

Climate Action Plan Community Conversations Albuquerque, NM 3.27.2025

Welcome

Clarify objectives, group agreements, Lilly Irvin-Vitela and Melissa Ontiveros:

- Listen to understand
- Be respectful of common ground and differences
- Share the space
- Remember your voice matters.

Provide context and expectations, NMED and EMNRD by Amy Rosebrough and City of Albuquerque, Alice Main:

- The aim of the NM Climate Action Plan is
 - [1] To reduce climate pollution by 45% by 2030 (compared to 2005).
 - [2] To lead New Mexico to net zero climate pollution by 2050.

- The planning process includes exploration across NM of New Mexicans personal values, local priorities, and state priorities to inform the approaches that are adopted in the New Mexico plan.
- Some of the parameters that will guide the selection of approaches include feasibility of implementation, cost and the availability of funding, the impact of the strategy or tactic on pollution reductions, the transformative impact, and community values.

Community Values

Strengthen understanding about and among the people in the meeting, community members.

- A participant from Albuquerque, NM, is interested in resilient, community-based energy generation and storage.
- A participant talked about community togetherness, prosperity, and zero waste.
- Another participant wants to center on the most impacted communities.
- A participant is interested in equitable access to greenspace.
- A participant wants to connect outdoor equity and food justice.
- A participant is interested in the decisions for lifestyles based on concerns for the wellbeing of others and the planet.
- A participant wants more use of natural resources (sun and wind) and recycling.
- A participant wants actions that are science based.
- A participant wants to reduce the negative health impacts of fossil fuel production on environmental justice in communities.
- A participant wants to shift power back to people rather than corporations.
- Another participant wants positive community energy.
- A participant wants to alleviate the impact of climate change on communities (frontline).
- Another participant wants a clean and safe world for our children.
- Another participant has a primary focus on water.
- A participant believes in happy planet means happy people.
- A participant suggests that air, land, and water need to be decolonized and demilitarized.

- Another participant wants equity for people most vulnerable to climate chaos, and the best possible survivability for the next generations.
- A participant wants equity and to address racial justice.
- A participant wants no gas vehicles.
- A participant wants public transit to be free, clean, and safe as a human right.
- A participant suggests involving youth through schools and education.
- A participant is concerned about soil degradation.
- A participant mentioned the breath of life, water-air-earth, community circle, indigenous life, and project 2025.
- A participant is interested in community public health and children's well-being.
- Another participant is interested in family and community health.
- A participant wants community involvement and education.
- A participant wants to save the environment for the future.
- A participant wants accessibility for all. Ease of access without needing a car.
- Another participant wants a vibrant life in NM, where we hit balance with our natural world.
- Another participant wants circularity components/elements to impart and instill resilience.
- A participant asked, can we please if recycled materials actually get recycled.
 I hear glass has no market and is not recycled. True?
- A participant wants practical things that can be started by neighborhoods.
- A participant is looking for community awareness and commitment.

- Another participant is interested in creating resilient sustainable communities.
- A participant said our community is already experiencing the effects of environmental degradation from extreme weather events to poor air quality. I want to help shape policies.
- A participant is worried that the federal government will wipe out our regulations and progress. Everybody and other creatures should have clean air, water, and soil.
- Another participant is here out of concern for the future of our statewater, food, forests, livability, and heat.
- A couple of participants want climate plans that lower emissions, meet the needs of transportation, household needs and encourage collective action to do this.

- A participant wants to mitigate global impacts of climate change (species extinction, ocean acidification, food ecosystems change, and uplift communities.
- Another participant suggests protecting and restoring communities that are most impacted.
- Another participant wants snow days with family and friends.
- A participant wants to see the biggest reduction in emissions for the least cost and sacrifice.
- Another participant wants to meet scientific goals and change the perception of the environment.
- A participant wants a better utilized public transportation system across the state.

Transportation

Together participants analyzed and prioritized the following priorities, raised, and answered clarifying questions, and identified missing strategies/tactics related to the transportation.

