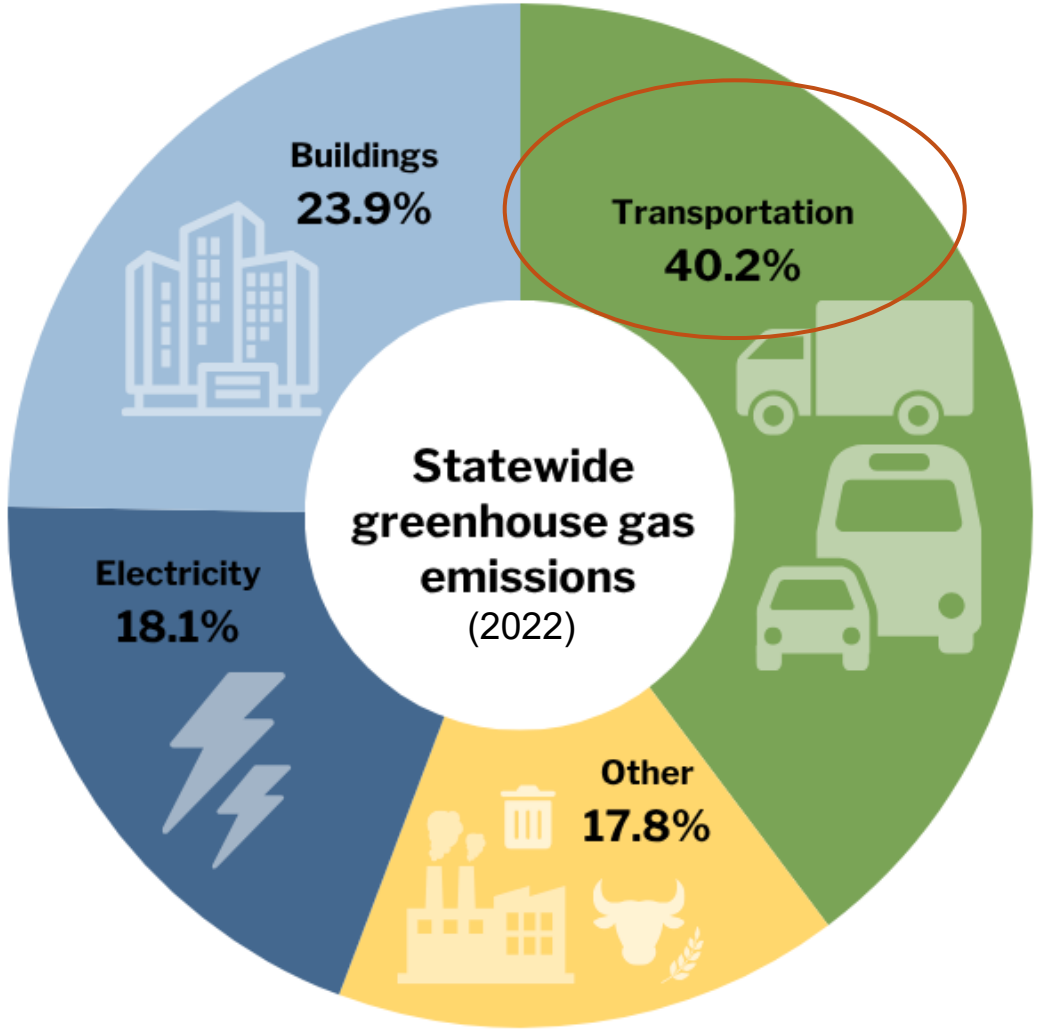
