

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council
Planning, Development & Environment Committee

6:30 PM
 June 2, 2026

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
 Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Committee Members:

Lindsey Walsh, Chair
 Kelly Jiang
 Kevin Nichols

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
 Amanda Jackson, Meeting Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

No members of the public were in attendance.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **COM 0272 - Title 18 Land Use Code: Clarifying Amendments**

Presented by:

Kate Kaehny, Principal Planner

A recess was called at 6:32 PM to resolve a malfunction preventing the staff presentation from displaying. The meeting reconvened at 6:33 PM.

The Committee recommended to place this item on the Consent Calendar of the City Council June 29, 2026 meeting agenda, with an organizational revision to combine IMC 18.208.030(C)(1) and 18.208.030(C)(2) to simplify the code.

b) **COM 0282 - Title 18 Proposed Amendments: Promoting Building Investments in Issaquah**

Presented by:

Christen Leeson, Planning Manager

Stepbacks

The Committee, in a 2-1 split, recommended the proposed amendments as shown in the staff presentation to be brought to the City Council at their June 29, 2026 meeting, with the intention of further deliberation regarding stepbacks occurring with conversations about creating a menu of options for the Architectural Design Standards, and including stepbacks as an option and removing it as a requirement.

Open Amenity Space

The Committee recommended the proposed amendments to be brought to the City Council at their June 29, 2026 meeting.

Other Committee considerations included:

- Striking stepback requirements completely.

- The areas of the City the currently proposed amendments to stepbacks would apply to.
- Whether removal of the 400 sf of indoor or outdoor space of required additional common amenity area for residential land use with 22 or more units in Central Issaquah could result in development of more affordable units.

c) **COM 0283 - Updates to Goals and Outcomes**

Presented by:

Minnie Dhaliwal, Community Planning & Development Director

The Committee recommended the following revisions to the Promoting Building Investment in Central Issaquah 2026-2027 work plan table and to bring the item to the City Council at their June 29, 2026 meeting:

- **Under #2. Stepback Requirements:** Move the proposed Possible Action of "Group stepbacks with modulation/articulation..." to the Goal/Objectives column and add a sentence indicating that the goal should be reviewed along with topic #8. Architectural/Design Standards.
- **Under #8. Architectural/Design Standards:** Repeat goal cited above for #2 in the Goals/Objectives column of #8 and include examples of a possible menu of design options that would achieve overall visual interest aside from stepbacks.

Other Committee considerations included:

- The process and timing of adding or revising the work plan.
- Adding the topic of Vesting to the work plan, including staff analysis of neighboring jurisdictions' vesting requirements.
- How best to convey the idea that certain architectural requirements add significant cost to projects and the desire to provide flexibility to create affordable and visually interesting developments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Walsh announced the Committee's next meeting date: July 7, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:57 PM.

T. Cassidy Mueller, Deputy City Clerk



Staff Report

COM #0288 - Issaquah Climate Action Plan

Meeting Date	July 7, 2026
Department	Sustainability
Staff Lead	Stacy Vynne McKinstry, Sustainability Manager; David Reedy, Sustainability Coordinator
Attachments	A. 2026 ICAP Final Draft Review

Direction Needed from Committee

Staff seek direction from the Planning, Development and Environment Committee on final revisions to the 2026 Issaquah Climate Action Plan update and a recommendation for Plan approval.

Background

Over the last 14 months, staff have worked with committees, Council, Boards, Commissions and the community to update the Issaquah Climate Action Plan (ICAP). During this time, staff met with the Planning, Development and Environment Committee ([February](#), [March](#)) and the Committee of the Whole ([May](#), [June](#)) to present draft content and receive feedback. The Committee of the Whole provided written and verbal comments at the June 8 meeting that staff worked to incorporate into the ICAP. The final draft plan with proposed changes is included as Attachment A.

Staff received approval from the Environmental Board on the final draft ICAP on [June 10, 2026](#). The Environmental Board will send a recommendation letter for approval to Council for the July 20 meeting.

Analysis

Staff seek a recommendation from the PDE Committee on approval and adoption of the 2026 ICAP to the full Council. Staff made the following revisions to the ICAP following the June 8 Committee of the Whole review:

1. Minor typos and grammar corrected throughout.
2. Under the section on forecasted greenhouse gas emissions, staff incorporated additional language regarding partnering with the utility to support clean energy infrastructure, specifically around energy storage as a response to Council feedback.

