

**King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C)
2021 Annual Work Plan and Budget**

January 2021



King County

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II. Motion Text

Motion 14449¹, Section B, Paragraph 1:

B. Consistent with Ordinance 17285, which authorized the Interlocal Agreement for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, the executive is requested to coordinate with staff of the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its successor, in developing the annual work plans and budget for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration under the interlocal agreement. The executive is requested to submit by January 31, and every year thereafter, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration annual work plan and budget to the council for acceptance by motion.

Motion 14449 is also attached as Appendix A.

III. Executive Summary

This report provides annual information about the [King County-Cities Climate Collaboration](#) (K4C) work plan and budget, as required by Motion 14449. This is the sixth annual K4C work plan and budget submitted to the King County Council.

The King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) is a voluntary but formal partnership of King County, 16 cities, and the Port of Seattle, ('partners') focused on coordinating and enhancing the effectiveness of local climate and sustainability action.

In 2020, K4C elected officials worked to have their jurisdictions adopt the recently updated [K4C Joint Climate Action Commitments](#) (2019), developed shared [K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests](#), engaged many partners and the King County Council to develop a [Climate Action Toolkit](#), created a communications toolkit to equip K4C partners with unified messaging and tools about why the K4C's work matters, and contributed to King County's [2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan](#) (SCAP), among other accomplishments.

The K4C budget is based on shared contributions by K4C partners as stipulated in the [K4C interlocal agreement](#) (ILA). The total K4C budget for 2021 is \$44,900. In 2021, the K4C will partner with King County to expend \$35,000 to develop additional city specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data and complete technical work to support adoption of stronger countywide GHG emissions reduction targets.

Much of the K4C's work is completed by staff and elected officials of K4C partners and does not use K4C budget. Examples of 2021 staff work will include engaging through the [Growth Management Planning Council](#) and related forums to support updates to [Countywide Planning Policies](#) (CPPs) that will strengthen shared GHG emission targets and update measurement policies; elected official engagement on state legislative issues; engaging in King County 2020 SCAP work to develop regional approaches to supporting energy efficiency retrofit programs; and developing a K4C climate preparedness agenda.

The work of the K4C is an important part of the County's commitment to climate action and supports and is integrated with King County's 2020 SCAP.

¹ [Link to Motion 14449](#)

IV. Background

Organizational Overview: The [King County-Cities Climate Collaboration](#) (K4C) is a voluntary but formal partnership of King County, 16 cities, and the Port of Seattle focused on coordinating and enhancing the effectiveness of local government climate and sustainability action. K4C county and partner staff collaborate on the following:

- Outreach – to develop, refine, and utilize messaging and tools for climate change outreach to engage decision makers, other cities, and the general public
- Coordination – to adopt consistent standards, benchmarks, strategies, and overall goals related to responding to climate change
- Solutions – to share local success stories, challenges, data and products that support and enhance climate mitigation efforts by all partners
- Funding and resources – to secure grant funding and other shared resource opportunities to support climate related projects and programs

Staff from the King County Executive Office and Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) help lead and support the K4C, with support and participation from additional County staff from Metro Transit, the Department of Executive Services, and the Department of Local Services. Staff and elected officials from K4C partners are equal decision makers and partners in the work of the K4C.

Key Historical Context: This report is the sixth annual K4C work plan and budget to be submitted to the King County Council, as required by Motion 14449. Details of requirements of Motion 14449 are included in Section III of this report.

Key Current Context: In 2020, K4C elected officials worked to have their jurisdictions adopt the recently updated [K4C Joint Climate Action Commitments](#) (2019), developed shared [K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests](#), and created a communications toolkit to equip K4C partners with unified messaging and tools about why the K4C's work matters.

Additionally, King County, in partnership with the K4C, responded to King County Council direction and developed a new [Climate Action Toolkit](#) which will help mobilize cities throughout King County, uniting efforts to rapidly cut GHG emissions and realize multiple co – benefits, including equitable distribution of benefits, and preparing our region for climate impacts. The toolkit, with actionable and practical actions and policies and an excel-based analysis model, is designed to enable cities to develop customized climate solutions to meet the specific needs of all local cities – urban, suburban, and rural – while working toward region-wide carbon emission reductions.