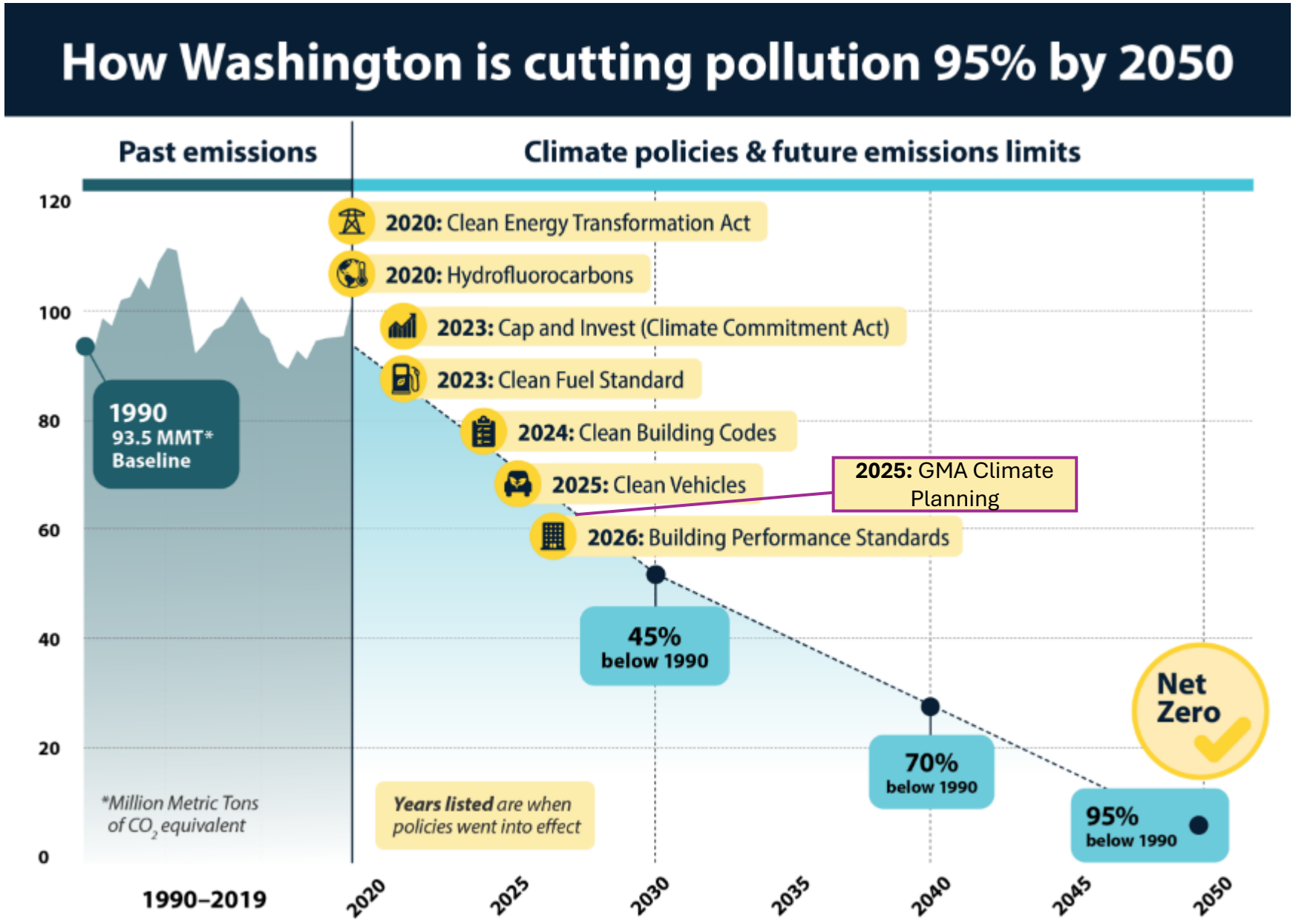
WA Greenhouse gas emission limits

