



801 228th Avenue SE ■ Sammamish, WA 98075 ■ phone: 425-295-0500 ■ fax: 295-295-0600 ■ web: www.sammamish.us

2023 Climate Action Plan (CAP) Community Advisory Group (CAG) Group Charter Updated May 30, 2023

The City of Sammamish endeavors to form a Community Advisory Group (CAG) to assist in creation of a City and Community Climate Action Plan (CAP).

What is the purpose of a CAG?

A CAG is a group of community members who provide guidance and input on the development or drafting of a City and Community CAP. Ideally, the group consists of a diverse assembly of stakeholders from the community, including representatives from local government, businesses, non-profits, environmental organizations, and community groups to provide input and guidance on developing a CAP that is responsive to City and Community needs and priorities. The purpose of the group is to provide community input and feedback to the City including consultants, staff, the Planning Commission, and ultimately the City Council as the final decision-maker on the appropriateness of proposed community measures, tools, and strategies to be included with adoption of a Sammamish CAP.

What are the group's objectives?

The objectives of the CAG are:

- 1) Engage and involve members of the community in the development of a CAP that is responsive to the community's needs and priorities.
- 2) Provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas about climate change and its impacts on the community.
- 3) Identify and prioritize actions that can be taken by the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change in the community.
- 4) Develop and promote effective and sustainable solutions to address climate change in the community.
- 5) Ensure that community-based measures, tools, and strategies are complete and right sized for the Sammamish community, are realistic to achieve, and that the community understands the public's role in meeting community climate goals.

What is the role of the CAG as it relates to the CAP?

The CAG will be convened for the following purposes:

- 1) Establish group relations and working norms.
- 2) Review already completed steps in the CAP drafting process and build background.
- 3) Provide feedback on already completed steps and gathered information related to baseline background and City (Government) climate (VMT and GHG) reduction strategies for possible inclusion into the final CAP draft.



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- 4) Review and provide feedback on white paper identified community-oriented actions from review of neighboring cities' CAPs that may be applied in Sammamish and identify appropriateness and right-size of identified actions and what may be missing.
- 5) Review and provide feedback on draft proposed community and citizen-led strategies and actions to confirm appropriateness for the Sammamish community and identify gaps or missing categories.
- 6) Review and provide feedback on draft proposed community climate strategy and action implementation and reporting approaches for adequacy and appropriateness in the Sammamish community.
- 7) Discuss implementation of the measures, tools, and strategies identified and the public's role in meeting community climate goals.
- 8) Review draft Climate Action Plan and provide community feedback before the plan is presented to the Planning Commission and finally the City Council as part of the legislative process.

How will the CAG be formed?

The CAP CAG will be formed through an administrative staff appointment process.

What Official Role does the CAG have?

The CAG is an advisory group and as such does not have an official recognized role in the formally codified city legislative process.

How will CAG participants be identified?

Nominations for CAG memberships will be made by staff. The primary goal in forming the CAG is to ensure that the CAG is representative of the community by nominating members from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. Nominations will include community members, government counterparts, special interest groups, and other community leaders. A list of confirmed CAG participants is included as **Exhibit 1**.

How many members will be appointed to the CAG?

The group size is targeted at twelve (12) members. Group size may be increased if there is high community response or reduced if there is low response from the community.

Why is important for the City to have a CAG involved in developing a CAP?

There are several reasons why it is important for the City to have a CAG involved in developing a CAP:

- 1) Community engagement and buy-in: By involving a diverse group of stakeholders from the community in the development of the CAP, the City is more likely to gain buy-in and support for the plan from the community. This can increase the success of long term implementation and achieving the plan's intended outcomes.
- 2) Local knowledge and expertise: Community members bring a wealth of local knowledge and expertise to the table, which can be invaluable in identifying and addressing the unique challenges and opportunities related to climate change in the City.
- 3) Inclusion and equity: A CAG can help to promote equity and inclusion and ensure that the plan benefits all members of the community.