King County and K4C partners also collaborated on a comprehensive update to King County's [Strategic Climate Action Plan](#) (SCAP) which was transmitted to the County Council on August 27, 2020. The K4C collaboration on the 2020 SCAP update included shared technical analyses, collaborative updates to the Joint Climate Action Commitments which frame the SCAP, and K4C partner engagement and collaboration in developing many of the 2020 SCAP's commitments and actions.

Report Methodology: This report was drafted by County staff that support the K4C. The report summarizes decisions and work completed in 2020 and outlines the 2021 K4C work plan and priorities based on this recent work. No additional outreach was conducted for the preparation of this report. This

report builds on previous K4C work plans and budgets that have been submitted to the King County Council annually since 2016.

V. Report Requirements

This report is organized to respond to and to align with Motion 14449, which requires coordination and information annually about the K4C’s budget, and work plan. This section includes the following subsections:

- A. Budget
- B. Expenditures
- C. Work Plan

A. Budget

The K4C budget is based on shared contributions by K4C partners as stipulated in the [K4C Interlocal Agreement](#) (ILA). The K4C budget for 2021 is detailed below.

K4C Budget Planning for 2021		Notes
K4C Annual Membership/ILA - Budget	\$44,900	K4C ILA defined contributions are based on the population of partner jurisdictions.

B. Expenditures

The K4C ILA includes a stipulation that at least 75 percent of partner jurisdictions must approve of budget expenditures. An initial 2021 budget item was approved by vote of the partner jurisdictions in November of 2020. Additional 2021 budget items may be decided on by formal vote of K4C partners.

2021 K4C Budget Expenditures		Notes
GHG Inventories and Modeling Project	\$35,000	Expenditure agreed to at November 2020 K4C staff steering committee meeting. See details in Work Plan category #1.
Unallocated Resources	\$9,900	As of January 2021

C. Work Plan

The K4C’s 2021 Work Plan focuses on the below priorities and supporting actions, organized by relevant section of the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments. Priorities included are recommended by elected officials at [Elected Official Work Sessions](#), as defined in the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments, and as developed in shared K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests. It is important to note that much of the K4C’s work is completed by staff and elected officials of K4C partners and does not require K4C budget or expenditures.

1. Shared Goals

- K4C staff will engage through the [Growth Management Planning Council](#) and related forums to support updates to Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) that will strengthen shared GHG emission targets and update measurement policies including that:
 - K4C staff will work with elected officials and partners such as the [Sound Cities Association](#), the County’s [Climate Equity Community Task Force](#), and environmental and climate related nongovernmental organizations to develop recommended updates to GHG targets. The work will build from direction provided at an October 2020 Elected Official Work Session to strengthen 2040 and 2050 targets and build broader support for proposed changes.
 - K4C staff will also consider and recommend updates to CPPs to expand GHG measurement and reporting commitments and responsibilities to King County cities. An existing policy on this topic ([EN-18](#)) focuses on reporting countywide emissions with responsibilities for measurement and reporting ascribed to King County.
- K4C partners will leverage the [Climate Action Toolkit](#), which contains both technical resources for conducting a GHG inventory, and an appendix of potential grant and loan resources for climate planning and measures, to explore opportunities to develop city specific emissions inventories, such as in partnership with local academic institutions or as part of consultant work.

