

**Next Steps in New York's Climate Leadership: The Draft Scoping Plan**  
Thursday, May 5, 2022, 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Hudson River Estuary Program Conservation and Land Use Webinar Series

Webinar transcript

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00:00:03.653 --> 00:00:16.134

Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Laura Heady. I'm with the Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University, and I thank you for joining us for today's conservation and land use

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00:00:16.283 --> 00:00:26.574

webinar. Before we get into the formal presentation, I want to go over few housekeeping items and then also have some introductions for you.

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First, just to remind you that participants have the option to connect to audio through the computer or by phone.

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00:00:34.704 --> 00:00:45.743

And so, if your computer speaker isn't working, well, you can select switch audio by clicking on the black circle with 3 white dots at the bottom of the screen, which is shown here.

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00:00:47.094 --> 00:00:57.835

You can then choose to receive a call by entering your phone number, or you can call in yourself and if you do need to call in yourself, you'll need your unique ID number from the webinar registration.

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00:00:58.104 --> 00:01:03.295

And if you're having computer Internet connection issues, we do recommend phone.

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00:01:05.245 --> 00:01:15.114

As always during the webinar, please direct your questions for our speaker to the Q and A box and just limit the chat box for technical difficulties.

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00:01:15.415 --> 00:01:26.394

And if you are not seeing either the Q and A, or chat boxes in the panel, on the right of your screen, you can click on the 3 dots next to the chat icon in the lower right. Hand corner.

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00:01:26.724 --> 00:01:36.355

And once we get started, I will be monitoring questions for our speaker in the Q and a box. And there will be time at the end of her presentation for some questions.

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00:01:36.599 --> 00:01:43.260

Finally, just a few notes. All attendees are muted. Video is not needed.

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This webinar is being recorded and will be made available to view as recording on the DEC website and will share that link with you in a follow up email after today's webinar.

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There'll be a brief survey at the very end of the webinar. Please click through those pop up boxes when the webinar is over so that you can provide your feedback, which we really value.

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00:02:06.599 --> 00:02:19.110

And finally, you will automatically receive an email confirmation of attendance, right after the event that can be used to submit for municipal training credit for those of you on planning and zoning boards.

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00:02:19.110 --> 00:02:31.740

I'd like to also thank my colleague at the Hudson River program, Ingrid Haeckel, who will be watching the chat box to assist with anyone having technical difficulties today.

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00:02:32.185 --> 00:02:40.435

So now that I've covered housekeeping, I'd like to formally welcome you to this month conservation and land use webinar, as I said, I'm Laura Heady.

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I'm the conservation and land use program coordinator from the DEC Hudson River program through our partnership with Cornell university's.

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00:02:48.775 --> 00:02:51.985

Department of natural resources and the environment,

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00:02:52.014 --> 00:02:56.485

and this webinar series is offered through the Hudson River program,

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00:02:56.844 --> 00:03:04.314

which is a unique program within the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and it was established to help people enjoy,

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00:03:04.344 --> 00:03:08.574

protect and revitalize the Hudson river and it's watershed.

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00:03:08.875 --> 00:03:12.474

And the program is guided by our 5 year action agenda,

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00:03:12.925 --> 00:03:16.104

and the program works throughout the watershed counties,

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bordering the tidal part of the Hudson river from upper New York harbor to the federal dam in Troy to achieve the key benefits listed here.

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00:03:23.995 --> 00:03:27.625

And you can learn more about the program at the website.

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And just to remind you that,  
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if you're involved in conservation and land use planning,  
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00:03:33.564 --> 00:03:37.705

I encourage you to visit our website hosted by Cornell University,  
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and we designed it to serve as a clearing house of information about  
natural areas and biodiversity in the watershed.  
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Also conservation and land use, planning, approaches and resources to  
assist in these efforts. We also keep a current list of news about Hudson  
Valley communities, funding opportunities, and also events on the  
homepage.  
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00:04:01.740 --> 00:04:13.375

I also want to remind you, because we're frequently asked about webinar  
recordings that all of our webinar recordings are available on the DEC  
website for viewing at a later time. And that's what you can see on the  
left side of the screen.  
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There is just a snapshot of the list of webinars that are available and  
there's also registration links for upcoming webinars on that page.  
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00:04:22.829 --> 00:04:37.019

Okay, but today's webinar is focused on the New York state climate action  
council and specifically the process of developing the state's draft  
scoping plan to achieve the goals of the climate leadership and community  
Protection Act.  
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00:04:37.019 --> 00:04:51.689

I'm really happy that joining us today is Maureen. Leddy, the director of  
the DEC climate office, she'll be talking about the process, the draft  
plan, the kinds of recommendations the draft plan includes, and how you  
can get involved and I'll introduce Maureen shortly, but.  
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00:04:51.689 --> 00:05:02.968

i wanted to briefly share why I invited Maureen here today. And why I  
think it's so important for everyone to learn about the scoping plan and  
how to get involved.  
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And so, for those of you who have been following along with the scoping  
process, thank you and please do help spread the word. but for anyone,  
new to the plan.  
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I am aware that the draft and the appendices are many hundreds of pages, and some of the strategies related to industry sectors may feel out of your sphere of influence in roles that you're in.

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And so I've been concerned that municipal officials and planners and land managers. And watershed groups, and others involved in conservation planning might not be paying super close attention.

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00:05:40.223 --> 00:05:54.413

But this is like a huge and exciting and important opportunity to address the global climate crisis right here through actions in New York while also incorporating climate justice and inclusion of disadvantage

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communities.

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So, based on what we know about our webinar audience and what you all care about, I just wanted to point you to a few elements of the plan before Maureen gives a larger overview and a deeper dive into the process and the plan.

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So, last year I was involved with a working group for the land use and local government advisory panel, which is 1 of 7 advisory panels to the climate action council and many of the recommendations that came out of that panel.

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And that working group related to how we use land, what we develop, where we develop how we develop and what we conserve. And all of those factors contribute to carbon emissions, carbon, sequestration and carbon storage.

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And they all will help the state of New York to reach net 0 emissions,

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but not only helping to reduce the release of greenhouse gases through things like smart growth strategies,

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such as transit oriented communities that reduce the need for,

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00:06:54.863 --> 00:06:55.343

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00:06:55.374 --> 00:06:57.144

individual vehicle dependence.

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But also, by removing and reducing greenhouse gases that are already in the atmosphere by sequestering carbon, for example, by conserving and restoring forest wetlands and soils.

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00:07:09.204 --> 00:07:23.483

And so there are, at least 3 chapters. I'm sure there are probably more, but there are at least 3 chapters that I suspect many of you will be especially interested in reviewing and that's 19,20 and 21. chapter 19 on land use presents a number of strategies to mitigate

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Carbon emissions, including conservation of natural areas, smart growth and planning and these are just a few examples of what I thought would be of interest to you, just to pique your interest. There are many more which we'll hear about.

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but, for example, protection of forest, there are strategies that include keeping existing forests as forests, but also restoring trees through reforestation and afforestation.

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00:07:51.178 --> 00:07:58.468

Identifying priority areas for farmers, restoration, and even providing assistance and grants for municipal tree planting programs.

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The draft plan also makes recommendations about wetland protection and restoration, including things like allowing for Marsh migration of tidal, wetlands and incentivizing nature based features.

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And also, there was a recommendation to expand protection of New York's freshwater wetlands a strategy. We were very excited to see already funded, uh, in a historic state budget this year.