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- 4) Increased transparency and accountability: By involving a CAG in the development of the CAP, the City is more likely to be transparent and accountable in its decision-making processes and community members will have the opportunity to provide input and feedback on the plan.
- 5) Better outcomes: Having a CAG involved in the process of developing a CAP can lead to more effective and sustainable 'community appropriate' solutions to address climate change as the group is able to identify and prioritize right sized and Sammamish appropriate actions that can be taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change in the community.
- 6) Building of awareness of community role: The Sammamish Community Climate Action Plan module is community based and up to the community to implement. The CAG will help ensure the measures, tools, and strategies are realistic and that CAG members are confident the Sammamish community will embrace the plan in order to meet community climate goals set by the City Council.

What is the anticipated CAG meeting schedule?

The CAG meeting schedule is included as **Exhibit 2**. We anticipate up to six CAG meetings through the balance of 2023 as we progress with development of the CAP. There are currently five meetings scheduled however we anticipate an additional meeting may be necessary at some point in the process. All meetings will be held in the early evening virtually via ZOOM, are anticipated to start at 5:30 PM, and last no longer than two (2) hours.

What are the CAP CAG ground rules?

1. The CAG will meet at least six (6) times during the project through the end of 2023. Additional meetings may be added as identified by City staff with majority consensus approval from the CAG.
2. All meetings will be held on a Wednesday with a start time of 5:30 PM.
3. Meetings materials, excluding presentations, will be provided on the Friday before a scheduled meeting.
4. Meetings will be held virtually on the ZOOM online platform online and CAG members will be promoted to Panelist status.
5. Only CAG members, City consultants, and staff will be promoted to ZOOM Panelist status.
6. CAG members shall participate in CAG meetings following best practices of meeting decorum. The CAG chair, with the assistance of staff, shall help maintain a positive and welcoming meeting environment. Any CAG member who exhibits inappropriate behavior will be removed from the ZOOM meeting and may be dismissed from the CAG roster.
7. Meetings will be available to the public through publication of a meeting agenda with ZOOM meeting link the Friday before a scheduled meeting.
8. The CAG will appoint a chairperson and vice chairperson the first meeting through nominations and voting by a majority of the CAG membership.



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9. The chairperson will run the CAG meetings following Roberts Rules of Order with assistance from City staff and the project consultant, as appropriate. The vice chairperson will run the meetings in the absence of the chairperson
10. CAP CAG members are expected to attend scheduled CAP CAG meetings however at times life happens and with prior notification to the CAG chair and staff absence from a scheduled meeting will be excused.
11. City staff shall be responsible for maintaining ZOOM meeting recordings of CAG meetings and posting the meetings publicly to the project website.
12. As the CAG is an administratively formed group there will not be option for public comment at the beginning, during, or at the end of CAG meetings.
13. Public comments for CAG consideration shall be submitted in writing through the assigned CAP CAG email address – ClimateCAG@sammamish.us - and will be blindly routed via automated email rule to CAG member personal email addresses. Public comment received through the ClimateCAG email address will be posted to the CAG sharepoint file.
14. CAP CAG members are encouraged and empowered to engage with non-CAG community members and interested parties at their convenience outside of the CAG meeting space and take pertinent appropriate comment back to the CAG to represent their community.
15. It is not the role of City staff to collect, respond to, or debate the merit of public comment directed to the CAG. The CAG may consider how to integrate public comment received through email into the meetings and discussions.
16. The CAG is an advisory group and as such does not have an official recognized role in the formally codified city legislative process.



