



Climate Change  
Advisory Committee  
Special Meeting  
Monday, September 25, 2023  
5:30 PM  
Council Conference Room  
280 Madison Avenue N  
+ Zoom Webinar

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The Climate Change Advisory Committee will hold this meeting in person and using a virtual, Zoom webinar platform. Members of the public will be able to attend in person at City Hall or by calling in to the Zoom webinar

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://bainbridgewa.zoom.us/j/85620078049>

Telephone: 1-253-215-8782

Webinar ID: 856 2007 8049

#### Agenda

- 5:30 Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call/Accept of Modify Agenda/Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- 5:35 Approve Minutes from July 19, 2023
- 5:40 Public Comment
- 5:45 Elect Chair and Vice Chair (Kevin)
- 6:00 Welcome New Members and Discuss Strategies to Get Them Up to Speed (All)
- 6:15 Discuss Climate Lens for Comprehensive Plan (Mike – attached)
- 6:45 Climate Manager Updates
  - ICLEI Invite for Mini-COP Activities (attached)
  - General Updates
- 7:00 Other Updates
- 7:30 Adjourn

Bainbridge Island  
Climate Change Advisory Committee  
July 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:33 PM by Kevin.

Roll call:

- Committee members: John Kydd, Derik Broekhoff, Kevin Thomas, Julie Matthews, Jens Boemer, Steve Richard
- City Council: Leslie Schneider
- City Staff: Autumn Salamack

Agenda: No additions

Conflicts of Interest: None

Minutes: Approved (motioned by Julie, seconded by John, unanimously approved)

Public comments: None

### Agenda Items

Updates

- Decision on carbon offset for the police building. City Council directed the city manager to move forward with identifying a location for a 120kW solar project, as well as adding a 15kW installation on the roof of the new police building. Autumn asked CCAC members if they know of any full-service contractors for managing these projects (including identifying a site, managing proposal solicitation, etc.).
  - **Action:** No immediate ideas – further follow-up needed.
- Climate lens. The city is developing / identifying a set of questions to ask about the emission reduction and adaptation/resilience potential of prospective projects, policies, and programs, as well as whether they can support education/outreach.
  - Autumn indicated they are seeking input on questions – how easy to answer, how helpful, etc.
  - Leslie posed a question about priority-based budgeting system as something to explore? (Would it be applicable?)
  - **Action:** Follow-up comments/input needed by July 31
- Fehr & Peers report presentation (City Council Study Session): F&P report looked at possible measures to reduce VMT on island and what could be GHG reductions from EVs. It also analyzed the potential contribution from Inflation Reduction Act and other EV infrastructure programs. They presented it to the city on July 18.
  - CCAC members discussed committee formation to address transportation. Autumn mentioned city is meeting to discuss types & composition of city subcommittees, including in regard to transportation issues.
  - CCAC members also briefly discussed what city could do to track progress on transportation goals.

- Climate smart Bainbridge status. 282 households have signed up. City has hired an intern to help ramp up participation (targeting 500 households by end of year). There was some discussion around what city / CCAC could do to understand better why there might be reluctance to engage. Also discussed assessing what the overall impact has been. No immediate action items.
- City Thread presentation. Autumn noted that on July 25, City Thread would present findings on accelerating implementation of the sustainable transportation plan. One of their takeaways is that the ST plan is quite good (especially compared to other jurisdictions). City already has in-house expertise to build multimodal projects. There are groups passionate about seeing through implementation (but not always coming together on common message). The city could do a better job of communicating benefits to all constituencies, especially on non-infrastructure projects.
- Other updates from Autumn:
  - Some modifications are being made to waste reduction ordinance
  - Heat pump survey closes Sunday
  - Landscaping survey is underway
  - City is hiring for a sustainable transportation position
  - Interviewing of new CCAC candidates is underway
  - The city is looking to acquire an electric street sweeper (using VW settlement grant money)
  - Fleet electrification project close to completion
    - Looking at accelerated vs. standard turnover schedule
    - Infrastructure upgrades are the big cost
  - Winslow subarea visioning sessions are upcoming (6-8pm July 20; farmers market, etc.)

