

Local Government Climate Action Workshop

Date: March 19th

Anchorage, AK - Alaska Pacific University, Carr Gottstein Seminar Room

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In spite of our state government's inaction on climate change, local elected and appointed leaders across Alaska are taking action. From Fairbanks to Juneau local government leaders are working on various policy initiatives to tackle energy efficiency, clean transportation, and renewable energy on municipal buildings. Creating opportunities for dialogue and building stronger connections will allow these leaders to learn from each other and take advantage of efficiencies and coordination in their efforts.

Action Item 1.1 in the Climate Action Leadership Team final recommendations to the Governor in 2018 calls for the State of Alaska to "*Encourage and facilitate a strong network of municipal governments, Alaska Native Tribes, tribal consortia, and Alaska Native Regional and Village Corporations to leverage resources, share knowledge, and maximize efficiencies and purchasing power.*" The Alaska Center seeks to encourage a coalition of municipal, tribal, and corporate governments that have begun or wish to begin climate action planning and policy work.

To this end, we wish to cordially invite you to attend a facilitated a day-long workshop. The workshop is intended for community leaders to share ongoing efforts related to forming climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster resilience actions. This meeting will be hosted by The Alaska Center, and will include staff from the University of Alaska and the Municipality of Anchorage, a discussion on a Climate Cohort proposal (see attached document) and the draft [Climate Action Toolkit](#) to be housed at the Municipality of Anchorage website.

This will be the first in a series of meetings, with the ultimate goal of creating statewide coordination for local governments to build capacity for climate adaptation and planning. This meeting will be tailored toward local government officials along the railbelt because of their similar and shared challenges and opportunities in local climate action and hazard mitigation planning. Our aim is for this initial meeting to be a launching point for a broader conversation between other governments - including those not located on the road system - in Alaska and envision additional meetings to incorporate Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, Utilities, and other stakeholders in climate action planning.

Specifics: This will be a daylong facilitated workshop, held in Anchorage, hosted by The Alaska Center. A catered lunch will be provided, and an optional post-meeting social event will occur in the evening. We aim to have 20-40 local decision-makers in attendance. Remote participation will be made available for those who are unable to travel to Anchorage.

Goals:

1. Share best practices for climate policy (e.g. best ways to reduce climate impacts) at the local level
2. Provide a space for local leaders to build relationships and share information

Through this event, we hope to build the will and agency of local leaders to advance climate policy reducing emissions and increasing investments and growth in clean energy development.

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker/Facilitator
8:00am-8:30am	Coffee	
8:30am-9:00am	Introductions	The Alaska Center
9:00am - 10:30am	The Benefit of Collective Climate Planning: An Alaska Climate Cohort and the Alaska Climate Action Toolkit	UAA Municipality of Anchorage
10:30 - 10:45	Break	
10:45 - noon	Status of Climate Action Plans and sustainability efforts in Alaska. Successes and challenges in implementation.	Full Group discussion - Facilitated
11:30-12:30	Lunch + Facilitated Group Discussions	Development of a proposal for coordinated action
12:30 - 1:30 pm	The Role of Utilities in Achieving Climate Action Plan goals	
1:30-2:30pm	Planning Ahead - Sea Level Rise, Water Shortage, Extreme Weather Events - and more	
2:30pm-3:00pm	Break	
3:00-5:00pm	Breakout Group Discussions: Addressing barriers to Climate Action Plan implementation	Facilitated
5:00pm-5:30pm	Closing and Follow-Up	