

**Climate Action Collaborative  
for the  
Eagle County Community**

**Purpose & Principles for  
Collaboration**

**June 21, 2017**

This Purpose and Principles for Collaboration document is considered to be a living document that will be changed as necessary with input from stakeholders.

## **Purpose**

The Climate Action Collaborative (CAC) for the Eagle County Community joins representatives from local governments, businesses, schools, and nonprofit organizations all working to meet the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets set forth in the 2016 “Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community.”

The CAC provides shared community access to education, technical support, and funding for strategies that significantly reduce climate pollution in our community.

## **Vision**

Reducing climate pollution is an urgent priority, and the actions we take now to reduce climate pollution will improve the lives of current generations. Our actions may also allow future generations to enjoy what we enjoy now - reliable snowfall and streamflows, a flourishing year-round economy, and a healthy resilient ecosystem that enhances the wellbeing of all.

Through the work of the CAC, the Eagle County community will meet the community targets to reduce GHG emissions 25% by 2025, and 80% by 2050 (baseline 2014).

## **Guiding Principles**

The CAC will:

- Rely upon scientific consensus and data to inform goals, strategies, and actions around climate change
- Proactively implement strategies outlined in the 2016 “Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community”
- Serve as a “crossroads” of shared resources, education, and outreach to support community-wide climate action
- Foster opportunities for collaboration and use collaborative meeting processes that encourage participation, sharing, transparency and inclusiveness
- Facilitate effective and efficient meetings and use best-practices to ensure continued long-term engagement of all stakeholders
- Produce consensus decisions for the betterment of the entire Eagle County community
- Balance economic, social, and environmental considerations in our recommendations
- Be accountable for our actions and use data to measure and monitor collective impact

- Proactively communicate with one another to maintain productive relationships across political and organizational boundaries to ensure collective success in accomplishing GHG reduction goals

### **Expectations**

Participating CAC stakeholders will:

- Allocate staff time and other resources, both financial and in-kind, to implement GHG reduction initiatives
- Develop a consistent system to measure and monitor annual GHG reductions within their respective entity or jurisdiction
- Develop plans, projects and policies that empower our community to reduce GHG emissions
- Proactively integrate GHG reduction actions into all organizational planning, decision-making, infrastructure, and community assets

### **Structure: Membership, Working Groups, etc.**

The CAC will function as a county-wide collaborative committee, and will govern itself and its members.

The CAC will strive to have a balanced membership of stakeholders representing entities (local governments, special districts, businesses, utilities, schools, nonprofits) with the influence and/or authority to significantly reduce GHG emissions within the boundaries of Eagle County.

The core CAC membership will be limited to 30-40 entities. Membership in sector-based small working groups is open to additional stakeholders who will bring needed expertise and resources to ensure success of sector working group goals.

Sector-based working groups may include: 1) education and outreach, 2) residential buildings, 3) commercial buildings and industrial, 3) transportation and mobility, 4) waste and landfill (materials management), 5) energy supply, and others as determined by the CAC.

Walking Mountains Science Center (WM) is currently contracted (during 2017) by the Eagle County Board of County Commissioners to serve as the project manager, convener and facilitator of the CAC. In this role WM will: set meeting dates and agendas for three stakeholder/collaborative meetings, prepare and provide CAC meeting notes, communicate progress to the broader community by writing two editorial to submit to the Vail Daily newspaper, host one annual climate action open house, convene and facilitate the education and outreach sector working group, support formation of the commercial buildings sector working

group, maintain the webpage to openly communicate and maintain historical memory of the CAC, and other roles as mutually determined.

### **DRAFT Decision-making Process**

CAC decisions will be made at in-person meetings. Exceptions may be made for time-sensitive issues which could be decided by email poll if stakeholders are agreeable to that method. The CAC shall strive for consensus on all decisions. Consensus means the willingness to go along with the decision either in active support of it or in not opposing it.

Tentative agreements may be made at meetings pending the opportunity for members to consult with their necessary constituencies. This will be done on a timely basis. The commitment to work for consensus means that members will:

- Actively listen to the input and concerns of others
- Participate in the “give and take” of the process in a way that seeks to understand the interests of all
- Actively generate proposals thought to be workable for all
- Work together to reach consensus
- If the group is in general agreement on an issue with the exception of one or two members, the dissenting members are responsible for proposing alternatives they believe might achieve group consensus

Decisions made in a stakeholders’ absence are binding. In order to formalize a CAC decision, those members in attendance at a meeting will be asked to indicate their support level either by a show of thumbs or verbal confirmation. Level of support for a CAC decision will be indicated by each member in the following way:

- Thumb up for full support
- Thumb to the side for “can live with” the proposal (Abstention from a vote means the member is considered “thumbs sideways”)
- Thumb down for “cannot live with” the proposal

A proposal may be voted on, tabled, and revisited as necessary before the attempt to reach consensus is superseded by a majority vote.