Shared Goals - Special 2021-2022 K4C Partnership Project – GHG Inventories and Modeling	
<i>The K4C will partner (with staff time and budget) with King County, the Puget Sound Regional Council, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, the City of Seattle, and Pierce County on a comprehensive data and inventory update about local GHG emissions sources and trends. From the K4C’s perspective, a major goal of this work is to provide as much city specific data to each K4C partner (and other cities in King County, as possible), while recognizing that some data may only be available at a broader geographic level, such as at the countywide scale. K4C related deliverables from the project are listed below.</i>	
Deliverable	Deliverable Details
Countywide geographic emissions inventory and analysis	Update of countywide inventory including analysis of recent trends and update of existing countywide GHG pathways analysis ² toward new stronger 2040 and 2050 targets being considered by the K4C and the Growth Management Planning Council .
Countywide consumption emissions inventory and analysis	Update of countywide inventory and analysis that articulates actions to reduce consumption emissions for two 2050 scenarios: an 80 percent reduction and net carbon neutrality
Assess viability of different city scale emissions data	Recommendations about which data sources to use for major local emissions sources including consideration of local data sources and third party sources such as those developed by Google’s Environmental Insights Explorer , the Department of Energy’s City Energy Profile or Boston University’s Database of Road Transportation Emissions .
City specific data collection and reporting	Collect and tabulate city specific local data from local sources including Seattle City Light and Puget Sound Energy and the Puget Sound Regional Council . Additionally, develop a tool with city specific emissions data (for 2019) city specific data visualizations.

² See pages 51 and 52 of the Executive proposed [2020 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan](#) for details of existing countywide GHG pathways analysis.

Guidance about government operational GHG inventories	Develop a guidance or a tool to support cities completing government operations GHG inventories in ways consistent with the methodologies used for community scale emissions inventories.
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2. Climate Policy

- The K4C developed shared state policy and legislative interests for 2021 that K4C partners can use in support of developing legislative agendas and K4C staff can use as a basis for drafting sign on letters or testimony.
- Several K4C Elected Officials are leading a K4C Elected Outreach Committee including working on state legislative issues. Throughout 2020, the Outreach Committee included participation from elected officials of the cities of Shoreline, Snoqualmie, Sammamish, Kirkland, Burien, Kenmore, Mercer Island, Bellevue, Issaquah, and from the Port of Seattle.
- During the 2021 State Legislative Session, transportation issues are expected to be a priority issue, including discussion of a statewide clean fuels standard, road usage charges such as road tolls, and other potential funding for roads and mobility investments such as transit service and bike and walk infrastructure.

3. Transportation and Land Use

- K4C partners will work to update local plans and incentives to support transit friendly development and easy connections, including through the [Puget Sound Regional Council’s Vision 2050 update](#).
- K4C partners will learn about, and as appropriate support, countywide transportation related policy updates occurring in 2021 such as land use updates to CPPs; updates to Metro’s Service Guidelines; and new equitable transit-oriented development (TOD) policies.

4. Clean Fuels and Electric Vehicles

- K4C partners will support engagement and partnership with utilities and organizations to develop pilots or programs to incentivize the transition to electric vehicle (EV) ownership.
- K4C partners will support adoption of a proposed EV charging code that was developed through the [Regional Code Collaboration](#).
- The State Legislature is also likely to consider a bill enabling a statewide clean fuels standard, and other measures to reduce transportation related emissions, during the 2021 legislative session.
- K4C and King County Metro Transit staff will coordinate on countywide EV data compilation and information sharing, for example on electric buses and public EV purchases.

5. Energy Supply

- K4C partners will continue engagement between elected officials, Puget Sound Energy, Seattle City Light, and state utility regulators to work toward a renewable energy-powered future, with accelerated coal phase-out and limitation of new natural gas-based electricity.
- K4C partners will be engaged in King County 2020 SCAP work to develop regional approaches to supporting energy efficiency retrofit programs. For example in the development of a countywide Commercial - Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (C-PACER), building on [C-PACER legislation](#) passed by Washington State in 2020.

6. Green Building and Energy Efficiency

- K4C will continue to partner through the Regional Code Collaboration on implementation and development of ambitious energy and green building policies and codes, including advancing energy efficiency in small residential buildings.
- K4C staff will consider using K4C budget to support tools and training as new energy code requirements are adopted.
- Collaborate with the Washington State Department of Commerce to increase awareness of, and provide support to, building owners about new incentives for energy efficiency projects related to the [State's Clean Buildings Act](#).