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There's also recommendations about updating mapping of natural areas,

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both regulated natural areas and unregulated and developing a conservation framework for the state to help guide planning whether it's local planning County,

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00:08:36.323 --> 00:08:36.774

planning,

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00:08:36.774 --> 00:08:37.254

watershed,

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00:08:37.254 --> 00:08:37.583

planning,

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00:08:37.583 --> 00:08:45.293

regional planning that's also recommended along with providing assistance and funding to municipalities on everything from smart growth,

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00:08:45.293 --> 00:08:49.703

planning to comprehensive planning development of model laws,

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00:08:49.734 --> 00:08:51.683

and also streamlining funding.

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So it's more accessible and there's also incentives for landowners that are recommended to help support stewardship on private lands. And, as I said, there's much more, including related recommendations.

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00:09:06.119 --> 00:09:09.239

From everything to research to better understanding the

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Carbon sequestration potential of wetlands and forests and so forth all the way to green career development through things like conservation corps. so I hope you these highlights, you know, peak your interest as I said, and you'll, you'll dig in a little bit deeper.

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I also wanted to point out chapter 20, uh, includes strategies to help local governments with energy policy and energy siting.

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And then chapter 21 continues with adaptation strategies that also builds capacity for planning and decision making building community resilience,

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and also enhancing the resilience of living systems by addressing risks to ecosystems, biodiversity, and working lands.

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So, that was just a snapshot and I do hope you'll take a closer look at the plan. If you haven't already, because many of these development and conservation actions are really influenced by local county and regional planning and conservation efforts.

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And it's a lot of the work that all of you on the webinar do yourselves.

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00:10:10.678 --> 00:10:25.344

but to give you a greater context context, about the process, and the plan and vast expertise on how the draft scoping plan supports New York's very ambitious climate law. I'm really happy to introduce our speaker.

Maureen

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Leddy, uh, who's been leading this incredibly complex process, and the many involved staff stakeholders and advisers in her role as director of the office of climate change in partnership with NYSERDA.

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Maureen leads implementation of the climate leadership and community Protection Act,

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including supporting the climate action Council's development of the scoping plan as well as issuing the annual emissions inventory for state agencies and regulations to ensure achievement of the statutory emissions limits.

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She was formerly a project manager in the large scale renewables program at NYSERDA and while there, one of her roles, also involved developing strategies for smart siting of large scale, renewable energy projects.

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00:11:13.553 --> 00:11:26.244

Maureen has also worked in carbon finance and she holds the masters in natural resource management and environmental planning from Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. And we're really glad you're here Maureen. So thank you so much.

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Let me, assign you a speaker mode here. So you can.

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00:11:32.068 --> 00:11:36.239

Share your presentation just.

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Give me a minute, because every time I do this, I'm fumbling along.

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00:11:44.219 --> 00:11:52.769

Maureen Leddy speaking: Okay, thank you so much, Laura, thank everybody for

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joining.

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How does that look.

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Okay, awesome thanks. So much thanks. Everybody for joining us today to hear about the, the draft scoping plan as Laura mentioned. I'll, I'll talk a bit about process.

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How we got to where we are today where we are going next and we'll provide some high level information on the land use chapter.

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And the adaptation and resilience chapter, we are right now in the public comment, period, the public comment, period is open until the 10th of June.

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And the council is hosting hearings at this point at this point yeah, there's a, through this process now for a number of weeks we have some virtual hearings on the agenda and 1 scheduled in Peekskill.

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For those of you in the Hudson Valley, that would be local, but the hearings are really just an opportunity to provide comment. There is no dialogue. There's no chance to ask questions or get clarification. So it events like this are an opportunity.

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00:12:56.879 --> 00:13:11.214

For you to have a chance to to ask questions, and to get answers that will help inform the comments. We hope you will provide, uh, to support this process. A public comment period and process is so important to to the final.

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So, just a high level overview of the climate leadership and community Protection Act, it was passed in 2019.

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it mandates that we have a carbon neutral economy by 2050.

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And then we achieve certain very aggressive emission reduction. So we need an 85% reduction in our statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, a 40% reduction by 2030. it's an interim step.

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And that's based off of where we were in 1990 and it uses a different GHG accounting method than we had used in the past or is typical for most jurisdictions.

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It also took a lot of our energy efficiency and clean energy

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00:13:50.068 --> 00:13:55.558

Targets and goals that are managed by the public service commission and NYSERDA and set them into law.

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So, now we have to have 100 carbon free electricity, emissions free electricity by 2040.

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70% renewable by 2030, which is part of our clean energy standard. This is now codified in law.

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And certain targets for installation of offshore wind, solar and storage.

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And fundamentally, it's not just about emissions reductions. The law is creates a lot of imperatives around insuring.



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Climate justice, and that is ensuring the communities that have been previously burdened by environmental injustice and are vulnerable to climate impacts

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00:14:31.619 --> 00:14:39.448

are protected, and, you know, in benefit, you know, the plan is structured to benefit those communities. So they, they come out as winners in this process.

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00:14:39.448 --> 00:14:51.389

And there's also a lot of protections for just transition, which deals with our workforce to ensure that our workforce are also winners in this process. It's a fundamental shift on how our economy works.

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00:14:51.389 --> 00:15:01.403

Here in New York, moving from a, you know, carbon based energy system and really change lots of very, very significant changes. So there's gonna be changes in the economy.

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00:15:01.403 --> 00:15:07.043

There's gonna be changes in workforce and we want to ensure that the New York state workers are benefiting.

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So, the process for developing the, the law also created a climate action Council.

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Which was charged with creating this draft plan. That's their, their number 1 job is that they have to create the scoping plan, which is a roadmap of how we're going to get there. How are we going to achieve these ambitious emissions reductions, climate justice requirements, and just transition requirements?

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So, the law set up

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6 advisory panels, and the council added a 7th, which was an advisory panel on the waste management system.

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And these advisory panels were mostly external experts,

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some state agency representation,

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and they were supported by a really large staff group,

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which Laura was really a very vibrant and active participant along,

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with hundreds of other agencies staff from,

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from all across state government the,

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the council itself is made up of 12 agency heads and 10 appointees,

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either from (appointed by) the legislature, assembly,

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00:16:03.624 --> 00:16:04.374

or the governor.

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00:16:04.678 --> 00:16:11.999

also all of those agency has have dedicated staff and resources to

ensuring that this planning process is successful.

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The law also created a just transition working group to provide

consultation to the.

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climate action council in developing the plan, and it also created a

climate justice working group.

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Which is housed within and it's they are, they're separate from the

council. They do provide consulting.

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services, let's say to the council to to ensure.

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That the plan is meeting the climate justice requirements, but they also

had a very big job in developing what is known as disadvantage community

criteria.

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And this is a new way of identifying communities in the state of New York

that are.

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00:16:51.533 --> 00:16:56.663

Meet a certain set of indicators to be qualified as what's considered a

disadvantage community.

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So, it's not the same as what we think of in terms of environmental

justice. There can be lots of commonalities but this is a new definition,

and the law references, these disadvantage communities over and over and over again, in terms of the benefits that must accrue to them.

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00:17:10.193 --> 00:17:24.203

In dollars of spending by the state, in terms of investments in energy efficiency and clean energy, and also emission reduction in emissions reduction in CO pollutants and health benefits that these disadvantaged communities need to realize.