#### Other items

- CCAC members discussed need to complete ethics board training (online video)
- Racial equity training is coming up that will be open to all committees
- Julie noted that committee members also need records training
- Climate trivia night – discussion of this was deferred until Mike can join at next meeting
- CCAC members discussed IRA funding updates

Finally, CCAC members had a conversation with Ali Lee about an upcoming opportunity for the city (and possibly other public district representatives and/or members of the public) to meet with congressional representatives, department of commerce representatives, and others about potential financial support available through different federal funding programs (Farm Bill, IRA, etc.) to support climate change mitigation projects on the island. The meeting would need to be scheduled within the next week or two. There was discussion of how this could be organized and who might attend.

Derik moved to adjourn the meeting; John seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

# Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review: Climate Change Advisory Committee Recommendations (June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the City Council passed a resolution, No. 2023-03, establishing a Steering Committee to provide oversight on the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review. The resolution outlined the role and purpose of the committee which included *applying a climate lens to all project work, activities, and outcomes*<sup>1</sup>.

The Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) is providing recommendations on how to ensure climate change related issues are addressed during the public outreach and community engagement portions of the Steering Committees work and to the larger effort in developing the revised Comprehensive Plan. This document does not address a "climate lens" for specific project work related to city activities (e.g., infrastructure design, capital planning, etc.). That is a separate effort.

## 1. Public Outreach and Community Engagement

We have provided recommendations on:

1. Who should the Steering Committee include in public outreach and community engagement?
2. What information should be included in public outreach and community engagement related to climate change?
3. What actions can be taken to reduce emissions during the public outreach and community engagement process?

Who should the Steering Committee include in public outreach and community engagement? We would suggest ensuring the following groups are notified of the comprehensive plan update process and that they are aware of options for providing input. Of course, there are many other organizations that need to be involved (e.g., tribes, business groups, school district, park district, fire department, Washington State ferries, Puget Sound Energy and Kitsap Transit) but the ones below are more focused on climate-related issues.

### City Committees

- Climate Change Advisory Committee
- Race Equity Advisory Committee
- Utility Advisory Committee
- Environmental Technical Advisory Committee
- Design Review Board

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<sup>1</sup> The oversight role and purpose of the committee will be to:

- Review and critique public engagement plan
- Provide recommendations on planned public outreach and community engagement events
- Provide recommendations concerning deliverables, work plan, and schedule
- Assist staff and consultant team in maintaining community perspective and hierarchy of issues and outcomes
- Assist staff with monitoring budget and cost containment
- Report meeting summaries and project activities to respective council, commission and city advisory boards and committees
- Apply an equity lens consistent with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity's (GARE) Racial Equity Assessment and climate lens to all project work, activities, and outcome

## Organizations

- Sustainable Bainbridge
- Climate Action Bainbridge
- Bainbridge Greenways
- Bainbridge Island Watershed Council.
- Squeaky Wheels
- Bainbridge Island Park Foundation
- Bainbridge Island Land Trust

What information should be included in public outreach and community engagement related to climate change?

An important component of the public outreach community engagement process is providing information that in this case is related to climate change. We recommend that the following information be included in public outreach efforts. We believe this information is important for people to understand the climate impacts that need to be addressed by the Comprehensive Plan, what actions have already or will be taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare the Community for the impacts from climate change, and engage the public in working together to solve the problem.

- Overview of climate impacts for Bainbridge Island.
- Overview of how climate change was integrated into the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update.
- Overview of the Climate Action Plan.
- Overview of what actions the City is currently taking to address climate change.

What actions can be taken to reduce emissions during the public outreach and community engagement process?

We believe it is important to ensure the City is doing what it can to reduce emissions during the public outreach and community engagement process. We have provided a few examples of actions that could be taken during the process.

- Ensure there are options for remote attendance.
- Encourage attendees to carpool, bike, walk, and take transit.
- If food is served, ensure there are low-carbon meal options (such as vegetarian) provided.
- If food and beverages are served, ensure reusable/compostable food service ware items are provided.
- Develop strategies for reducing waste such as limiting printed materials for events.

## 2. Climate Lens for Updates to the Islands Comprehensive Plan

During the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update a Bainbridge Island Climate Impact Assessment<sup>2</sup> was developed that included:

- An overview of the major climate change impacts for Bainbridge Island;
- Implications of climate change on each of the elements in the Comprehensive Plan; and
- Actions Bainbridge Island could take to reduce the identified climate impacts.

