Regional Planning for Reducing Climate Pollution

The Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rules expand requirements for regional planning to meet climate pollution reduction targets.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets for Oregon’s Metropolitan Areas

Since 2011, the Metropolitan Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets have set targets for reducing climate pollution through household travel. The targets are a component of the state’s climate pollution reduction strategy directed by the legislature in 2010 (Senate Bill 1059).

The rules ask metropolitan areas to evaluate what changes to local and regional land use and transportation plans and programs, would be needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, from light vehicle travel per capita by 2040 through 2050.

Regional Scenario Planning to Reduce Climate Pollution

Scenario planning is a planning exercise for exploring an area's long-term future. In other words, "where is the area heading, and is that where we want to go?" The processes for scenario planning allows areas to work together to consider statewide, regional, and local needs and issues. Scenario planning studies economic development, fiscal impacts, resource use, pollution impacts, and the effects of different choices on the state, region, community, or household.

The results are intended to help local governments, community members, elected and appointed leaders better understand issues and quantify the effect of adopted policies as they review and update the area’s long-range plans and make investment decisions.

The updated rules expand requirements for regional planning to meet the state’s climate pollution reduction targets from the Portland metropolitan area to the next largest metropolitan areas in the state (Eugene-Springfield and Salem-Keizer) initially. Other metropolitan areas will be required to evaluate their local plans towards meeting the state’s climate pollution reduction targets and amend their local plans towards meeting the target.

The updated requirements are supported with guidance, technical assistance, and funding by Every Mile Counts partners the Department of Land Conservation and Development and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Rule Language is available at https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/CL/Pages/CFEC.aspx

Questions?
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