EXHIBIT 1 – CAP CAG Members

Category	Member Name	Statement of Interest
Community Members	Lin Yang	<p>My main motivation in joining the CAG is witnessing firsthand the impact of climate change in our region. After leaving Sammamish to attend college in 2001, I returned 18 years later to settle here with my family. What I found was a city that was much hotter, dryer and more fire prone in the summer, and more extreme in terms of snow and cold in the winter. I could not recognize the seasons I was used to, and now that I have two children, it fills me with angst to think of what environment we are leaving behind for them.</p> <p>My background is in communications and public policy. I currently work at Microsoft, where I serve as Communications Director for the Commercial Solution Areas organization, which sets the strategy for our B2B sales teams worldwide. I am the founder of the Sammamish Independent, which is currently the only independent publication serving Sammamish. I also have a masters in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.</p> <p>For me, climate policy has always been an area of interest, ever since I participated in an intensive, twoweek simulated UN COP negotiation during my first year at Harvard. What this exercise taught me is that climate policy is fundamentally about managing trade offs and distributing costs equitably.</p> <p>Although at a city level, there are limited things we can do to change the trajectory of carbon emissions on the planet, we can set an example by helping our citizens understand what it means to live sustainably. This means not only considering what other cities have done for their climate action plans, but also doing something that is truly unique for Sammamish, that is a point of pride for our city, and can inspire our community members to adopt more sustainable lifestyles.</p> <p>I also have a keen interest in helping the city formulate how we would measure the impact of local policy changes. Climate action should not be about doing something that just “feels good.” We need to</p>



		<p>demonstrate a measurable reduction in our carbon emissions, and I want to ensure this component is included in the Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>I'm excited to get to work on behalf of the city I grew up in, and love. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
	<p>Lindsey Desai</p>	<p>My name is Lindsey Desai, and I am an 11th-grade student at Eastlake High School. As a student in Sammamish, I deeply care about protecting the future of this city and our greater world from rapid climate change.</p> <p>I have been involved with Climate advocacy work since 8th grade working with a bipartisan non-profit to lobby for specific climate action bills at the local, state, and national levels, becoming familiar with different types of climate action policy. I have hosted local workshops on various topics surrounding climate change for fellow youth and younger students, partnering with multiple organizations such as KCLS (the King County Library System) to host various events. Currently, we are reaching out to local middle schools to lead in-class climate change lessons to raise awareness for the issue at even younger ages.</p> <p>Although, the greatest reason my passion for climate advocacy has grown so much throughout my high school career is the work I've done with younger students through running an environmental advocacy program at the Renaissance School of Arts and Reasoning, a small choice middle school on Eastlake's campus. I have been working with the middle school since the beginning of last school year, running an Environmental Advocacy Club after school and more recently, partnering with Sustainability Ambassadors, to help the 8th-grade class run their own impact projects and create a schoolwide Climate Action Plan. We are planning/have started working on multiple action campaigns for our plan, including recycling again (which hasn't happened at the school since before the pandemic) and setting up a carpool system. Through this work, I've seen directly what goes into a Climate Action Plan on a smaller scale and can apply my learning to advising the city's future Climate Action Plan. Beyond just Renaissance, I'm involved in numerous education communities within the Sammamish area and would love to involve them/get their input to bring to this advisory group.</p>



