

Rivera, Eva

From: Martin, Trevor
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 8:00 AM
To: Rivera, Eva
Subject: FW: OFFICIAL COMMENT: Climate Resiliency policies in the comprehensive plan

Good morning Eva,

Can you please add to the official file?

Thank you,
Trevor

From: Joye Redfield <joyeredfield@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2026 5:24 PM
To: Martin, Trevor <Trevor.Martin@yakimawa.gov>
Subject: OFFICIAL COMMENT: Climate Resiliency policies in the comprehensive plan

Please accept my comments concerning the Goals and Policies for the Utilities and Energy sections of the draft comprehensive plan. Overall, the city is missing out on an opportunity to improve utility and energy services and assure the city is adapting to our changing climate. We have ample information related to reduced water supplies, shrinking snowpack and greater demands on natural resources and energy utilities.

It is not a partisan issue to be responsive to the facts and to take advantage of Yakima's abundant sunshine and embrace solar energy. Much of this plan addresses concerns facing housing, low-economic populations and economic growth. In tandem with these concerns should be a robust plan for innovative and bold energy policies and implementation.

REGARDING GOAL 8.1 PROVIDE ALL UTILITIES AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE TO ACCOMMODATE FUTURE DEMANDS.

This section fails to flesh out what "acceptable" means. Acceptable should be tied to assuring utility services and energy are efficient and affordable and include provisions requiring and at minimum encouraging new energy/green energy sources, given the capacity for solar energy here, in the way of encouraging residential, governmental and industrial/commercial integration of solar panels. Providing incentives to those taking advantage of existing rooftops that don't take out or impact undeveloped lots or existing farmland.

Such policies are an investment in both our families' ability to pay their bills and should be a draw for commercial/industrial industries to cut their power bills. Also, solar panels on city facilities in the long run could save taxpayers money. The potential at minimum should be studied and projected savings considered. The same should be considered for all public buildings/schools within city limits.

The above statement ties in with the policies under the Energy section 12.4

Regarding Goal 12.3 SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. The city, again, is missing an opportunity to add specific goals and policies beyond the statement: 12.3.1. Incorporate energy efficient facilities in new and rehabilitated government buildings, where feasible.

The term “where feasible” is ambiguous. The city should explore with specificity areas where new or rehabilitated government buildings will be or are anticipated and spell out a robust plan for incorporating energy efficiencies, be they insulations, window updates and alternative energy sources such as solar.

Please consider amending and expanding policies and goals in the Utilities and Energy sections of the new City of Yakima Comprehensive Plan. The Plan should have more information on what energy impacts and needs are anticipated (projections can be made) and provide specific parameters for meeting those needs efficiently and effectively — in support of alternative, green and new energy sources such as solar - over the next 5 years under this plan.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Joye Redfield
1116 S 46th Ave
Yakima, WA 98908

GOAL 12.3. SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT.

Policies

12.3.1. Incorporate energy efficient facilities in new and rehabilitated government buildings, where feasible.

Utilities 8.3 Goals and Policies

These goals and policies address utility provision in concert with growth. For additional goals and policies addressing conservation and energy see the Energy Element.

GOAL 8.1. PROVIDE ALL UTILITIES AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE TO ACCOMMODATE FUTURE DEMANDS.

Policies

8.1.1. Ensure adequate communication between the City and utility providers to coordinate growth and development of service capacities.

GOAL 8.2. ENSURE THAT UTILITIES ARE PROVIDED IN A RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE, AND SAFE MANNER.

Policies

8.2.1. Use land use, design, and construction policies and regulations to manage placement and construction of utilities, encouraging the efficient use of land and co-location of facilities where feasible.

8.2.2. Ensure that utility facilities are designed, built, and maintained to have a minimal impact on surrounding neighborhoods.

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8.2.3. Educate utility providers and utility consumers on the costs and benefits of emerging technologies that may provide added sustainability and reliability.

8.2.4. Allow Yakima to be competitive for businesses by encouraging provision of high quality telecommunications services.

8.2.5 Support the undergrounding of utility lines in new development and in substantial redevelopment

Energy

12.4 Goals and Policies

GOAL 12.1. SUPPORT RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS FOR RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND MIXED-USE STRUCTURES AND DEVELOPMENTS.

Policies

- 12.1.1. Allow flexibility in development regulations that promote energy efficiency and conservation.
- 12.1.2. Protect solar access to use natural heating and lighting opportunities.
- 12.1.3. Consider development standards that allow small-scale solar and wind energy facilities in new and existing developments.

GOAL 12.2. REDUCE ENERGY USED FOR TRANSPORTATION.

Policies

- 12.2.1. Promote an efficient transportation system through a compact development pattern.
- 12.2.2. Review parking standards to promote a parking lot layout that maximizes energy efficiency.
- 12.2.3. Continue to provide and encourage viable options for multi-modal means of transportation to reduce the amount of single occupant vehicles.
- 12.2.4. Encourage installation of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles.

GOAL 12.3. SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT.

Policies

- 12.3.1. Incorporate energy efficient facilities in new and rehabilitated government buildings, where feasible.

Sent from my iPad