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00:17:24.473 --> 00:17:31.163

So, the climate justice working group worked really hard on developing those criteria, not an easy task and they have released those.

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For comment, they are also in a comment, uh, process right now, and they will be starting a series of hearings in the middle of May,

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00:17:39.449 --> 00:17:47.159

to receive public comments on those indicators that are used to define what it needs to be a disadvantaged community.

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So, the advisory panels met, they worked really hard, they pulled together all their recommendations on what the state should do to reduce emissions.

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they presented those to the council and the council incorporated them into the draft plan. Uh, we had to look at upstream emissions from fossil fuel combustion in the state. That's a that's slightly different.

Typically we are only

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in charge of what happens within our borders, but the law requires that we not only consider the amount of fuels that are combusted in our state, but where they came from and what happened along the way.

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00:18:20.159 --> 00:18:26.219

So, emissions associated with their [fossil fuel] extraction, and transportation are counted in our inventory.

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And there was a comprehensive benefit societal benefit/cost analysis, looking at the plan's recommendations. So, what is it going to cost on a high level? And what are we going to get? What are the benefits?

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00:18:38.068 --> 00:18:45.719

The plan itself put out 3 scenarios and modeled 3 scenarios that are

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00:18:45.719 --> 00:18:59.939

potential pathways or potential combinations of strategies that would achieve the emissions reductions, and the plan includes those strategies and that's part of the public comment period is to evaluate those side by side.

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00:19:01.558 --> 00:19:06.959

So that was, you know, the law required that the council produced the plan by the

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00:19:06.959 --> 00:19:20.663

1st of 2022, and we need to finalize the plan by the 1st of 2023. so this is a very busy slide that shows a lot of the work the council has been doing and also the work that agencies have been doing to implement CLCPA over the past 2 and a half years.

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So, as I mentioned, the advisory panels got to work.

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Notable here is,

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this is all during the covid 19 pandemic where we were on lockout orders and shelter in place throughout the state so that these groups were organized and pulled together work has been done remotely and virtually and it's

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00:19:43.673 --> 00:19:43.973

just,

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it was

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a fantastic experience. People were able to work and dedicate their time.

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00:19:49.979 --> 00:19:56.489

the, you know, not being having the option of meeting in person did not slow the process down or.

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00:19:56.489 --> 00:20:02.548

Have any negative impact on the quality of the work, you know, it has really worked outreally, really well.

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00:20:02.548 --> 00:20:14.159

So, then those recommendations were developed. I will also say that the Council, directed the advisory panels to also produce recommendations on adaptation and resilience.

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And there was not a separate panel, an adaptation or resilience panel, but it was a work group that pulled membership from all of the other panels because adaptation and resilience is, uh, an issue that spans across all sectors.

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00:20:27.568 --> 00:20:35.098

And they came together and brought their own unique expertise to develop those adaptation and resilience strategies.

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00:20:35.098 --> 00:20:40.199

So the council received all this information from the the 7 sectoral

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panels,

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um,

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00:20:41.423 --> 00:20:43.104

from the just transition working group,

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from the adaptation and resilience work group,

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00:20:46.403 --> 00:20:53.304

and they received comment from the climate justice working group on the work of the advisory panels,

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00:20:53.304 --> 00:20:57.384

and all of this was wrapped up into this integration analysis.

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00:20:57.598 --> 00:21:04.439

Where all this information was fed into an analytical engine that then spat out what would happen if we did all this stuff.

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00:21:04.439 --> 00:21:16.888

And all of this was kind of wrapped up into the, into the scoping plan and that is the, you know, the hundreds of pages of information that are out there for the public to consume and comment on right now. So we are in the open comment period.

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And once the hearings and the comment closes, we will work really diligently the rest of the year to wrap up and issue the final scoping plan.

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And then,

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00:21:26.094 --> 00:21:26.963

after that,

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00:21:26.993 --> 00:21:27.324

you know,

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00:21:27.324 --> 00:21:34.253

the law puts as being required to implement regulations based upon the information in the scoping plan,

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00:21:34.344 --> 00:21:40.943

to achieve those emissions reductions. Regulations aren't the only way we're gonna get there. There's a lot of different strategies.

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00:21:41.189 --> 00:21:46.588

But that is 1 thing that is, is listed in the law as a requirement, that's put on our department.

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So, as I mentioned, the accounting is slightly different under the law. The law requires that New York do things differently in lots of ways.

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But 1 significant way is we have to, as I mentioned, include the upstream emissions related to fossil fuel combustion, and we also have to look at greenhouse gases under a different time scale.

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00:22:07.044 --> 00:22:15.233

We have to look at them as under a 20-year global warming potential versus a 100-year, which is more typical for other states, nations, and other jurisdictions.

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00:22:16.469 --> 00:22:20.818

And the implication of the 20-year global warming potential is, it puts

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00:22:20.818 --> 00:22:25.679

greater emphasis on shorter lived greenhouse gases, predominantly methane.

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00:22:25.679 --> 00:22:37.554

So now emissions from the natural gas system and from landfills has an outsized contribution to our statewide emissions as compared to if we would have done it the typical way using a 100-year global warming potential.

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00:22:37.554 --> 00:22:38.153

So,

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00:22:38.453 --> 00:22:43.104

it changed the composition of our statewide greenhouse gases. Buildings that use,

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00:22:43.104 --> 00:22:44.034

you know,

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00:22:44.034 --> 00:22:45.443

lots of natural gas for space

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00:22:45.443 --> 00:22:52.824

heating and water heating are now a really much larger contribution to our statewide emissions and transportation because of the upstream

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00:22:53.939 --> 00:23:03.838

fuels, and way exceed the energy sector. Which electricity generation used to be bigger. And now waste is a far bigger contributor. And you can see from that.

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00:23:03.838 --> 00:23:07.409

Pie chart on the left hand side.

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00:23:07.409 --> 00:23:12.808

My left hand side that, how the, how our sectors stack up.

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00:23:12.808 --> 00:23:21.023

And the bar graph on the right hand side is illustrative of the reductions that we need to see from 1990 using our new accounting where we are in 2019,

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00:23:21.023 --> 00:23:23.513

which is the most recent year for which data is available on state,

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00:23:23.513 --> 00:23:29.453

wide greenhouse gas emissions, and where we need to go from there so where we need to be in 2030 and in 2050..

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00:23:31.679 --> 00:23:38.999

The 2050 bar, there represents 85% reduction and as I mentioned, there is a goal for 0 by 2015.

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00:23:41.308 --> 00:23:47.038

So, as I mentioned, there was a large body of analytical work that was done to help

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00:23:47.038 --> 00:23:55.078

generate, an assessment of how much emissions reductions we would get from the advisory panel recommendations and what the costs and benefits

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00:23:55.078 --> 00:24:02.338

of that would be. So the advisory panel recommendations were fed into this analytical engine and they fell short. And

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00:24:02.338 --> 00:24:12.898

so, just going with what the advisory panels had recommended, which was incredibly aggressive, was not enough to achieve the 40% and 85% reductions.

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00:24:12.898 --> 00:24:20.818

So the analytical work was tweaked. There was, changes in different levers.

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00:24:20.818 --> 00:24:25.229

How much EV adoption? How much electrification? How soon?

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00:24:25.229 --> 00:24:31.288

so they were, they modeled scenarios working backwards that say, okay, well, we have to achieve these

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00:24:31.288 --> 00:24:34.739

emissions limits; how do we do that? So if we start

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00:24:34.739 --> 00:24:41.189

in 2050 and work backwards, what are some of the strategies that we can do to hit those targets?