7. Consumption and Materials Management

- **Zero Waste of Resources:** K4C partners will engage on and support the zero waste of resources (ZWR) by 2030 regional plan to support a more circular economy where waste is minimized and materials stay in use longer, thereby reducing GHG emissions. This ZWR plan is in development with support of the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee through a convened Task Force which includes many cities. This work will help develop and implement related policy, projects, and programs focused on options for (1) waste prevention and reuse, (2) product stewardship, recycling, and composting, and (3) beneficial use. Strategies will include a combination of education, incentives, and regulatory tools.
- **Tools to Reduce Consumption Emissions:** Building on K4C participation and contributions to the GHG Inventories and Modeling Project (see Section 1 of this document), in 2021 and 2022 K4C partners will collaborate with King County on community engagement and strategy development to support development of new tools and guidance to inform choice and use of low GHG emissions products and services³, so that residents, governments and businesses can understand and play their part in reducing consumption GHG emissions.

8. Forests and Farming

- K4C partners will work jointly to increase tree canopy, improve forest health, and encourage tree planting including through King County's 3 Million Trees initiative and in support of the new 30- Year Forest Plan, which was developed with input from K4C partners.

9. Government Operations

- K4C partners will work to increase use of clean vehicles and alternative fuels in local fleets. For example, King County will jointly host Fleet Managers Working Group⁴ events with the K4C to enhance information sharing and to support development of best practices for vehicle use and fleet investments across partners.
- K4C partners will be supported to reduce energy use in their facilities and operations to reduce GHG emissions. For example, King County offers low-cost financing through the [Cities Fund to Reduce Energy Demand \(C-FRED\)](#) loan program and all cities are encouraged to use this program to invest in their own projects.

³ Low GHG emissions products include those sustainably produced and delivered. Low GHG emissions services refers to services that have low associated emissions and/or that are provided by companies that have reduced their GHG footprint.

⁴ The Fleet Managers Working Group is a King County staff team led by the Fleet Services Division that as part of its role works to implement the County's commitment to increase the efficiency of County vehicle fleets and minimize their GHG emissions.

- K4C staff will support analysis for partners considering lengthening their operational renewable electricity [Green Direct](#) contracts and/or enrolling in the next offering of Puget Sound Energy’s Green Direct program, should it become available.
- K4C partners will work to increase demand for recycled content products and materials, such as compost and recycled plastic, by exploring and implementing best practices in sustainable procurement policies and actions.

10. Climate Preparedness

- K4C staff will expand the model to collaborate on preparedness topics and issues, increasing community resilience by planning and preparing for the impacts of climate change on K4C communities.
- In coordination with King County, K4C staff will develop a preparedness agenda. This will identify overarching goals and desired outcomes for K4C work on preparedness, and include a plan for meeting staffing/facilitation needs for work sessions around preparedness topics. Priorities may include those identified at the October 2020 Elected Official Work Session.

11. Collaboration

- *Green Building Task Force and Regional Code Collaboration:* K4C partners with the Green Building Task Force⁵, a group led by King County’s Solid Waste Division that collaborates with cities on research, tools and policies related to green building. The K4C also partners with a second building collaborative effort called the [Regional Code Collaboration](#), which includes partners outside of King County, and is focused on code development for local governments to further sustainable development. The K4C will continue to partner with these groups.
- *Local Best Practices and Coordination:* In 2021, the K4C will host dedicated staff work session(s) topics such as: local climate action planning and equitable community engagement.
- *Climate Planning:* The K4C will continue to serve as a forum for partners to share their approaches to developing local climate and sustainability plans as a resource to other partners so that others are not “reinventing the wheel”. In 2021, K4C will integrate into its existing collaboration platform new ways to share existing local plans and best practices and to support local peer to peer information sharing.
- *Support Adoption of the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments by All Partners:* In 2019, K4C partners updated and strengthened the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments. As of December 2020, 15 of the 18 K4C partners have adopted the updated commitments.

VI. Conclusion/Next Steps

The 2021 K4C work plan and budget builds on the K4C’s Joint Commitments, elected official input and engagement, and interests and direction of all K4C partners. The K4C budget is defined by the K4C ILA. The 2021 spending priorities will align with the direction provided by the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments and recommendations from K4C Elected Official Work Sessions.

The work of the K4C is an important part of the County’s commitment to climate action and supports, and is integrated with, King County’s 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan.

