



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**Motion 16051**

**Proposed No.** 2022-0014.1

**Sponsors** Dembowski

1           A MOTION acknowledging receipt of a report on public  
2           health-related climate action needs, in response to Motion  
3           15866.

4           WHEREAS, climate change is one of the paramount environmental, health and  
5           economic challenges for our generation and King County is committed to taking bold  
6           action on climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, preparing for climate  
7           change impacts and supporting resilience in communities disproportionately impacted by  
8           climate change, and

9           WHEREAS, the King County has adopted the 2020 Strategic Climate Action  
10          Plan, a five-year blueprint for county climate action, integrating climate change into all  
11          areas of county operations and work with King County cities, partners, communities and  
12          residents, and

13          WHEREAS, Motion 15866 requested the executive transmit to the council a  
14          report on public health-related climate action needs which should include, but not be  
15          limited to, information on the staffing and budgetary resources needed to implement the  
16          community health actions and strategies in the Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change  
17          and Health report, the Community Health and Emergency Preparedness focus area of the  
18          SCAP and the Preparing for Climate Change section of the SCAP, and potential options  
19          for addressing those, and

Motion 16051

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20 WHEREAS, the King County executive has transmitted to the council a report on  
21 public health-related climate action needs;

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

23 The council acknowledges receipt of a report on public health-related climate  
24 action needs, Attachment A to this motion.

Motion 16051 was introduced on 1/25/2022 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 3/1/2022, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Dembowski, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry,  
McDermott, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:

*Claudia Balducci*

7E1C273CE994B6...

Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

*Melani Pedroza*

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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** A. Implementation of the Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health,  
December 2021

## Implementation of the Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health

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December 2021



**King County**

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## Executive Summary

As called for by Motion 15866<sup>1</sup>, this is a report on public health-related climate action needs. It includes the staffing and budgetary resources needed to implement the community health actions and strategies in the [Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health \(Health Blueprint\)](#), and the related Community Health and Emergency Preparedness focus area and Preparing for Climate Change sections of the [Strategic Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#).

Climate change has been recognized as a global health emergency by the World Health Organization (WHO)<sup>2</sup> and by multiple public health and medical professional organizations in the U.S. The inevitable health impacts of climate change have arrived in the Puget Sound region, where in recent years residents have come to expect days or weeks of unhealthy air quality due to wildfire smoke, and increasingly common summer heat waves that endanger health. The impacts of climate change affect all King County residents, but not all residents experience the impacts in the same way. In particular, lower socio-economic status areas and communities of color are at increased risk because of a higher prevalence of underlying health conditions as well as environmental and social risk factors.

Public Health – Seattle and King County (PHSKC) has a vital role in protecting our communities from the increasing and inequitable health impacts of climate change. This includes keeping the most impacted people in communities safe, building climate and community resilience, documenting and raising awareness of the health impacts of climate change, and supporting policy and practice change to mitigate the threat of climate change to overall population health.

PHSKC led the development of this report. The findings and recommendations were informed by input gathered in internal and external stakeholder listening sessions, review of national Public Health agencies' recommendations on local health department's roles and needs around climate change, and prioritization of the Health Blueprint actions.

PHSKC will implement the Health Blueprint and SCAP climate health actions through establishing an integrated, interdisciplinary Climate and Health Program. The program will be built over time as resources allow and will be centrally coordinated in PHSKC with interdivisional collaboration. This program will operate in close coordination with other King County agencies engaged in climate change work and be guided by impacted communities.

The Health Blueprint's six core functions for addressing climate change and health are the foundational framework for the Climate and Health Program's strategies and actions. Each core function is interconnected and requires expertise and knowledge from across the various PHSKC teams for effective implementation. The six core functions are:

- 1. Leadership and organizational capacity**
- 2. Assessment, surveillance, and research**
- 3. Listen and educate**
- 4. Community partnership development and capacity-building**
- 5. Preparedness and response**

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<sup>1</sup> King County Motion 15866 full text is included as Appendix A.

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization, Climate Change and Health Fact Sheet [\[Link\]](#)

## 6. Policy and planning

Grounded in these core functions, PHSKC will use a phased approach to establish and implement its Climate and Health Program. Phase I includes near-term work (2021-2022). Phase II and III will continuously build on earlier work as PHSKC and community increase their capacity and as resources become available. Phases are as follows:

- **Phase I: Capacity-Building and Emergency Response**, in which PHSKC will develop a detailed operational plan to implement the Health Blueprint, engage in near term health-related SCAP actions, and respond to ongoing climate events in partnership with community-based organizations and other County agencies.
- **Phase II: Foundational Implementation**, in which PHSKC will implement the highest-priority actions defined in the operational plan developed during Phase I, deepen partnerships with community-based organizations and other County agencies, expand engagement on health related SCAP actions, and continue to respond to ongoing climate events in partnership with community.
- **Phase III: Full Implementation and Evolution**, in which PHSKC will fully implement the Health Blueprint core functions, strategies, and actions, engage on all the health related SCAP action that promote equity, improve health in partnership with frontline communities, and deepen and broaden work in strategies and core functions from Phases I and II while incorporating new actions.