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00:24:41.189 --> 00:24:52.979

And they ended up modeling 3 scenarios that are fundamentally very similar. They all have 0 emission electricity by 2040, which is really big.

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00:24:52.979 --> 00:24:59.848

They all have, expansion of transit, reductions of vehicle miles traveled, like, fairly significant.

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00:24:59.848 --> 00:25:05.818

They have really rapid widespread electrification across the buildings and transportation sectors.

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00:25:05.818 --> 00:25:13.769

There is a lot of methane mitigation from agriculture, you know, from animal manure and from landfilling.

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00:25:13.769 --> 00:25:25.348

And there is also a lot of electric load flexibility, because it's as we transition into a more electrified transportation and building sector,

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00:25:25.348 --> 00:25:34.378

we're going to have an increased electric load, which is going to require a different way of delivering and managing electricity to ensure that our electric system peaks

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00:25:34.403 --> 00:25:44.064

are manageable. That we are, you know, that we can provide reliable electricity service and on our own higher load scenario. So they all fundamentally have those at their core.

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00:25:44.064 --> 00:25:50.513

It's just little tweaks around the margins in terms of how different different things can come into play to help to get us there.

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00:25:50.818 --> 00:26:00.808

So the 1 scenario had a use of low carbon fuels. So there was bio energy. There's, there's bio energy across all of the scenarios, but scenario 2.

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00:26:00.808 --> 00:26:05.159

Had a little more strategic use of low carbon fuels than the other scenarios.

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00:26:05.159 --> 00:26:08.848



So, they're taking bio energy from waste from agriculture.

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00:26:08.848 --> 00:26:13.499

And green hydrogen for different difficult to electrify applications. So they're.

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00:26:13.499 --> 00:26:19.259

They are getting that harder to reduce emissions from some uses of bio energy.

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00:26:19.259 --> 00:26:23.249

Scenario 3 reduces the amount of bio energy.

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00:26:23.249 --> 00:26:28.618

But accelerated electrification, so the electrification was happening faster.

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00:26:28.618 --> 00:26:32.638

And in scenario 4, there was levers pulled

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00:26:32.638 --> 00:26:47.219

to say, okay, well, if you're saying we're gonna get an 85% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and we're going to be net 0, that 15% that we're going to have left in 2050 should be balanced out by sequestration.

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00:26:47.219 --> 00:26:57.054

So, our carbonsequestration in our lands, and our forests needs to at least equal 15%. But what, if we can't get 85% reduction? And we need to ramp up sequestration

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00:26:57.054 --> 00:27:04.673

so that we actually are still hitting net 0, even if our, our 85% reduction is compromised. So that has

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00:27:08.368 --> 00:27:17.128

more electrification, low carbon fuels, there's some direct air capturing of methane emissions, a slightly different technological mix to get there.

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So, as I mentioned, this is a a busy graph as well.

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00:27:20.219 --> 00:27:33.743

The scenarios, we're all working backwards from a point in time. So if we start in 2050, we work back to 2030 and to present day, what has to happen in order to achieve those emissions reduction. So they're layered on and you see, they're all fairly similar.

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You know, there's not major differences beyond the, uh, uh, greater than 20, greater than 85% reduction in green line, that one gets gets really down there a bit further. But they, you know, they

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00:27:47.788 --> 00:27:57.898

The black text is what everybody is doing, and then the color text layers in the additional additional levers

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00:27:57.898 --> 00:28:03.479

from how the, how the scenarios differ slightly from each other, you know.

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00:28:03.479 --> 00:28:14.459

Beyond 85% reduction shows, a 70% use of renewable distillate in 2030, which is unique to that strategy and different from how the other scenarios are modeled.

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00:28:16.199 --> 00:28:29.189

So this is interesting information. It's informative information, but it's, these are not the only 3 ways. These combinations are not the only 3 ways of that can our emissions reductions can be achieved.

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00:28:29.189 --> 00:28:36.838

They're just illustrative of the different combinations of actions that the state would need to undertake to get there because our reductions are aggressive.

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00:28:38.398 --> 00:28:48.628

So, the findings is that that the but this is achievable, right? So, our while, our emissions reductions are aggressive, they're not impossible. So they can be achieved.

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00:28:48.628 --> 00:28:53.548

But it's going to take a lot of work and it's going to require action across the entire economy.

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And that increasing energy efficiency and use electrification are absolutely essential. So we are going to have to electrify a lot of our energy needs and we're going to have to increase our energy efficiency.

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00:29:06.023 --> 00:29:09.294

So that electrification is the most efficient it can be.

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00:29:09.598 --> 00:29:17.638

And that you will need to substantially reduce our vehicle miles traveled and increase access to public transportation.

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00:29:17.638 --> 00:29:20.939tTo help reduce the transportation emissions.

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00:29:20.939 --> 00:29:34.528

And then really key part of all of this is consumer and community decision, it's going to require individuals to make choices in terms of how they heat their homes, how they fuel their vehicles.

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00:29:34.528 --> 00:29:40.439

That are individual consumer choices, and also for communities to help support that decision making.

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Also of note is a transition to, is refrigerants. Refrigerants are fairly,

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as we move to electrification of heating and cooling with

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00:29:50.818 --> 00:29:58.558

talking about using a lot of heat pumps, which at present, the majority of them use a refrigerant that has a very high

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00:29:58.558 --> 00:30:02.608

it's a very important greenhouse gas. So

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00:30:02.608 --> 00:30:10.348

switching to lower global warming potential refrigerants as we increase the number of heat pumps that are being used in the state

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00:30:10.348 --> 00:30:16.169 have to be hand in hand, otherwise the impact from refrigerants will get to be too great.

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00:30:17.219 --> 00:30:28.763

Uh, the integration analysis also found that low carbon fuels and bio energy and hydrogen have a role, that there are going to be sectors and applications that are going to be challenging to electrify.

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Either the electricity just won't generate that heat level that's needed

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00:30:33.118 --> 00:30:45.689

or it's so prohibitively expensive to electrify that we would drive businesses out. State law has protections to avoid that scenario. It's called leakage. You can call it economical or emissions leakage.

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00:30:45.689 --> 00:30:53.638

But if the actions the state takes to reduce emissions, simply results in businesses leaving the state,

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00:30:53.638 --> 00:30:57.328

we haven't reduced emissions. They are going to go set up shop

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00:30:57.328 --> 00:31:05.669

elsewhere, potentially even greater levels of emissions, so we don't want that outcome to happen. We want these to be sensitive to the fact

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00:31:05.669 --> 00:31:10.409

that if we just push businesses out of the state, we don't solve the problem.

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00:31:10.409 --> 00:31:19.558

So that's, you know, what's key is to understand where it becomes prohibitively expensive. We need to think of other alternatives and bio energy can be a solution there.

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And as I mentioned the electricity, the electric system,

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00:31:23.219 --> 00:31:30.538

beyond 2040 we are going, we have the models show, Are we going to turn into a winter peaking?

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00:31:30.538 --> 00:31:39.449

Right, right now we're summer peaking when it's hot and everybody's using air conditioning, but when everybody's heating using electricity, that will cause us to be a winter peaking.

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00:31:39.449 --> 00:31:54.088

And our load will nearly double, so we're not only going to be a, we're not not only shifting our seasonality, but we're also shifting our total electric load across our grid. So, a lot of implications there in terms of planning and reliability.