Based on this analysis and extensive public comments, climate change was imbedded throughout the 2016 Comprehensive Plan. Many groups were involved to ensure climate change was integrated into the 2016 Comprehensive Plan including Climate Action Bainbridge, Citizens Climate Lobby, and Sustainable Bainbridge among others. Many of the climate related goals and policies identified in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan are included in the 2020 Climate Action Plan (see Attachment A).

In addition, EcoAdapt developed a guide for Puget Sound communities to use in updating their Comprehensive Plans that provides valuable information to assist communities in incorporating climate change into all aspects of their Comprehensive Plans.<sup>3</sup> The document provides information on Washington State's Growth Management Act Goals and provides some additional language on how climate change could be incorporated into those goals (see Attachment B for a few examples).

Finally, the Washington State Department of Commerce is developing a model climate change element that is scheduled to be completed soon that jurisdictions can use as a resource when updating their Comprehensive Plans<sup>4</sup>.

Using these documents, the CCAC has developed a set of questions that we believe are important to consider when evaluating the:

1. Vision, Guiding Principles, and Guiding Policies for the Comprehensive Plan.
2. Vision, Goals, and Policies for each of the ten elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

In addition, we believe it is important that we are involved in developing specific recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan as it is developed.

Our goal is to ensure updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan proactively address opportunities and needs to both reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare our community for the impacts of climate change, and meaningfully engage the community in working to address climate change.

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<sup>2</sup> Hansen, L.J., S.J. Nordgren, and E.E. Mielbrecht, 2016. Bainbridge Island Climate Impact Assessment. EcoAdapt, Bainbridge Island, WA

<sup>3</sup> Hansen, L.J., S.J. Nordgren and E.E. Mielbrecht. 2016. Climate Change Adaptation through Local Comprehensive Planning: Guidance for Puget Sound Communities. EcoAdapt, Bainbridge Island, WA.

<sup>4</sup> The Washington Department of Commerce is developing a model element to help cities and counties address climate change in their comprehensive plans. The model element will include mitigation (greenhouse gas reduction) and resilience (climate impacts preparedness, response, and recovery) planning guidance, as well as a model chapter with goals and policies that communities may voluntarily adapt or adopt into their comprehensive plans as part of their periodic update. The model element must be completed by June 2023.

Questions to consider when developing the Comprehensive Plan Vision, Guiding Principles and Guiding Polices

1. Does the vision support the goals of the 2020 Climate Action Plan and 2022 Sustainable Transportation Plan?
2. Are there guiding principle(s) and policy(s) associated with reducing greenhouse gas emissions, preparing our community for the impacts of climate change, and engaging the Community in finding solutions?

Questions to consider when developing the vision, goals, and polices including the implementation priorities for each of the ten elements of the Comprehensive Plan

1. What are the climate issues of concern for each element and how could those issues affect what we are planning to do?
2. Does the vision for each element include a call for action on both climate mitigation, climate change adaptation, and community engagement?
3. Is there a specific goal for each element that supports the 2020 Climate Action Plan approved by the City Council?
4. Which of the following Climate Action Plan goals, if any, does each element policy support?
  - Mitigation: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2045 compared to 2014 levels with interim milestones of 25% reduction by 2025 and 60% by 2035 compared to 2014 levels.
  - Adaptation: Bainbridge Island is climate savvy and can withstand the impacts of climate change.
  - Community Engagement: COBI inspires community action and partners with local and regional organizations to take meaningful and equitable climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.
5. Will a policy result in the production of greenhouse gases (GHGs)? For example, will it result in electricity/gas use, vehicle fuel use, waste generation, etc.?
  - If yes, what steps can be taken to mitigate those emissions?
6. Does the policy impact and/or could it be affected by climate change impacts, such as increased temperatures, increased precipitation, sea level rise, ocean acidification, vegetation changes, increased erosion/slope instability,
  - If yes, how is this policy working to address that climate change impact?
7. Are the implementation priorities in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan consistent with the 2020 Climate Action Plan and current actions to address climate change?

What are the recommendations for specific goals and policies for each element of the Comprehensive Plan including the implementation priorities (this will include only those goals and polices that are directly relevant to climate change)?

