

Environmental Justice Council

Date: June 23, 2026

To: Environmental Justice Council Members

From: Sierra Rotakhina, Council Manager

Subject: Convening of Environmental Justice Council Special Meeting

Background and Summary

The Environmental Justice Council (Council) Executive Committee convened this special meeting (as allowed under [RCW 42.30.080](#)). This special meeting was convened quickly because lawmakers are considering making changes to the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act during the 2027 legislative session. The intent of this meeting is to ensure our Councilmembers, Tribes, communities, partners, and the public are informed and able to meaningfully engage in early and often dialogue with the Council. This is an opportunity for Tribes, Communities, and the public to share their initial thoughts and perspectives with the Council. This input will guide the Council to consider if and how we will take action. The agenda has dedicated time for Tribal Nations, Communities, and the public to share your initial thoughts, perspectives on how the Council should engage, and how the Council should work with Tribes, Communities, the public, and partners throughout this process.

After hearing from Tribes, Communities, and the public, the Council will have an opportunity to reflect on what they have heard from Tribes and Communities, share their perspectives on if the Council should engage on efforts to amend HEAL, and possibly take Council action.

Council Staff Recommended Actions

To request this document in an alternate format or a different language, please contact Sierra Rotakhina in any language, at envjustice@ejc.wa.gov or 360-584-4398. TTY users can dial 711.

Staff recommend that the Council consider and have meaningful dialogue about a variety of options for action:

Option 1: Consider adopting a statement amplifying the importance of early and often engagement with Tribes and Communities:

The Environmental Justice Council uplifts the need for early and often engagement with Tribes and Frontline Communities in any conversations about possible amendments to the HEAL Act. Until Tribes and Communities are meaningfully engaged in these conversations, the Environmental Justice Council will engage in a listen-only capacity to stay informed and to support keeping Tribes and Communities informed. The Council encourages state agencies and other partners to also stand in solidarity with Tribes and Communities by waiting to provide proposed amendments to the HEAL Act until Tribes and Communities are sufficiently engaged.

Option 2: Additional options are to be determined. We invite Tribes, Communities, and members of the public to share your perspectives on how the Council should move forward in a good way. I encourage Council Members to bring other options to the conversations for deliberation.

Staff Contact

Sierra Rotakhina, Council Manager, sierra.rotakhina@ejc.wa.gov, 360-584-4398