3. Added a measure under Buildings and Energy for community-wide heat pump installations as a response to Council feedback (recommendation not to add a target as Energy Smart Eastside has targets and the heat pump installations roll into other energy targets).
4. Updated solid waste diversion current status.
5. Reduced community resilience and wellbeing target from 100% to 85% of community members feeling personally prepared based on Council feedback. Both targets are now set at 85%.
6. Under Buildings and Energy actions, minor addition to language to capture energy storage as a response to Council feedback.
7. Under Transportation and Land Use, minor language addition to include reviewing codes for permitting opportunities for energy storage as a response to Council feedback.
8. Action language in the implementation workplan was updated to reflect changes in the plan.

Options

Staff seek direction from the PDE Committee on any final ICAP revisions and a recommendation to Council:

Option 1: Staff incorporate revisions from PDE Committee as necessary and bring to Council on July 20 for approval and adoption (consent agenda).

Option 2: Staff incorporate revisions from PDE Committee as necessary and bring to Council on July 20 for approval and adoption (regular agenda).

Option 3: Other, such as further review prior to Council consideration for approval.

Impacts – Financial, Policy & Community

There are no immediate financial impacts beyond staff time with any of the options before Council. The request before the Council is for Plan approval and adoption process, not for action implementation.

Timing & Next Steps

Staff will incorporate feedback from the PDE Committee into the draft ICAP as necessary. Staff will finalize the content and associated materials and proceed as directed by the PDE Committee for approval and adoption.



CITY OF
ISSAQUAH
WASHINGTON

Climate Action Plan

Draft ~~June 8~~July 7, 2026



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Issaquah is on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples who are represented by modern-day federally recognized Tribes. We thank these original and long-term stewards of these lands and respect their sovereignty and continuing Treaty Rights across this landscape today. We strive to safeguard our critical environmental resources with the same respect and care the Coast Salish peoples have shown since time immemorial.

Learn more: [Snoqualmie Tribe Ancestral Lands Movement](#) | [Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Heritage and Culture](#) | [Tulalip Tribe History](#)

A Message from the Mayor

Five years ago, the Issaquah community came together to develop our first Climate Action Plan, committing to proactively address one of the greatest challenges facing our natural environment and quality of life: climate change. I am proud to share with you our 2026 update to the Climate Action Plan, which builds on the progress and partnerships established through our original efforts.

This updated plan focuses on four key areas where we can make the greatest impact: leading by example; community outreach and engagement; reducing emissions from the building and transportation sectors; and enhancing our community's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate impacts that we are already experiencing. Together, these actions create a healthier, more equitable, and more resilient Issaquah for all who live, work, and visit here.

Since the adoption of the 2021 Climate Action Plan, the City has rolled out many initiatives including transitioning our fleet and buildings to cleaner fuels; programs that support residents and building owners in reducing their emissions; and providing resources to our community members who are most vulnerable to impacts from climate events.

While the City will continue to lead by example, this is not a plan for City government. It is a plan for our entire community – residents, businesses, employers, employees, and visitors. Addressing climate change requires partnership and collective action. Together, we can continue building a community that is innovative, resilient, and welcoming to all.



Mayor Mark Mullet

Acknowledgements

The City of Issaquah thanks the community for their feedback and collaboration throughout the ICAP development process. Special thanks to the community members who participated in committees, to our Boards and Commissions, to our City Councilmembers, and to the staff who gave their time to the plan update.

City Council

Tola Marts, Council President

Kelly Jiang, Deputy Council President

Lindsey Walsh

Russell Joe

Kevin Nichols

Paul Adair

Erika Boyd

Barbara de Michele (former)

City Administration

Mark Mullet, Mayor

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator

Andrea Lehner, Former Deputy City Administrator

Stacy Vynne McKinstry, Sustainability Manager

David Reedy, Sustainability Coordinator

Emma Warkentin, Sustainability Intern

Will Kheriaty, Sustainability Intern

Windley Knowlton, Former Sustainability Fellow

Gail Folkins, Communications Team

Evan Brumfield, *Environmental & Regulatory Program Administration*

Dan Hintz, *Urban Forest Supervisor, Natural Systems Committee*

Jeanne Justice, *Administrative Services Manager*

Kate Kaehny, *Principal Planner*

Christen Leeson, *Planning Manager*

Dale Markey-Crimp, *Assistant to the City Administrator*

Lindsey Marsh, *Executive Department Coordinator*

John Mortenson, *Transportation Engineering Manager*

Thomas Rush, Communications Manager

Jared Schneider, *Emergency Manager*