Element	Existing Goal	Proposed Changes or Additions	Existing Policies	Proposed Changes or Additions	Existing implementation priority	Proposed Changes or Additions
Land Use						
Economic						
Environmental						
Water Resources						
Housing						
Transportation						
Utilities						
Capital Facilities						
Cultural						
Human Services						



## Attachment A

The following are specific policies in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan related to climate change. These were highlighted in the 2020 Climate Action Plan.

**BI Comprehensive Plan Guiding Principle #7: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the Island's climate resilience.**

Guiding Policy 7.1: Participate with state, regional and local partners to reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the 1990 benchmark and future year targets set forth in state law, educate the public about climate change and incentivize Island activities including land use patterns and building practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Guiding Policy 7.2: Minimize or ameliorate the impacts of climate change on our community and our Island's ecosystems through climate-informed policies, programs, and development regulations.

Guiding Policy 7.3: Evaluate the climate vulnerabilities and implications of City actions and identify policies that alleviate those vulnerabilities. Consider the effects of shifting conditions (sea level rise, changing rainfall patterns, increasing temperatures and more extreme weather events) and the effects they cause (altered vegetation, changing water demands, economic shifts).

**BI Comprehensive Plan: Energy**

Goal CF-4: Public facilities constructed on BI meet appropriate safety, construction, energy conservation, durability and sustainability standards.

CF 4.4: Require public facilities to incorporate energy generation when and where possible.

EN 10.9: Maintain and improve Island air quality, by promoting the development of carbon free infrastructure. EN 12.6: Promote energy conservation measures by all government entities.

EN12.7: Promote the installation of residential solar panels and the adoption of other energy saving technologies such as LED lights, heat pumps, and insulation.

U.14.1: Develop a plan together with the electric service providers to undertake energy efficiency improvements and other alterations of electric utility facilities to provide capacity for future growth.

U14.5: Encourage the electric service providers and electricity users to use carbon neutral electricity generation, local electricity generation and innovative technologies such as solar power.

U14.7: New taxpayer-funded buildings shall use carbon-neutral energy for heating, cooling and operational use.

U14.9: Explore ways to obtain 100% green electricity including investing in new renewable energy projects.

## BI Comprehensive Plan: Transportation

EN 12.2: Facilitate the improvement and convenience of low carbon mass transit and increased car sharing, cycling, walking and the development of alternative vehicle infrastructure (e.g., charging stations) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

TR 3.4: Support WSF and other providers to create and incorporate best practices into ferry service that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and vulnerability of ferry transit from climate change.

TR 7.2: Develop a master plan for the SR 305 corridor as a green and scenic highway balancing the objectives of maintaining its character and providing safe visibility. Incorporate best practices into highway improvements that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transit vulnerabilities from climate change.

TR 12.2: Develop transportation plans and programs that reduce travel demand, improve traffic flow and consider the impact on air quality including reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

## BI Comprehensive Plan: Buildings

EC 3.1: Encourage use of green building materials and techniques in all types of construction, as well as design approaches that are responsive to changing conditions.

EC 6.3: Develop urban design strategies to ensure that the built environment is appropriate for present and future conditions, including the impacts of climate change.

EN 10.4: Ensure beneficial indoor air quality in all renovations and new construction of City-owned facilities.

U 14.5: New taxpayer-funded buildings shall use carbon-neutral energy for heating, cooling, and operational use to the maximum extent practical.

EN 7.1: Consider the implications of sea level rise in all relevant decision making by using regional sea level rise projections and shoreline instability maps (as provided by the WA Department of Ecology and utilized and interpreted with the Bainbridge Island Climate Impact Assessment).

EN 7.2: Coordinate with Tribal, Federal, State and local agencies to address issues related to sea level rise.

## BI Comprehensive Plan: Natural Environment

EN 1.1: A primary goal of the Comprehensive Plan is protecting the Island's natural environment; land use decisions implement this goal.

EN 1.3: Protect and enhance the natural systems and environmental quality of Bainbridge Island by continuing to build cooperative relationships between the City, citizens, landowners and other public, non-profit and private organizations.

EN 1.5: Create and maintain overlay maps that show the location of agricultural lands, critical aquifer recharge areas, geologically hazardous areas, floodplains, streams, wetlands and fish and wildlife. Integrate the maps from the BI Climate Impact Assessment.

EN 1.8: Consider the potential impacts of climate change and its impacts in all decisions related to natural systems and environmental quality.

