Agenda Bill

City Council Regular Business Meeting - 16 Dec 2019

Department	Staff Contact
City Manager	Susan McLain, Community Development Director

Agenda Bill Title

Approve Resolution No. 420, K4C - Joint Letter of Commitment: Climate Change Actions in King County

Summary

The proposed resolution affirms the City of Burien's adoption of the updated version of the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) joint letter of commitments (2019) and directs City staff to undertake climate action planning in 2020 with an allocation of $100,000 in the 2020 budget.

Options

1. Approve Resolution No. 420
2. Do Not Approve Resolution No. 420

Attachments

Final Climate Change Resolution 420
Joint Commitments Update FINAL 11 07 19

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 420

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING AN UPDATED VERSION OF THE KING COUNTY-CITIES CLIMATE COLLABORATION (K4C) JOINT LETTER OF COMMITMENTS AND AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO UNDERTAKE CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING IN 2020.

WHEREAS, Climate change is a paramount challenge of this generation and has far-reaching and fundamental consequences for our economy, environment, public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, The King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) is an entity comprised of King County, participating King County cities and the Port of Seattle working together to reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050 as compared to a 2007 countywide baseline; and

WHEREAS, the City of Burien formally joined the K4C in 2015 and continues to actively work with other jurisdictions on climate change initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Burien supports the shared vision that the 2019 Joint County-City Climate Commitments represent; and

WHEREAS, it is understood by K4C members that not each partner will pursue every action, but that each partner will pursue strategies that will have the most impact and influence; and

WHEREAS, The Burien City Council has allocated $100,000 in its 2020 budget to develop a work program toward combating global climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council adopts the 2019 version of the K4C Joint Climate Commitments, attached hereto as Attachment A, as part of it efforts to reduce local and regional greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 2. The City Council allocates $100,000 in its 2020 budget and directs staff to develop and implement a work program for a Sustainability and Climate Action Plan that will identify City and community actions, investments and policies to reduce local GHG emissions; and report back to the City Council on the status of the work program on or before March 31, 2020.

Section 3. The work program may include consideration of transportation and land use, energy and green building, urban forests, consumption, and materials management; will identify strategies to engage with members of the community, including historically under-represented communities who are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change including communities of color, low income, immigrant and youth populations; and will be practical to implement within the City's staffing and budgetary resources in the coming years.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF THIS 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2019.

CITY OF BURIEN

_____
Jimmy Matta, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

_____
Megan Gregor, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

_____
Lisa Marshall, City Attorney

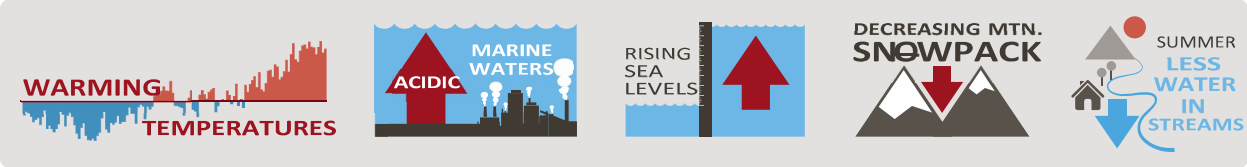
Filed with the City Clerk:
Passed by the City Council:
Resolution No.

KING COUNTY-Cities
CLIMATE COLLABORATION

Joint Letter of Commitment: Climate Change Actions in King County

Climate change is a paramount challenge of this generation and has far-reaching and fundamental consequences for our economy, environment, public health, and safety.

Across King County and its cities, we are already experiencing the impacts of climate change: warming temperatures, acidifying marine waters, rising seas, decreasing mountain snowpack, and less water in streams during the summer.



These changes have the potential for significant impacts to public and private property, resource based economies like agriculture and forestry, and to residents' health and quality of life.

The decisions we make locally and regionally, such as where our communities will grow and how they will be served by transportation, will set the stage for success or failure in reducing carbon pollution, making sound long-term investments, and ensuring our communities are livable and resilient to climate change impacts.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the United Nations body responsible for assessing the science related to climate change, implications, and adaptation and mitigation efforts, released a report in 2018 calling for rapid reductions in carbon emissions to reduce the impacts of global warming. The King County Growth Management Planning Council – a formal body of elected officials from across King County – voted in 2014 to adopt a shared target to reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050. In 2019, the Washington State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, bills that will transition the electricity sector to clean sources by 2045, accelerate efficiency in the built environment, and reduce transportation related emissions.

