

Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby



Creating political will for a livable planet

Core values: focus, optimism, relationships, integrity, personal power, being non-partisan

CCL NEWS

Last month 21 House Republicans signed a letter defending the energy credits of the [IRA](#), many of which benefit their constituents. Add your voice to this bipartisan CCL effort to keep the most important climate provisions of the [IRA](#)! [Full text, database, and training page.](#)

EARTH DAY 2025

This year's theme is "[Our Power, Our Planet](#)" with a focus on promoting renewable energy, with the goal of tripling it globally by 2030. What would you like to this year for **Earth Month**? Check [here](#) for events in the area.

STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

CCL Tacoma lobbies for the year's best state climate bills, and you can participate—use our [guide](#) for easy online advocacy. The session winds up in two weeks! For the updated status of our prioritized bills, [see p.3.](#)

Great news! **Initiative 2066** was ruled unconstitutional by **King Co. Superior Court Judge Sandra Widlan**! [More on p.3.](#)

PREVIOUS MEETING

Our **March** meeting featured a tour of the [Tacoma Tool Library](#) at the **Main Branch Library**. So much going on there, it's a real community hub! Find out more on the [website](#). [Minutes here.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Friday, 10 am
Resilience group at Cutters Point Coffee, 5104 6th Ave.

Tues, Apr 15, 5:30-7:30 pm
[Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Community Input Workshop](#), Clover Park Technical College.

Wednesday, Apr 16, 7pm
CCL Chapter meeting on Zoom.

Saturday, Apr 19, 10-2
[14th Annual Pierce Co Bike Swap](#), TCCollege Lot A.

APRIL 22 is EARTH DAY!

April 23, 12:30-1:30pm
Tacoma Tree Foundation
[“Decreasing Canopy Change”](#) Moore Branch Library, 215 S. 56th St. and on Zoom

Saturday, Apr 26, 10-3,
CCL tabling at the [South Sound Sustainability Expo](#), Univ. of WA-Tacoma campus

Wednesday, May 7 noon
CCL Study Group meeting on Zoom. Contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Thursday, May 8, 6-8 pm
[Tacoma Green Drinks](#)

SAVE THE DATE!
[CCL Summer Conference and Lobby Day](#)
Washington DC, July 19-22

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

April 1—Five of us plus a Bainbridge Island CCL friend met in Gig Harbor with Alexa Brenner, Rep. Emily Randall's staffer for Pierce County. It was a very cordial get-acquainted meeting with a lot of mutual interest! [More on p.2](#)

April 8—The [Creative ARTivism pages](#) on our website were updated. Check out the new climate art!

Tabling— the season has begun! Pierce County's [Earth Day Celebration](#) was family-focused fun! [Photos](#). Conversations on clean energy, recycling reform, electrification and more. Our next big event is the [South Sound Sustainability Expo](#) on the UW-Tacoma campus on April 26. To join in, contact [Linda Cohan](#).

Please post, like, and comment on our [Facebook](#) page, managed by Nancy Atwood.

The **Resilience Group** is still going strong —join us any Friday!

John Doherty's "Climate 360" has a broad reach, airing on KTAH Radio Tacoma, KVSH Voice of Vashon, & KBCS Bellevue.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Bluesky](#), and [Instagram](#)

See [past newsletters](#)

Lobby Meeting with Alexa Brenner, Representative Emily Randall's
Pierce Co. Field Representative
April 1, 2025 Notes by Elly Claus-McGahan

Attending - **CCL-Tacoma: Barbara Menne, Chuck Jensen, Elly Claus-McGahan, Linda Cohan, Sue Lepore.** **CCL Bainbridge Island: Lee Nathan**

What we learned:

- Rep. Randall is on the Natural Resources Committee and subcommittees: Indian and Insular Affairs, Federal Lands
We can contact Alexa to invite Rep Randall and Alexa to public events we are hosting
- Rep Randall wants to hear from us on legislative issues and asks. We can share those with Alexa or phone or email. She wants to know what her constituents are thinking.

What we shared:

- What our chapters do: tabling, No on I- 2117 postcard writing, presentations, lobbying
- Statistics about **CCL National**, **CCL Tacoma** and CCL Bainbridge.
- 2 national Lobbying events each year, this year July 19-22 in DC and in November Virtual.
- PC Climate Conversation and what it does – connection to County Executive Ryan Mello.
- Clean Energy Credits and IRA impacts – several handouts and **NYT article**
- **Yale Climate Communications' Six Americas** – how public opinion has shifted on climate concern
- House of Rep. **Climate Solutions Caucus 2024** as possible source of climate allies
- **En-ROADS** as a learning tool on climate solutions and their impacts globally
- **CCL-Tacoma** – **Climate activism** and other resources

Our ask on Permitting Reform:

- CCL seeks bills that garner bipartisan support for durability
- Main lobbying goals for Spring 2025:
 - Protect clean energy tax credits from the Inflation Reduction Act
 - They account for 45% of the projected GHG reductions
 - Pass new Permitting Reform legislation
 - Without, 80% fewer GHG reductions would be realized due to clean energy project not getting built
 - Transmission lines have been expanding 1% per year, but to meet our clean energy goals, needs to triple by 2050
 - Currently Environmental Impact Statements take 4.5 years to complete and a new transmission line can take a decade to build
 - 95% of new energy projects currently awaiting permits are for solar, wind or battery storage, less than 5% are natural gas projects
- What CCL would like to see in new legislation?
 - Speed up the pace of new clean energy projects
 - Triple our clean electricity transmission by 2050
 - Allow local communities to give input early in the process

Progress of the Environmental Coalition's Legislative Priorities

Let's keep up the support and help get these bills over the finish line! You can keep tabs on bills at the **WCA's [Environmental bill tracker](#)** or type in the bill number on the [state legislature website](#).

[Strengthen the Clean Fuels law \(HB1409\)](#) Passed the House, now in Senate for second reading.

[Sewage Release Notification \(HB 1670, SB 5450\)](#) Passed the House now in Senate Committee.

[Recycling Reform Act \(HB 1150, SB 5284\)](#) Passed the Senate now in House committee, second reading.

[CURB Pollution Act \(SB 5380 HB1303\)](#) Did not make it to the floor for a full House vote.

[Right to repair digital electronics \(HB 1483, SB 5423\)](#) Passed the House (with a 94-1 vote!) and Senate (48-1!)

Initiative 1-2066 Struck Down March 23, 2025 (from an email from [WAConservationAction](#))

"King County Superior Court Judge Sandra Widlan struck down Initiative 2066, ruling that the initiative was unconstitutional on three separate grounds.

As you know, **WCA** worked against this initiative from the moment it was filed in spring 2024. We recognized from the start that I-2066 was overly broad and misleading and would set back efforts to decarbonize our state's buildings, a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. **I-2066** backers said the initiative would protect natural gas, but in reality, state law already does just that. Instead, **I-2066** sought to weaken our state **Clean Air Act**, attack energy efficiency in our building codes, and prevent utilities from helping customers afford higher-efficiency electric appliances. All to ensure that wealthy developers and the fossil fuel industry could maintain their profits and business as usual. **WCA** led efforts to fight **I-2066**. We built a coalition to oppose it, organized voter education against it, and mobilized members like you to get involved. We rallied our coalition to keep up the fight even when the odds and short notice to Election Day worked against us. After the election, we filed our legal challenge with a broad coalition of local governments, businesses, and organizations to stop this unconstitutional initiative from taking us backward."