EN 5.10: Consider climate change and its impacts on all decisions related to wildlife, fish resources and natural systems.

#### BI Comprehensive Plan: Forests

EN 1.4: Maintain and enhance natural systems and protect wildlife, fish resources and open spaces through land use plans and development patterns including tree retention and planting.

EN 10.2: Encourage the retention of existing trees and vegetation and the planting of new trees and vegetation that provides natural filtration of suspended particulate matter, removes carbon dioxide, and improves air quality.

EN-14: Collaborate with the Kitsap County Noxious Weed Board and other relevant agencies and organizations to develop and maintain a plan to remove and control invasive plant and animal species, as well as prepare for vulnerability to future invasive plant and animal species resulting from climate change and international commerce.

EN-18: Encourage the retention of forest land and multiple aged forests since healthy forests provide many ecological benefits to all forms of life on the Island and help mitigate climate change.

#### BI Comprehensive Plan: Water Resources

WR 1.1: Study future climate and demand scenarios to accurately plan for future water resource conditions.

WR-3: Surface Water Protection Achieve no net loss of ecological functions and processes necessary to sustain aquatic resources including loss that may result from cumulative impacts over time.

WR 3.11 Consider the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification when developing regulations or approving capital projects related to aquatic resources including marine nearshore, wetlands, streams, lakes, creeks, associated vegetated areas and frequently flooded areas.

WR-6: Public Education and Outreach the City in conjunction with partners will continue to improve and implement comprehensive public education and outreach program to promote protection and management of all water resources.

#### BI Comprehensive Plan: Agriculture

EN15.9: Work with the Conservation District and nonprofits to encourage farming that accounts for changing Island conditions regarding hydrology, temperature and other climatologically influenced factors.

EN15.10: Improve public information and create new programs to promote agriculture while advocating for farming practices that protect water quality and quantity.

## BI Comprehensive Plan: Waste

E.C.3.3: Encourage local enterprises to participate in programs such as Kitsap County Waste Wise and Green Community Initiative.

E.C.3.4: Encourage public sector solid waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

E.C. 3.5: Encourage existing and new businesses to become part of a linked cooperative whereby the by-products and waste of one enterprise become the raw materials of another.

E.C. 3.6: Create opportunities to foster green technology and industries, such as energy, waste, and information technology, which have the potential to create local, family wage jobs in our community.

## BI Comprehensive Plan: Community Engagement

EC7.8: Support and make Bainbridge Island a model community for climate change preparedness and sustainability practices to ensure long-term viability while attracting and protecting visitors, businesses, and residents.

EN1.8: Consider the potential impacts of climate change and its impacts in all decisions related to natural systems and environmental quality.

EN5:10: Consider climate change and its impacts in all decisions related to wildlife, fish resources, and natural systems.

EN7.1: Consider the implications of sea level rise in all relevant decision-making by using regional sea level rise projections and shoreline instability maps.

EN7.2: Coordinate with Tribal, Federal, State and local agencies to address issues related to sea level rise.

EN12.1: Support and implement climate pledges and commitments undertaken by the City and other multi-jurisdictional efforts to reduce GHG emissions, address climate change, sea level risk, ocean acidification, and other impacts of changing global conditions.

EN12.3: Strive for reduced GHG emissions by, among other actions, integrating climate change into the City planning process, including land use and transportation planning and management, and making climate change considerations and meeting GHG emission reduction goals a component of city decision-making.

EN12.5: Support the development of a public education program which informs all citizens on the methods and progress for meeting the Island's GHG emission goals, and ways citizens can assist in reaching the reduction goals.

**Attachment B: Comparison of State Planning Goals and Inclusion of Climate Adaptation into Planning Goals (selected areas from page 5 of the document cited below).<sup>5</sup>**

