

Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby



Creating political will for a livable planet

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

CCL NEWS

ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT

Now called **H.R. 2307**, it has been **reintroduced** by Rep. **Ted Deutch** and has 85 co-sponsors. (To get a current tally on co-sponsors, click [here](#)). In the Senate, the new **Save Our Future Act** prices carbon too. See [link](#) for more.

A Crucial moment for CCL

As the “sausage making” drags on in the reconciliation bill negotiations, it’s easy to get frustrated. But **carbon pricing is in the headlines** and still quite possible by the end of negotiations. Even more reason to keep up the pressure for a carbon fee *and dividend*. CCL is doing its part, making calls, emails, texts and twitters to DC, including to **President Biden**. Join this historic campaign—make your [calls](#) or even volunteer to [phonebank!](#)

CCL National Conference Nov. 13-14 “Grit and Gratitude”

Elizabeth Ayana Johnson, co-editor of the excellent book [All We Can Save](#), is the keynote speaker. Online event, register [here](#).

Be a 5-Minute Activist!

By participating in the **Monthly MOC Calling Campaign**. Sign up [here](#) to call your federal representative once a month. You will receive a text reminder on your assigned day, with phone number and optional script provided. Easy yet effective. Try it!

OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

Was something to be proud of! Special thanks to **Elly Claus-McGahan** and **Barbara Menne** for preparing and hosting it. Interviews with four **Port Commissioner** candidates, including set questions and Q & A time, took place. Such a great way to become well-informed for the **Nov.2nd** election! Here are links to [videos](#) of the interviews and to the full meeting [minutes](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next chapter meeting

Wed., Oct. 27, 6:30-8:30 pm
Speaker: **Dr. John Perona**, CCL Portland, discussing his new publication, [From Knowledge to Power. The Comprehensive Handbook for Climate Science and Advocacy](#)
[Get Zoom link](#)

CCL National Conference,
Nov. 13-14, online event
[Register here](#)

Fircrest [FIRfest](#), Sat., Nov. 6, 10-12,
Fircrest Park. Tree giveaways and plantings

Study (formerly Book) Group
Wed., Nov. 3 at noon, discussing materials that members share.
Contact [Sue Lepore](#)

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Letters to the Editor—**Ray Lepore’s** letter to the editor was published in **The News Tribune on Sept. 26th**. Full text p.2.

Climate Talk radio program, with interviews and commentary by **John**

Doherty, is on **KTAH** and **KVSH 101.9 FM**, and is archived on our [website](#).

[Ginny Lohr](#) and **Fred Ramey** are doing a great job with interesting **Facebook** posts! [Take a look](#)

Tabling: [FIRfest](#), Fircrest Park, Nov. 6, 10-12.

If you have suggestions for other tabling venues, contact [Linda Cohan](#)

Many thanks to **Alex Atwood** for his help in editing and preparing the videos of the interviews from last month’s meeting so professionally!

Elly Claus-McGahan drafted and sent a letter to **City Council**, fully endorsing their **Tacoma Community Climate Action Plan**. It was co-signed by many of us CCL Tacoma members. Read the letter on p.2-3.

CCL “**Book**” Group has morphed into a “**Study**” Group. Although we will still read a book from time to time, generally we will discuss articles, documentaries, and other materials we have found *and shared ahead of time*. Contact [Sue Lepore](#) to join.

November is a CCL lobby month! Meetings with **Representatives Kilmer** and **Strickland** and **Senators Cantwell** and **Murray** and/or their aides are in the preparatory stages.

Check out the recent update to the **Creative Page**, “**Climate ARTivism**,” on the [website](#). As always, there is also a space for members’ contributions. Contact [Sue Lepore](#) to help build this page.

Past newsletters are archived on the website under OUR CHAPTER

Letter to the Editor by Ray Lepore

Climate Change Challenge

With climate change fully entrenched and getting more pronounced each year, we're in a world of hurt. It needs to be addressed now!

Waiting for the politicians to grind out something substantive, especially in the current political climate, is a fool's errand. Developing legislation and implementing it normally takes time, something we have very little of now. If what climate scientists say is true, 2030 will be here before we know it and we will have nothing to show for it but more heat, fewer species, more pollution, fewer natural resources, and millions more dead.

Our culture is fixated on consumption and comfort. We also want climate change to stop happening. Unfortunately, we can't have both at the same time. You can't have your cake and eat it too.

It's time to start powering down. For one week at least, don't buy gas. Try public transportation, walk or ride your bike. Send a message: "NO MORE!"

Besides, you might find getting exercise and being a little inconvenienced actually beneficial.

Ray Lepore, Tacoma

Letter to Tacoma City Council by Elly Claus-McGahan

Dear Mayor Woodards, Deputy Mayor Blocker, and Councilmembers,

Citizens' Climate Lobby-Tacoma members has had the opportunity to meet with several of you over the last few years to advocate for a livable future for all. We appreciate the work you do in these challenging times.

The climate crisis is here as documented by our summer heat dome and this summer's events worldwide as well as the August release of the IPCC report. We all feel an urgency to act. While our national advocacy is around putting a price on carbon, locally we support efforts to reduce carbon emissions, raise awareness, and show up at events supporting climate justice. The Tacoma Community Climate Action Plan gets our full endorsement. It echoes the IPCC goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, it is specific in its actions and why they are necessary, and it is information rich on many fronts for many audiences.

While all the actions are important, we specifically support these Next Move Implementation actions because they seem most dedicated to climate justice and emissions reduction:

- 9-11 – these address how we can transform how we move around our city reducing our emissions and increasing our own well-being through more mobility.
- 14 and 17 – we need to decarbonize our homes, reducing emissions and increasing the health factor of our indoor living spaces. Both retrofitting for energy efficiency, carbon free space and water heating as feasible, and moving our code towards new building being zero carbon and green certified will get us there.
- 10, 11, and 19 – 21 – we need carbon zero transit readily available in our communities but also the means to easily access transit, especially in low and no opportunity neighborhoods. Walking and biking to transit needs to be attractive. We need to decrease the need and increase the appeal of not driving and tackle emissions and access simultaneously.
- 15 –the technology exists, we need to reduce fossil fuel dependence for commercial use.
- 18, 23, 32, 40 – trees are a long-term tool for carbon sequestration, cleaning our air, and reducing our energy use because of the shade provided. Tree canopy is also an equity issue as the heat map shows. Fully funding these will make the city's commitment to climate justice visibly apparent as neighborhoods improve through the addition and maintenance of trees, and the job opportunities provided in this work.
- 4 – investing in the education of our youth on climate justice actions just makes sense. They are the future and they need to have the tools and the knowledge to protect their future.

Fully funding the Community Climate Action Plan would be huge for our city and for Pierce County. We encourage you to stay focused on the need to reduce emissions while also increasing everyone's access to health, job opportunities, and inviting neighborhoods. Being a leader in this will help towns and cities in Pierce County to also work on their own climate action needs.

Thank you.

Of Further Interest

Want to know more about **CCL Tacoma's action teams**? They are fully introduced on the [website](#). You can learn about what they do and who the contact person is; then jump right in and get involved!

CCL National presents a book talk Oct. 27th with CCL advisor **Dr. Katharine Hayhoe**, whose [Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World](#), just came out last week.

Prince William released a 5-part video series on his [Earthshot Prize Awards](#) starting Oct.3, called **The Earthshot Prize: Repairing Our Planet**, including the 15 prize finalists. On Discoveryplus.

Of course, there are now climate emojis, or "climoji"! Some are funny—in a sad way. Take a look [here](#).