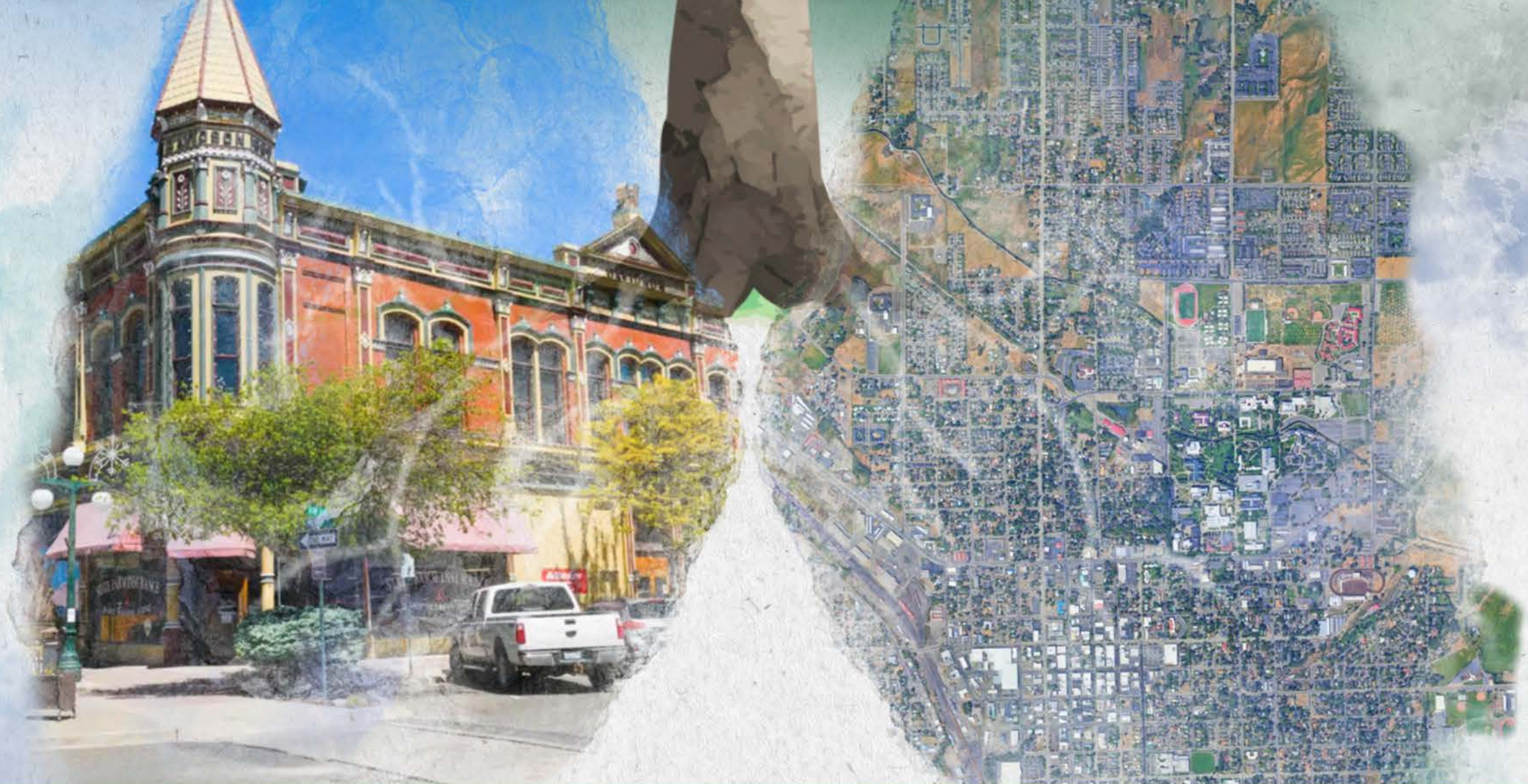


Para Español

communitysystemsolutions.com/ellensburg

This work is funded by the Washington Department of Ecology, supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov

AIR QUALITY IN OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES GRANT



Breathe Easy Community Meeting



Tonight's Agenda

- Introductions: 6:05 - 6:10
- Overview of the WA AQ Grant: 6:10 - 6:30
- Survey: 6:30 - 6:45
- Small group discussion: 6:45 - 7:15
- **Prioritize the Findings: 7:15 - 7:45**
- Prize Drawings: 7:45 - 8:00



Things to Keep In Mind

- **Meeting objectives**
 - Learn about the WA Air Quality in Overburdened Communities Grant
 - Get your feedback by taking the Survey
 - Discuss Air Quality In Ellensburg
 - Identify Priority Air Quality Issues
 - Stay in touch and updated as the process moves forward
- **Constructive and civil conversations**
 - We may not all agree on everything – that's ok!
- **Community compensation**
 - Gift Card Prizes - Drawing at end of the event



Some Alphabet Soup

- WA Air Quality in Overburdened Communities Grant: **AQOCG**
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: **CPRG**
- Criteria Air Pollution : **CAP**
- Air Quality: **AQ**
- Greenhouse Gasses: **GHGs**
- Particulate Matter: **PM 2.5** (diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less)

Who We Are

- Community System Solutions (CSS)
- Central Washington University – Office of Sustainability
- Funded by the WA Department of Ecology - Air Quality in Overburdened Communities Grant





What is the AQOCG?