Based on our shared assessment of emissions in King County, and review of potential strategies to reduce emissions, we believe that these targets are ambitious but achievable.

Building on the work of the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) – a partnership between the County and partners to coordinate and enhance local government climate and sustainability efforts – more than a dozen cities and the County came together in the first half of 2014 to chart opportunities for joint actions to reduce GHG emissions and accelerate progress towards a clean and sustainable future. In 2019, K4C partners seek to refresh these commitments to reflect changes in the regulatory landscape, technical developments, and updated emissions information.

KING COUNTY-Cities
CLIMATE COLLABORATION

The attached Principles for Collaboration and Joint County-City Climate Commitments are focused on practical, near-term, collaborative opportunities between partners and King County. These shared commitments build on the significant work that many of our partners and County are already taking. By signing this letter, we pledge our support for the shared vision that these principles and actions represent. All partners commit to actively pursue those strategies, policies, and actions to make the most impact given the size, location, and development patterns of their jurisdictions.

Through focused, coordinated action, we will maximize the impact of our individual and shared efforts.



Principles for Collaboration

1. Climate change is the paramount challenge of our generation, and has fundamental and far-reaching consequences for our economy, environment, and public health and safety.
2. Strong action to reduce GHG emissions is needed, and the time is now.
3. Local governments can reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through many decisions related to transportation and land use, energy and green building, forests and farms, and consumption and materials management.
4. All partners support the shared vision that the Joint County-City Climate Commitments represent, but it is not the intention that each partner will pursue every action. Each partner will actively pursue strategies where action, investment, and policy will have the most impact and influence.
5. Many cities in King County have set individual climate goals and are taking steps to reduce local GHG emissions, and we need to build on this leadership.
6. Local solutions need to be implemented in ways that build a cleaner, stronger, and more resilient regional economy, and support the health of communities and our natural environment.
7. Reaching our goals will require collaboration, and trust between the County, cities, utilities, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other public sector agencies.
8. Building an equitable clean energy economy will require deeper engagement with communities of color and low income, immigrant, and youth populations. These communities are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change – from increasing flood risks to rising costs of fossil fuels – and historically less likely to be included in community-scale solutions or as leaders. We are committed to work in ways that are fair, equitable, empowering, and inclusive, and will seek solutions in concert with highly impacted communities. Solutions should prioritize low- and no-income people, people of color and indigenous people, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, and limited-English speaking communities. Solutions should include provisions for a just transition for workers.

9. Solutions to reduce carbon emissions require action at local, state, and federal government levels. We have the responsibility to lead at the local level, and we have the power to influence and advocate for change at the state and federal level that supports and advances the work we undertake at the local level.
10. We can accomplish more with a shared vision and coordinated action; collaboration will increase the efficiency of our efforts and magnify the impact of our strategies beyond what each of us could achieve on our own.
11. As of 2019, King County and 17 partners are members of the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, and we will work to build on this membership, in both increased action and participation from additional partners.
12. Elected and staff representatives will reconvene at least twice a year to share our individual and collective successes, and develop plans for continued action and investment in carbon emission reduction solutions. Elected officials have the opportunity at their discretion to engage more actively in advancing the shared goals, such as through joint comment letters, with support by King County staff. All partners also dedicate a staff member to coordinate implementation of the following Joint County-City Climate Commitments, and to serve as a representative to the K4C. Staff will meet regularly to share best practices and develop tools and strategies for implementing shared goals.

Joint County-City Climate Commitments



I. Shared Goals

Pathway: Achieve shared countywide GHG reduction targets that reduce direct countywide sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050, compared to a 2007 baseline. Pursue additional goals and actions to sequester carbon and reduce emissions from consumption of goods and services.

Policy Commitment: Adopt GHG reduction targets that are consistent with those established by the Growth Management Planning Council and that support countywide emission reduction goals.

Project or Program: Build on King County's commitment to measure and report on countywide GHG emissions by sharing data between partners, informing the public of our individual and collective progress, and using the information to inform regional climate action.



II. Climate Policy

Pathway: Support strong federal, regional, state, countywide, and local climate policy.