<p>Washington's Growth Management Planning Goals - Adopted to guide comprehensive planning and development regulations in the state of Washington (per RCW 36.70A.020)</p>	<p>Suggested Climate Savvy GMA Goal (should also be adopted by a community as a local climate-savvy goal) (additions in blue):</p>
<p>Urban growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.</p>	<p>Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner. <b>All development investment should be located outside of current and future hazard zones.</b></p>
<p>Transportation. Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.</p>	<p>Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that are based on regional priorities, coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans, <b>and site infrastructure outside of current and future hazard areas.</b></p>
<p>Environment. Protect the environment and enhance the state's high quality of life, including air and water quality, and the availability of water.</p>	<p><b>Ensure the durability of our state's</b> environment and enhance our high quality of life, <b>through protection for air and water quality, as well as water availability even as temperature and precipitation patterns change.</b></p>
<p>Public Facilities and Services. Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards.</p>	<p>Ensure that public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards. <b>Also, ensure that any existing or newly permitted public facilities and services are designed to consider current and future climate scenarios when calculating level of service and are required to avoid present or future hazard areas.</b></p>

<sup>5</sup> Hansen, L.J., S.J. Nordgren and E.E. Mielbrecht. 2016. Climate Change Adaptation through Local Comprehensive Planning: Guidance for Puget Sound Communities. EcoAdapt, Bainbridge Island, WA.



14 September 2023  
Des Moines, USA and Bonn, Germany

## **INVITATION TO ICLEI MEMBERS TO JOIN THE PARIS AGREEMENT GLOBAL STOCKTAKE THROUGH A LOCAL CLIMATE STOCKTAKE**

Dear Council Member Deets,

In less than 100 days, the global climate community will meet in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, from 30 November to 12 December for the 28th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention (UNFCCC COP28).

COP28 will be convened at a moment when communities across the world are feeling the intensification of harmful impacts from the climate emergency that affect lives and livelihoods on a daily basis. At the same time, we are observing a weakening commitment by leadership at all levels for the transition to a climate-neutral, resilient and nature-positive civilization.

Through this letter, in our capacities as the President and Climate Action Co-Chair of ICLEI, we aim to brief you on our preparations toward and in Dubai, and invite your active engagement.

At COP28, fierce negotiations are expected to be focused around the pace of phasing-out of fossil fuels, preparations for just transitions, empowering climate action through positive synergies with food systems, nature-based solutions and youth engagement, and an operationalization of a loss and damage finance facility, among many other technical issues.

But above all, COP28 will be the moment to review the first national climate plans as well as commitments of all stakeholders under the 2015 Paris Agreement, through the process called the Global Stocktake.

**We invite all ICLEI cities and regions to “bring the COP home” to your own city halls or regional parliaments between now and the end of November. Under the banner of #Stocktake4ClimateEmergency, your community can host an official contributing event for this year’s Global Stocktake.**

The outcomes of these local stocktakes will be brought to COP28 to be shared with the global climate community, and especially with nations. These experiences will support efforts of local and other subnational governments to be effectively engaged in the next generation of national climate plans to be presented by COP30 in Belém, Brazil, in 2025 so that global climate action can respond to the climate emergency collectively.



Whether you plan a few hours, a half or full day, we are offering [a step-by-step guide](#) and [toolkit of resources](#) to help you host your “mini-COP” that includes voices from youth, business, elected leaders, and your wider community.

Towards COP28, we are happily observing a [surge in the number, diversity and scale of processes and initiatives to support advocacy and action by local governments](#). In particular, the partnership between the [COP28 Presidency and UN Special Envoy Michael R. Bloomberg announced on 9 March 2023](#) is expected to elevate subnational advocacy and action to a new level. The initial outcomes of this partnership are already visible, including in the upcoming COP28 Presidency Sustainable Cities Strategy and the invitation from the CO28 President Designate encouraging all UNFCCC Parties to adopt NDCs with multilevel collaboration as their core feature.

We expect COP28 to effectively open the new era for climate action, paving the way for a next generation of national climate plans to be presented in 2025 at COP30 in Belém, Brazil. Our voice at COP, the voice of towns, cities, and regions in the UNFCCC process, is the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency. The LGMA is facilitated by ICLEI as the focal point, and we are committed to ensuring that *multilevel action and urbanization become the new normal* in this extraordinary era.

This new phase — defined by multilevel action — is essential for responding to the climate emergency. We would be delighted to hear your plans and ideas in relation to preparations towards or participation at COP28 in Dubai. We look forward to your continued commitment and collaboration.

Sincerely,



Frank Cownie  
Mayor of City of Des Moines, Iowa  
ICLEI President



Katja Dörner  
Lord Mayor of Bonn, Germany  
ICLEI GexCom Climate Action Co-chair