

**WSDCC Environment and Climate Caucus Resolution 01 ECC 2022-08-18
WSDCCRES -- XXX -- XXXXX -- XXX -- ENV – Support WA State Rail Policy
Recommendations**

**SUPPORT ADDING ECC’S SIGNATURE AND LOGO TO THE RAIL CAN’T WAIT
CAMPAIGN WA STATE RAIL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS STATEMENT**

WHEREAS the advancement of rail transportation has the potential to help meet the urgent need for living wage jobs, equitable transportation access, energy-efficient clean transportation, and the climate goal of lowering emissions to half of pre-industrial levels by 2030 and achieving net zero emissions by 2050 ^{1,2,3}; and

WHEREAS the Environment and Climate Caucus (ECC) supports climate-appropriate rail solutions in WA State and recognizes these solutions can best be implemented by securing match dollars from the Federal Investment and Jobs Act and other grant opportunities; and

WHEREAS the ECC shares common goals with state, regional, and national rail advocacy groups who have joined under the name “Rail Can’t Wait Campaign (RCWC)” and which jointly signed a position paper titled WA State Rail Policy Recommendations – A Joint Statement ⁴.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ECC agrees to sign on to the WA State Rail Policy Recommendations – A Joint Statement, as updated by RCWC member All Aboard Washington ⁵, finding that it has the potential to help Washington achieve its urgent climate goals, living wage jobs, equitable access to transportation, and energy efficient clean transportation; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ECC agrees to designate one member and one alternate member to represent and advocate to the RCWC for ECC’s goals and interests; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution will be forwarded to all Democrat members of the WA State Legislative Transportation Committees, the Director of the Washington State Department of Transportation, and to Governor Inslee, asking them to support the positions outlined in the WA State Rail Policy Recommendations – A Joint Statement.

References:

1. <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/about/foreword/>
2. Environmental Defense Fund, Turning Climate Commitments into Results, December 2020, p.56; Turning Washington State’s Climate Commitments into Results, Fact Sheet, April 2021. <https://www.edf.org/sites/default/files/documents/Turning%20Washington%20State%27s%20Climate%20Commitments%20into%20Results.pdf>

3. Washington state Department of Ecology, 2018 Greenhouse Gas Data
<https://ecology.wa.gov/Air-Climate/Climate-change/Tracking-greenhouse-gases/2018-Data>

4. WA State Rail Policy Recommendations – A Joint Statement
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/118qUqvtVNsJxKZeDqOhiMlaVQaf3yRnU/view?usp=sharing>

5. All Aboard WA (member of RCWC) article for background and updated link to WA Joint Statement [Transportation, Environmental, Health Care and Community Coalition Releases Policy Recommendations Supporting Rail](#)

Submitted to: ECC on August 6 for consideration at its 2022 August 18 general meeting

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Passed by the ECC on August 18th 2022 at its general meeting - **PENDING**

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