

COVER MEMO

Briefing Date/Time:	March 23, 2026
Staff Contact/Title:	Jonathon Wolf, Environmental Manager (jonathonw@portolympia.com)
Subject:	Climate Change Policy and Sustainability Plan
Purpose:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Decision Needed

Type of Agenda Item:

Briefing.

Background:

The Port of Olympia recognizes that climate change presents significant operational, environmental, and economic challenges to our lines of business and the communities we serve. The port is committed to sustainable and resilient operations and land management and assigns high value to environmental stewardship. Anticipating and preparing for potential environmental and economic impacts from climate change is a priority for the port. We are committed to proactive leadership in addressing climate risks while creating economic opportunities and building community for all of Thurston County.

This Policy assures that through thoughtful planning, strategic investment, and regional collaboration, the Port of Olympia will safeguard critical infrastructure, reduce our carbon footprint, and contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future.

Port of Olympia's potential initiatives, programs, and projects are available in the Sustainability Action Plan and Strategy which is incorporated into this Policy by reference. The Sustainability Action Plan and Strategy will be updated periodically to ensure consistent implementation of this Policy.

Summary & Financial Impact:

Neither this Policy nor the Sustainability Action Plan and Strategy present a financial impact. However, many of the actions contemplated by both will require financial obligations undertaken by the port. Those projects will be evaluated, and financial obligations will be incorporated into future budgets, pending commission approval.

Alignment with Vision 2050:

This initiative aligns with multiple Goals and Actions in within Vision 2050.

1. Goal: Turn the Port Peninsula into a premier destination by adding attractions, increasing accessibility, and ***maintaining a clean and safe environment***

2. Goal: Leverage the Port's unique statutory authority to ***catalyze economic opportunity in partnership with local jurisdictions...***
 - a. Support sustainable agriculture activities
 - b. Evaluate and pursue green-energy production alternatives

3. Goal: ***Emphasize sustainability*** in all planning and actions and ***provide updates to the community.***
 - a. Sustain legacy pollution cleanup projects
 - b. Advocate for state investments in Puget Sound water quality
 - c. Distribute and provide updates on Sustainability Plan progress
 - d. Maintain participation in 3rd party sustainability certification programs
 - e. Study and implement key adaptation and mitigation actions
 - f. Incorporate environment and remediation in cost-benefit analyses

Document(s) Attached:

1. PowerPoint presentation
2. Policy Number 1322 – the Port's draft Climate Change Policy
3. Draft Sustainable Action Plan and Strategy