PHSKC has outlined several essential program's development components. They include a vision statement, guiding principles drawn from the Health Blueprint, centering of community and equity, and staffing and resources. The Climate and Health Program vision statement is: ***Establishing health protection, prevention, and preparedness programs that minimize adverse health impacts and downstream costs associated with climate change, particularly among frontline communities, and support community resiliency and an equitable King County.*** The Climate and Health Program guiding principles include:

1. **Lead with environmental justice and racial equity.**
2. **Promote a Health in All Policies approach.**
3. **Use systems thinking.**
4. **Engage and partner with community in an authentic, equitable way.**

It will take time to assemble all the necessary resources to build a complete Climate and Health Program to carry out the full scope of the Health Blueprint and SCAP actions while being actively informed by community and centered in equity. For this reason, staffing levels have been identified for Phases I and II of program implementation. Working with its partners, PHSKC will determine additional staffing needs for Phase III full implementation based the experiences of the program and emerging program needs.

- **Phase I: 4-5 positions.**
- **Phase II: 10-15 positions.**
- **Phase III to be determined.**

Throughout all phases, investments in community partnerships, outreach and engagement, communications, data management tools, and other activities will also be required.

A diversified portfolio of grants, contracts, investments, and internal funds will be needed to build the Climate and Health Program. For the first half of 2022, PHSKC will have access to Washington State Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) funding for Phase I activities. As a start to Phases II and III,

FPHS funding will cover three additional positions. For the remaining needs for Phases II and III, additional funds will be required. PHSKC has identified several potential sources of government and private funding. Continued research of and application for possible funding opportunities will be an important focus of operational planning in 2022.

Among public health and climate change professional organizations, there is no question that climate change is a public health emergency. King County's leadership in acknowledging and confronting climate change through the SCAP and the Health Blueprint provide a path to address its impacts. With increased climate and health capacity, PHSKC can promote and protect the health of King County residents in the face of climate change, with a continued commitment to equity and to serving those communities most impacted by the climate crisis.

## Background

### Department Overview

Public Health — Seattle & King County (PHSKC) works to protect and improve the health and well-being of all people in King County as measured by increasing the number of healthy years that people live and eliminating health disparities.

The climate change work discussed in this report is coordinated through the Environmental Health Services Division with a focus on programmatic work having a strong scientific foundation. However, all the PHSKC divisions are represented in this work. This report details the intention to work across all divisions and in collaboration with all King County agencies. PHSKC is comprised of the following divisions:

**Office of the Director** provides oversight and cross-cutting programs for the department including:

- Office of Equity & Community Partnerships
- Administration Services Section
- Communications Section
- Preparedness Section
- Policy & Systems Delivery Section
- State & Local Affairs Section

**Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Division** supports community and the County through leadership, technical assistance, and programs for population-level health assessment, data-driven program planning, program evaluation, and policy, including:

- Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention Section
- Communities of Opportunity Program

**Community Health Services Division** provides direct services through its Public Health Center system and assures access to quality services through partnerships and regional programs.

**Environmental Health Services Division** focuses on prevention of disease through sanitation, safe food and water, proper disposal of wastes and toxics, and promoting safe and healthy environmental conditions.

**Emergency Medical Services Division** manages emergency medical provision through partnerships with fire departments, paramedic agencies, EMS dispatch centers, and hospitals.

**Jail Health Services Division** provides medical, dental, and psychiatric services to inmates in the King County Correctional Facilities in Seattle and the Regional Justice Center in Kent.

**Prevention Services Division** serves to prevent and control disease and to promote the adoption and maintenance of healthy behaviors, including:

- Communicable Diseases Section
- Medical Examiner's Office

### Key Historical Context

King County is a national leader in prioritizing a comprehensive approach to climate change. The following plans demonstrate the County’s groundbreaking work to address climate change. Because climate change-influenced conditions and exposures negatively impacting health are expected to increase both in frequency and severity while new conditions and exposures are also expected, the need for public health to address the issues of climate change is more important than ever.<sup>3</sup> Two plans, highlighted below, directly address climate change.

Strategic Climate Action Plan: The 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP), updated in 2020<sup>4</sup> is a five-year plan for County climate action, integrating climate change into all areas of County operations and working with King County cities, partners, communities, and residents. The SCAP outlines King County’s priorities and commitments for climate action to residents and partners. The 2020 SCAP includes prioritized actions from the Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health, highlighted below.

Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health: The 2015 SCAP included a recommendation for PHSKC to develop a strategy for a comprehensive climate change and public health program. In 2018, in response to this recommendation, PHSKC finalized the Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health (Health Blueprint).<sup>5</sup> The Health Blueprint describes the impacts of climate change on people in the region. The Health Blueprint is King County’s framework for incorporating health and equity into climate change planning across King County, for organizing across the department, and for working with partners to implement the Blueprint’s actions and the health related SCAP actions. The Health Blueprint outlines six core public health functions; under these core functions are a set of 15 strategies and 49 recommended actions that the agency must take to address the health impacts of climate change while prioritizing the most vulnerable residents.<sup>6</sup>

King County’s work on climate change is also guided by other strategic plans such as the King County Strategic Plan.<sup>7</sup> Several guiding principles and goals relate to the climate and health work by PHSKC, including “address the root causes of inequities” and “improve the health and well-being of all people in our community.”

