

June 2024 Climate Change Advisory Committee Feedback Outcomes for the 2024 Climate Action Plan

Materials Provided for Review	Committee Members Who Provided Feedback	# of Written Comments and Questions
Climate Action Plan Final Draft	14	Written- 173
February 2024 Meeting Slides	9	Written – 5 Verbal – 15

Outcomes

The outcomes listed below are not meant to be exhaustive of how all feedback is addressed but is intended to summarize examples of feedback that substantively impacted the content of the CCAC Meeting Slides and Climate Action Plan development. For the Climate Action Plan, categories of edits aim to capture the edits most commonly found throughout the document where consistency edits were made across the board.

Climate Action Plan – Final Draft

The final draft of the CAP now includes a **wider range of involved parties** in planning an implementation of the mitigation and adaptation strategies. Additionally, the roles of mentioned implementation partners were clarified based on feedback to achieve a more accurate characterization of roles and responsibilities.

Key terminology was clarified across the document and additional definitions were added to the glossary.

- **Comment:** The term "clean energy" is used throughout and is very misleading. Generally, it is a descriptor of "carbon-free emission" at the source of generation. It presumes that the only attribute or detriment with respect to a fuel source should be whether it emits carbon at the source of generation. That is not accurate. It also implies that other sources are not "clean."
 - *Resulting Change:* Added definition of Clean Energy to glossary as follows, "Refers to energy sources or generation processes that produce little to no GHG emissions and have improved environmental impacts on water and air quality compared to traditional fossil fuels."
- **Comment:** In the discussion of enabling community solar, instead of "households" consider "utility customers." Community solar bills in PA have allowed for participation from commercial customers, not exclusively residential. Or you could say many households and businesses.
 - *Resulting Change:* "Households" altered to "utility customers" or "households and businesses" where appropriate.

The **discussion of climate justice, environmental justice, and equity was strengthened** by adding more clear implementation steps, direct impact statements, and more description of the breadth of EJ communities, ranging from rural and coal mining towns to urban centers.

- **Comment:** The CAP misses the impact that its proposals will have on EJ communities in the coal region.
 - *Resulting Change:* Coal towns specifically called out in the expansion of our EJ conversation and specific mentions of workforce development mention existing energy workforces (fossil fuels) in those planning suggestions.
- **Comment:** High upfront costs ARE a barrier for low-income communities...recommend amending to be more definitive. There is no "could be" about it.
 - *Resulting Change:* "Could be" replaced with "will" and similar changes made throughout the impacts sector where supported by data.
- **Comment:** Suggest including at least some recognition of the need for home repair as a critical precursor to equitable home efficiency. Right now, health and safety issues with the home are preventing services from reaching homes most in need, with the highest energy burdens.
 - *Resulting Change:* Added in consideration for funding needs to improve home conditions to meet current health and safety standards to enable further energy efficiency upgrades.

Current **funding streams and policy programs** called out were updated, removed, or added based on comments received.

- **Comment:** Note re: "Continue to support and expand...WAP/HEELP" - WAP is solely supported with federal funds. For the program to expand, the state needs to invest. Suggest including LIURP here, in addition to naming WAP and HEELP.
 - *Resulting Change:* LIURP mention added to WAP and HEELP.

Added clarifying language **acknowledging the modeling assumptions and constraints** to clarify the implications of our outputs. Modeling assumptions and outputs for strategy GHG emissions, costs, and benefits were not changed based on comments and thus our conclusions remain the same. In some cases, comments were contradictory to what our modeling demonstrated and in other cases, comments included modeling assumptions or conclusions which feel outside of our scope of analysis for this CAP.

Adaptation measures were expanded to include more specific implementation steps and clearer language around. However, many comments in this section related to detailed climate impacts not mentioned in the CAP should be found in the CIA.

- **Comment:** Regarding the strategy related to protecting workers from extreme heat: Consider adding more to this strategy to protect vulnerable populations or create a separate strategy focused on this. To protect our most vulnerable populations (the young, the elderly, those incarcerated, those with pre-existing conditions), the State should require cooling in prisons, public housing and elder care facilities.
 - *Resulting Change:* Expanded conversation around heat impacts in EJ section. However, more discussion of these impacts is found in detail in the CIA.
- **Comment:** Philadelphia has disclosure laws on the books for flood risk. Even landlords are supposed to disclose flood risk to renters. The issue is enforcement.
 - *Resulting Change:* Suggestions for enforcement next steps included here along with the acknowledgement of flood risk disclosure laws for Philadelphia.

- **Comment:** Municipal Planning Code (MPC) recommendations should be explicitly included in the Adaptation Opportunities.
 - *Resulting Change:* Added description of role for municipal planning codes and benefits of updating them.

Formatting edits were made to reflect established style template, increase readability, and correct any errors that occurred during the editing process.

CCAC Meeting Slides

- A range of comments were made in the meeting that were also included in written form. Many of those comments are addressed above.