

**ACSI Air Quality, Climate, and Energy Subcommittee
Draft 2026 Workplan**

- **January: Cancelled**
- **February: Determine priorities for 2026**
 - **Subcommittee work**
- **March: CEI Hub update/Continue to refine workplan**
 - Shortening meeting due to the Board of Commissioner's Women's Month Proclamation and Women in Sustainability Panel.
 - Quick overview on CEI Hub from John
 - **Subcommittee work: Review draft work plan, identify 2025 recommendations to focus**
- **April: How can the County partner with other programs to leverage non LIHEAP/US DOE dollars?**
 - Responsive to request for conversation on how the County can leverage known funding sources (e.g. HOMES/HEAR in East County and the Energy Friendly Homes in PDX).
- **May: How can the County support the adoption/implementation of the City's Climate and Health Standards for Existing Buildings?**
 - Possibly also discuss Property Fit, Multnomah County's Commercial Property Assess Clean Energy program.
- **June: Explore how AQCE can support/catalyze work on 2025 letter recommendation**
- **July: Continue conversation on how AQCE can support/catalyze work on 2025 letter recommendation**
- **August: Update on efforts to respond to consumer awareness campaigns - AQCE provides feedback**
- **September: (TBD)**
 - **Subcommittee work:** Begin identifying potential recommendations based on past conversations
- **October:**
 - **Subcommittee work**
 - Begin narrowing down recommendations.
- **November:**
 - **Subcommittee work:**

- Assign work on finalizing recommendations.
- **December : Discussion 2026 letter and Address gaps in federal support (or more federal funding conversation?)**
 - **Subcommittee work:** Finalize recommendations

2026 workplan brainstorming

Topics identified by subcommittee during January Meeting:

- Facilitate connections between community and experts/administrators (CBOs, CAAs, Energy Trust, OHCS, others)
 - *Staff note: Can I get more detail on what this would look like in action?*
- How can the County leverage HOMES/HEAR in East County and the Energy Friendly Homes in PDX?
- Continue work on consumer awareness and education of programs that they can access and the sequencing that maximizes support.
 - *Staff note: Consistent with 2025 letter recommendation - see below*
- Supporting the implementation of the CHESB standards - Flesh out how our subcommittee can impact.
 - *Staff note: Consistent with 2025 letter recommendation - see below*
- Making recommendations to the commission on how to take advantage of bills passed in the legislature
- CEI Hub: At a minimum the committee should have a periodic update. The only thing that the Committee is likely to be able to do is to continue advocating for large corporations to pay for managing the risk.
- I would love to know what the commissioners feel would be helpful from this committee. We talked about helping them with accountability aside from helping them implement the CJP. Perhaps there is thought partnership that they feel we could provide to help them make informed decisions?
 - Should learn about things that the Commissioners are thinking about implementing and that are in their docket so that the advisory committee can offer insights. Can offer a summary of the meeting to the Commissioners so that they can make more informed decisions. +
- Prioritize items in the 2025 letter

2025 Letter Recommendations for exploration:

Came up at January meeting:

- Sticky note: Continue work on *consumer awareness* and education of programs that they can access and the sequencing that maximizes support.
 - **2025 letter - Create an energy affordability public information plan:** The County should develop a comprehensive information dissemination strategy that includes: updating 311 with key energy resource information and providing energy resource guides to SUN Schools, health clinics, libraries, early learning programs, and other community gathering hubs where residents already seek support. The County should proactively share information about energy efficiency programs with key audiences, including providing retrofit information to landlords who can implement improvements that benefit vulnerable renters.
 - Impact: See impact above.

- **2025 letter - Expand educational resources and funding for wood burning alternatives:** As federal Environmental Protection Agency resources diminish; the County should strengthen educational outreach about wood burning impacts and expand funding sources for heat pumps and woodstove changeout programs.
 - Impact: Reduces indoor and outdoor air pollution from wood smoke, which disproportionately harms low income communities and individuals with respiratory conditions, while ensuring equitable access to clean, efficient heating that improves air quality, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and supports long term respiratory health across the county.
- **Sticky note:** Supporting the implementation of the CHSEB standards - Flesh out how our subcommittee can impact.
 - **2025 letter: Support City of Portland implementation of CHSEB standards**
Following the recent submission of Climate and Health Standards for Existing Buildings (CHSEB) standards to City Council, the County should demonstrate support for this community-led initiative that would advance indoor air quality, safe indoor temperatures, energy burden and housing stability.
 - Impact: Protects vulnerable populations from wildfire smoke and air pollution while reducing respiratory illnesses and health disparities in communities most impacted by poor air quality.
 - *Staff note: Reached out to City Council and BPS staff to understand timelines to keep in mind and make sure to address this time in a timely manner.*