Policy Commitment: Advocate for comprehensive federal, regional, and state science-based limits and a market-based price on carbon pollution and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. A portion of revenue from these policies should support local GHG reduction efforts that align with these Joint County-City Climate Commitments, such as funding for transit service, renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, green building, and forest protection and restoration initiatives.



III. Transportation and Land Use

Pathway: Align planning for employment, affordable housing, and mobility taking into consideration impacts to GHG emissions. Increase transit service and mobility with a goal of reducing countywide driving per capita by 20% by 2030 and 50% by 2050, compared to 2017 levels, understanding that different areas of the county have varying levels of transit access.

Policy Commitment: Partner to secure state authority for funding to sustain and grow transit service and support travel by walking and biking through development of dedicated trails and bike lanes in King County. Support increased mobility through land use and street planning that provides for faster travel times, easier connections, and broader reach of transit services. Work to ensure new mobility services supplement transit services and prioritize outcomes for communities where mobility needs are greatest.

Policy Commitment: Update and implement Vision 2050, the region's growth strategy, to focus growth inside the Urban Growth Area cities and centers served by high capacity transit and create vibrant urban centers, protect natural resource lands and rural areas, and direct public investments in support of efficient land use. Implement land use strategies in ways that help us achieve shared climate goals, more closely link housing and jobs, and encourage dense, healthy, sustainably developed mixed-use neighborhoods near transit that minimize displacement. Increase mobility and accessibility options for biking, rolling, and walking so more people have fast, convenient, and low GHG emissions ways to travel.

Project or Program: As practical, for King County and cities developing equitable transit-oriented communities around high capacity light rail and transit projects, adopt the Puget Sound Regional Council's Growing Transit Communities Compact.



IV. Clean Fuels and Electric Vehicles

Pathways: (1) Protect Federal Vehicle Efficiency Standards. (2) Adopt a regional or statewide Clean Fuels Standard that reduces transportation fuel emissions intensities by at least 20% by 2030, compared to 2017 levels. (3) Increase use of electric vehicles such that 100% of light duty vehicles, and at least 60% of medium duty, and 40% of heavy-duty vehicles are electric by 2050.

Policy Commitment: Reduce climate pollution, build our renewable energy economy, and lessen our dependence on imported fossil fuels by supporting the adoption of a statewide or regional low carbon fuel standard that gradually lowers pollution from transportation fuels.

Policy Commitment: Support engagement and partnerships with utilities and organizations to develop regional pilots to incent the transition to electric vehicle ownership for all sectors, through development of infrastructure, education, and grants and incentives.

Policy Commitment: Enact local code and programs to incent or require electric vehicle charging within buildings or on development sites.



V. Energy Supply

Pathway: Implement the Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act, which phases out coal-fired electricity sources by 2025 and requires 80% carbon neutral electricity by 2030, and 100% clean electricity by 2045; limit construction of new natural gas based electricity power plants, and seek to establish a more resilient energy system.

Policy Commitment: Build on existing state renewable energy commitments including the Washington State Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) and the Clean Energy Transformation Act that provide for 100% Clean electricity supply by 2045 by partnering with local utilities, state regulators, and other stakeholders on a countywide commitment to clean energy resources. This includes meeting future energy needs through deep energy efficiency improvements and improved management of peak demands, and supporting renewable generation and fuel resources while phasing-out fossil fuels.

Project or Program: In partnership with utilities, develop a package of local jurisdictional commitments and initiatives that support renewable and distributed energy sources that direct the region toward a robust and resilient utility system. Actions include supporting community solar development, green power community challenges, streamlined local renewable energy installation permitting, district energy, code development, and renewable energy incentives.

Project or Program: Participate in utility Integrated Resource Plan and Energy Plan development processes, and emphasize interests for acceleration of transition and equitable distribution of benefits through regulatory and rulemaking forums.



VI. Green Building and Energy Efficiency

Pathways: (1) Reduce energy use in all existing buildings 25% by 2030 and 45% by 2050 compared to 2017; (2) Implement Washington State Energy Code which requires new buildings constructed to move incrementally towards stronger efficiency performance including a 70% energy reduction and net-zero GHG emissions in new buildings by 2031; (3) Strengthen conservation, and use of renewable natural gas, and support the transition to electrical systems to reduce natural gas and other fossil fuel use in existing buildings by at least 20% by 2030 and 80% by 2050.