- 2020 – reduce to 1990 levels
- 2030 – 45% below 1990 levels
- 2040 – 70% below 1990 levels
- 2050 – 95% below 1990 levels/net zero emission



Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Washington


How Washington is cutting pollution 95% by 2050
Past emissions
Climate policies & future emissions limits
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
1990
93.5 MMT*
Baseline
2020: Clean Energy Transformation Act
2020: Hydrofluorocarbons
2023: Cap and Invest (Climate Commitment Act)
2023: Clean Fuel Standard
2024: Clean Building Codes
2025: Clean Vehicles
2025: GMA Climate Planning
2026: Building Performance Standards
45%
below 1990
70%
below 1990
95%
below 1990
Net Zero
*Million Metric Tons of CO_2 equivalent
Years listed are when policies went into effect
1990–2019
2020
2025
2030
2035
2040
2045
2050

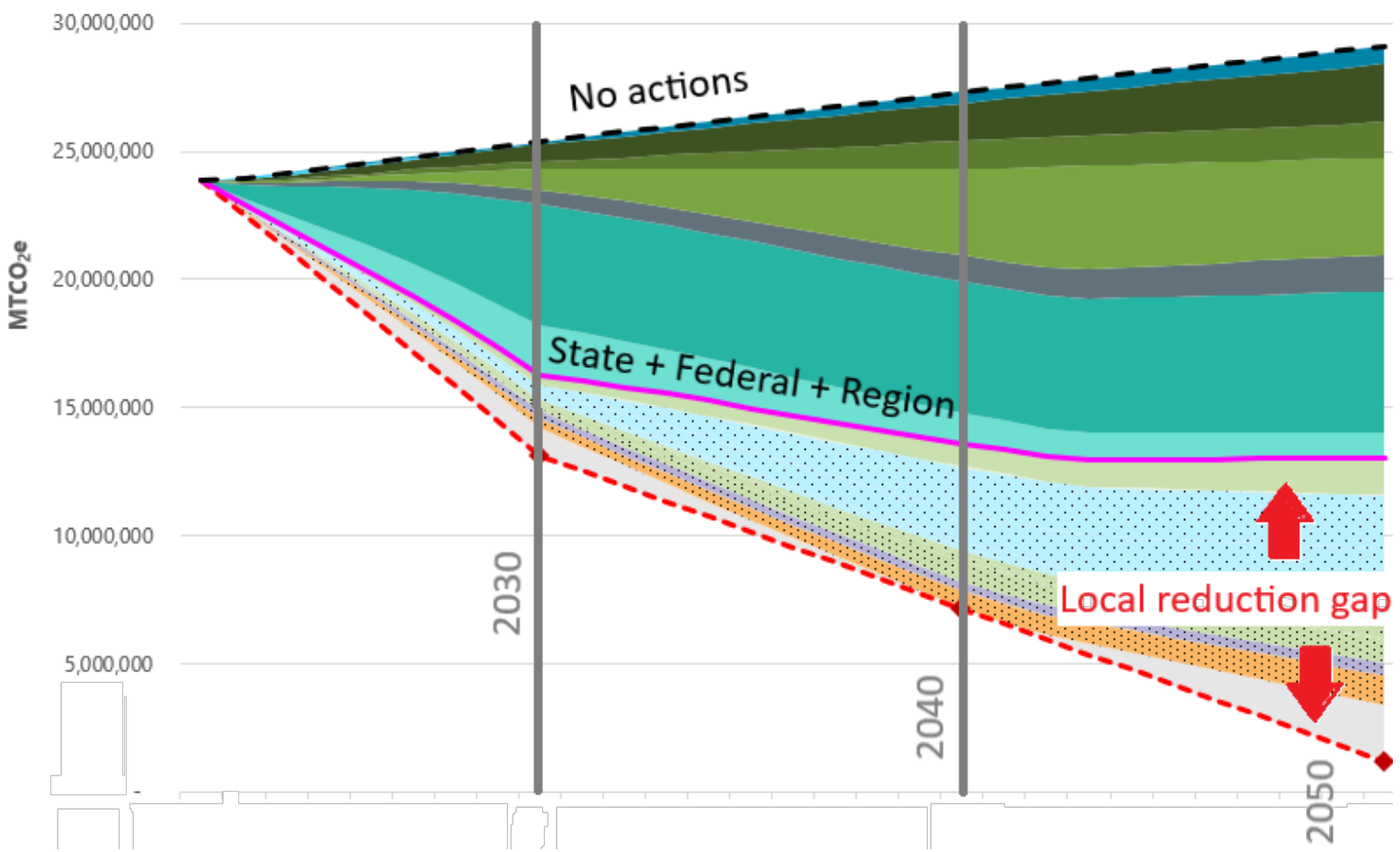
Local climate planning: Gap

Partners in GHG reduction to state's 2050 net zero target:

- Federal
- State
- Local government

State climate planning:
WA Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

Local climate planning:
GMA climate element



WASHINGTON CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP

Washington State Department of Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY State of Washington