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00:31:55.588 --> 00:32:02.009

The recommendations for reducing methane emissions from waste and agriculture

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will require a completely different way of handling waste in the state.

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Not that that's impossible, but it's, it's transformative and it's going to be totally different.

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00:32:12.449 --> 00:32:24.898

And that are carbon sequestration opportunities in our lands and forests are key, you know, so we need to get that strategic land use planning to balance the carbon

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00:32:24.898 --> 00:32:30.028

with whatever remaining emissions are there in 2050 so we can achieve that goal.

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00:32:30.028 --> 00:32:34.949

So, a quick couple of quick slides on the benefit/cost findings.

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So, again, these are societal costs, they're not getting down to what it's going to cost, uh, what the utility bill will look like, or what an individual's cost will be. But looking at a societal level there's a certain amount of spending that we do every year on

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00:32:50.128 --> 00:33:04.584

maintaining our electric system, on buying fuels to generate power plants. Right? So, there's a certain level of spending that's going to happen. How much more spending needs to happen under these different scenarios and what are those costs?

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00:33:04.614 --> 00:33:05.993

And what are those benefits?

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00:33:06.179 --> 00:33:15.534

So, the, the integration analysis shows, and you can sort of see that these bar charts, they're fundamentally the same across all the scenarios.

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00:33:15.534 --> 00:33:28.884

It's not like 1 scenario's costs are double or triple or even, you know, 25% higher than the other. They're, they're all within the bounds of each other, in terms of the margins of error when you start, to forecast things out into the future.

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00:33:28.884 --> 00:33:39.923

They're all fairly similar in terms of costs and benefits, and the costs, while they're real costs, they're not-- they're manageable, you know, they're reasonable costs that are a small share of our total.

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domestic state product in 2050 and 2030.

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00:33:44.848 --> 00:33:49.138

And that the benefits that we are realizing are coming from.

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00:33:49.138 --> 00:33:53.818

Health benefits from having cleaner air., They are

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00:33:53.818 --> 00:33:58.199

benefits from the economic impact of

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00:33:58.223 --> 00:34:12.173

greenhouse gas emissions, so, you know, the impact that that causes by climate change in terms of storm damage, and, you know, all sorts of other global impacts from climate change that we're avoiding those economic impacts by not emitting.

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00:34:12.534 --> 00:34:14.963

That's another large source of benefits.

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00:34:15.268 --> 00:34:21.778

And these benefits are not the only benefits. They didn't model all of the

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00:34:21.778 --> 00:34:27.958

jobs, you know, that would come. There was a separate study done by the just transition working group

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00:34:27.958 --> 00:34:36.509

on the job impacts, and that study found that, you know, the high point there is that there'll be 10 new jobs for every job lost.

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00:34:36.509 --> 00:34:45.268

Um, a lot of the jobs lost were in gas stations, which doesn't wouldn't be surprising if we're switching to electrification of vehicles.

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00:34:45.268 --> 00:34:49.528

And that there are good paying jobs and clean energy.

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00:34:49.528 --> 00:34:53.818

That's another substantial benefit. That's not quantified here.

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00:34:56.128 --> 00:35:05.369

So, it's just another kind of way of looking at the, the costs and the benefits you know, it's the same fundamental data was in the other slide, but just breaking out what are the

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benefits, the health benefits, what are the avoided

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00:35:09.389 --> 00:35:15.599

emissions (greenhouse gas emissions) benefits and what's the net benefit?

And while it does look like

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00:35:15.599 --> 00:35:24.778

Scenario 3 has greater net benefit than scenario 2, they really are all within the error bounds of each other.

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Very similar, but the story overall is that there are positive net benefits across all the scenarios. So

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00:35:32.009 --> 00:35:35.398

the costs of inaction far,

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far exceed the cost of these actions. Okay, so that's very high level overview. Uh, the plan itself is 300+pages.

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The technical supplement related to the integration analysis is, is a wealth of information.

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But it's also hundreds of pages and tables and data sheets.

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And so the whole plan itself is quite large. There's a lot in there.

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So, we're, we're gonna take a very high level, dip into the land use and the adaptation strategies.

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The plan itself is organized by, there's several chapters and then there's cross-cutting chapters.

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00:36:15.179 --> 00:36:19.498  
There are strategies that don't completely fall into any one  
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00:36:19.498 --> 00:36:23.699  
sector and land use local government, adaptation, and resilience  
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00:36:23.699 --> 00:36:29.219  
are those that are those strategies that cross over:they deal with all  
the sectors.  
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00:36:29.219 --> 00:36:33.838  
So there was there was a land use and local government  
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00:36:33.838 --> 00:36:42.329  
panel and there is a land use and local government chapter are separate  
because land use was also covered by  
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00:36:42.329 --> 00:36:46.798  
the agriculture and forestry panel, and was also covered under  
transportation.  
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00:36:46.798 --> 00:36:49.829  
So, the plan itself took  
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00:36:49.829 --> 00:36:53.728  
the advisory panel recommendations that deal with land use  
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00:36:53.728 --> 00:36:58.378  
and put them into their own chapter so that they could be, you know,  
looked at together.  
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00:37:00.358 --> 00:37:05.668  
So the land themes and strategies, so the,  
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00:37:07.228 --> 00:37:11.039  
largest section is really, it's focusing on  
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00:37:11.039 --> 00:37:14.969  
policies that help us achieve carbon.  
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00:37:14.969 --> 00:37:23.489  
And smart growth, so smart growth policies that help reduce  
transportation emissions and increase other, um.  
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00:37:23.489 --> 00:37:26.909  
smart planning, the impact of our emissions.  
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00:37:26.909 --> 00:37:33.389  
So they are, um, there's regulatory and investment strategies to maximize  
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00:37:33.389 --> 00:37:38.369  
what we can achieve now. There is the a recommendation  
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to develop a state wide conservation framework, uh, for the protection of forest land and avoid conversion of forest land.

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00:37:45.719 --> 00:37:53.849

And, you know, understanding the balance between a renewable energy development and conservation to understand where we need

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00:37:53.849 --> 00:37:56.878

clean energy to fund our transition,

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00:37:56.878 --> 00:38:02.188

to support our transition to a clean grid, but we also need to protect certain habitats.

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00:38:02.188 --> 00:38:10.559

And as Laura alluded to there was calls for improved wetlands protection, which, you know, we can see positive progress on. And, you know, this, this plan is out.

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And the legislature and others are looking at it for ideas and that's that has been, um, I think has been a recurrent theme this legislative session, is items that are in this plan.

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And there are quite few legislative needs that are recommended; certain things that require action by the legislature. The chief them [legislators],

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they're reading it and they're taking it seriously. So that is really helpful.

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00:38:34.469 --> 00:38:41.070,

Um, so there's, you know, forest, farmlands and municipal land use policies to understand how

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00:38:41.070 --> 00:38:44.340

the recommendations from the agriculture and forestry

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00:38:44.340 --> 00:38:53.309

panel that are under the guise of what municipalities are in control of, how can they, you know, they're contained in this chapter as well.

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And there was a lot of work on smart growth. Smart growth is is very important.

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Um, and it's very much more than a land use strategy then that that has a lot of transportation benefits. So that's here.