The purpose of this grant is to:

- Engage members of the community to identify projects that reduce criteria air pollution.
- Design locally-led projects that reduce criteria air pollution.
- Part 1: Community Meetings to Identify Top Priority AQ issues
- Part 2: Develop a Comprehensive Plan and Design for at least one criteria air pollutant reduction project—positioning it for potential grant funding.

AQOCG



Why Does this Matter to You?

- **WA needs to improve air quality in overburdened communities**
- **Air Quality affects us all**
 - Air Pollution transcends local, state, and federal policy issues
 - Affects everyday life, right now
 - Air Policies will affect your life, too
- **We need your help to plan solutions**
 - You know your community better than we do



AQOCG

Communities Identified as Overburdened



- 1 Ellensburg
- 2 Everett
- 3 George and West Grant County
- 4 South King County
- 5 Mattawa
- 6 Moxee Valley
- 7 Northeast Puyallup
- 8 North Seattle and Shoreline
- 9 South Seattle
- 10 Spokane and Spokane Valley
- 11 South and East Tacoma
- 12 Tri-Cities to Wallula
- 13 Vancouver
- 14 Wenatchee and East Wenatchee
- 15 East Yakima
- 16 Lower Yakima Valley

Communities listed alphabetically.



Why Ellensburg?

Northeast Ellensburg met the statewide screening criteria based on EJScreen demographic index and an elevated level of PM 2.5. While the community is currently in attainment with the national ambient air quality standards for criteria air pollution, it does experience high levels of PM 2.5, when compared to the rest of Washington State. The southeast portion of Ellensburg was identified as disadvantaged by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) for workforce development. Although only the northeast portion of the city met the screening criteria, the area was expanded to include the census block groups for most of the city of Ellensburg, bounded by Interstate 90. This includes most of the population of Ellensburg, and the sensitive receptors like schools and healthcare facilities. The city is relatively small in area and past Ecology mobile monitoring has shown pollution levels to be relatively consistent across the community.



AQOCG Timeline

Survey

**Complete &
Gather Results**

**June 30,
2025**

**Community
Meetings**

Gather input

**Comprehensive
analysis, deeper public
engagement**

**July 30,
2025**

**Project
Report**

**Design AQ
Improvement Projects**

**July 30,
2025**

AQOCG

AQOCG Objectives



Engage communities across the state to **educate and gather input**



Prioritize **community benefits**



Identify **significant AQ improvement projects** within designated communities to fund and complete



Create plans to complete projects and hit **reduction goals**



Achieve significant **air quality improvements** in overburdened areas



What the AQOCG is Not

- Some air quality concerns might best be addressed through regulatory action and policies, rather than the project plans and actions that will result from this initiative.
- We still want to understand the issues that concern you the most, regardless of how they might be solved.
- The state is working on these other aspects!

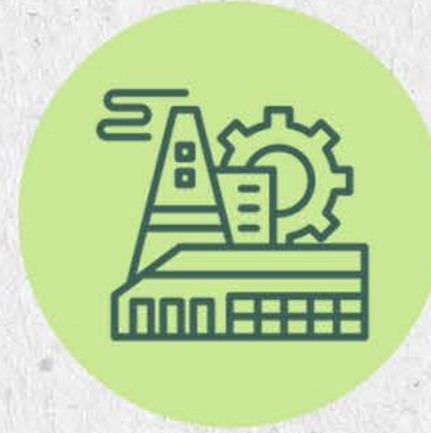
Potential CAP Sources



Electricity
generation



Transportation



Industry



Buildings



Agriculture



Natural &
Working Lands



Waste &
materials

Benefits to Addressing CAP



Co-pollutant
reductions



Improved public
health



Improved water
quality



Climate resilience &
soil quality



More green
space



Cleaner energy



Economic
development



What's Next This Evening?

- **Take the Survey, if you haven't already done so!**
- **Small group discussion questions -**
 - How are you impacted by poor Air Quality?
 - What Air Quality issues are your biggest concern?
 - What do you want to see done to improve Air Quality? Any Specific projects?
 - What do you think was missing from today's discussion?
- **We want you to lead the conversation!**

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. A winding road or path cuts through a vast, open field. In the background, there are rolling hills and a line of trees. The sky is filled with large, dramatic clouds. The overall tone is somewhat muted, with a greenish-grey tint.

**Before We Begin:
Questions? Comments?**



Survey

Request Printed Survey - If you would prefer to take the survey by hand, we have printed versions available at the check-in table.

If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to grab the attention of a facilitator. We are happy to lend a hand.

Feel free to grab snacks or use the restroom at any time, but be mindful of fellow participants' need for quiet focus

Small Groups

- Break into groups with facilitators
- This is a conversation—feel free to share any and all thoughts
- Feel free to grab snacks or use the restroom
- Find me or another team partner if you need help

Small Group Discussion

- 1. How are you impacted by poor Air Quality?**
- 2. What Air Quality issues are your biggest concern?**
- 3. What do you want to see done to improve Air Quality?
Any specific projects?**
- 4. What do you think was missing from today's discussion?**



Open Floor

- **What do you care about most?**
- **Prioritize Top Five**

Prize Drawing

- Get ticket from table – make sure you put other half in the basket
- Five Gift Card winners
- Gift Card drawings also available for taking online survey – 2 per month. Must leave contact information so we can send gift card.

Thank you for your input!



Keep up with us at breathe-easy-css.org

Please reach out with any questions.

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Community System Solutions

Creating Positive Social & Environmental Impact

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