

PACIFIC COAST COLLABORATIVE DECLARATION ON CLIMATE RESILIENCE



PREAMBLE

THE STATE AND PROVINCIAL PARTNERS OF THE PACIFIC COAST
COLLABORATIVE - CALIFORNIA, OREGON, WASHINGTON AND BRITISH
COLUMBIA:

Affirming our shared vision of the Pacific Coast as a model of innovation that sustains our communities and creates jobs and new economic opportunities for our combined population of 55 million;

Noting that Pacific Coast cities, states, and the province of British Columbia, as partners in the Pacific Coast Collaborative, have a shared vision to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and create a vibrant, low carbon regional economy by transforming energy systems, buildings, transportation, and waste management;

Appreciating the leadership roles of our partner cities in ambitious climate mitigation and resilience strategies and affirming our ongoing commitment to working collaboratively as a region;

Recognizing that the Pacific Coast is a region bound together by a common geography, shared infrastructure and a regional economy with a combined GDP of US \$3 trillion;

Acknowledging the clear and convincing scientific evidence of climate change, ocean acidification and other impacts from increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which threaten our people, our economy and our natural resources;

Observing that the Pacific Coast's experience with drought, wildfire, extreme weather, and other impacts are exacerbated by climate change, which threatens the environment, private and public property, cultural and economic resources, and public health and safety of the region;

Noting that our world's changing climate is leading to increases in the frequency and severity of drought, wildfire, flooding, and other natural disasters and that urgent action is needed to respond to and adapt to rapidly worsening climate impacts and related natural disasters across the Pacific Coast region;

Acknowledging that states, provinces, cities and local communities are on the front lines of responding to climate-fueled natural disasters and therefore need support and resources to plan, adapt, and thrive under a changing climate;

Recognizing that as coastal jurisdictions, Pacific Coast Collaborative partners have a particular need to continue to develop coastal community resilience planning efforts and deploy approaches and infrastructure that safeguard vulnerable communities and people as sea levels rise and climate-driven impacts are felt more acutely. Communities across the region also must prepare

for increasing extreme heat events, drought, wildfires, flooding and associated landslides land subsidence and saltwater intrusion;

Complementing and building on the policy goals of individual PCC partners as well as current jurisdiction-specific and intergovernmental collaborations, including, inter alia, Oregon's Resilience Plan, Washington's Integrated Climate Response, British Columbia's Adaptation Strategy, California's Executive Order on Adaptation that directs all State agencies to consider climate change in all planning and investment decisions, and the Pacific Coast Collaborative 2013 *Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy* and 2016 *Pacific Coast Climate Leadership Action Plan*;

Acknowledging the significant range of ongoing planning efforts and activities on climate adaptation and resilience across a variety of agencies and institutions that would benefit from information exchange and that can serve as a basis for collaborative work going forward, and recognizing the significant benefits of multi-jurisdictional coordination and collaboration on strategies and approaches for climate resilient investment and finance mobilization;

Highlighting the fundamental role the energy system plays in supporting the region's long-term resilience and economic prosperity;

Affirming that climate resilient, low-carbon infrastructure is at the heart of safe, self-reliant, sustainable, and prosperous communities across the Pacific Coast;

Recognizing that updating, improving and climate-proofing the Pacific Coast's critical infrastructure offers significant opportunity for investment and innovative public-private partnerships to drive the clean, modern, resilient and robust economy of the future;

Recognizing that the Pacific Coast region will need to find new sources of funding for upwards of \$1 trillion in critical infrastructure needs by 2050, while acknowledging that such estimates do not include the rising costs of natural and climate-induced disasters and threats including earthquakes, changing ocean conditions, wildfire and extreme weather due to climate change, or unknown costs due to deferred maintenance;

Recognizing that additional action is needed to ensure the most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations in our communities are equipped to thrive in a climate-impacted world; with special attention to those living in rural, impoverished and particularly vulnerable or isolated areas.

NOW THEREFORE HEREBY AGREE TO ADVOCATE, ACT AND PARTNER AS FOLLOWS:

The Governors of Oregon, Washington, California, and the Premier of British Columbia agree to undertake a coordinated knowledge exchange, strategic planning and, where appropriate, collaborative implementation effort under the Pacific Coast Collaborative that builds on existing and ongoing efforts and activities across the region and engages key cities.

This effort will identify successful programs and approaches that are leading to enhanced resilience outcomes and will identify specific areas for regional collaboration and coordination, with a particular emphasis on issues of regional importance, including, as appropriate: natural disaster preparation and response coordination, fire prevention and management strategies, coastal adaptation measures, water management and drought preparedness strategies, enhancing resilience of natural and working lands, and development of reliable, resilient and affordable energy and transportation systems and infrastructure across the west in the context of climate change.

This process should help the jurisdictions share relevant information, and should develop actionable, timely, and specific recommendations for action on the following issues, specifically working to ensure the most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations in our communities are equipped to thrive in a climate-impacted world, with special attention to those living in rural, impoverished and particularly vulnerable or isolated areas:

- a) Identification of existing tools, programs, and policies that could be scaled/applied and/or replicated across the region to advance climate resilience.
- b) Recommendations for integration of adaptation and resilience into key strategic planning documents and policies where such integration is not already occurring (e.g. new building codes, energy and land use system planning, forest and public lands management, etc.)
- c) Recommendations for enhanced natural disaster response and coordination efforts.
- d) Recommendations on strategies and approaches to mobilize public and private resources to increase infrastructure resilience, including innovative financing and procurement approaches to accelerate investment in modern, low carbon and climate-resilient natural and built infrastructure across the region, leveraging successful examples and models.
- e) Recommendations on better coordinating approaches to full lifecycle cost accounting for infrastructure investments and improvements across the region that takes into account financial, social, health, environmental and climate mitigation and resilience impacts.
- f) Recommendations on studies on the impacts of climate change at local community levels.

II. Interpretation

This Action Plan is intended to spur new, efficient ways for our governments, agencies and staff to work together, and with other governments and non-government partners, as appropriate, to add value, efficiency and effectiveness to existing and future initiatives, and to reduce overlap and duplication of effort, with the objective of reducing, not increasing, resource demands to achieve objectives that are shared.

III. Limitations

This Action Plan shall have no legal effect; impose no legally binding obligation enforceable in any court of law or other tribunal of any sort, nor create any funding expectation; nor shall our jurisdictions be responsible for the actions of third parties or associates.

RELEASED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA ON THE OCCASION OF THE GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT, THIS 14TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2018.