The County’s Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan<sup>8</sup> is a plan for action and change, guiding King County’s pro-equity policy direction, decision-making, planning, operations and services, and workplace practices to advance equity and social justice within County government and in partnership with communities.

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<sup>3</sup> Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change in Health, pg. 4. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>4</sup> 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>5</sup> Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change in Health [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>6</sup> List of Health Blueprint core functions, strategies, and recommended actions are provided in Appendix B.

<sup>7</sup> King County Strategic Plan, 2015 Update [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>8</sup> King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan, 2016-2022 [\[Link\]](#)

## Key Current Context

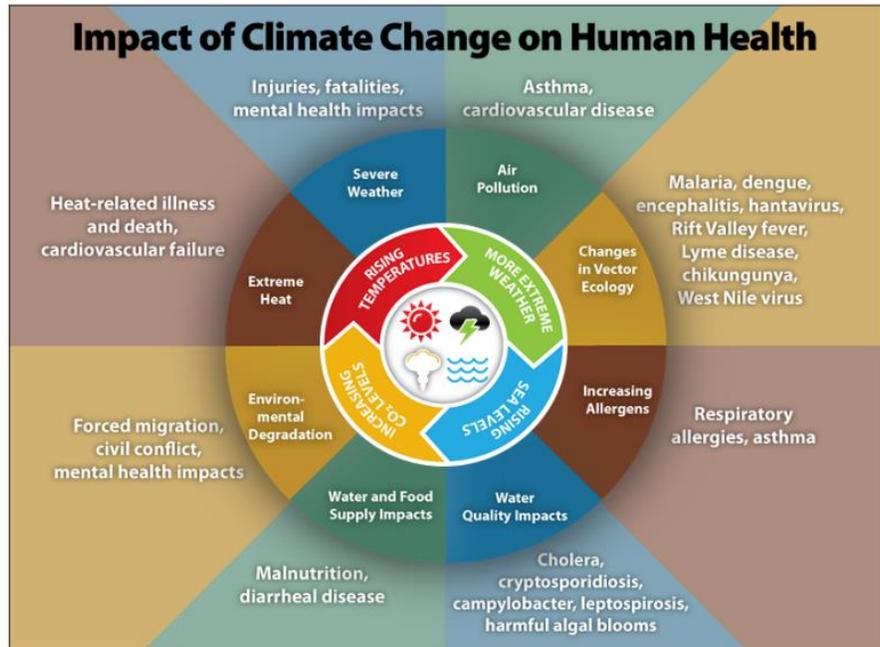
### Overview of Climate Change:

Climate change is recognized as a global health emergency by the World Health Organization (WHO) and by multiple public health and medical professional organizations in the U.S., including the American Public Health Association and the American College of Physicians. The WHO considers climate change to be the "single biggest health threat facing humanity."<sup>9</sup> Climate change and its inevitable impacts on health have arrived in the Puget Sound region. The trends of climate change produce

conditions and exposures that impact human health in many ways (illustrated in Figure 1<sup>10</sup>). How this impacts health is influenced by the surrounding social and environmental factors. The local impacts have been clear in the last few years. Since 2017 the region has come to expect days or even weeks when wildfire smoke descends, driving the air quality index to unhealthy levels. More recently during the record-breaking heat wave of June 2021, at least 15 King County residents died from heat-related causes; [this heat event would have been virtually impossible](#) without climate change.<sup>11</sup>

**Health Impacts of Climate Change:** The impacts of climate change affect all King County residents, but not all residents experience the impacts in the same way. The Lancet reports that the health effects realized by climate change increase inequities as a threat multiplier: "Climate change makes existing problems worse as climate-linked events interact with other stressors to threaten lives, undermine population health, and stress health systems. This concept of threat multiplication has been shown throughout the COVID-19 pandemic."<sup>12</sup> This was also seen during recent wildfire smoke and extreme weather events, in which some individuals were disproportionately impacted, such as those with respiratory and cardiovascular disease and other pre-existing health conditions, those engaged in outdoor jobs, and those living homeless. Lower socio-economic status areas and communities of color are at increased risk because of a higher prevalence of underlying health conditions as well as environmental and social risk factors. In addition, some medical systems were put into a crisis care mode because of the increased health impacts and reliance on health care services already stressed by caring for COVID-19 patients.