Washington Climate Partnership

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

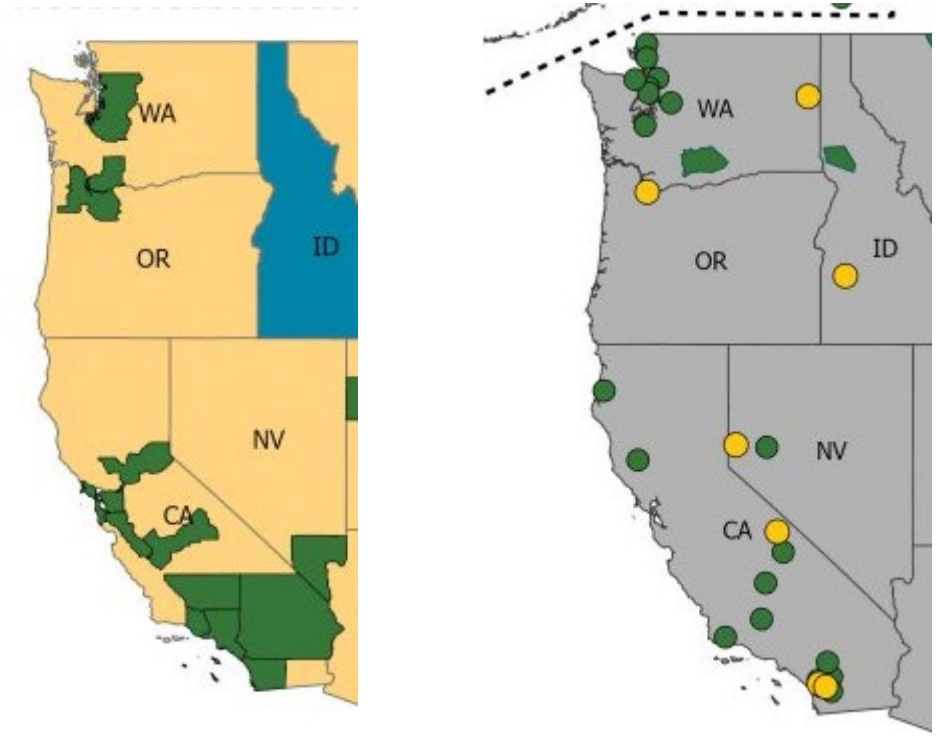
CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANTS

Washington State Department of Commerce and the Washington Department of Ecology received financial support from the EPA under an Assistance Agreement.

CCAP

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)

EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) provide funding to states, Tribes, local governments and territories to **develop and implement** plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions



LEFT: State (yellow) and MSA (green) CPRG planning grantees
RIGHT: Tribal (green) and Tribal consortia or partnerships (yellow) CPRG planning grantees

Credit: Environmental Protection Agency, https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/about-cprg-planning-grant-information

CCAP

What is the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan?

Purpose: Comprehensive assessment of WA's climate landscape

- Achieve state greenhouse gas reduction limits
- Provide direct benefits to communities, businesses and individuals

Goal*:* Strategic planning

- Incorporate existing state policies and frameworks
- Prioritize future policies and investments
- Create an "evergreen" plan that can be used for years to come

Key CCAP takeaways

Washington already has a strong set of climate policies. However, **the state can and must do more.**

Expanding clean energy and improving efficiency remain affordable and effective climate strategies.

Climate action is not one-size-fits-all. The state should work with Washington communities to identify and implement solutions that work for them.

Prioritizing environmental justice is essential. This plan looks at how the **community benefits of climate actions can be equitably distributed.**

Transitioning to a clean economy isn't just about climate—it positions our state to **remain globally competitive, creates jobs, and makes daily life more affordable** for Washingtonians.

CCAP

Capturing the whole WA economy

Electric power

Transportation

Industry

Buildings

Agriculture

Natural and working lands

Waste and materials

CCAP

CCAP Engagement: Transportation

Common topics:

- Invest in **public transit** and **electrification expansion**
- **Funding and coordination** between governmental agencies and levels
- Consider **regional and geographical variations** as well as population growth
- Prioritize **public education**

Poll/survey questions	Top responses
Top priority strategy	1. Clean vehicle incentives and standards 2. Increase travel alternatives
Greatest barriers to climate action in the transportation sector	1. Program funding 2. Political support 3. Administrative capacity

CCAP

Transportation decarbonization strategies

Transportation efficiency and travel options

- Land-use planning
- VMT mitigation
- Expand public transit
- Improve active transportation connections

ZEV standards and incentives

- Implement ZEV standards
- Expland charging
- Clean ports
- Non-road electrification

Low carbon fuels

- Clean fuel standards
- Renewable fuel incentives and standards

Workforce, education, and environmental justice

- Expand public education
- Clean vehicle workforce development
- Address past inequities

