



Task Force on Resilient Efficient Building

Meeting Summary

81st Legislative Assembly

2021-2022 Interim

<p>Attendees</p>	<p>Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair Representative Pam Marsh, Co-Chair Sen. Findley Representative Mark Owens Andrew Beyer Don Bohn Anjeanette Brown Chris Forney Mike Goodrich Jay Hansen Kim Heiting</p>	<p>David Heslam Bob Jenks Scott Linfesty Jeff McGillivray Tricia Mooney Jairaj Singh Eli Spevak Matt Tidwell Lucy Vinis Bob Westerman</p>
<p>Absent</p>	<p>Neil Baungard, Proxy Nora Apter Alex Boetzel, Proxy Erica Dunn Ashley Buchanan Meredith Connoly, Proxy Greer Ryan Ernesto Fonseca Elliott Gall</p>	
<p>Date/Time</p>	<p>3:00 pm, Tuesday, August 23, 2022 (recording).</p>	
<p>Meeting Topics</p>	<p>New Buildings Policy and Program Options Presentation and Task Force Discussion</p> <p>Assess and disclose material-related emissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The production of building-sector materials is a significant source of greenhouse gases. • There are two categories of efficiency that are concerned with material production: material efficiency and energy efficiency. • Opportunity to Recycle Act – Communities with over 4,000 people can chose from a menu of options, so all areas may not have uniform access to commercial or concrete recycling programs. • Department of Environmental Quality has a voluntary program available to concrete producers to help them produce environmental product declarations (EPDs) for concrete mixes. <p>Focus on refrigerants with low global warming potentials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily heating and cooling. • Alternatives to HFCs are evaluated through the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Regulations, which amended the Clean 	



Air Act of 1990. The EPA-implemented SNAP program provides lists of acceptable and unacceptable alternatives to HFCs.

- Legislative and judicial history.
- [House Bill 3227](#) (2021) prohibits the Department of Consumer and Business Services from excluding the use of refrigerants that are considered safe alternatives to CFCs and HFCs.

Limit allowable total carbon of buildings

- Using low-carbon, low-embodied energy, and energy-efficient building materials may reduce greenhouse gas emission from new construction and existing buildings.
- There are two components: embodied carbon and operating carbon.

Establish workforce development requirements

- Explanation of project labor agreement and community workforce agreement.
- Role of the HECC in apprenticeship programs.

Decarbonize institutional/public buildings

- Promoting energy efficiency programs and policies for public facilities, equipment, and government operations through energy data management and evaluation, energy efficiency building standards for public buildings, enacting retrofit programs for existing public buildings, procuring energy-efficient appliances and equipment (including vehicles), and establishing energy efficiency operations and maintenance procedures.
- Examples of relevant Oregon programs.

Study and expand grid system/sources

- Mix of Oregon's power.
- Explanation of hydrogen and bioenergy.
- Resource adequacy planning looks forward to match electricity needs with electricity resources to determine whether the system can meet electricity needs in every hour of every season—even during extreme conditions such as extended heat wave or drought.

Modify Building Codes Division advisory boards

- Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) works with seven Governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed advisory boards to adopt specialty codes.
- ORS Chapter 455 outlines the number of members, their duties, and the required expertise they must have to serve.



Modify agency operations and code development process

- The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) works with the advisory boards to adopt, administer, and enforce a uniform, statewide building code to govern construction in Oregon.
- The state building code is composed of a series of specialty codes, each of which addresses a specific area of construction.

Outcomes of Existing Buildings Survey

- Interest survey intended gauge Task Force member interest in additional information, evaluation, and discussion of the policies submitted by Task Force members.
- All 27 members of the Task Force responded to the survey.
- First question: Asked Task Force members to select the three policies they were the least interested in discussing or gathering more information on.
- Second question: Asked Task Force members to select the five policies they were the most interested in discussing or gathering more information on.
- Survey Outcomes:

Policy Title	Least Int. (Q1)	Most Int. (Q2)
Building performance standards	9	16
Promote, incentivize, and/or subsidize energy efficiency and heating/cooling efficiency increases	0	15
Align energy efficiency programs with State’s climate goals	4	14
Promote, incentivize, and/or subsidize heat pumps	6	13
Modify Energy Trust of Oregon’s mission	7	13
Create public climate or environmental justice hubs	4	12
Further enhance the efficiency of appliances and equipment	12	12
Evaluate hybrid natural gas and electric energy system	11	12
Enact residential or expand commercial PACE financing	1	8
Promote, incentivize, and/or subsidize air purification systems	5	8
Benchmarking and disclosure	0	7
Advanced metering infrastructure	3	4
Building electrification study	19	1

Public Comment – New Buildings Policy and Program Options



Task Force
Member - Issues
Discussed

New Buildings Policy and Program Options Presentation and Task Force Discussion

Assess and disclose material-related emissions

- Opportunity for concrete industry to sequester carbon.
- Architects regularly look up embodied carbon of materials and concrete is one of the easiest products to look into because of EPDs.
- Concrete industry emissions.
- Systems for accounting material-related emissions.
- Material availability.

Focus on refrigerants with low global warming potentials

- Suggested focus on the removal and disposal of refrigerants at their end of life.
- Desire to have cost comparison of refrigerants.
- Federal government is already phasing out 85 percent of HFCs over the next 15 years.

Limit allowable total carbon of buildings

- About half of GHG emissions from buildings is from the embodied carbon.

Establish workforce development requirements

- Purpose and scope of Task Force.
- Role of community colleges in apprenticeship program and whether it relates to scope of Task Force's work.
- Rebuild projects should include the body of work that would result from policies recommended by the Task Force.
- Opportunity to access federal funds from Inflation Reduction Act.
- Criteria for ensuring that we have a more diverse workforce.
- Shortage of skilled labor.
- Union and nonunion contractors participating in projects.

Decarbonize institutional/public buildings

- Pair with the development of climate resilient hubs.
- Adopt Executive Order 17-20, section 3(b) into statute.
- Public health component of buildings that do not release toxins into the environment.
- How public buildings are funded.

Study and expand grid system/sources

- Current use of hydrogen in Europe.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purpose and scope of Task Force.• Advancement of renewable natural gas and hydrogen. <p>Modify Building Codes Division advisory boards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Equity and representation issue within membership of code advisory boards.• Diversity of experience of members on code advisory boards.• Code advisory boards have a governing function.• Desired expertise on code advisory boards. <p>Modify agency operations and code development process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current agency requirements are focused on health and safety.• Current energy code based off of decades-old energy-price crisis.• Re-task purpose and scope of DCBS codes to be focused on decarbonization.• Maintenance of buildings once occupied is not under purview of DCBS.
Meeting Materials (OLIS)	<p>New Buildings Policy & Program Options (presentation) New Buildings Policy Suggestions (memo) Existing Buildings Policy Interest Survey Results (presentation) New Buildings Policy and Program Options - Jim McCray (testimony)</p>