⁵ The Green Building Task Force is an interjurisdictional staff team that helps provides green building education countywide for residential and commercial construction and is led by staff in King County’s Solid Waste Division.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

November 6, 2015

Motion 14449

Proposed No. 2015-0252.3

Sponsors Phillips and Dembowski

1 A MOTION adopting the 2015 King County Strategic
2 Climate Action Plan, submitted in compliance with K.C.C.
3 18.25.010.A.4.

4 WHEREAS, K.C.C. 18.25.010.A.4. requires the King County executive to
5 transmit to the council a plan by June 29, 2015 updating the King County Strategic
6 Climate Action Plan, and

7 WHEREAS, with this motion, the executive has transmitted to the council as
8 Attachment A to this motion the updated plan called for in K.C.C. 18.25.010.A.4., and

9 WHEREAS, confronting climate change through effective strategies to reduce
10 greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of a changing climate requires an
11 integrated countywide effort involving public, private and non-governmental
12 partnerships, and

13 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan presents a bold
14 course of action that will make progress toward achieving the countywide goal to reduce
15 greenhouse gas emissions by eighty percent by 2050, and

16 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan identifies the
17 county’s top sources of greenhouse gas emissions and quantifies the greenhouse gas
18 emissions reduction benefits of key strategies, and

19 WHEREAS, King County will continue to play a key role in the King County-
20 Cities Climate Collaboration, whose members represent seventy-five percent of the
21 population of the county, and which lays out a shared countywide vision for confronting
22 climate change upon which the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan is built,
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan strengthens the
25 county's strategy to prepare for the impacts of a changing climate on local communities,
26 infrastructure, economy, public health and safety, and the natural environment, and

27 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan advances King
28 County's guiding principle of promoting fairness and opportunity and eliminating
29 inequities by considering the equity and social justice impacts in its decision-making on
30 climate change strategies, and

31 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan recognizes that
32 the burdens and benefits of climate change will affect King County's current and future
33 residents in disparate ways, with the potential to disproportionately affect some
34 populations, such as those who are low-income, have limited English proficiency or
35 reside in certain geographic areas, and

36 WHEREAS, with this motion, the executive has transmitted to the council, as part
37 of the 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan, the annual report on the county's major
38 environmental sustainability programs as called for in K.C.C. 18.50.010, and

39 WHEREAS, Appendix B of the 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan responds to
40 Motion 14349, passed May 4, 2015, which requested that the executive consider specific

41 climate action activities and policies for inclusion in the 2015 Strategic Climate Action
42 Plan, and

43 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan directly reflects
44 the recommendations of a 2014 Performance Audit conducted by the King County
45 auditor's office;

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

47 A. The 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan, dated October 20,
48 2015, which is Attachment A to this motion and prepared in compliance with K.C.C
49 18.25.010.A.4., is hereby adopted.

50 B. Consistent with Ordinance 17285, which authorized the Interlocal Agreement
51 for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, the executive is requested to
52 coordinate with staff of the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its
53 successor, in developing the annual work plans and budget for the King County-Cities
54 Climate Collaboration under the interlocal agreement. The executive is requested to
55 submit by January 31, and every year thereafter, the King County-Cities Climate
56 Collaboration annual work plan and budget to the council for acceptance by motion. The
57 2016 work plan should include recommendations on the timing and approach for an
58 update to the interlocal agreement that includes addressing drafting issues identified
59 during the council's initial review of the agreement.

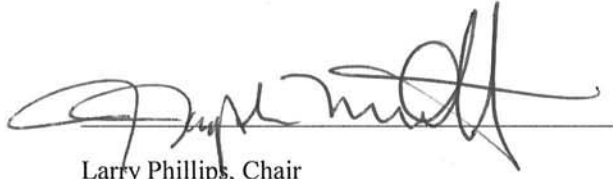
60 C. Implementation of the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan may lead to

61 the need for additional resources. However, any additional FTE/TLT requests are subject
62 to approval through the county budget process.
63

Motion 14449 was introduced on 7/6/2015 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/2/2015, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr.
Upthegrove
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. Strategic Climate Action Plan November 2015