- Create communities where it is easy and safe to get around without a car.
 - In round one, 13 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - No one opposed this strategy.
 - \circ $\,$ In round 2, 16 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - No one opposed.
 - In round 3, 2 participants agreed that this strategy is effective, and 1 participant opposed it due to feasibility.
- Increase safety, availability, and efficiency of public transit.
 - \circ $\:$ In round one, 13 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - No one opposed this strategy.
 - o In round 2, 15 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - No one opposed. suggested promoting outdoor recreation.
 - In round 3, 2 participants agreed that this strategy is effective, and 1 participant partially agreed with this strategy.
- Make it cheaper and easier to buy and charge electric vehicles.

- o In round one, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
- 6 participants partially agreed citing safety and liability issues.
- 1 participant opposed this strategy citing that it is not an option for low-income and disadvantaged people.
- \circ $\,$ In round 2, 15 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
- \circ No one opposed.
- In round 3, 1 participant agreed that this strategy is effective, and 2 participants partially supported this strategy.
- Make it easier and cheaper for freight, buses, delivery, and ride share vehicles to use cleaner fuels.
 - o In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - 4 participants partially agreed citing concerns of no hydrogen or battery, 1 participant opposed this strategy citing that it is not an option for low-income and disadvantaged people.
 - o In round 2, 15 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - No one opposed.
 - o In round 3, 3 participants agreed that this strategy is effective, and no one opposed.
- Help people repair and replace high polluting cars.
 - o In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - 3 participants partially agreed, and 2 participants opposed this strategy citing that it is not something we can do at a state level.
 - o In round 2, 10 participants identified this as an effective strategy.
 - 6 partially agreed with concerns about emissions from vehicles after repairing and support converting to electric not repairing and replacing.
 - In round 3, 1 participant agreed that this strategy is effective, and 2 asked if this is worth the time, money, and energy.

- How would we create those types of communities?
- How do we ensure equity in making neighborhoods safe to get around without a car?
 - By socioeconomic area and disability status?
- Is this going to create new construction or change mindsets, making people more aware?
- How to make sure improvements can get to communities outside a city center? And underserved communities?

What's Missing?:

- NM-state supports for safety in transportation through tribal lands with state, tribal and federal laws.
- Potential impacts of measures on tribes, nations, and pueblos.
- Improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- More efficient public transportation.
- Need state to invest in public transit making it free for the state.
- Bus drivers and workforce

- Trails for cycling
- Prioritize walking- make it nicer, more enjoyable to walk, bike, etc.
- Close streets downtown to cars.
- Special lanes for the EVs and carpools.
- Better systems to move traffic-move efficient traffic flow.
- More rides available in high traffic areas.
- More options for EV manufacturers
- Prioritization of these measures.
- Reliability is key. Safety should be comprehensive, not only applied to vehicles and their operation.
- "Create" -evolve communities for improved sustainable and better-connected transportation.
- EVs should also account for scooters and e-bikes
- Allow for more options to encourage (example hybrids)
- Ride/vehicle share expense (like Zip car)
- Alternative commercial transport for delivery forms. (not just fuels)
- More bike friendly to get around

- Create communities where it is easy and safe to get around without a car.
- Increase safety, availability, and efficiency of public transit.
- Make it cheaper and easier to buy and charge electric vehicles
- Make it easier and cheaper for freight, buses, delivery, and ride share vehicles to use cleaner fuels. Including easier operation.

Energy

Together participants analyzed and prioritized the following priorities, raised, and answered clarifying questions, and identified missing strategies/tactics related to energy.

- Make it easier and cheaper to install solar panels and batteries for homes.
 - In round one, 12 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed this strategy.
 - o In round 2, 3 participants identified this as an effective strategy and 2 partially agreed.
 - o In round 3, 7 participants agreed that this strategy is effective, and no one opposed.
- Expand and make electrical grid more efficient to support adding cheap and clean renewable power.
 - In round one, 12 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed this strategy.
 - o In round 2, 3 participants identified this as an effective strategy and 2 partially agreed.
 - In round 3, had no preference of strategies.
- Make it easier and cheaper for homes and businesses to save energy.

- Including upgrading appliances and HVAC systems and replacing gas, propane, or oil powered appliances with electric appliances.
- In round one, 10 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 2 participants partially agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.
- In round 2, 3 participants identified this as an effective strategy and 2 partially agreed.
- In round 3, 6 participants agreed with this strategy and 1 participant partially agreed.
- Adopt and enforce the most recent building and energy codes for greater energy and safety.
 - o In round one, 12 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - \circ In round 2, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy and no none opposed.
 - In round 3, 8 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.
- Make it easier for homes and businesses to get paid for utilizing less energy during peak demand.
 - In round one, 9 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 3 participants had partial support, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy and no none opposed.
 - In round 3, 8 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.