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i the land use chapter so those are the 3



316  
00:39:14.519 --> 00:39:21.090  
larger themes that the, the land use strategies are organized under.  
317  
00:39:21.090 --> 00:39:24.719  
So, a quick overview is.  
318  
00:39:24.719 --> 00:39:32.159  
the land use chapter looks at the use of land and how it affects our  
emissions,  
319  
00:39:32.159 --> 00:39:35.340  
our sequestration and carbon storage.  
320  
00:39:35.340 --> 00:39:46.590  
So, there's, you know, it's important. This is a really important  
consideration in terms of, yes, it's obvious we need to reduce vehicle  
emissions from the tailpipe. But these are other decisions that have  
321  
00:39:46.590 --> 00:39:50.250  
incredible implications to how we achieve our emissions reductions.  
322  
00:39:50.250 --> 00:39:56.010  
So using land use with land use patterns to reduce transportation  
emissions;  
323  
00:39:56.010 --> 00:40:03.570  
Sustainable land use planning that that is, uh, cognizant of renewable  
energy as well as conservation priorities;  
324  
00:40:03.570 --> 00:40:11.639  
And how the protection of forest and wetlands is totally critical to that  
level of carbon sequestration. And the amount of sequestration  
325  
00:40:11.639 --> 00:40:20.610  
that we need by 2050 is not insignificant. It's not like that's a done  
deal and we don't have to worry about it. There's a lot of work that we  
need to do to ensure that we  
326  
00:40:20.610 --> 00:40:25.050  
grow the amount of sequestration that we currently have.  
327  
00:40:25.050 --> 00:40:33.780  
And protect what we already have, so we don't have backslides. So it's,  
it's protection of our current levels and, and a lot of expansion.  
328  
00:40:35.699 --> 00:40:42.869  
So, that's, uh, the smart growth and local government planning. They are  
329  
00:40:42.869 --> 00:40:57.030  
incredibly important strategies to shift from more dense infill  
development, reducing sprawl, reducing conversion of forest and farm land  
for development for, you know, housing developments.  
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And helping to create transit-oriented development as a way to reduce  
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00:41:02.039 --> 00:41:05.369

vehicle miles traveled. And all with the focus on  
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00:41:05.664 --> 00:41:14.934

creating more vibrant communities, particularly in our disadvantaged  
communities. So that's a great open space conservation story there.  
333

00:41:15.474 --> 00:41:21.114

Really good transportation story and using less automobiles  
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00:41:21.420 --> 00:41:28.860

and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. More active transport, increasing  
health benefits as well.  
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00:41:30.929 --> 00:41:39.030

So, yep, so smart growth and and clean energy siting, they have to be  
done side by side. So we can balance our land use priorities and  
pressures.  
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00:41:39.030 --> 00:41:50.730

So, the key approaches in the land use chapter are to identify areas for  
reforestation. afforestation and to fund those. So that  
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local governments are identifying priority areas, and that there is a way  
to plant trees on them. There's expanding our nursery capacity  
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00:42:01.230 --> 00:42:04.440

and doing replanting programs and conservation corps.  
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00:42:04.440 --> 00:42:07.739

And that understanding where farmland  
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00:42:07.739 --> 00:42:14.190

protection should be incorporated into municipal comprehensive plans and  
zoning regulations.  
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00:42:14.190 --> 00:42:20.489

And to prioritize this smart growth, compact, mixed-use community  
development  
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00:42:20.489 --> 00:42:27.989

that has active transport, reducing vehicle miles traveled, transit  
oriented.  
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00:42:29.039 --> 00:42:37.590

So, then there's 3 key themes that can enable emissions reduction in land  
use practice. So, protection, restoration, and monitoring of  
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00:42:37.590 --> 00:42:48.599

natural and working lands, um, forest and farmlands and municipal land use policies and smart growth. So, those are the 3 major themes under which a lot of strategies are

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organized.

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So again, as I mentioned adaptation and resilience was a multi sector working group that brought together expertise from power generation, transportation, agriculture, and forestry across the board

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00:43:06.269 --> 00:43:11.820

to provide their perspectives and their, um, their brain power into developing these

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00:43:11.820 --> 00:43:21.210

recommendations, so there's about 60 or more recommendations in the draft plan on adaptation and resilience.

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And they're grouped under 12 major initiatives under these 3 broad themes: Building capacity,

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00:43:28.559 --> 00:43:31.559

Communities and infrastructure, and Living systems.

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00:43:33.510 --> 00:43:42.239

Uh, building capacity is 4 initiatives are related to state wide planning and the consideration of future conditions

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in state decision-making, enhancement of our general understanding of climate change and improvements of the public adaptive capacity.

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00:43:49.769 --> 00:43:56.010

The plan recommends a process to identify and examine options for financing and for reducing

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00:43:56.010 --> 00:44:00.449

or shifting risk, and

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00:44:00.449 --> 00:44:07.889

you know, it's important to note that the land use and local government advisory panel's adaptation recommendation is

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00:44:07.889 --> 00:44:15.869

to have the governor appoint in the executive chamber a chief resilience officer to oversee all this work.

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00:44:15.869 --> 00:44:22.170 It's sort of a vital role in order to ensure success because

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00:44:22.170 --> 00:44:27.840

each agency running its adaptation shop its own way,359  
00:44:27.840 --> 00:44:31.530  
is gonna come up with different outcomes than in a coordinated response  
360  
00:44:31.530 --> 00:44:35.849  
And that is the best way to go about putting this  
361  
00:44:35.849 --> 00:44:50.280  
Adaptation work into practice, is create a, you know, to create this  
chief resilience officer that has the ability to work with all the  
agencies to advance what would be, you know, a comprehensive plan for the  
state on adaptation.  
362  
00:44:53.579 --> 00:44:57.989  
The communities and infrastructure theme,  
363  
00:44:57.989 --> 00:45:04.170there's 5 initiatives to help  
municipalities, prepare for severe climate hazards.  
364  
00:45:04.170 --> 00:45:07.230  
And this is, you know, it's really important.  
365  
00:45:07.230 --> 00:45:10.440  
You all have experience in  
366  
00:45:10.440 --> 00:45:15.269  
the reactive response to tragedy once a severe storm hits, but.  
367  
00:45:15.269 --> 00:45:21.269  
there is a much smarter way to be prepared for severe climate hazards  
rather than  
368  
00:45:21.269 --> 00:45:29.130  
reacting to them and fixing the problem after it's occurred. There's a  
recommendation to expand state support369  
00:45:29.130 --> 00:45:34.650  
for regional and local planning to incorporate these future conditions  
into these decisions.  
370  
00:45:34.650 --> 00:45:42.719  
And that support would be guidance, would be information, would be  
decision support tools and as well as direct technical and financial  
assistance.  
371  
00:45:42.719 --> 00:45:53.280  
Flooding and how to address risks and flooding through flooding  
assessments and right-sizing the road crossings and changes in building  
code are also incorporated into this chapter.  
372  
00:45:53.280 --> 00:45:57.659  
And recommendations around extreme heat.  
373  
00:45:57.659 --> 00:46:03.630

And that is another item that moved forward with the executive budget,  
was the governor directed

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00:46:03.630 --> 00:46:09.059

agencies to develop an extreme heat action plan. So that's a process that  
has been started

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00:46:09.059 --> 00:46:14.429

just recently, so more to come on that as that

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00:46:14.429 --> 00:46:22.500

as that evolves. And I will say Mark Lowery here in the office of  
climate change has been taking the lead pulling together an agency  
workgroup

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00:46:22.500 --> 00:46:31.469

to develop that key action plan and then, of course, the, the resilience  
of the energy system is part of the communities and infrastructure team.