Washington State Department of Commerce

Supporting Local Governments

Guidance & Grants

Climate planning required by law

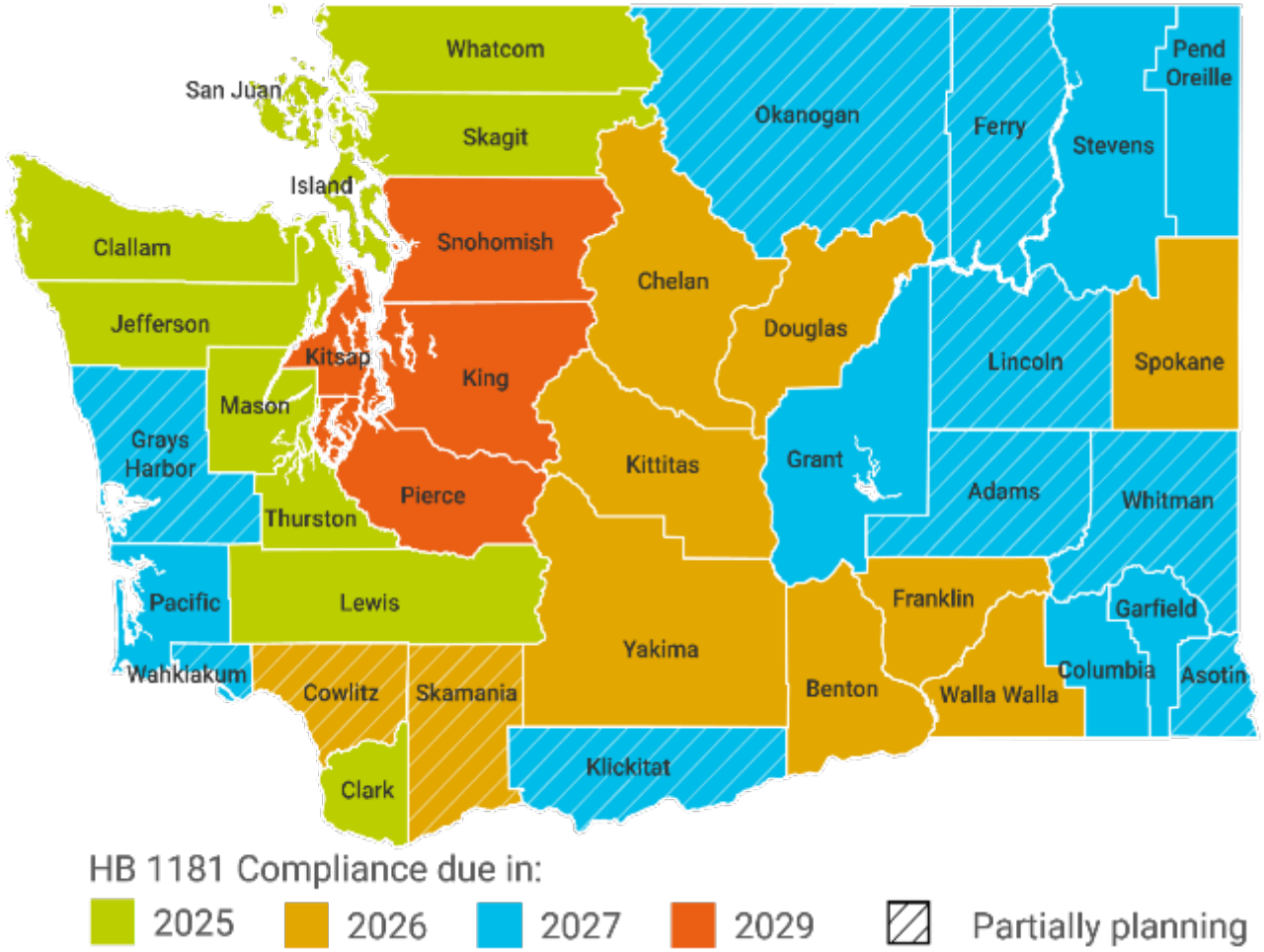
Law in effect 2025 to 2029

246 climate elements are due through June 2029

- To date: 90 submitted

Voluntary GHG subelement