- Solar and batteries for farmers? Impact on loans and grants?
- Solar for schools, other public buildings, cost savings
 - o Goals for school districts
- Solar to support water for agriculture and homes without access?
- How would electrifying appliances impact communities with less access to energy?
- Public owned utilities in NM- what is their role?
- How does natural gas factor into renewable portfolio standard goals?
- How are we investing in common spaces to be resilient during emergencies? Power on, A/C, charge phones
- Can we expand the grid without disturbing wilderness or people's homes? ***
- How do we protect NM from federal policies that promote extraction? ***

What is Missing?:

- Training for builders and construction to meet updated building and energy codes?
- Fairness around compensation for reducing energy during peak demand.
- Include small and medium sized businesses in solar and storage.
- Consider impacts on neighbors of solar panels (glare)
- Benefits to renters for solar installation by property owners. ***
- Supporting individual property owners to install extra panels to supple power grid with clean power
- Expanding transmission needs to be considerate of siting.
- Concerned about waste from upgrading appliances to electric.
- Strategies to reduce urban heat island effect
- Include multifamily in making it easier and cheaper to install solar panels and batteries in homes.

- NM should benefit from transmission projects like Sun Zia.
- Wastefulness of replacing appliances. ***
- Protection of communities and especially tribal communities from waste generated by extraction without access to power generated.
- Geothermal missing-baseload power***
- Higher energy rates for top tier of commercial energy users.
- I would like to stress the importance of conservation in greenhouse gas reduction and carbon sequestration. Energy intensive carbon capture efforts will only add to the problem.

- Adopt and enforce the most recent building and energy codes for greater energy and safety.
- Make it easier and cheaper to install solar panels and batteries for homes.
- Can we expand the grid without disturbing wilderness or people's homes?
- How do we protect NM from federal policies that promote extraction?
- Benefits to renters for solar installation by property owners.
- Wastefulness of replacing appliances.
- Protection of communities and especially tribal communities from waste generated by extraction without access to power generated.
- Geothermal missing-baseload power

Agriculture, Forest, Wilderness

Together participants analyzed and prioritized the following priorities, raised, and answered clarifying questions, and identified missing strategies/tactics related to agriculture, forest, and wilderness.

- Implement landscape- scale wildfire reduction and prevention practices in high-risk and high-priority watersheds throughout NM.
 - o In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy and none opposed.
 - In round 3, 5 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.
- Incorporate landscape-scale restoration that supports native plant communities, carbon storage, drought prevention, and future climate resilience on natural and working lands.
 - In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - \circ $\:$ In round 2, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy and none opposed. I
 - \circ $\,$ In round 3, 5 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.
- Identify and implement strategies for collection and use of carbon data to evaluate climate efforts, carbon sequestration opportunities, and participation in carbon markets.
 - In round one, 3 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 4 participants partially agreed, and 1 participant opposed.
 - In round 2, 2 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 1 participant partially agreed, and 1 participant opposed.

- In round 3, no participants fully agreed with this strategy, 4 participants partially and 1 participant opposed.
- Prioritize land for low carbon uses like parks, recreation, green spaces, conservation, and community gardens, particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities.
 - In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy and none opposed.
 - In round 3, 5 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.
- Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous land management practices in conservation and forestry efforts.
 - In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy and none opposed.
 - In round 3, 5 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.
- Encourage agricultural soil management practices that enhance carbon storage and water retention.
 - In round one, 8 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - o In round 2, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy and none opposed.
 - In round 3, 5 participants agreed with this strategy, and no one opposed.

- Do these have to be passed into law?
- Do you have a specific list of areas for landscape-scale restoration?
- What is the criteria for selection?
- How much are you incorporating the efforts of agencies doing this work?
- How can we work with farmers to go from flood irrigation to drip irrigation?
- What carbon markets have the lowest barrier to entry in NM? Start-up companies?
- How are you planning on changing carbon sequestration because it is just giving companies the right to pollute?
- What are you planning to do with the radioactive waste?
- How are you planning to proceed with agriculture and knowledge of the land in places like schools and secluded places?