Policy Commitment: Participate in the Regional Code Collaboration and adopt code pathways that build on the Washington State Energy Code, leading the way to "net-zero carbon" buildings, reduced water consumption, and the use of building materials with low carbon emissions. Support efforts at state and national level to develop stronger residential energy codes that save energy and money and take supporting actions such as to adopt building energy benchmarking and disclosure ordinances for non-residential and multi-family buildings within local jurisdiction, and residential energy disclosure at point of sale.

Project or Program: Develop a multi-city partnership to build a regional energy efficiency retrofit economy, including tactics such as: collaborating with energy efficiency and green building businesses, partnering with utilities, working with community partners, and expanding on existing retrofit programs. Foster opportunities for economic development, job creation, community-based representations, and pro-equity strategies.

Policy Commitment: Support state legislation that advances conversion to clean energy sources in the built environment. Collaborate with stakeholders, including labor and utilities, to develop energy codes that support the transition to highly efficient and low carbon non-residential and multifamily buildings through the conservation of fossil fuels, use of renewable natural gas, and electrification.



VII. Consumption and Materials Management

Pathway: Achieve a 70% recycling rate countywide; by 2030, achieve zero waste of resources for materials that have economic value for reuse, resale, and recycling.

Policy Commitment: Partner through the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee on policy, projects, and programs focused on (1) waste prevention and reuse, (2) product stewardship, recycling, and composting, and (3) beneficial use.

Project or Program: Develop a regional strategy through the adopted 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan to reach zero waste of resources by 2030 through a combination of education, incentives, and regulatory tools aimed at single-family, multi-family residents, businesses, and construction projects in King County.



VIII. Forests and Farming

Pathway: Reduce sprawl and associated transportation related GHG emissions, and sequester biological carbon by focusing growth in urban centers and protecting and restoring forests and farms.

Policy Commitment: Partner on Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) initiatives to focus development within the Urban Growth Area, reduce development pressure on rural lands, and protect our most valuable and important resource lands as part of the Land Conservation Initiative.

Project or Program: Protect and restore the health of urban and community trees and forests. Collaborate on the development and implementation of goals and strategies that improve urban tree canopy, forest health, and carbon sequestration informed by the King County Land Conservation Initiative and the countywide 30-year forest plan. Collaborate with private and community efforts such as Forterra's Green Cities Partnerships.

Project or Program: Partner on collaborative efforts to expand forest and farm stewardship and protection, for example through King Conservation District's farm management planning, landowner incentive, and grant programs.

Project or Program: Expand our local food economy, for example by supporting urban and community farming, buying locally produced food, and participating in the Local Food Initiative.



IX. Operations

Pathway: Reduce GHG emissions from operations in support of countywide goals.

Policy Commitment: Develop operational GHG reduction targets that support shared countywide goals and implement actions that reduce each partners' GHG footprint.

Project or Program: Demonstrate commitment and contribute to countywide goals through operational actions to: implement energy efficiency projects and initiatives at existing facilities; measure existing

building performance through EPA's Energy Star or equivalent program; implement high-efficiency street and traffic light replacement projects; construct new buildings to LEED, Living Building Challenge or other high performance standards and infrastructure to equivalent carbon – neutral and sustainability standards; reduce waste and purchase sustainable materials and services; and electrify municipal vehicles.

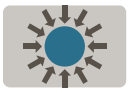


X. Climate Preparedness

Pathway: Increase community resilience by planning and preparing for the impacts of climate change on K4C communities and the King County region.

Policy commitment: Expand the K4C model for collaboration to include climate preparedness topics and issues.

Project or Program: Identify shared climate impact concerns and related needs, and opportunities for addressing those concerns. Engage elected officials and the public on local climate impacts and priorities for action. Consider participating in the Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative to advance climate preparedness work in the region.



XI. Collaboration

Policy Commitment: Participate in or join the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) – focused on efforts to coordinate and enhance local government climate and sustainability efforts – to share case studies, subject matter experts, resources, tools, and to collaborate on grant and funding opportunities.

Project or Program: Engage and lead public-private collaborative action through relationships developed with business, not for profit organizations, other local government agencies and coalitions, and citizen advocacy groups.