Other items in letter:

- **Establish clean air goals or standards for communities and homes:** Grounded in the Climate Justice Plan and coordinated with other local governments, the County should develop comprehensive clean air standards that include indoor air quality. These standards should be paired with direct links to resources for improving air quality.
 - Impact: Establishes measurable benchmarks for reducing respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular disease, and premature deaths while simultaneously addressing the disproportionate burden of poor air quality on low income communities and communities of color.
- **Support large, high impact infrastructure upgrades:** The County should pursue and advocate for investments in significant infrastructure such as smart grids, industrial symbiosis projects, and community solar installations. This includes working with community organizations to help identify project opportunities and connect those to project development and financial support.
 - Impact: Establishes resilient, locally controlled clean energy systems that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower energy costs for vulnerable households, decrease reliance on fossil fuel infrastructure, and build community wealth through revenue generation that can be reinvested in further climate adaptation and public health programs.

- *Staff note: Right now arguably our limited engagement in utility resource planning is consistent with this recommendation. Not yet formally covering “working with community organizations to help identify project opportunities and connect those to project development and financial support,” although Staff over the years has done that informally in some instances.*
- **Support and advocate for the creation of an Air Quality Fund:** The County should champion the creation of a fund that requires large polluters to contribute financially, similar to Metro's Reuse Impact Fund or through expanded definitions in Metro's Reuse Impact Fund, enabling local governments to purchase air quality filters and heat pumps for vulnerable community members. This includes supporting potential action by the Oregon Legislature to create a “climate superfund” or other related concepts.
 - Impact: Creates a sustainable funding stream while keeping people comfortable in their homes and preventing displacement.
 - *Staff note: This is an advocacy recommendation so I am not sure if it is ripe for AQCE focus.*
- **Bolster Resilience Through Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations:** The County should strengthen collaborations with organizations currently working on climate resilience hubs, clean and just energy transition, air quality, and climate initiatives, as well as with groups interested in advancing work that intersects with County and Climate Justice Plan goals. As part of this effort, the County should work with public, private and community partners to identify opportunities to develop community solar and other distributed energy resources.
 - Impact: Amplifies community voice, leverages existing community expertise, and builds trust. Identifying community energy opportunities can guide / influence state level legislation and policy implementation, and expand resilient, clean energy resources to underserved areas.
 - *Staff note: Resilience committee?*
- **Continue allocating staff capacity to mitigate energy burden:** The County should maintain dedicated staff resources to undergird the imperative for affordable household energy and advocate for programs and initiatives that 1) reduce energy burden in our community, 2) keep residents connected to energy services, 3) support community members' ability to repay any utility debt, and 4) emphasize addressing barriers around serving renters.
 - Impact: Improves household stability by preventing the snowballing crises that occur when families must choose between paying utility bills and affording food, medicine, or rent, ultimately reducing preventable health conditions, homelessness, and displacement while building community resilience against climate related energy disruptions.
 - *Staff note: Ongoing work in coalition with robust group of CBOs, community action agencies, and others. Does not seem ripe for AQCE focus but maybe better for updates?*

- **Review Resilience Resources:** Early in 2026, ACSI will release a Resilience Hub Issue Brief that includes an introduction to community-serving resilience and strategies that support local developments. The Issue Brief will include local case studies from the Kijani Collective and Portland Community College. Multnomah County should incorporate the findings of this document broadly into its work, and convene, connect and support development of government, community, and joint climate resilience projects. (Resilience)
 - Impact: Articulating the County’s role in resilience hub planning and supporting best practices will accelerate community impact and learning. Engaging with nascent and established resilience hub efforts can help connect residents to County services, and strengthen the ability of the County to respond during a broad range of emergencies, including major weather events, toxic releases, fires or a seismic emergency
 - *Climate Resilience Subcommittee*