Figure 1: from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



<sup>9</sup> World Health Organization, Climate Change and Health Fact Sheet [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>10</sup> Centers for Disease Control, Climate Effects on Health website [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>11</sup> World Weather Attribution, "Western North American Extreme Heat Virtually Impossible with Human-caused Climate Change." July 2021 [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>12</sup> Romanello M, et al. The 2021 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: code red for a healthy future. Lancet. Oct 2021 [\[Link\]](#)

**Role of Public Health in Climate Change:** Because of the health impacts of climate change, PHSKC has a critical role in reducing the harmful and often inequitable effects of climate on health. The 2020 and 2021 Lancet policy briefs<sup>13, 14</sup> emphasize the critical need to fund climate work in local health departments. At the Federal level, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services opened a new Office of Climate Change and Health Equity<sup>15</sup> in 2021, acting on their Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan.<sup>16</sup> Local Public Health departments are increasingly establishing their own climate change and health programs.<sup>17</sup> To support the unique role that public health agencies play in addressing climate change action, the two leading national Public Health associations<sup>18, 19</sup> establish policies, guidance and forums to inform public health agencies' efforts that advance policy and galvanize the field to address climate change. These organizations, as well as PHSKC, joined 150 early leaders in 2019 declaring climate change a health emergency.<sup>20</sup>

The critical role for local public health was captured in the 2020 SCAP, where PHSKC is identified as the lead agency for 11 priority actions as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. SCAP actions items with PHSKC as a lead agency**

SCAP Action	Focus Area	Summary Description
<b>Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities (SRFC) Section</b>		
<b>SRFC 4.01.01</b>	Community Health & Emergency Preparedness	Create and resource opportunities for frontline communities to co-create communications around climate events and health, access emergency resources and warnings, and collaborate on training materials to prepare communities.
<b>SRFC 4.01.01a</b>		Collaborate with community partners to address gaps in climate and health knowledge and co-develop inclusive and equitable climate and health messaging, resources, and guidance.
<b>SRFC 4.01.01b</b>		Build awareness for frontline communities around how to access preparedness resources and supplies when they face natural disasters or extreme weather events by integrating climate change and equity information into emergency trainings and messaging.
<b>SRFC 5.01.01</b>		Advocate for the expansion of nutrition incentive programs and other support mechanisms for low-income and frontline community members who could be disproportionately impacted by climate-influenced food insecurity.

<sup>13</sup> The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change: Policy Brief for the United States of America. 2020 [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>14</sup> The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change: Policy Brief for the United States of America. 2021 [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>15</sup> Office of Climate Change and Health Equity at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>16</sup> Health & Human Services climate action report, [\[Link\]](#).

<sup>17</sup> Albright K, et al. Dissemination of Information About Climate Change by State and Local Public Health Departments: United States, 2019–2020. *AJPH*. 2020;110, 1184–1190. [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>18</sup> American Public Health Association, Center for Climate, Health, and Equity [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>19</sup> National Association of County and City Health Officials, Climate Change Resources [\[Link\]](#), and Policy Statement [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>20</sup> U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda, 2019 [\[Link\]](#)

SCAP Action	Focus Area	Summary Description
SRFC 5.01.01a	Food Systems & Food Security	Advocate for the sustainability and expansion of nutrition incentive programs to cover the food security gap and secure ongoing funding for the program.
SRFC 5.01.02		Support program development focused on production and distribution of affordable and healthy foods to communities that live in areas with food insecurity.
SRFC 5.01.02a		Support development of nutrition incentive programs across the County by facilitating knowledge management between assistance programs and local jurisdictions that do not have these programs.
SRFC 5.01.02b		Partner with food incentive programs, food providers, and relevant stakeholders to develop and expand food assistance and/or incentive programs to address unmet needs.
<b>Preparedness (PREP) Section</b>		
PREP 3.1.2	Health & Equity	Co-develop inclusive messaging and guidance to prepare equitably for and mitigate climate-related health impacts.
PREP 4.2.10	Community & Organizational Relationships	Develop and implement a strategy for responding to and mitigating the health effects of wildfire smoke with emphasis on those who are disproportionately impacted by wildfire smoke.
PREP 4.2.15		Work with partners to develop climate, health and resilience data indicators and systems for monitoring climate-related health impacts to provide clear understandings of trends in health status, inequities, and vulnerabilities

In addition to the 11 actions where PHSKC is a lead agency, it is identified as a supporting partner among other County agencies in over 70 actions.<sup>21</sup> PHSKC has taken initial steps to prioritize these actions, identifying which actions are foundational and should be started first with limited available resources, while planning for full implementation of all actions. These elements are described further in section A below.

### Report Methodology

PHSKC produced this report. The findings and recommendations were informed by input gathered in internal and external stakeholder listening sessions; review of national Public Health agencies' recommendations on local health department's roles and needs around climate change; and prioritization of Health Blueprint activities.

PHSKC held listening sessions with agency and division leadership to understand staffing and resources needed to implement the community health actions and strategies in the Health Blueprint and SCAP. Feedback was gathered on current roles and activities related to climate change, how existing work could be leveraged, enhanced and/or developed to support Health Blueprint implementation, and staffing and resources needs.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>21</sup> A list of 2020 SCAP actions with PHSKC lead and supporting/partner roles are provided in Appendix C.

<sup>22</sup> A full list of groups consulted with in listening sessions for this report are included in Appendix B.

