

Montana Climate Solutions Council Draft Schedule

Week of August 12: First Meeting of the MT Climate Change Council (conference call)

Given the need to stand the Council up quickly while working around summer holiday schedules, we will do this first meeting as a conference call. The meeting/call will serve to kick off the Council's work, including to:

- discuss the Council's work plan, schedule and timelines,
- consider suggestions for possible outside expertise to tap for assisting the committees,
- discuss general ground rules and how the Council will operate,
- discuss the Governor's expectations relevant to the work product of the Council, and
- solicit volunteers to lead the committees and to take the lead in preparing for the next Council meeting.

Fall 2019: Montana Climate Solutions Summit (with add-on Council meeting)

The Summit will be a high visibility event, hosted by the Governor (potentially) and including nationally-recognized thought leaders to share lessons learned from around the country to inform the Council's work. It will also be the first in-person meeting of the MT Climate Change Council.

Some key outcomes from the meeting for the Council:

- A summary overview of the draft work plan for the Council will be presented
- Objectives and timelines for the work of the Council will be presented with an opportunity to make refinements as appropriate
- The Council will formally adopt the work plan and schedule.
- The meeting will also include a focus on review and discussion of existing policies and policy recommendations from other sources; including Montana sources (e.g. Governor's Energy Blueprint, 2017 Climate Assessment, 2007 Montana Climate Change Action Plan, etc.) and sources outside of Montana as appropriate.
- A key outcome from this meeting will be a general framing of the possible policy areas to include in the report.
- NOTE: The agenda should facilitate breakouts into the Committees organized around the key policy areas in the E.O., i.e., GHG Mitigation Goal for the Power Sector, Economy-Wide GHG Mitigation Goal, Technology and Research, Climate Information, and Adaptation.
- Issue-area experts may be invited to provide keynote remarks, lead discussions in the Committee, and/or to serve in a support-capacity (no voting rights) on the committees.
- The committees will spend time at the end of the meeting to discuss next steps, including how they will work over the coming 2 months (e.g., conference calls, in-person meetings, etc.), agree on a schedule, and make assignments.

Months of September and October: Committee Work

Following the Summit, committees will work independently to develop a first draft of their section of the report. This work can be further supported by informal, issue-area experts as appropriate. The draft will be due by October 31. This timing allows for compiling of all reports into one draft, and circulation to Council members in advance of the next meeting.

Week of November 18 or December 1: Third Meeting of the Council

Committees will present their first draft recommendations to the full Council (and invited issue-area experts), for purposes of discussion and initial feedback. The full Council will ultimately provide constructive critique on the first draft, including identifying any gaps in the draft.

Months of December 2019 & January 2020: Committee Work

With the feedback received during the third meeting of the Council, Committees will refine their respective drafts in preparation for making it available for public comment. The revised drafts will be due Friday, January 17.

January 31-February 29, 2020: Public Comment Period

The Council Steering Committee will oversee compiling of the revised Committee drafts into the new draft that will be posted for public comment on January 31 commencing a 30-day comment period. (This time will also be used to further prepare for the Media Event.)

March 2020: Compiling and organizing public comment

Public comments will be compiled and organized, then sent to Council members for their consideration. Committees may hold conference calls to discuss comments and possible revisions to the draft report.

Late March or early April: Council Meeting

During this meeting, Council members will consider further revisions to the report

Late April/early May: Final Council Meeting (if needed)

The purpose of this meeting will be to further refine the report, and ultimately finalize the report for the Governor's consideration.

Month of May 2020: Prepare final report

This time will be used to edit and format the report by an editor/designer for final publication. We will also finalize preparations for the Media Event.

June 2020: Media Event for the Governor to formally accept the report.

The Council's report will be formally submitted to the Governor for his consideration and possible action. The agenda for this event will revolve around key findings and recommendations in the report, bringing in high-level, highly-influential thought leaders who can help to create awareness of the relevant issues, and build momentum for taking action on the report's recommendations.

July-December 2020

Relevant Montana state agencies will take actions to implement the report as appropriate.