	<p>Steve Christensen</p>	<p>With respect, I am very interested in being part of the Sammamish Community Advisory Group concerning the drafting of a Climate Action Plan and the larger goal of a collective community effort to reduce our Carbon footprint.</p> <p>Since my retirement as a structural materials engineer, I have been a dedicated student of the science behind climate change. My interest has been primarily in computer modeling efforts as these simulation methods are relatable to the work I performed while employed. Following the science heightened my interest in the early 70s with an article in the American Chemical Society weekly news magazine on the work of F. Rowland Sherwood, a UCI Chemistry Professor, regarding CFC's and their Ozone depleting capability. His work initiated my interest, especially since his early work was severely criticized. He was eventually awarded the 1995 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his efforts.</p> <p>My investigations, post-retirement, into dynamic atmospheric models led me to pursue answers about: the anthropogenic origin of GHG production, how to quantify increases in various GHG to atmospheric temperature increases, the relation between solar irradiance and terrestrial reflection that is leading to the energy imbalance at the root of the climate problem; our planetary history and prehistoric extinctions due to natural GHG emissions; the increase in CO₂ and its influence on the Carbon cycle concerning perturbations in the Nitrogen cycle and the negative effect on the nutritional value of plant-based foods to name a few.</p> <p>About two years ago, I had an email exchange with Ralph Keeling, the present keeper of the "Keeling Curve," a daily measure of CO₂ in the atmosphere recorded on Mauna Loa at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography facility (UCSD organization) in Hawaii. I then attempted to recreate the Keeling data using actual fossil fuel consumption and natural sequestration data provided by the "Global Carbon Project" website: https://www.icos.cp.eu/science-and-impact/global-carbon-budget/2020. My calculated corresponding net increase in atmospheric CO₂ compared identically with the actual measurements made on Mauna Loa. I then theorized that in 2010 the world reduced their burning of fossil fuels by 50%, followed by a calculation of the CO₂ progression for the next ten years to 2020. The result was a flatlining of the CO₂ increase at about 390 ppm (the 2010 average value). Dr. Keeling agreed with this conclusion. My</p>
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		<p>calculation was a stark reminder that electrification with renewables for at a minimum, transportation and buildings must be our future.</p> <p>As an individual, I’ve realized that my path forward is to address my carbon footprint and influence others to do the same. Encourage local municipalities to actively promote electrification by including local ordinances that don’t impede an electrification effort. In addition, future city planning should promote higher-density housing coupled with local retail and employment opportunities to reduce vehicle travel. Can we collectively act to reduce CO2 below whatever value would be the conceivable stabilization value through individual action?</p> <p>I have been following the development of the Sammamish Climate Action Plan and commented through emails on occasion, offering my thoughts on future activities. Sammamish will not single-handedly solve a global crisis. Still, we can, as a community, contribute and prepare ourselves for the insertion of utility-scale production of electricity from renewable sources.</p> <p>A final note, HB1181 is proceeding through the Washington State Legislature and hopefully will be sent to the governor’s desk soon. All should welcome the addition of climate action activities to the GMA, and the city’s inclusion of a CAP in the comprehensive plan is proactive.</p>
	<p>Phil Ritter</p>	<p>My wife Lynn and I moved to Sammamish in 2016 to be close to our daughter and her family in Issaquah. I work remotely with a partner in San Francisco as a financial consultant and project manager for nonprofit organizations which build and operate affordable multifamily housing, a field I have worked in since 1990.</p> <p>I graduated from the UC Berkeley Business School in 1968, worked for the Touche, Ross CPA firm and then for a tech startup through a successful Initial Public Stock offering. I then shifted direction and worked in vocational education with a residential drug treatment program. Following some more work in public accounting in Washington and Oregon I worked with the San Francisco Foundation as a grantmaker and public policy advocate. I started my current career in nonprofit affordable housing in 1990 working with two of the leading Bay Area developers as a senior manager. I started my current consulting practice in 2000 and have worked with many of the</p>



innovative nonprofits in Northern California and in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

I have followed the increasing level of global warming since the 1970's with the State of the World reports by Lester Brown and later reading just about everything written by Bill McKibben and Naomi Klein. In 2014 Lynn and I started our volunteer organizing work with 350.org, then the only international environmental organization focused on building a popular movement to counter the vast power of the fossil fuel industry and put in place public policy that will eliminate the use of fossil fuels by 2050.

Since arriving here we have been involved in organizing with 350 Seattle, the Sunrise Movement, People for Climate Action, Washington Clean Energy Coalition and 350 Eastside.

The City of Sammamish has committed through its adoption of the K4C goals to the reduction of GHG emissions by 50% by 2030. Instead of going down since that 2014 commitment was made there is every indication that our emissions have gone up.