ACSI Air Quality, Climate, and Energy Subcommittee Workplan 2025

- **January: Cancelled**
 - Our meeting was scheduled for new year's day and new ACSI members were not yet on board, so Staff decided to cancel January
- **February: Determine priorities for 2025**
 - Subcommittee work
- **March: Legislative Session Review**
 - Subcommittee work
- **April: Discussion on follow-up items in letter-Accountability**
 - Subcommittee work
- **May: Utility affordability**
 - Subcommittee work
- **June: Air Quality**
 - Subcommittee work
- **July: BUMPED - We did not hold a July session**
- **August: Working in community**
 - Subcommittee work:
- **September: Align the climate plans and initiative of jurisdictions to create collective impacts**
 - **Subcommittee work:** Begin identifying potential recommendations based on past conversations
- **October: Resilience (We will probably not hold this session here since we now have a subcommittee)**
 - Subcommittee work
 - Continue exploring potential recommendations
- **November: Workforce development in clean energy sector (maybe joint meeting with other subcommittee?)**
 - Subcommittee work
- **December : Discussion 2026 letter and Address gaps in federal support (or more federal funding conversation?)**

- **Subcommittee work**
- **Subcommittee work**

Topics identified by subcommittee:

- How to encourage follow-up on items in letter +++ (April)
- Utility affordability ++
- Clean air in newly constructed housing +
- Keep an eye on NEM changes +
- Expanding the definition of Community Resilience Hubs +
- Heat Island Focus Areas (MultCo Health Proposals) +
- Expanding community science literacy programming +
- Zoning laws and public health impacts (such as parkrose neighborhood situation) +
- Return to discussion about how this group can help with accountability +
- Workforce development in clean energy sector (whole energy transition) +
- Government affairs actively supports bills that support County priorities
- Find ways to include community in policy conversations in more engaging way
- Community Infrastructure and housing development for resilience
- Align the climate plans and initiatives of jurisdictions to create collective impact
- Address gaps in federal support.

Reorganized

- Government affairs actively supports bills that support County priorities (part of **March** leg conversation)
- How to encourage follow-up on items in letter +++ (**April**)
 - Return to discussion about how this group can help with accountability +
- Utility affordability ++
- Air quality:
 - Clean air in newly constructed housing +
 - Zoning laws and public health impacts (such as parkrose neighborhood situation) +
- Resilience:
 - Expanding the definition of Community Resilience Hubs +
 - Heat Island Focus Areas (MultCo Health Proposals) +
 - Community Infrastructure and housing development for resilience
- Working in community
 - Expanding community science literacy programming +
 - Find ways to include community in policy conversations in more engaging way
- Workforce development in clean energy sector (whole energy transition) +
- Align the climate plans and initiatives of jurisdictions to create collective impact
- Address gaps in federal support.
- Keep an eye on NEM changes + (Observe versus dedicating a session)

ACSI Air Quality, Climate, and Energy Subcommittee Workplan 2024

- **January: Draft Letter**

- **February: Review ACSI recommendations, update on Community Green Tariff, Community Change Grant**
 - **Community Green Tariff (Silvia/Tim)**
 - Updates on PGE's proposal and likely upcoming process
 - **Grant: CPRG and Community Change Grant (Tim)**
 - Silvia and Tim
 - **Subcommittee work**

- **March: Finalize letter recommendations, January winter storm**
 - **Finalize letter recommendation**
 - Complete review of ACSI letter
 - **Debrief winter storm**
 - Conversation with the subcommittee about personal and community experience during the January 2024 winter storm, and implications on our work.

- **April: Quick overview of potential funding sources and Multnomah County's role inside and outside of the City of Portland, Potential changes to Net Energy Metering**
 - **Potential proposed changes to rooftop-solar compensation (Net Energy Metering)**
 - Subcommittee interested in hearing from Oregon Solar and Storage Industries Association about potential PGE proposals on changing to compensation of rooftop solar under Net Energy Metering.
 - **PCEF/State/Federal/Utility Funding**
 - Potential focus on strategic partnerships and investment under PCEF, federal, state, and utility funding sources.
 - (From December 6 Notes): Discuss how the County can support areas outside of Portland and PCEF funding
 - Due to gentrification, a significant portion of Black communities displaced outside of City boundaries and therefore unable to receive benefits from PCEF.
 - Discuss what is the community's role on this issue and how we should be engaging the community in the work.
 - Plan to invite PCEF and/or speakers from CBOs exploring these partnerships and investments.
 - Explore any steps that the subcommittee would like to see from the Board and OS.
 - **Subcommittee work**

