

# AGENDA

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

### January 21, 2026

Hybrid Meeting In-person and via Teams



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**CITY OF ELLENSBURG  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA  
Council Conference Room  
501 North Anderson Street  
Ellensburg, WA 98926**

[Environmental Commission Regular Meeting | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

**Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
5:15 PM - Regular Meeting**

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members**
  - 1.A **Nancy Lillquist:** City Council Member  
**Jordan Spradlin:** CWU-Appointed Member  
**Christina Wollman:** Chairperson  
**Brenda DeVore:** Member at Large  
**Kamran Hermann:** Member at Large  
**Raven Harlin:** Member at Large  
**\_\_\_ OPEN \_\_\_:** *EHS Env. Club President (Ex-officio Member)*
- 2. Approval of Agenda (No Public Comment)**
  - 2.A Approval of the Proposed Agenda for January 21, 2026
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
  - 3.A Approval of the Meeting Minutes from December 17, 2025
- 4. New Business**
  - 4.A Official Welcome to Jordan Spradlin!
  - 4.B Climate & Environmental Planning Task Force - Subcommittee Creation
- 5. Unfinished Business**
  - 5.A Verification of Bike Month Subcommittee (3 members)
  - 5.B 2026 Community Recycling Event
- 6. Citizen Comment**
- 7. Staff Update/Discussion Items**
  - 7.A Ecology WQ Stormwater Capacity Grant Acceptance
  - 7.B Companion Storm Document Update
  - 7.C Gateway II 90% Design Grant closeout
- 8. Adjournment**



For more information on the Environmental Commission, contact Rebecca Springer, Public Works Water Resources Manager, at 509-925-8653



**CITY OF ELLENSBURG**  
**Date of Meeting**  
**Time of Meeting**  
**Place of Meeting**

**Minutes of Environmental Commission, Regular Meeting**  
**December 17, 2025**  
**5:15 PM**  
**Council Conference Room**  
**501 North Anderson Street**  
**Ellensburg, WA 98926**

[Environmental Commission Regular Meeting | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

## **1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members**

Commissioner Wollman called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

## **2. Approval of Agenda**

2.A Approval of the Proposed Agenda for December 17, 2025

Commissioner Linhart motioned to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

3.A Approval of the Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2025

Commissioner Linhart motioned to approve the November 19, 2025 meeting minutes with a spelling correction. Motion passed 5-0.

## **4. New Business**

4.A Review the 2025-2027 Department of Ecology Water Quality Stormwater Capacity Grant Agreement and consider providing a Recommendation for Approval to City Council

Rebecca Springer presented the 2025–2027 Biennial Stormwater Capacity Grant and requested that the Environmental Commission provide a favorable recommendation to City Council. The grant is funded by the Washington State Department of Ecology and is offered to permittees to support compliance with stormwater permit requirements. The grant amount varies each biennium based on the State budget and is \$120,000 for this funding cycle.

Staff plan to use the grant funds to support the Stormwater Companion Document project, which is intended to develop stormwater standards specific to Ellensburg and provide clearer guidance to developers and their engineers

on local stormwater management challenges. In previous cycles, grant funds have been used to support street sweeping removal. Staff noted that a \$10,000 reduction in the budget will be requested due to a reduction in projected grant funds.

Commissioners asked for clarification regarding the scope of activities funded by the grant, including whether it supports the \$10,000 Stormwater Water Quality grant and whether Outreach and Education activities are a required component of the City's stormwater permit.

Commissioner Lillquist moved to provide a favorable recommendation to City Council for the Public Works Director to sign the 2025–2027 Biennial Stormwater Capacity Grant Agreement.

The motion passed 5–0.

#### 4.B Sustainability & Energy Plan Presentation

Jay Howard presented an overview of the Sustainability & Energy Plan (SEP), including the purpose of the plan, the reasons for its development, and general implementation strategies. He noted that public perception data indicate that more than half of Ellensburg's population supports reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. He explained that most local GHG emissions result from combustion sources rather than electricity use.

Commissioners asked questions regarding the Environmental Commission's role in implementing the SEP, whether the plan establishes priorities or functions primarily as a strategic framework, and how greenhouse gas emissions from the Wastewater Treatment Facility are calculated, including the role of methane generation and electricity use. Staff clarified that the SEP is primarily a strategic document and that methane recapture is not currently feasible.

No action was taken.