PHSKC also met with selected agencies and groups external to PHSKC.<sup>23</sup> This included an initial discussion with the King County Climate Leadership Team (CLT), comprised of County department leadership who provide overall guidance and decision-making on the development and implementation of the SCAP. Another group consulted was the Climate Equity Community Task Force (CECTF), a group of leaders who represent communities vulnerable to the impacts of climate change who came together to provide recommendations on performance measures and targets, key messages, and a shared vision that mitigates environmental injustices and ensures equitable distribution of environmental benefits. The culmination of their work was the development of the Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities (SRFC) section of the 2020 SCAP. The purpose of these two discussions was two-fold. First, these groups were provided an overview of this report's draft findings and PHSKC's initial plans to implement the Health Blueprint and health related SCAP actions. Secondly, the discussions were an opportunity for PHSKC to gather feedback on how it can continue to lead on health-related actions and effectively support County agencies and the CECTF on the SCAP implementation. Additionally, PHSKC met with other public health stakeholders to share the initial plans and to discuss opportunities for future collaboration as PHSKC implements the Health Blueprint and SCAP actions (e.g., partnering on development of data systems and program metrics). These stakeholders included:

- University of Washington researchers focused on the applied practice of climate and health research
- Washington State Department of Health, Environmental Health Section, Climate and Health Program focused on statewide climate change impacts on health
- Local health departments (Tacoma - Pierce County Health Department, Multnomah County Health Department) with staff responding to climate change

## Report Components

As called for by Motion 15866, this report section outlines what PHSKC will do to implement health related SCAP actions and the Health Blueprint. Section A addresses how it will do so, who will be involved in the work, and projected next steps. Section B addresses budgetary and resource needs to accomplish the work described in this section.

### A. Establishing a Climate and Health Program in Public Health – Seattle & King County

PHSKC will implement the Health Blueprint and health related SCAP actions through establishing an integrated, interdisciplinary Climate and Health Program. Creation of the program will be done using a phased approach, centrally coordinated in the department with cross division collaboration of subject matter experts. This program will operate in close coordination with other County agencies engaged in climate change work and be guided by impacted communities' experiences and needs.

The Health Blueprint's six core functions for addressing climate change and health are the foundational framework for the Climate and Health Program's strategies and actions. Each core function is interconnected and requires expertise and knowledge from various PHSKC divisions for effective implementation. These core functions are a way to address climate change and health in a coordinated way.

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<sup>23</sup> A full list of groups consulted with in listening sessions for this report are included in Appendix B.

Table 2 lists the core functions and provides a broad outcome for each core function. Figure 2 demonstrates the interconnections of core functions guided by a community and equity focus.

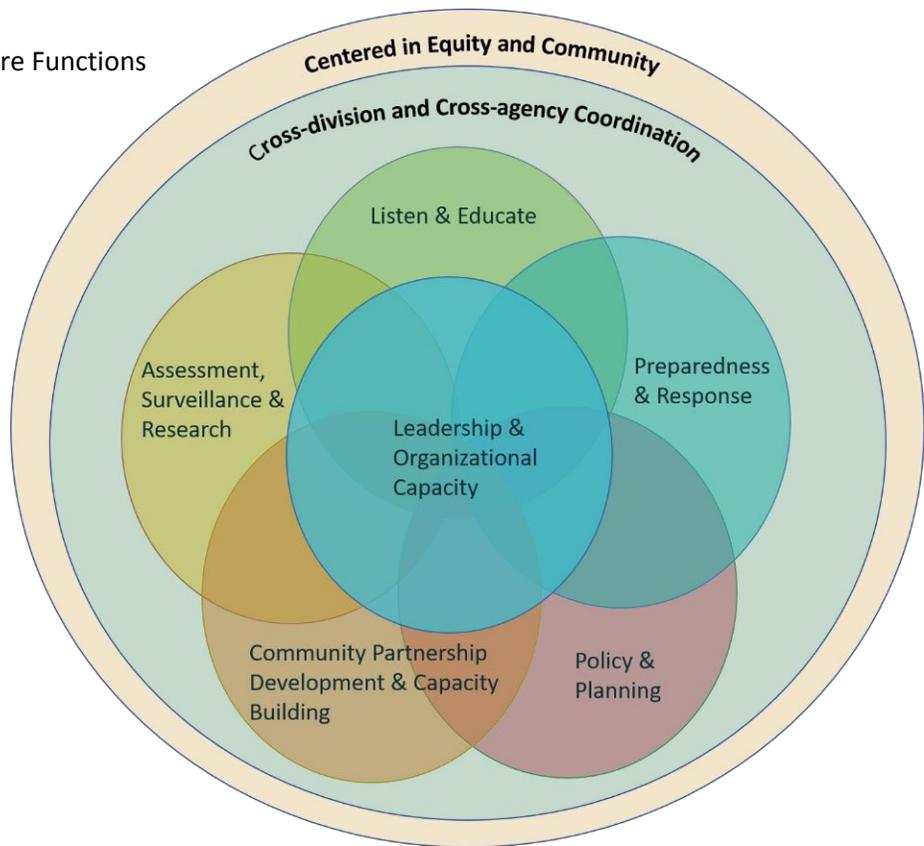
**Table 2: Health Blueprint core functions and outcomes**

Health Blueprint Core Function	Outcome
1. Leadership and organizational capacity	Knowledgeable leaders in climate and health collaborate across divisions and agencies and with communities to drive results for communities.
2. Assessment, surveillance, and research	Data brings visibility to the health impacts of climate change and guides activities and resources where they are most needed.
3. Listen and educate	Highly impacted communities are informed about the health effects of climate change and lead efforts to educate others.
4. Community partnership development and capacity building	Highly impacted communities co-create and lead strategies that increase resiliency in responding to climate change.
5. Preparedness and response	Highly impacted communities are prepared and can act to save lives during climate-related emergencies.
6. Policy and planning	Local health policies promote environmental justice and account for the impacts of climate change.