- **May: Extreme winter weather**

- NEM Debrief
 - Extreme weather: County response and future opportunities
 - **Subcommittee work**
 - **June: Resilience - Climate and Health Resilience Plan**
 - Conversation with Health Department about Climate and Health Resilience Project
 - Begin scoping heat and summer hazards conversation (Survey)
 - **Subcommittee work**
 - **July: Expand on heat and summer hazards conversation**
 - Heat and summer hazards (survey)
 - CJP Update: Goals/strategies related to climate resilience (survey)
 - **Subcommittee work:** Begin identifying potential recommendations based on past conversations
 - **August:**
 - Supporting resilient community-facing infrastructure (survey)
 - Electrification access and the County's role (survey)
 - **Subcommittee work:** Continue exploring potential recommendations
 - **September: Electricity Focus**
 - 100x50 Resolution: Multnomah County's work on Clean and Just Energy Transition
 - Overview of relevant County resolutions, County programs, and Office of Sustainability work.
 - 2035 Clean Electricity Goal: Challenges and Opportunities
 - Staff presentation and discussion
 - 2050 Energy Goal: Brief Overview
 - Core values/priorities/strategies guiding 100x50 Resolution work
 - Discussion
 - **Subcommittee work**
 - Begin preparing for subcommittee recommendations
 - **October: Buildings and Energy Focus**
 - Buildings
 - Federal funding and county's role connecting communities with programs
 - **Subcommittee work**
 - **November:**
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 - **Subcommittee work**
 - **December:**
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 - **Subcommittee work**
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AQCE 2023 Workplan

- **August-September: Air Quality**

- Plan for subcommittee discussions of this topic:
 - Respond to subcommittee requests to discuss wood stove and heat pump programs and indoor AQ
 - May invite speakers from Environmental Health (indoor AQ study, woodstove/heat pump programs) and/or advocacy organizations.
 - Explore actions (direct or advocacy) that the subcommittee would like to see from the Board and OS.
 - Discuss what is the community's role on this issue and how we should be engaging the community in the work.
- **August: Indoor Air Quality (John)**
 - Indoor Air Quality Presentation: types of pollution, health impacts, what is the county is doing, recommendations
 - Presentation from guest speaker.
- **September: Air quality data conversation (Derron)**
 - Goal: when it comes time for the letter, we are clear on data needs.
 - Identify what data we have available and what data we need since indoor/outdoor AQ, emission reductions interventions, policy change conversations require data.
 - Seek to identify/produce local data (state/county/city/neighborhood)
 - Consider [this report from We Act for Environmental Justice](#) as it is a great model for community engagement and data collection. The study compared improvements to air quality between ten apartments in public housing with induction stoves and ten with their existing gas stoves. Every participant was able to keep their induction stove which I thought was nice

- **September-October: Climate Justice Plan and Climate Resilience (Nicole)**

- **September: Climate Justice Plan (CJP) (Tim and Monique)**
 - Subcommittee informs the CJP workplan, including the formation of a CJP Steering Committee and “Collaboration Council”, and clear path for additional ACSI engagement
- **October: Climate Resilience (Nicole) and County/External Alignment (Tim/John)**
 - Tori’s presentation: Provide an overview of why they are a crossover priority for air quality and climate, describe existing incentives and those coming online soon, and review Oregon’s new goal for heat pump installation coming out of the legislative session. My hope is that this would lead to some discussion of

anything ACSI can do to further our goals in this area. I think 20-30 mins for all of that is sufficient.

- **November: 100x50 Resolution's Clean Electricity Goal (Silvia)**
 - **Draft Letter:**
 - Begin scoping draft recommendations.
 - **100x50:**
 - Discuss PGE's filing on community green tariff and paths available to work on 100% by 2035 goal
 - Discuss how utility clean energy plans intersect with 100x50 resolution work.
 - Explore what steps the subcommittee would like to see from Board, OS, and electric utilities.
 - Discuss what is the community's role on this issue and how we should be engaging the community in the work.

- **November/December (additional meeting):**
 - **CPRG and Climate resilience**
 - Discuss Climate Pollution Reduction Grants in November (from 10/4 notes)
 - Subcommittee update and discussion of the County's climate resilience work
 - **Draft letter:**
 - Continue scoping draft recommendations

- **December: Draft letter recommendations and Alignment with External Efforts**
 - **Draft Letter:**
 - Review steps and recommendations from prior meetings and check on additional ideas from members.
 - **Alignment with external efforts**
 - Subcommittee update and discussion on County alignment with other external efforts, including City PCEF and HEART standards implementation, and community-led initiatives.