#### 4.C Bike Month Subcommittee Creation

Commissioner Lillquist provided a brief update on Bike Month planning, with a tentative event date of May 30th. Proposed activities include a "ride on your own" option and participation in Adventure Lab. Commissioners were asked if there was interest in forming a small subcommittee to assist with planning and coordination. Commissioners Lillquist and DeVore volunteered to participate on the subcommittee, as well as, Jordon Spradlin.

Commissioners also discussed the possibility of offering adult bicycle skills training, including riding in traffic. It was noted that this may not be feasible in

the spring but could be considered in the summer if instructor availability allows.

No action was taken.

## **5. Unfinished Business**

### **5.A 2026 Community Recycling Event**

Rebecca Springer created a spreadsheet to track completed and upcoming event planning tasks. Waste Management (WM) availability was reviewed, and May 2nd was identified as the preferred date for Recycling Day, which will also serve as a kickoff for Bike Month. The event has been approved to be held in the parking lot of City Hall.

Commissioners discussed potential event components, noting that document shredding has been a popular service in the past. Medication disposal was identified as cost-prohibitive, with providing information on disposal resources suggested as an alternative.

WM promotional materials will be distributed now that a date has been selected. A flyer and QR code will be used to allow for updates as planning progresses. The event is anticipated to run from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

No action was taken.

## **6. Citizen Comment**

None.

## **7. Staff Update/Discussion Items**

### **7.A Kelli Capps promoted to Stormwater & Urban Forestry Technician**

Rebecca Springer introduced Kelli Capps as the new Stormwater & Urban Forestry Technician. Kelli has been with the City for six years, and most recently she worked as an Engineering Tech II in the Engineering Division.

## **8. Adjournment**

Commissioner Wollman adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

## Climate & Environment Planning Task Force

**Purpose:** The goal is to collaborate closely with the **Climate & Environment Planning Task Force** (CEP Task Force) to develop policies for the Climate and Environment Element. The task force will convene for a total of four meetings to review and update the Environment Element and assist in the creation of the Climate Element.

To ensure comprehensive input, the CEP Task Force will bring together a diverse group of community members. Task force membership will continue to develop throughout January 2026, but we anticipate the following groups will be represented:

- Environmental Commission members
- Mid-Columbia Fisheries Staff
- WDFW Staff
- KEEN Staff
- CWU Staff
- Kittitas County Flood Control Zone District members
- Representatives from local irrigation districts

The City will oversee the recruitment process for the CEP Task Force. It is recommended that the task force consist of 8-12 members to maintain a manageable and effective group size.

Below is a tentative timeline of how the City and the Consultants could focus time with the CEP Task Force.

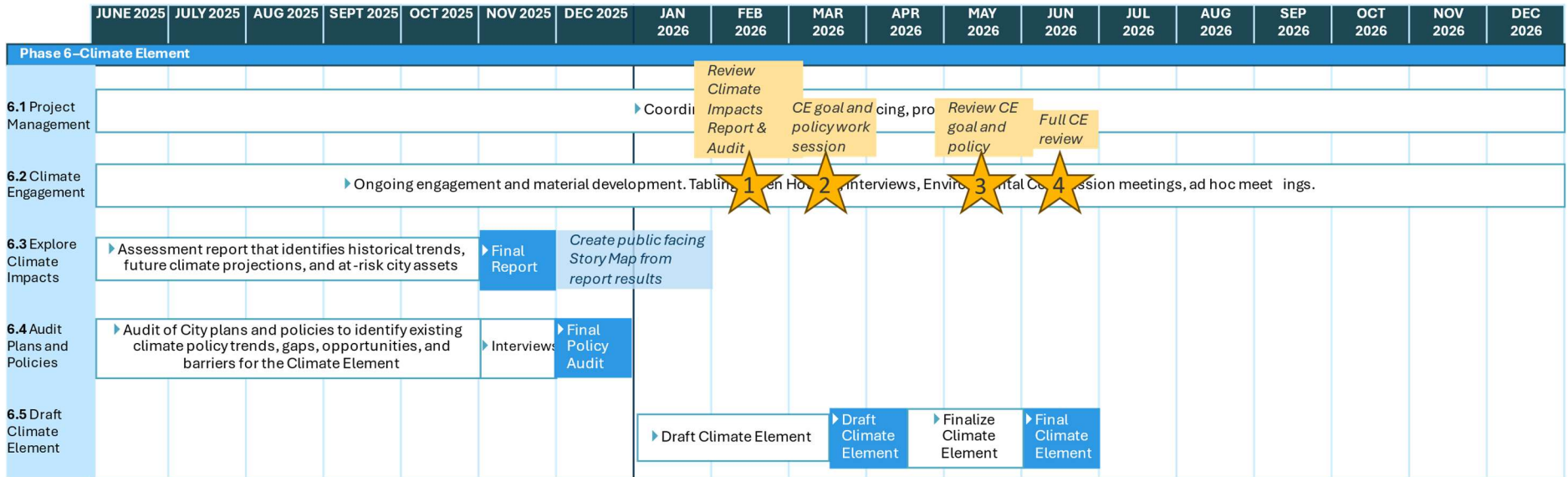
Ongoing meetings to be aware of/schedule around:

- **Environmental Commission:** The Environmental Commission meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Conference Room and on Teams.
- *Other ongoing meetings to be aware of for scheduling purposes?*

Meeting Date	Topic Focus
Mid-February 2026	<p><b>Review Climate Impacts Report &amp; Audit (~2 hours)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will share the Climate Hazards and Impacts Assessment and the Climate Policy Audit documents to review in advance of this meeting.</li> <li>• We will present overviews (15-30 mins total) and open it up for discussion with CEP Task Force members.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cascadia would provide a discussion guide to support this conversation that could be included in the agenda.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Meeting Date	Topic Focus
<p><b>March 2026</b></p>	<p><b>Environment and Climate Element goal and policy work session</b> <i>(3 hours; fully in person preferred)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present on community feedback from 2025 Open House</li> <li>• We will begin identifying/reviewing high priority policy – using the Climate Explorer and Policy Audit to support development and the conversation; and the Kittitas County climate element</li> <li>• We will also cross-walk the Environment Element – noting policies to pull into the Climate Element</li> </ul>
<p><b>May 2026</b></p>	<p><b>Review Environment and Climate Element goal and policy</b> <i>(2-3 hours)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the March work session, the consultants and the City will develop draft Environment and Climate Element goals and policies. We will present and review – gathering feedback</li> </ul>
<p><b>June 2026</b></p>	<p><b>Full Environment and Climate Element review</b> <i>(~2 hours)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will share an updated Environment and Climate Element draft for this meeting (Goals, Policies, and Introduction/narrative). We will present updates and do our final review</li> </ul>

# Timeline



# ELLENSBURG 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL RECYCLING EVENT

May 2, 2026 | 10 A.M.-1 P.M.  
Ellensburg City Hall Parking Lot  
501 N. Anderson St., Ellensburg

**Bring your recyclables and learn about curbside service and local recycling drop-off locations!**

### We Are Accepting:

- Plastic bottles/jugs
- Cardboard
- Paper
- Clean food/beverage cans



### Special Services:

- Shred-it paper document shredding
- Bicycle Donation (any condition, plus bike tubes)

### Learn More About:

- Composting
- Where do I recycle other items? (furniture, electronics, yard waste, etc.)

*\*Learn More About items will not be accepted at the event, but booths will be set up to provide information on where to take items.*



Deadline (Date/Time)	Activity	Responsible Party	Status	Comments
December 2025	Check Community Calendar	Rebecca	Complete	April 18th and May 2nd - Saturdays - Clear for both calendars. (April 25 was NOT available for WM)
December 2025	Identify / Reserve Location	Rebecca	Complete	Approved use of City Hall Parking Lot (no metal dumpsters)
December 2025	Finalize Event Date	EC - All	Complete	May 2nd. (Could announce on Earth day if done on 5/2).
January 2026	Announce Event in 1st WM Bill of 2026	Rebecca / Mackenzi (WM)		Date (5/2) finalized. QR Code sent to WM. WM will announce in bills.
January 2026	Finalize List of Recycle Stations & Booths			Blue bins, Shred-It, Med disposal (verifying). Info booths: Compost, Glass, Hard-to-recycle items.
February-March 2026	Finalize Recycle Station & Booth Logistics			
	Coordinate Truck for Bike Transport			
	Coordinate Tables & Booths			
	Website, Social Media Event Announcements			
Friday Before Event	Sandwich Board(s) for signs?			
Friday Before Event	Cone off City Hall Parking Lot			
Day Of	Collect Volunteer Signatures & Waivers			
Day Of	Day-of Booth Setup			
Day Of	Day-of Truck for Bike Transport			
Post-Event Day of	Post-Event Booth Breakdown			
Post-Event Day of	PolyCart Pickup			