What is Missing?:

- Range needs to be prominent.
- Does that include going from high impact to low-impact agriculture?
- Mention biodiversity
- Role of non-native species for ecosystem functions.
- City of Albuquerque used to distribute a magazine with different types of landscaping plants and irrigation plans.
- Landscaping that harmonizes with NM land in each homeowner's manual.
- Littering initiative groups come together to pick up trash from rivers and land.
- Encourage homeowners and landlords to plant native plants and trees in their yards (backyard national park idea)

- Require schools to educate and give practice to planting and enjoying native plants.
- I would like to see the encouragement of ranching native cattle/bison and the implementation of sustainable ranching practices (including a reduction in the use of pesticides).

- Having more workshops in the community to talk about carbon storage and nuclear waste. We need more educational events in our communities.
- Incorporate landscape-scale restoration that supports native plant communities, carbon storage, drought prevention, and future climate resilience on natural and working lands.
- Prioritize land for low carbon uses like parks, recreation, green spaces, conservation, and community gardens, particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities.
- Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous land management practices in conservation and forestry efforts.
- Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous land management practices in conservation and forestry efforts.
- Encourage agricultural soil management practices that enhance carbon storage and water retention.

Waste and Materials

Together participants analyzed and prioritized the following priorities, raised, and answered clarifying questions, and identified missing strategies/tactics related to waste and materials.

- Capture waste gas (methane) from sites like landfills and dairies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or make electricity and cleaner fuel.
 - In round one, 2 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 2 participants identified positives and negatives of this strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, no participants identified this as an effective strategy, 6 participants saw positives and negatives of this strategy and none opposed.
 - In round 3, 10 participants agreed with this strategy, 1 participant saw positives and negatives, and none opposed.
- Support wastewater treatment plants in creating compost from treated waste.
 - o In round one, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, 6 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and none opposed it.
 - In round 3, 4 participants agreed with this strategy, 3 participants saw positives and negatives, and 10pposed.
- Make it easier to compost at home and places where food is served.
 - In round one, 4 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, 6 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and none opposed it.
 - In round 3, 10 participants agreed with this strategy, and none opposed.
- Reduce the amount of construction and demolition waste.

- In round one, 2 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 2 participants identified positives and negatives of this strategy and were hesitant on the how, and no one opposed.
- In round 2, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 1 participant saw positives and negatives of this strategy and none opposed.
- In round 3, 11 participants agreed with this strategy, and none opposed.
- Make it easier and cheaper to use low carbon concrete and other materials.
 - In round one, 3 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 1 participant identified positives and negatives of this strategy and needed more information, and no one opposed.
 - o In round 2, 6 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and none opposed it.
 - In round 3, 6 participants agreed with this strategy, 3 participants identified positives and negatives of this strategy and none opposed.

- Will encouraging capture of methane at dairies encourage enough dairies to grow and create more methane?
- It sounds like flaring could be included in capturing waste gas (methane) from sites like landfills and dairies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or make electricity and cleaner fuel.
- Prioritize in-state development of low carbon concrete.
- Where is recycling?
- Ensuring composting meets food safety regulations,
- Concerns of PFAs and other contaminants from waste treated plant compost for food growth. Also seeing those contaminants spread to other parts of the environment- water, animals, etc.

What is Missing?:

- Not just methane capture but storage and use
- Diet of cows
- Combine landfill with diverting waste.
- Encourage food waste prevention over composting especially schools, i.e., food donations, feed people first, then animals, then compost.
- Education of consumers on waste reduction over recycling and methane capture.
- Require polluters to pay for climate solutions.
- No specific solutions for tribal communities.
- Curbside composting which requires industrial grade composting equipment.
- Information and more locations for composting.
- Plastic waste reduction.

Priorities:

- Hopeful: low carbon concrete
- Concerns of PFAs and other contaminants from waste treated plant compost for food growth. Also seeing those contaminants spread to other parts of the environment- water, animals, etc.

- Make it easier to compost at home and places where food is served.
- Reduce the amount of construction and demolition waste.
- Make it easier and cheaper to use low carbon concrete and other materials.
- Support wastewater treatment plants in creating compost from treated waste.
- Capture waste gas (methane0 from sites like landfills and dairies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or make electricity and cleaner fuel

Industry

Together participants analyzed and prioritized the following priorities, raised, and answered clarifying questions, and identified missing strategies/tactics related to industry.