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00:46:31.469 --> 00:46:36.269

The requirements for utilities and power generators to assess their  
vulnerabilities

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00:46:36.269 --> 00:46:39.300

on extreme weather, you know, to be prepared.

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00:46:39.300 --> 00:46:42.539

For to, to be prepared for those eventualities.

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00:46:42.539 --> 00:46:49.409

And then the other theme was living systems. So this was 3 broad  
initiatives.

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00:46:49.409 --> 00:46:58.199

Uh, 1, being focused on addressing risk to ecosystems in biodiversity  
with the need to ensure conservation and connectivity between critical  
habitat.

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00:46:58.199 --> 00:47:04.530

There are recommendations around wetland protections, which we are

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00:47:04.530 --> 00:47:07.829

very happy to see come forth in the executive budget.

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00:47:07.829 --> 00:47:13.079

And there were recommendations for the

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00:47:13.079 --> 00:47:18.929

agricultural sector, and the forestry sector so that they can ensure  
their ability to be

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00:47:18.929 --> 00:47:22.170 carbon sinks

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00:47:23.965 --> 00:47:29.184

There were more specific recommendations that deal with agriculture,  
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00:47:29.184 --> 00:47:33.744

in terms of water efficiency and energy efficiency improvements on farms,  
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00:47:33.775 --> 00:47:39.985

and the promotion of agriculture and watershed based best management  
practices for flood attenuation and mitigation.

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00:47:41.579 --> 00:47:55.380

So, there are more slides in this deck and I'm happy to share them that  
get into a little bit more detail. There's, there's quite a few that  
definitely wouldn't have been enough time in this presentation to go into  
great level of detail.

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00:47:55.380 --> 00:48:00.420

Um, so I'm happy to share those, and then you can take a look at them at  
your leisure.

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00:48:00.420 --> 00:48:08.340

As I mentioned, we are currently in the public comment, period, the draft  
plan was released at the end of the year, last year in late December.

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00:48:08.340 --> 00:48:18.809

It's been open for public comments since then. This is the schedule of  
public hearings. You see, the next one now is scheduled for this  
Saturday at 10 o'clock in the morning. It's virtual.

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00:48:18.809 --> 00:48:31.769

And if you go to the climate act website, which is climate dot ny dot  
Gov, you can find all of the information on how to sign in to view if  
you're so interested. All of these are webcasts so you can view

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00:48:31.769 --> 00:48:35.280

the hearings, and also to register if you want to testify.

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00:48:35.280 --> 00:48:42.480

So, oral comments and written comments are considered the same way.

There's no special

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00:48:42.480 --> 00:48:46.739

treatment given to individuals that choose to testify in person.

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00:48:46.739 --> 00:48:52.320

Um, there is a limit for oral testimony to 2 minutes and that's strictly  
to

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00:48:52.320 --> 00:49:06.840

provide enough time for everybody to be able to speak, but there is no  
limit in terms of the written comments and those can be emailed to the  
email address here on the screen. They can be sent by U. S. mail. There's  
also an online form on the climate act website where you could submit  
your comment.

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00:49:06.840 --> 00:49:15.989

I think there is a character limit on that, but you can submit attachments to the online form as well if there's additional documentation.

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00:49:17.159 --> 00:49:26.159

Uh, if you, if you want to attend any of the upcoming in person hearings, I strongly recommend that you Pre registeredNot required

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00:49:26.159 --> 00:49:34.349

but, Pre registration does ensure that you have priority in speaking. So if there are more speakers, then there is time.

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00:49:34.349 --> 00:49:38.550

It's first, come first served so the first Pre-registered is the first

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00:49:38.550 --> 00:49:48.389

up to speak. So that's a good way to ensure that you won't spend 3 hours sitting in your room and not be able to get up to the mic and state your piece.

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00:49:48.389 --> 00:49:52.050

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00:49:52.050 --> 00:50:02.400

Next week is gonna be a busy week. There's 3 hearings. The Wild Center is hosting us. Uh, There'll be another virtual hearing on Wednesday and then the final in person hearing in Peekskill.

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00:50:02.400 --> 00:50:11.010

And as I mentioned, even though the hearings themselves will be winding down, the comment period is open until the 10th of June. I

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00:50:11.010 --> 00:50:16.590

very much encourage everybody to get out and comment and please

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00:50:16.590 --> 00:50:21.329

contribute to the process, because it's incredibly important to hear

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00:50:21.329 --> 00:50:27.300

From the public on this information. We have great expertise to help develop these, but

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00:50:27.300 --> 00:50:32.280

we don't know everything, and we really do want the public comment to be substantive.

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00:50:32.280 --> 00:50:41.010

Okay, as I mentioned, there's a whole bunch of other slides here that I'm happy to provide. Um, but we just don't have time to get into those today.

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00:50:41.010 --> 00:50:44.159

So, with that, I think we'll open it up for Q and A.

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00:50:44.159 --> 00:50:48.480

Laura Heady speaking: That's great, thank you so much, Maureen and onequestion I

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00:50:48.480 --> 00:51:02.519

will ask, just to help guide our audiences, are there any certain kinds of, or are there ways they can shape their feedback or certain kinds of feedback that the DEC would find most useful?

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00:51:02.519 --> 00:51:10.739

Maureen Leddy speaking: So, yeah, this is a good question and I feel in my mind, I feel the most useful comment is

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00:51:10.739 --> 00:51:20.610

if you think about educating the Council on something that it seems like they either don't have a good understanding of in the plan, or

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00:51:20.610 --> 00:51:23.670

is not there.

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00:51:23.670 --> 00:51:28.650

Comments support or oppose, [are]great, and they're going to come in.

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00:51:28.650 --> 00:51:33.239

But it's really that sort of, "here's an aspect of the plan that

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00:51:33.239 --> 00:51:39.659

from my point of view, this is not captured, you know, like, here's some information on how this actually works."

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00:51:39.659 --> 00:51:44.340

I think those are really helpful comments that will be really valuable to the council.

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00:51:44.340 --> 00:51:47.460

Not everybody is an expert in everything.

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00:51:47.460 --> 00:52:00.355

And there's, you know, there's really good information to be gained by people providing their pragmatic, practical on the ground experience with doing, you know, in implementing these strategies. "Here's what you should be considering;"

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00:52:00.385 --> 00:52:05.304

H"ere's an important step that you shouldn't exclude," you know, things like that I think are the most helpful.

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00:52:05.639 --> 00:52:19.260

Laura Heady speaking: Great, thank you. And just before we move into other questions, onequestion about the public comment sessions is how long are they? So, there's like the one in Peekskill starting at 4, but there are 3 hours. Is that right?

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00:52:19.260 --> 00:52:32.400



Maureen Leddy speaking: They are 3 hours. So it depends on the venue. Sometimes they're 3 hours and it's a firm 3 hours. We have to be out of there. Sometimes they're willing to provide us extra time. If we need it.  
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00:52:32.755 --> 00:52:47.125

That was the case just recently in Brooklyn. Uh, though, we actually had an extra hour and we needed it because the final commenter wrapped up there, speaking at, like, 5 minutes before 8 o'clock. So we just got under the wire. Thank goodness. Everybody had a chance.

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00:52:47.635 --> 00:52:57.655

Uh, but I know that when we were in, uh, Buffalo, the library, they are locking the doors and they're going home. So we had to be out of there by 7 P. M.