Since our emissions are half fuel for transportation and half methane gas used to heat buildings and hot water the 50% goal is ambitious, but not impossible. The conversion of half of the auto and truck fleet to electric combined with cleaning up the electricity supply gets us half way there. The new state Building Code ban on new gas connections will stop digging the hole deeper. The challenge of retrofitting and weatherizing existing buildings is primarily a financing issue – the heat pump we put in our 40-year old house paid for itself in less than five years.

The public attitude toward the immediate need to deal with the climate crisis has moved from indifference and disregard over the past ten years, as emissions have continued to increase, to concerned interest and willingness to think about behavioral changes which don't cost too much. City role modeling and support for citizen advocacy organizations and public education will help move this attitude to something more like positive expectations rather than resignation that nothing can be done and resistance to changing entrenched habit patterns.



		<p>I believe that one function of local government in our democracy is to encourage its citizens to act in the public interest when their own tendencies are to either act contrary to the public interest or more often to not act at all. I share the aversion to being told by the government what I should or should not do, but I believe that the only chance we have to reach an 80% emissions reduction by 2050 is by the kind of bold governmental action that has not been taken since the mobilization for WW 2.</p> <p>Organized opposition to that level of governmental action to protect the profits of the fossil fuel industry have been much more effective at the Federal and State level than at the City level. Many cities over the past ten years have enacted new laws which have been effective in reducing per capita GHG emissions without creating chaos or triggering the recall of the City Council. I think we have the potential in Sammamish to effectively move toward a 2050 emissions level of almost zero. I believe that I can make a positive contribution to the new Community Advisory Group.</p>
	<p>Aditi Kumarappan</p>	<p>As a lifelong resident of Sammamish, I'm passionate about sustainable development and preserving our community for future generations. I'm currently a student at Skyline High School and have been a member of Sustainability Ambassadors for over 2.5 years. Through my advocacy work with city council members, I've been a strong proponent of a Climate Action Plan (CAP) for Sammamish.</p> <p>I've attended numerous sessions and trainings to deepen my understanding of sustainability issues. I actively contributed to the Skyline Climate Challenge, a school-wide initiative with more than 200 followers, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I'm particularly proud of my extensive research on water preservation in data centers, and I presented my findings at a local water conservation event.</p> <p>As an active member of the Climate Action Group, I would work to bring youth voices and my passion to advocate for practical solutions like urban forest management plans and electric charging stations. In addition to my advocacy work, I'm committed to being an active participant in community programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I care deeply about our city, and I'm excited to work with other passionate individuals to develop and implement a CAP that will help mitigate the effects of climate change in our community.</p>



	<p>Adam Osbekoff</p>	<p>I look forward to learning more about climate actions plans and the process it takes to create municipal public policy stimulated by climate change. I have a background in sustainable community development and have been applying appropriate technologies at my home on a micro scale.</p> <p>I work for the Snoqualmie Indian Tribes Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and will be participating in the process as an individual.</p>
	<p>Sudeshna Dixit</p>	<p>I am writing to express my interest in joining the community advisory group for the climate action plan. I am deeply aware of the urgent need to address the pressing issue of climate change, and joining this group will allow me to make a positive impact on our community and beyond. I am a storyteller and user experience strategist who is passionate about harnessing the power of technology, civic engagement, and insightful data to create sustainable, transformative solutions that benefit people and planet. A few years ago, I started a business to sell eco-conscious products, which has further strengthened my commitment to promoting sustainability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>I am a resident of Sammamish since 1999. I love being involved in the local community, and currently serve on the Sammamish Arts Commission, served as Board chair for Plateaupians for Peace, a local nonprofit, and on the staff and board of Sammamish Independent, another local nonprofit newspaper.</p> <p>Joining the community advisory group will provide me with a unique opportunity to collaborate with like-minded individuals who share my passion for addressing climate change. Through this group, I hope to help identify and prioritize local climate-related issues, recommend policies and strategies to reduce the impact of climate change, and engage with other stakeholders to raise awareness and build momentum for climate action.</p> <p>I look forward to contributing my time and energy towards creating a more sustainable and livable future for all. Thank you for your consideration.</p>