Figure 2. Health Blueprint Core Functions

**How PHSKC will Establish and Implement the Climate and Health Program**

Based on the Health Blueprint core functions, the department will use a phased approach to establish and implement its Climate and Health Program. Phase I includes near-term work (2021-2022) and as such, includes more detailed actions. Phase II and III will continuously build on earlier work as PHSKC and community partners increase their capacity and as resources become available. The phases are outlined in the following tables:



- Table 3 provides an overview of the Climate and Health Program phases.
- Table 4 outlines Phase I strategies and key actions.
- Tables 5 and 6 highlight key actions of Phases II and III.

**Note: It is important to recognize that while the work is identified as phased and the phases build on each other in some ways, many elements identified in Phases II and III will be happening concurrently.**

**Table 3. Climate and Health Program phase overview**

Phase	Timeframe	Key Actions
Phase I: Capacity Building and Response	2021-2022 (actions currently underway)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a detailed operational plan to implement the Health Blueprint</li> <li>• Engage in near term health related SCAP actions</li> <li>• Respond to ongoing climate events in partnership with community-based organizations and other county agencies</li> </ul>
Phase II: Foundational Implementation	2023-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement highest-priority activities defined in the operational plan developed during Phase I</li> <li>• Increase PHSKC engagement on health related SCAP actions</li> <li>• Continue responses to climate events in partnership with community-based organizations and other county agencies</li> </ul>
Phase III: Full Implementation	2025 and Beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the Health Blueprint core functions, strategies, and actions</li> <li>• Engage on all the health related SCAP action items that promote equity and improve health in partnership with frontline communities</li> <li>• Deepen and broaden work in strategies and core functions from Phases I and II while incorporating new activities</li> </ul>

**Phase I: Capacity Building and Response**

Phase I of the Climate and Health Program focuses on developing a detailed operational plan to implement the Health Blueprint, engaging in near term health related SCAP actions, and preparing and responding to ongoing climate events in partnership with community-based organizations and County agencies. The capacity building aspect of this phase is focused on advancing the knowledge and expertise of PHSKC staff about how to integrate climate considerations into practice and to increase engagement with the County’s climate work and goals. The capacity building is also focused on finding opportunities to expand work with and support community partners’ climate change initiatives.

**Table 4. Phase I strategies and key actions**

Strategy	Related Health Blueprint Core Function	Key Actions
<b>Strategy 1: Build capacity to integrate climate change work into PHSKC and King County programs</b>	Leadership and organizational capacity development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a coordinated approach within PHSKC to create an operational plan that builds on the expertise of staff while working closely with other County programs and community</li> </ul>

Strategy	Related Health Blueprint Core Function	Key Actions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize an inclusive planning process with input from programs across PHSKC, County agencies, community, and other stakeholders</li> <li>Assess current PHSKC work and set future priorities that channel the expertise and resources of internal and external collaborations</li> <li>Develop ongoing community engagement approaches</li> <li>Create a diversified funding strategy</li> <li>Pilot climate and health literacy training for PHSKC staff in collaboration with partners and develop a long-term training strategy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategy 2: Establish a data surveillance system to monitor for and use climate related health effects to provide timely information for PHSKC action</b></p>	<p>Assessment, surveillance, and research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a gap analysis of data needs</li> <li>Develop a tracking and monitoring plan that includes prioritized climate, health, equity, environmental, and community experience indicators</li> <li>Design a data acquisition method</li> <li>Engage with community and agency partners to build on the work of current climate and health indicators</li> <li>Work with communities on documenting and raising awareness of community needs</li> <li>Develop an approach to gather and incorporate data into an accessible dashboard</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategy 3: Build capacity to effectively prepare for and respond to climate-related health emergencies</b></p>	<p>Preparedness and response</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop wildfire smoke event and urban heat mitigation strategies</li> <li>Address other climate preparedness related work</li> <li>Respond to climate events as they occur (e.g., working with community to distribute box fans in impacted communities during smoke events, planning for cooling centers during heat events with other County agencies)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategy 4: Engage in climate and health planning that maximizes community ownership and promotes problem solving and action</b></p>	<p>Community partnership development and capacity building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-create the climate and health plans with community-based organizations that promote problem solving, action, and accountability</li> <li>Engage community partners on plans for Phase I strategies and collaborate to disseminate accessible messages/materials</li> <li>Support climate related community taskforces focusing on community needs (e.g., PHSKC representative on the SCAP Aircraft Emissions Task Force)</li> </ul>

## **Phase II: Foundational Implementation**

Phase II of the Climate and Health Program will focus on implementing highest priority actions defined in the operational plan developed during Phase I. In this phase, PHSKC will build on the four strategies initiated in Phase I and carry out additional actions in alignment with the six Health Blueprint core functions. Through its deepened partnerships with community-based organizations and other County agencies, PHSKC will expand engagement on health related SCAP actions, and continue to respond to ongoing climate events.