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00:52:59.514 --> 00:53:10.764

Laura Heady speaking: Yeah, and I would just recommend anybody who plans on going to an in-person hearing is to look at the website, which I put in the chat box because there's information on parking and covid rules and all that sort of thing.

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00:53:10.764 --> 00:53:16.675

So, it's better to be prepared before you drive to the venue. So, Maureen, thank you so much.

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00:53:16.675 --> 00:53:28.945

This has been really a great overview and it will be helpful to get this whole slide deck from you and we always share a PDF of our presenter slides to everybody who registered. So I can do that.

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00:53:28.974 --> 00:53:38.364

Um, but in the meantime, there's some really good questions in the Q and A, so I'll start with some of the broader issues you talked about when you gave the intro.

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00:53:38.639 --> 00:53:48.659

With regarding disadvantage communities, one of our participants asked, will the assistance and funding for disadvantage communities, be more accessible or greater?

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Maureen Leddy speaking: So, there's not a, there's not a dollar amount

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put on the funding, it's a percentage. S the law requires

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that at least 35 of state investments in , clean energy and energy efficiency accrue to disadvantaged communities, with a goal of 40.

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00:54:05.695 --> 00:54:14.724

So that's what's in the law. We want to do better than that, but it doesn't say x-billion dollars or so on and so forth has to has to go. So we really,

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00:54:16.230 --> 00:54:21.539

when you think about all the level of investment that's required to achieve the emissions reductions,

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00:54:21.539 --> 00:54:28.920

we have to think about how much of that is public spending and not all of it will be public spending. Some of it is going to be, um, you know, done by

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00:54:28.920 --> 00:54:37.260

private actors that are going to build renewable energy projects, let's say. You know, only a small portion of those are funded through state support.

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00:54:37.260 --> 00:54:45.780

So, that's really what you gotta think about is this transition is going to be big. There's a lot of investment the state is gonna make in energy efficiency and clean energy.

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00:54:45.780 --> 00:54:50.010

And a fairly sizable chunk of that will accrue to disadvantaged communities.

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00:54:53.635 --> 00:55:07.764

Laura Heady speaking: Also, somebody was just asking about the relationship that office of climate change has with NYSERDA and I know just from being on the inside that we were meeting, you know, all together all the time.

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00:55:07.764 --> 00:55:10.554

But I know the public probably doesn't know a lot about that partnership.

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00:55:10.800 --> 00:55:16.110

Maureen Leddy speaking: Yeah, great question. I really didn't, I kind of glossed over that, but

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00:55:16.110 --> 00:55:26.940

the law names DEC and NYSERDA throughout. So DEC and NYSERDA are the key implementing agencies for the CLCPA and our leadership are the C-o-chairs of the Climate Action Council.

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00:55:26.940 --> 00:55:40.974

So, the office of climate change and staff at NYSERDA work hand in hand, you know, on all of this together and so it's a true partnership. And I did mention all the other council agencies that are involved and contributing all the time.

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00:55:41.034 --> 00:55:45.744

But it really is DECC NYSERDA that are the lead implementing agencies.

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Laura Heady speaking: Yeah, I know, like, for example, Department of State was very involved in the smart growth and land use planning aspect and I'm sure there's just, there were so many groups.

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Now, getting back to the public comment process, one of our participants asked if there's a stakeholder process after the public comment period, leading up to the final plan.

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00:56:08.159 --> 00:56:23.099

Maureen Leddy speaking: So, there's, I mean, the plan itself is, is a, it's like a roadmap. It's a strategy document. So there will be implementation steps that follow and all of those will have robust stakeholder engagement.

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00:56:23.099 --> 00:56:31.079

Um, much like we've seen with any sort of DEC regulation or Public Service Commission proceeding, or what have you.

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So this is not to be all and all. This is really just the beginning.

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00:56:34.829 --> 00:56:41.159

So all of the recommendations that end up in the final plan, will all have to go through their own

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00:56:41.159 --> 00:56:49.860 Implementation steps in order to turn those into, like, active programs in the state. That will all involve a lot of stakeholder engagement.

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00:56:51.989 --> 00:57:03.295

Laura Heady speaking: Yeah, I'll just let you guys know too if you hadn't been tuning in, all of the meetings of the Council, even some of the advisory panels, were all publicly shown on Webex.

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00:57:03.324 --> 00:57:14.184

Um, and there were lots of folks attending those and even making comments sometimes during those, and the representatives to those panels really represented a wide variety of stakeholders and interest groups too.

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And so all of the names are listed, I believe, still on the NYSERDA website. For those panels, and for the council.

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So let's see a specific question about the graph you had regarding scenarios. Did scenarios 2 or 3 include nuclear energy options for low carbon fuel?

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Yeah, so of the the scenarios do model are existing nuclear fleet, so that's in there.

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00:57:44.155 --> 00:57:55.585

Laura Heady speaking: Okay, so this dichotomy of both energy siting and natural land conservation is obviously an ongoing challenge. So there's a specific question

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whether, well, so current regulations encourage large scale, solar on undeveloped land, which is especially a problem for farming. Is there anything here that would reverse or reduce this and encourage solar in more developed areas or structures like parkinglots?

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00:58:10.980 --> 00:58:15.539

Maureen Leddy speaking: There's recommendations in the plan to help

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00:58:15.539 --> 00:58:20.039

local governments understand where they

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00:58:20.039 --> 00:58:28.409

are going to put this, but it's so the municipality, but, I mean, it's about you are making decisions on where they think are the optimal sites for siting

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00:58:28.409 --> 00:58:34.079

renewable energy projects where it's within their purview to decide, right? Like, I mean, we can't.

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00:58:34.079 --> 00:58:42.505

That's how it's been structured, so we're not re-litigating the office of renewable energy siting or any of that kind of stuff.

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00:58:42.505 --> 00:58:52.315

But looking at where communities, what's in their purview to be in charge of, and how we can support them in understanding what they, how they want this to work in our communities.

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00:58:54.150 --> 00:58:58.074

Laura Heady speaking: And that's actually, we're, we're at time here it's a minute to 3.

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00:58:58.074 --> 00:59:11.695

That's a great note to end on because that's the whole point of all the work that I know our team does with the program and, and all these land use officials and municipal officials that are thinking about these local decisions and how to balance the challenges

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00:59:11.695 --> 00:59:26.155

they have with development, with conservation of really important areas, and that's what's exciting to see this plan. The draft plan does have so much in the way of providing technical assistance, streamlining funding, creating models, and providing guidance.

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00:59:26.664 --> 00:59:38.994

I thank you so much for giving this broad overview into very complex plan. And kind of distilling down these pieces that I know are really of interest to this group.

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00:59:39.204 --> 00:59:52.164

There's more questions that are left, but I know we said we're going to end at 3, so I'll try to maybe link you up with some of those questions, Maureen and maybe we can get answers out to folks as a follow up today.

Maureen Leddy speaking: Sure.

Laura Heady speaking: But, yeah. Thanks

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00:59:52.164 --> 00:59:55.764

so much again for the really great presentation. To all of you who joined us,

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00:59:55.764 --> 00:59:56.155

I,

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00:59:56.844 --> 01:00:08.065

thank you for your time and hope you will visit the draft scoping plan and share your insights and comments and we'll be passing around the link to today's recording and the slides to all of you who registered.

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01:00:08.340 --> 01:00:11.639

Thank you so much. Yep. Thanks again.