

# Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby

*Creating political will for a livable planet*



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

## CCL NEWS

### THANK YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

For all their hard work on climate in 2023! The CCL approach emphasizes showing a lot of appreciation—it helps to “strengthen our relationships and lay the groundwork for more progress in 2024.” [Link to sign.](#)

### “C.A.R. FUND” PROPOSAL

WA state’s CCL leadership called the [Climate Auction Relief Bill](#) (to be introduced in the 2024 WA legislative session) “a good first step in addressing concerns about high gas prices” viewed by some as due to the [Climate Commitment Act](#).

### COP 28 Recap

“The decision at COP28 to finally recognize that the climate crisis is, at its heart, a fossil fuel crisis is an important milestone. But it is also the bare minimum we need and is long overdue. The influence of petrostates is still evident in the half measures and loopholes included in the final agreement...the almost 130 countries supporting a phase out, the near open revolt by island nations, and the public outcry from thousands of climate advocates from around the world all point towards a future where fossil fuels are no longer king.”  
Former Vice-President Al Gore

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Our November meeting featured a report on the CCL National Fall Conference. We discussed Van Jones’s helpful [keynote speech](#) about bridging communication gaps on climate. [Minutes here](#)

Our December meeting was a festive Holiday Potluck! Members old and new and their families enjoyed great food and fun to celebrate another busy year of climate activism.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 3, noon on Zoom, CCL Study Group, discussing articles emailed ahead of time. Contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Thursday, Jan. 4, 6-8 pm, Tacoma Green Drinks (networking for local environmental groups). Check our [website](#) for location.

Wednesday, Jan.17, 7pm, Monthly Chapter Meeting on Zoom. Program: “Advocating for good climate bills in the WA State Legislature 2024 session” [Zoom link](#)

Saturday, Jan 20, 11am tree walk and 6:15 pm concert [Tacoma Tree Foundation](#) “From the Forest to the Sea”  
Schneebeck Auditorium, University of Puget Sound

## MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Dec. 6—Creative ARTivism page update on the [website](#). Feedback and submissions welcome—contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Dec, 14—Barbara Menne and Chuck Jensen attended the CCL Olympia meeting with US Rep. Marilyn Strickland, see p.2

Dec. 19—Barbara Menne, John Doherty and Elly Claus-McGahan met with City Council Member Kiara Daniels, see p.2.

Jan. 1—Sue Lepore and Barbara Menne will be co-liasons to Sen. Patty Murray’s staffers in Tacoma starting in next year.

Mustafa Haziq has made a really positive impact on our tabling ideas and organization! He’s also bringing climate talk and CCL into the Sumner area. Kudos!

Debra Grady and Chuck Jenson work with Tacoma Urban Forest Friends. There have been some developments! See p.2. Check out the [online option for signing their petition](#) to the City Council.

Visit us on Twitter (@CCLTacoma) and Instagram (ccl\_tacoma)

You can help [Ginny Lohr](#) post on our [Facebook](#) page by sending her photos (captioned, please).

[Past newsletters](#) are archived on the website

## Lobby Meetings—Highlights

With US Rep. Marilyn Strickland and Staffer Liz Larter, Dec. 14

This meeting, organized and led by the **CCL Olympia Chapter**, was a positive encounter and centered on asking her to support the **BIG WIRES** bill in **Congress**. She and 13 of her colleagues in the **New Democrat Coalition** have already signed on in its support.

With Kiara Daniels, City Council Member At-large, Dec. 19

**Council member Daniels'** main focus is on community organizing, housing, and environmental justice. The group brainstormed on tree cover and building electrification, publicizing at the **Sustainability Expo**, and leveraging **CCA** and **IRA** funds. **Daniels'** community organizer background gave her a different and useful perspective on how to go about reaching communities like **Hilltop** about access to electrification funds, tax credits, and rebates, such as hiring local residents to go door to door. In other words, get grants and delegate to the community itself to get the word out.

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## Tacoma Urban Forest Friends Petition

(12/12) “This past Tuesday, the **City Council** adopted ordinance **TMC 9.20**, the first change to our city code regarding our tree canopy in nearly 100 years. It is a solid first step on our way to 30% coverage by 2030. Trees in the public right-of-way are protected and the beginning of a **Heritage Tree Program** is put in place. Every council member, without exception, declared this passage as the first step toward a broader program that is not yet defined. That definition is underway and will likely be available for us to review in January and for the council to consider in March.

It is very important that we demonstrate massive support for the next steps as their definition becomes more concrete. We remain confident that the specific steps outlined in our petition are the ones the City must undertake to achieve its own goal. Our goal is to reach 2,000 signatures by the end of December.” **Tom Giske**

***SIGN THE PETITION [HERE](#)***

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## *Of Further Interest*

**White House, Tribes, State Enter Historic Agreement to Restore Wild Salmon**

“The **Biden-Harris Administration** Thursday **announced a historic commitment to restore wild salmon** in the **Pacific Northwest**. The agreement brings together the federal government, Tribal nations, and the states of **Oregon** and **Washington** to invest in salmon recovery and clean energy generation, and to develop a permanent strategy for the **Columbia River Basin**. The partnership will also plan for the development of one to three gigawatts of clean power as a contingency should the **U.S. Congress** consider breaching the federal dams along the **Snake River**. Authority to order breach of the dams is exclusive to Congress. The four **Lower Snake River** dams generate about one gigawatt of power per month on average, or up to 2.3 gigawatts during periods of high demand. **Gov. Jay Inslee** and **Sen. Patty Murray** last year **issued a report** urging protections for salmon and advising that a breach of the dams could only occur once the dams’ generative capacity and economic benefits are replaced.” **Gov. Inslee** newsletter 12/15 .