

Reduce the community's contribution to climate pollution, strengthen resilience against climate-related hazards, transition to clean energy, and enhance livability and quality of life for all residents.

The charter is intended to clarify roles and manage expectations. It states that Blaine County oversees the program and facilitates a collaborative approach among the county; the five incorporated cities of Bellevue, Carey, Hailey, Ketchum, and Sun Valley; and the community. The Sustainability & Climate Advisory Committee's role is to guide development of a regional Sustainability & Climate Action Plan (CAP). Members provide advice and make recommendations for consideration in CAP development and implementation, and monitors progress over time.

GOVERNANCE

ACTION TAKEN: Dynamic Governance Approved.

A governance process called Dynamic Governance was introduced and recommended. This participatory governance model helps teams move forward more quickly while at the same time making sure all members participate in decision-making. Dialogue is structured through a series of rounds: one person speaks in turn, one by one around the circle. Rounds lead to active listening because each person knows they will have a turn to speak. It builds trust by effectively engaging the diversity of perspectives and collective knowledge within the group.

Policy decisions are made through consent versus consensus or majority vote. Consent means a proposal is a preferred solution or within an individual's range of tolerance. Members may object to a proposal. A reasoned objection means the proposal would impede achievement of goals or objectives, or have negative and/or unintended consequence on an individual or organization. Each objection is explored, solutions are identified, and the proposal is amended for reintroduction.

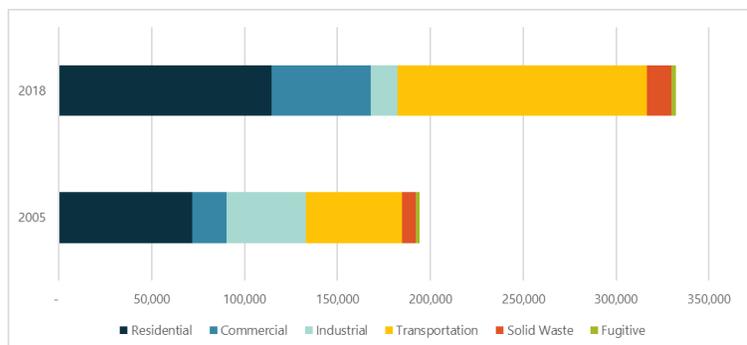
BACKGROUND

A presentation was given to provide information on the Paris Climate Agreement, the U.S. national target for greenhouse gas emissions reduction (50-52% by 2030), and the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report released in August 2021. The report states that we must reduce global emissions by 50% by 2030 to limit global warming below 1.5°C to stem catastrophic climate change.

Actions taken by Blaine County, the cities of Bellevue, Hailey, and Ketchum, and community partners to address climate change were highlighted. For example, greenhouse gas inventories were completed that illustrates the challenge ahead. When compared to a previous inventory, county-wide greenhouse gas emissions increased 71% from 2005 to 2018.

The county and cities will build on past successes – from adoption of clean energy goals, investments to energy efficiency of municipal buildings, green building codes, curbside recycling, and water conservation to progressive land use and zoning policies, as well as a more recent planning initiative to strengthen resilience against climate-related impacts was also presented.

GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY



COMMITTEE ACTION

The Advisory Committee was presented with three proposals. Members broke into small work groups to discuss each proposal and engage in consent decision-making. Each work group reported remaining questions, points of discussion, and decisions reached. The proposals were:

1. **Join ICLEI150 Race to Zero Campaign.** Through this program ICLEI USA will support U.S. counties, cities, and towns that commit to ambitious climate goals. ICLEI will provide a data-driven approach to help communities build momentum for the shift to a decarbonized economy.
2. **Adopt Science-Based Target of 59.6% Reduction in CO2e Emissions by 2030.** Science-based targets align with current climate science to represent each community's fair share of ambition necessary to limit global warming below 1.5°C. ICLEI USA calculated Blaine target.
3. **Develop Plan to Achieve High-Impact Practice Performance Measures.** Current research and analysis offer a set of high-impact practices to achieve ambitious carbon reduction goals including: Grid Decarbonization, Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled, Electric Vehicle Adoption, Building Efficiency, Building Electrification. ICLEI USA calculated performance measures for each high-impact practice for Blaine County. The performance measures, such as 80% total reduction in grid carbon intensity by 2030, offers a data-driven framework for policy and program development.

PROPOSAL 1 ACTION TAKEN: Consent Reached to Join ICLEI150 Race to Zero.

PROPOSAL 2 ACTION TAKEN: Consent Not Reached to Adopt Science-Based Targets.

PROPOSAL 3 ACTION TAKEN: Consent Reached to Develop Plan to Achieve High Impact Measures.

Overall, work groups understood that the proposals were ambitious. There was a general sense that more information was needed about each proposal prior to convening in small work groups, and more instruction on how to follow the Dynamic Governance model to guide discussions. A presentation from staff on each proposal and application of the governance process would have been helpful. For example, more details about the methodology used to calculate science-based targets would have better prepared members for work group discussions.

Work groups recognized that the science-based target is an aspirational goal. **Several work groups proposed amending Proposal 2 to round up the science-based target to 60%.** The audaciousness of the target raised questions about the validity of the methodology used, whether the target is achievable, and the outfall if the target is adopted and not achieved. Similar concerns were expressed about the high-impact practices and performance measures and whether a different set of strategies and performance measures can be devised. Members also expressed unease about being held responsible for achieving specific performance measures. All good questions that lead to next steps.

NEXT STEPS

- Convene subset of members to better understand objections to Proposal 2 and discover whether solutions can be identified and the proposal amended for reintroduction to the committee.
- Join ICLEI150 Race to Zero. Draft clean energy plan that incorporates high impact practices and performance measures.
- Draft recommended stakeholder and community engagement process.
- **Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 10 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.**