



Citizens' Climate Lobby
Tucson

Saturday, April 9, 2022 Monthly Meeting
Himmel Park at 10 am
Hosted by Mary Jarosz and Ed Beshore

Agenda

- Review of Book Festival, Pima College Climate Teach-In, AZYCC Climate Strike (Ed)
- Ghost-written LTEs anyone? (Ed)
- Tabling plans (Mary)
- Coffee with the Candidates (Mary)
- Lobbying in DC (Ed)
- Improving our Policy Understanding (Ed and Mary)
- Group Discussion and Congressional Phone Call (Ed and Mary)
- Optional Homework — Bipartisanship Laser Talk

Tabling Plans

Earth Day Tabling Events — Volunteers are needed for 2 hour shifts. Email Jane Conlin at janeconlin5@gmail.com if you are interested or sign up on the signup sheets being circulated.

- April 21, 11 AM - 3PM. US Students for Sustainability "Environmental Summit" University of Arizona Alumni Plaza (North side of Mall between Student Union and Administration Building)
- April 23, 9 AM - 1 PM. Tucson Earth Day Festival at the Children's Museum at Armory Park.

Coffee with the Candidates

- Volunteers are needed to connect with candidates before the Arizona primaries in August. Contact Jane Conlin (janeconlin5@gmail.com) or sign up on the signup sheets being circulated here today.

National Conference in Washington June 11-13, Possible Lobbying June 14

- Recharge your climate batteries!
- Speakers include Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, Mark Reynolds, Dr. Danny Richter, Amanda Ripley, Wandra Ashley-Williams and more.
- A special skill-building session is planned to help you become a CCL political strategist and learn how to best work with your Member of Congress
- We are attempting to set up office meetings with selected AZ members of Congress. Spots will be available for a limited number of new and experienced CCL members. Interested, mark the sign-up sheets or email Ed Beshore (ebeshore@mac.com)
- Learn more and register at <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/climate-change-conferences/summer/>

Improving Our Policy Understanding

Introduction to CCL and Carbon Fee & Dividend

If you haven't done so, consider watching the half-hour introductory video about CCL. You can view it anytime at <https://vimeo.com/507307193>.

Current Policy Approach

Want to dive deep. Go on CCLs member pages (called community) and sign up for action teams. You can do that here: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/groups/action-teams>

Group Discussion

Some questions to consider:

- What do we know about our members of Congress (MOCs) and their concerns about climate?
- What factors do we know about their politics and the politics of their states/districts that might make it difficult for them to support a price on carbon with a dividend?
- Given what we know, what do we want to say to get them to support a price on carbon with a dividend?

- Senator Sinema: (202) 224-4521
- Senator Kelly: (202) 224-2235
- Congressman Grijalva: (202) 225-2435
- Congressman O'Halleran: (202) 225-3361
- Congresswoman Kirkpatrick: (202) 225-2542

Homework. Bipartisanship Laser Talk

Why is bipartisanship important for climate policy?

When legislation is bipartisan, it means that both parties have taken ownership. That's the key to making laws that will endure.

In 1935, the House passed the Social Security Act by a margin of 339 votes from both parties. In 1963, the Clean Air Act passed the House by 171 votes, and bills to strengthen it were passed by even larger margins – 374 votes in 1970 and 382 votes in 1990. All these bills had bipartisan support and were signed into law by both Democratic and Republican Presidents.

The public may not often hear about bipartisan legislation these days, because it can't compete with conflict, controversy, and scandal for media attention. However, it's the way the best things get done in Washington. Most legislators value reaching across the aisle. We see that in the formation of working groups like the Problem Solvers Caucus, and the Senate Climate Solutions Caucus.

But what about the voters? What do they really want? Research by political scientist Dr. Celia Paris shows that, regardless of party, voters have more confidence in Congress when "a bill has bipartisan sponsorship." They "assume that bills sponsored only by the opposite party are bad," but bipartisan collaboration, on the other hand, "benefits a legislator's reputation and it also increases public support for the policy."

We need both major political parties to support climate action, not just to get legislation passed and signed, but to prove that they are invested in making it succeed over the long haul.

Want to know more? Visit <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/laser-talks/bipartisanship/> to see this text and references to the claims made here.