

**From:** [Madeline Bishop](#)  
**To:** [thurston2045](#)  
**Subject:** Comp Plan Community Engagement Input  
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I am asking the Planning Commission to start working on community engagement with people previously excluded from discussing the Comp Plan 2045. There could be a listening session to groups often called “frontline communities” including communities of color, tribes, and low-income households. The policies in the Comp Plan impact these communities, yet their voices are not commonly among those attending Planning Commission meetings or writing or speaking at public hearings.

I support providing outreach materials in multiple languages and a plan to add a social media component.

I suggest offering (or learning from) the listening forums like the [Community Listening Session – Climate Justice Forum](#) hosted by TCAT for BIPOC individuals November 10, 2022. To create such forums, you might reach out to these organizations in addition to the local tribes:

- Thurston County’s Council on Racial Equity and Inclusion
- Asian Pacific Islanders Coalition South Puget Sound,  
<https://www.apicsouthpugetsound.org/>
- La Mesa Redonda / The Hispanic Roundtable -  
<http://hispanicroundtable.org/wp/> (participate in the Nov 22 Latinx Youth Summit at TESC)
- People of Color Community Coalition – contact Zahid Chaudhry,  
[a2zoly@yahoo.com](mailto:a2zoly@yahoo.com)
- Black, Indigenous, & People of Color (BIPOC) Businesses in the South Sound  
<https://ssbipoc.org/>

Why is outreach to “frontline” communities especially important for the Comp Plan Update? One of the critical issues for the Comp Plan Update is addressing Climate Change. According to information shared in the [MRSC’s series on Climate Change](#)

the 2018 [Fourth National Climate Assessment](#), prepared by [U.S. Global Change Research Program](#), three frontline communities in the Northwest are most impacted: tribes and Indigenous peoples; people who are dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods; and low-income populations in urban and rural environments. It is important to engage in robust outreach with these communities as part of the update of the Comp Plan.

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