**Table 5. Phase II key actions**

<b>Related Health Blueprint Core Function</b>	<b>Key Actions</b>
<b>Leadership and organizational capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with and support County agencies on further health related SCAP action planning and implementation (e.g., implement the urban heat mitigation and wildfire smoke strategies)</li> <li>• Begin evaluation of plans, practices, outreach resources, and other tools to ensure continuous learning and improvements</li> <li>• Deepen collaborations with PHSKC and County departments</li> <li>• Identify and create funding opportunities with County partners (e.g., identifying and applying for local, state, federal, and philanthropic funding)</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment, surveillance, and research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize development of a climate and health data tracking and monitoring system</li> <li>• Establish process for routinely sharing information with community partners and stakeholders</li> <li>• Continue working with community-based organizations to gather community data on experiences, impacts, and needs</li> <li>• Make data available to County and community partners to support learning and decision making</li> </ul>
<b>Listen and educate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand and resource collaborations with community-based organizations to lead outreach and engagement activities (e.g., preparing with communities for climate-related emergencies and deploying effective emergency response measures)</li> </ul>
<b>Community partnership development and capacity building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fund and initiate community-led projects that are aligned with County priorities and ready to launch</li> </ul>
<b>Preparedness and response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to respond to ongoing climate events in partnership with County agencies and community partners, building on lessons learned</li> </ul>
<b>Policy and planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate on integrating climate and health policies into local, county, regional, and state transportation and land use planning efforts, including updates to existing County plans (e.g., King County Comprehensive Plan, the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan, King County Strategic Plan)</li> </ul>

### **Phase III: Full Implementation**

Phase III will bring full implementation of the Health Blueprint core functions, strategies, and actions. PHSKC will continue its active engagement with all the health related SCAP action promoting equity and improving health in partnership with frontline communities. In this phase, PHSKC will further deepen and broaden its work on the strategies and core functions from Phases I and II while incorporating new actions. Phase III will see maximum impact of the Climate and Health Program as efforts from Phases I and II are strengthened and additional actions described here and in the Health Blueprint and SCAP are implemented.

**Table 6. Phase III key actions**

<b>Related Health Blueprint Core Function</b>	<b>Key Actions</b>
<b>Leadership and organizational capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue previous improvements and add programmatic work to engage programs more deeply throughout PHSKC</li> <li>• Increase support for other County agency SCAP actions and identify more ways to include climate and health equity into County programs</li> <li>• Represent climate and health equity concerns in commissions, councils, and public forums to drive lasting policy and practice change</li> <li>• Integrate a “Climate and Health in All Programs” approach to activities and messaging across divisions, including leveraging other PHSKC programs to disseminate relevant climate and health information (e.g., through channels such as home visits, health fairs, health education, newsletters, and social media)</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment, surveillance, and research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish, maintain, and continuously improve the community resilience dashboard for maximum transparency in social and health equity indicators and climate change vulnerability, preparedness, and resilience-related measures</li> <li>• Integrate community resilience and climate-related indicators and actions into cross-cutting initiatives (e.g., Best Starts for Kids, Communities of Opportunity, King County Land Conservation Initiative, King County Million Tree Initiative, the Veterans, and Seniors and Human Services Levy)</li> <li>• Conduct program evaluations to measure impact of climate and health activities, and act on evaluation results to improve the program and plan for future needs</li> </ul>
<b>Listen and educate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deploy high-impact, community-led messaging, and advertising at scale in partnership with community-based organizations and other County programs</li> </ul>
<b>Community partnership development and capacity building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deepen and broaden partnerships with community-based organizations and support of community-led efforts, in collaboration with other County agencies</li> <li>• Conduct in-depth community-led research to identify long term needs and high impact interventions for frontline populations</li> <li>• Develop and launch a toolkit with resources for local decision-making to assist partners in engaging community members in climate, health, and resilience planning and actions</li> </ul>

Related Health Blueprint Core Function	Key Actions
<b>Preparedness and response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure robust preparedness for climate-related emergencies with response plans and sustainable partner collaborations in place</li> <li>• Fully leverage neighborhood preparedness groups (e.g., Citizen Corps, Communication Hubs, and Certified Emergency Response Teams) to increase preparedness for climate change and health impacts</li> </ul>
<b>Policy and planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide expert health and equity policy guidance to local, state, and national legislative bodies in partnership with other County agencies and leaders</li> </ul>

### **Key Components of Establishing a Climate and Health Program**

PHSKC has outlined several essential components for the Climate and Health Program’s development. They include a vision statement, guiding principles drawn from the Health Blueprint, centering of community and equity, and essential staffing and resources.

*Vision Statement:* PHSKC developed the following vision statement as a focal point for the Climate and Health Program.

***Climate and Health Program Vision Statement:*** *Establishing health protection, prevention, and preparedness programs that minimize adverse health impacts and downstream costs associated with climate change, particularly among frontline communities, and support community resiliency and an equitable King County.*

*Guiding Principles:* Development of the Health Blueprint included meaningful community and stakeholder engagement with leaders and residents in highly impacted communities. The Health Blueprint’s guiding principles will continue for program development and implementation.

