

From: [Rai, Pranjali \(COM\)](#)
To: [Jill Boudreau](#)
Cc: [Burnham, Michael \(COM\)](#)
Subject: RE: Zoom cut off before your answer
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 12:53:15 PM

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Hi Jill,

As part of HB1181 requirements, the department (Commerce) is required provide an assessment of any current and potential impact of local policies on GHG emissions and per-capita VMT as part of any future updates to climate element planning guidance. We are currently working on finalizing the process for our future guidance updates.

As Michael mentioned in his presentation, jurisdictions will be asked only to answer questions related to the implementation progress on their adopted climate policies. Though not required, it is a useful exercise for jurisdictions to track their communitywide GHG emissions and per-capita VMT to inform their policies and programs.

CCing Michael in case he would like to add anything.

Regards
Pranjali

From: Jill Boudreau <jillb@scog.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 11:34 AM
To: Burnham, Michael (COM) <michael.burnham@commerce.wa.gov>
Cc: Jill Boudreau <jillb@scog.net>
Subject: Zoom cut off before your answer

External Email

Hi Michael,

Sorry to be a bit late – but the Zoom webinar ended prior to your answer to this question was posted....

Would you mind answering it via email?

Can Commerce speak to the GHG and VMT reduction tracking and reporting requirements?

Thank you!

Jill

Jill Boudreau

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JB

Jill Boudreau (You) 10:58 AM

Can Commerce tell us if they plan to conduct another GHG analysis prior to the 5 year update requirement. Seems like since the State invested in that amazing baseline work - it would benefit all of us if they did a follow up 5 year analysis, and continue ongoing measurement as part of GMA work.

MB

Michael Burnham 11:18 AM

Pending funding from the WA Legislature, Commerce hopes to conduct GHG inventories for the 11 counties in 2029.



RE

Robby Eckroth 10:43 AM

Implementation of the GHG sub-element can be particularly challenging for rural counties, especially those that have limited involvement in managing unincorporated UGAs that are largely reserved for future annexation. We are facing significant staffing and budget constraints, which can make pursuing feasible GHG-reduction strategies difficult. One effort that we are going through is creating a clean energy code to streamline clean energy projects. Aside from reducing greenhouse gases through county operations, weatherization programs, and electrification, are there additional strategies rural counties can consider, especially those facing significant staffing and budget constraints, when options for GHG reduction are limited?



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NM Nicole McGowan 10:53 AM

If the County is still working on regional methodology for monitoring climate data (completion date unknown), should cities wait to adopt an implementation plan until the county's work is complete? Worried about developing an implementation plan that is out of sync with the county's regional methodology.

MB Michael Burnham 11:22 AM

I think makes sense to include the cities in your process and coordinate implementation plans.

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JK Jenna Kay 10:29 AM

Seems like 5-year reporting will focus on process outcomes. Is that right? Outcome based reporting metrics in the policy explorer are more of ideas for jurisdictions if they want to track things more granularly? What about ghg and vmt reduction tracking and reporting requirements?

MJ Melissa Johnston 11:20 AM

Jenna, yes, CPE offers granular, detailed tracking options, and 5-year reporting will be more focused on yes/no, process outcomes.

BN b norton 11:00 AM

to what extent does full compliance with the goals of the GMA promote achievement of climate goals (e.g. contain growth properly = reduced VMT)?

MB Michael Burnham 11:29 AM

Reducing sprawl and increasing urban density helps reduce VMT.

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Michael Burnham, Commerce:

- Commerce does NOT have the expectation that all these policies will be implemented in the next 10 years. These are 20-year plans.
- Can Commerce speak to the GHG and VMT reduction tracking and reporting requirements? See email response in meeting materials.