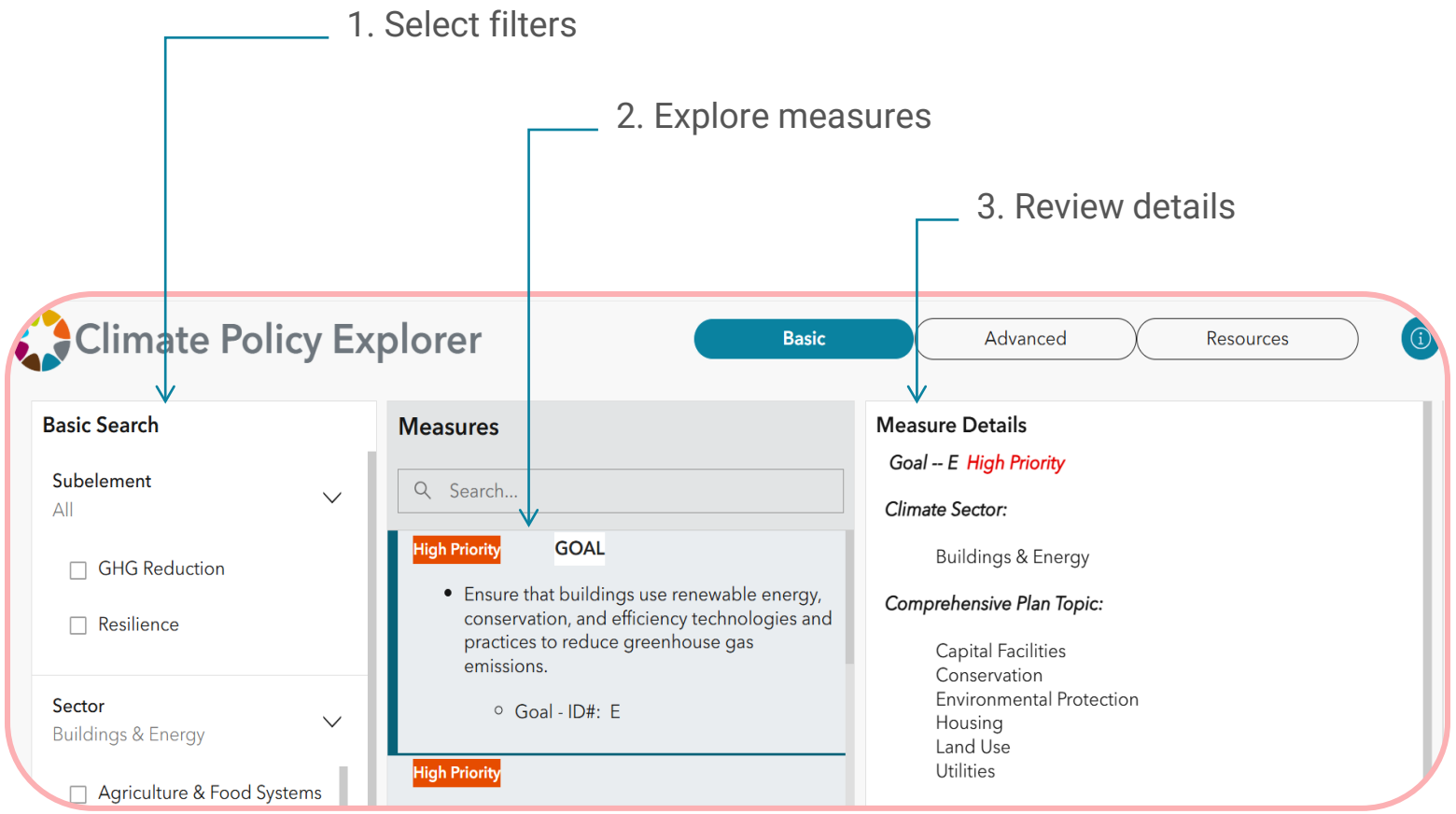
- To date: 6 submitted



Technical Support: local planning guidance

- Climate Policy Explorer
  200+ model goals and policies

- Climate planning guidance
- Story map



Technical Support

WA Climate Emissions Estimator (WaLEE)