- Continue to invest in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from oil and gas activities, for example by identifying and fixing leaking infrastructure or electrifying equipment.
 - In round one, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 Participants suggested changing invest to pursue and fixing to include accountability and mandate.
 - In round 2, participants had no preference for this strategy.
 - In round 3, 4 participants agreed with this strategy, 1 participant identified positives and negatives of this strategy and none opposed.
- Continue to plug or remediate abandoned wells and oil and gas infrastructure throughout NM.
 - In round one, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy, and no one opposed.
 - In round 2, participants had no preference for this strategy.
 - In round 3, no participants agreed with this strategy, 2 participants identified positives and negatives of this strategy, and 3 participants opposed.
- Continue to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere through carbon capture efforts.
 - In round one, 0 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 2 identified positives and negatives for this strategy, and 3 participants opposed.
 - In round 2, participants had no preference for this strategy.
 - In round 3, no participants agreed with this strategy, 4 participants identified positives and negatives of this strategy, and 1 participant opposed.
- Increase monitoring and enforcement capacity for state emissions regulations. (Including data sharing.)
 - In round one, 5 participants identified this as an effective strategy, specifically enforcement, and no participants opposed.
 - In round 2, participants had no preference for this strategy.
 - In round 3, 5 participants agreed with this strategy, and no participant opposed.
- Create a clean hydrogen hub in NM.
 - In round one, 6 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 1 participant saw positives and negatives, and 4 participants opposed.
 - In round 2, participants had no preference for this strategy.

- In round 3, 0 participants agreed with this strategy, 4 participants saw positives and negatives, and 1 participant opposed.
- Explore opportunities for carbon markets in NM.
 - In round one, 0 participants identified this as an effective strategy, 1 participant saw positives and negatives, and 4 participants opposed.
 - In round 2, participants had no preference for this strategy.
 - In round 3, 0 participants agreed with this strategy, 4 participants saw positives and negatives, and 1 participant opposed.
 - The opposition from the group cited this strategy contributes to green waste.

- Where is electrifying happening at?
 - o Permian Basin and San Juan- how much energy does hydrogen make?
 - Well site
 - Through pipelines
 - Process to clean and compress
 - Then more to clean powerplant
- Do taxpayer dollars pay for this for corporations?
 - Could be state or federal money
- Who pays?
- Law making?
- Incentives?
- What does carbon capture mean?
 - Equipment burning fossil fuels –pipe on emissions pipeline and bury in ground.
 - Are you using energy to capture? If yes is there a plan for renewable to power carbon capture efforts?

What is Missing?:

- Aggressively fine corporations but not taxpayers paying.
- Uranium needs to be considered especially with NM history.
- Reliable information about the effectiveness of carbon capture.
- Why isn't there anything about transitioning away from oil and gas?
- What about neighborhoods that have been disproportionately impacted by industry-human impact?
- Need to be diverse in energy (oil, solar, hydrogen, etc.)
- What does a different economic economy look like?
- I also think there should be a goal to reduce the production and importation of plastics. I would ultimately like to see a ban on single use plastics statewide. This is not only good for the health of residents but will also help reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. I am very passionate about the plastics issue in particular and plan to take further action on this front.

- Use natural gas b/c it's not going anywhere
- Need to save-community cannot go back with all drilling
- Companies should pay to cap wells not taxpayers
- A lot on reservations
- What do you capture carbon efforts
- Figure out how to eliminate and reduce carbon capture
- Carrier pathways, climate industry especially rural and nature communities
- Hydrogen not widely used
- Creating industry without enough water is not appropriate and does not make sense.
- South Broadway disproportionately impacted
- Albuquerque is very different from rural and frontier NM
- Westgate-diesel school buses used and effecting student's community (air quality is different in communities is Albuquerque, NM)

Next Steps and Opportunities to Participate

- Notes will be sent early next week for review by everyone who signed in and shared their e-mail. Participants will be given an opportunity to review and send feedback.
- The values and priorities will help shape the next round of community meetings and, the drafting of New Mexico's statewide Climate Action Plan.
- Participants who have not completed the Climate Action Plan survey are invited to share their voice in that way too.
- The planning team will invite everyone who registered or attended this meeting to future planning meetings and continue widening the public outreach efforts.
- Participants are also encouraged to invite others.