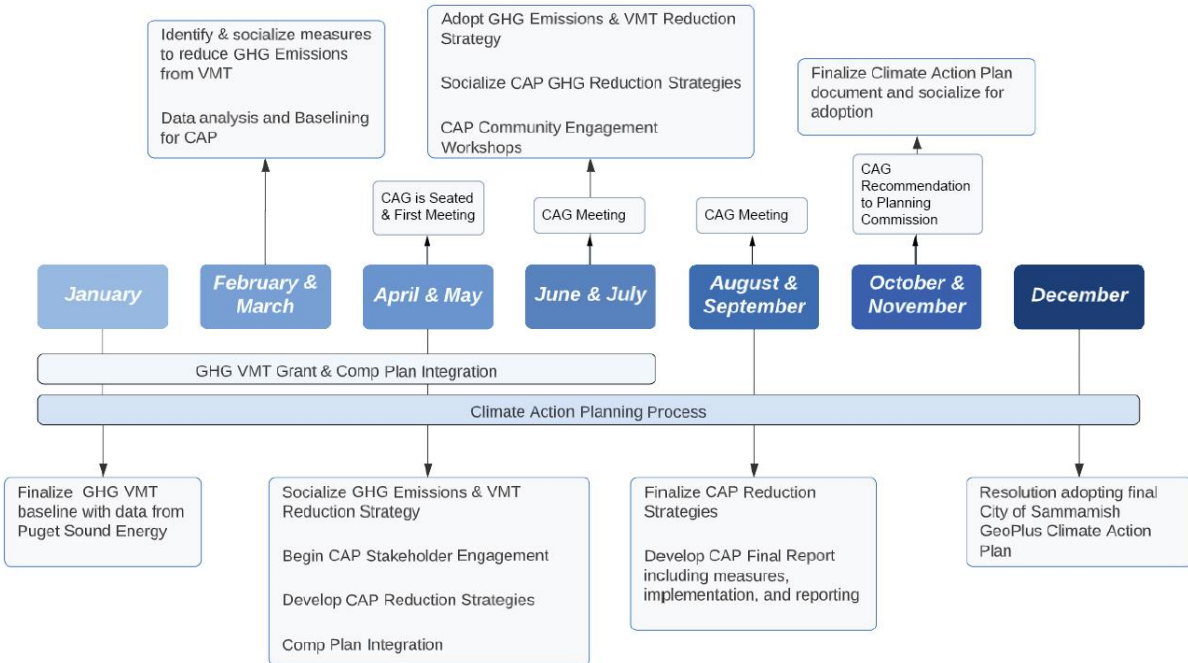


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Planning Commission	Ajay Chakrapani	Representative of Sammamish Planning Commission – Sammamish Planning Commission
Parks Commission	Roberto Ruiz	Representative of Sammamish Parks Commission – Sammamish Parks Commission
Youth Board	Maanit Goel (Primary) Hongning Wang (Alternate)	Representative of Sammamish Youth Board – Sammamish Youth Board
SPWSD	Andy Tushsherer	Representative of Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer Operations – www.spwater.org
PSE	Brandon Leyritz	Representative of Puget Sound Energy – www.pse.com
Master Builders	Russel Joe	Representative of Master Builder of King and Snohomish County – www.mbaks.com
Issaquah School District	Jason Morse	Representative of Issaquah School District - https://www.isd411.org/

EXHIBIT 2 – CAP CAG Meeting Calendar

Timeline



Community Advisory Group Climate Action Plan	Meeting Dates
CAG Meet & Greet	4/12/2023
CAG Background Briefing (Baseline Data, Etc.)	5/3/2023
CAG Reduction Strategy Review (Gov.)	6/21/2023
CAG Community Strategy Review (Comm.) - Working Meeting 1	7/12/2023
CAG Community Strategy Review (Comm.) - Working Meeting 2	8/2/2023