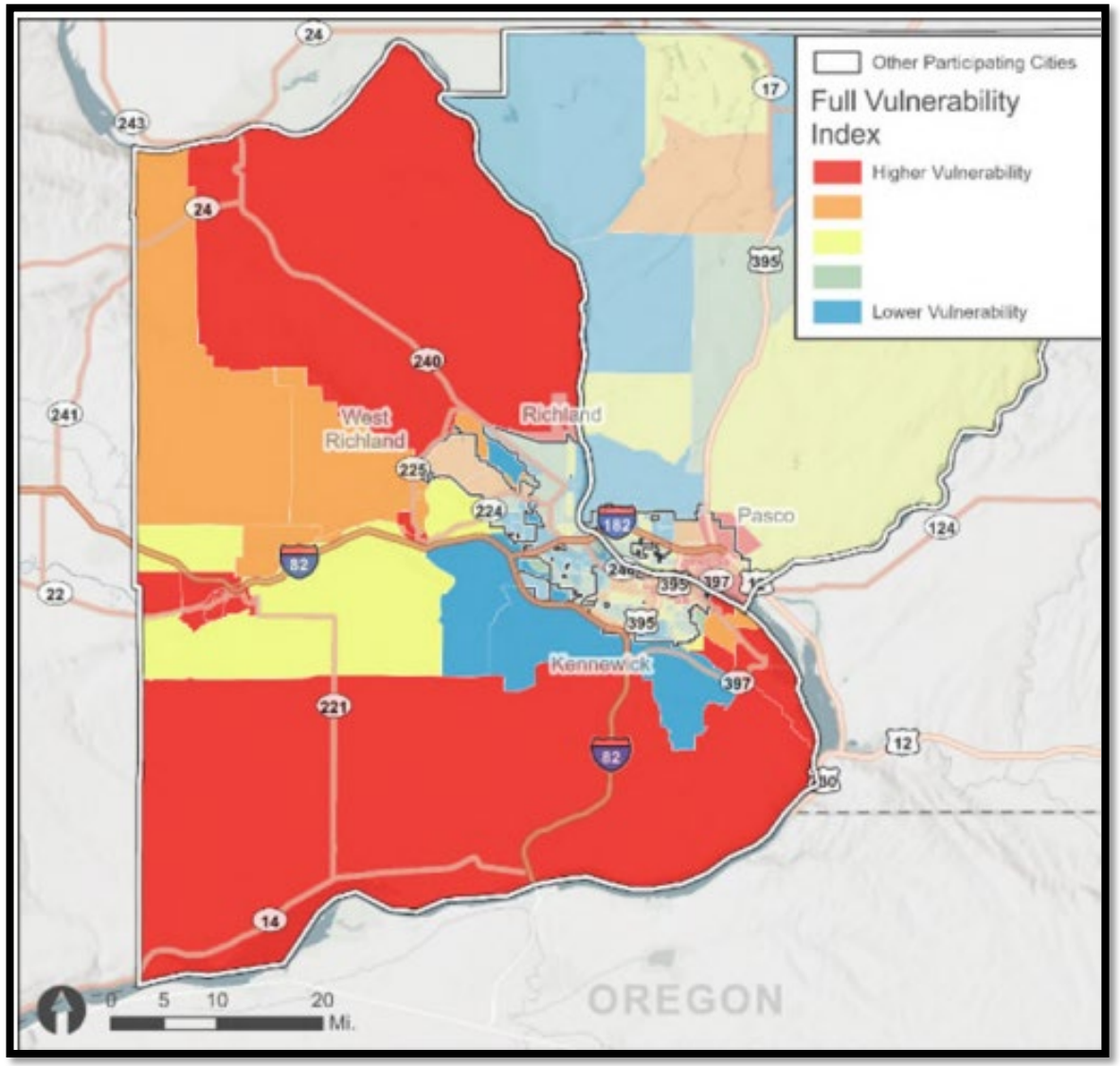
- Quantifies GHG emissions reduction potential
- Curated local climate data
  - Washington Zoning Atlas (WAZA)
  - County emission inventories
  - Western States Handbook – US Climate Alliance

Climate Planning Grants $40M

- 170 grants issued since 2023
- Grant Application
  - Low barrier application process
  - **Formula** funding, not competitive
- Funding Per Biennium:
  - $21M FY 23-25
  - $19M FY 25-27
  - $19M FY 27-29 (forecast)
- Allowed Activities
  - To support climate element development
- Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction (VMT)
  - Multimodal Level of Service Plans
  - EV Charging Strategies or Plans

Climate Planning Grant Spotlight

- Tri-county regional effort
- Benton-Franklin Council of Governments (BFCOG) led the development of a regional climate element
- Set stage for future collaboration
- Regional VMT reduction strategies



Thank you!

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[Commerce CPRG Website]

[Department of Ecology Website]

[Washington Climate Partnership Website]

[Local climate planning guidance]