<b><i>Climate and Health Program Guiding Principles</i></b>
<p><b>1. Lead with environmental justice and racial equity.</b> This program will be guided and led by values outlined in King County’s Racism as a Public Health Crisis declaration and the King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan.</p>
<p><b>2. Promote a Health in All policies approach.</b> This program will use a collaborative approach to improving community health, especially in frontline communities, by incorporating health and equity considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.</p>
<p><b>3. Use systems thinking.</b> The program will consider how to work with and in multiple, interdependent systems to meet the goal of health equity.</p>
<p><b>4. Engage and partner with community in an authentic, equitable way.</b> The program will include community from early stages of planning to implementation to ensure that community voices and experiences are driving actions.</p>

*Centering Community and Equity:* Climate change is a chronic and repeated threat multiplier because of its potential to exacerbate many of the current challenges and threats already facing communities, including

other health problems, the housing crisis, access to healthy food, as well as the impacts of systemic racism.

The PHSKC infrastructure and experience built out of the COVID-19 response, including its Office of Equity & Community Partnerships, prepares PHSKC to face these challenges and lead with equity in climate change work, co-creating solutions with communities most impacted. The Office of Equity & Community Partnerships has sustained the Pandemic & Racism Community Advisory Group, Equity Response Team, Community Navigators, and other community- and equity-driven activities, such as with the various BIPOC-led Health Boards and their affiliation with the [Community Health Boards Coalition](#). In addition, PHSKC will work with the County climate team to consider how to broadly approach community engagement and partnerships at the enterprise level. So as not to overburden any community partnerships, these resources will be carefully considered as PHSKC leads and supports health related SCAP actions.

Collaborations with community is a foundation of the Climate and Health Program work. As identified in the tables above, PHSKC will partner and collaborate with community-based organizations throughout the phases, broadly and specifically on a range of actions from health plan development, to developing educational materials, to funding organizations to carry out specific tasks.

***Staffing and Resources:*** The final component of how PHSKC will implement the health-related actions identified in the Health Blueprint and SCAP and outlined in the phases is staffing and related resources. PHSKC will accomplish the work through:

- Engaging all PHSKC divisions in planning and implementation.
- Leveraging existing PHSKC skilled personnel and planning for scaling, including determining how climate work can be integrated into existing department programs and bodies of work.
- Aligning and coordinating staff's efforts with other County agencies' SCAP work programs for an effective interdepartmental approach, ensuring efficient use of staff time and resources.

A more detailed discussion of staffing plans and needs occurs in the following section.

## B. Staffing and Budgetary Resources Needed

This section describes the staffing and budgetary resources necessary to implement the Health Blueprint and health related SCAP actions through a Climate and Health Program. For continuity, the resource discussions are framed through the phased work as outlined above.

### **Phase I Staff and Budgetary Resource Needs**

It will take time to assemble all the necessary resources to build a complete Climate and Health Program to carry out the full scope of the Health Blueprint and SCAP actions while being actively informed by community and centered in equity. For these reasons PHSKC will utilize an interdisciplinary, cross-division staffing structure with the level of effort and strategies to support PHSKC's capacity. Additional resources beyond staffing will be needed for community engagement, communications, data management tools, and other activities as outlined in this section.

While PHSKC builds a department infrastructure to address climate health impacts, climate-related emergencies are already occurring, and PHSKC needs to continuously prepare for and respond to these

threats. For example, in June 2021 the sustained high temperatures in the Seattle created unhealthy conditions with resulting illness and death.<sup>24</sup> PHSKC did not have sufficient capacity to analyze heat-related illness and deaths, assist in identifying high risk communities needing cooling centers, or carry out the kind of robust public education campaign that could have better helped prevent morbidity and mortality related to the event. These are the type of events that PHSKC must be increasingly prepared for in the future with a robust, coordinated effort to meet the magnitude of the problem and address the complex set of interrelated health challenges caused by climate change.

- *Staffing for Phase I:* For Phase I work in 2022, PHSKC will require four to five positions. PHSKC plans to use existing staff and cover the cost of these positions through **Foundational Public Health Services revenue and other existing sources.**

These positions will be covered by existing staff through a combination of part-time efforts dedicated to developing and initiating the Climate and Health Program and responding to events in coordination across the department and with other County agencies and community partners. In addition to these dedicated Climate and Health Program staff, other existing PHSKC staff may be needed on a short-term basis to assist with responses during climate-related emergencies (e.g., assist with and identify areas in need of heating or cooling centers, distribute emergency supplies). Table 7 describes the type of staff positions that will be needed for this initial Phase 1 work.

**Table 7. Climate and Health Program staff positions**

<b>Types of Public Health Positions Needed</b>	<b>Example of Tasks</b>
Program managers and program coordinators	Lead overall program development and management, training of staff, and collaboration with partners
Epidemiologists	Identify and gather relevant and available health and environment data and provide analysis that inform priorities
Emergency response planners	Collaborate with community to build on existing emergency plans to increase capacity for climate-related emergency responses
Education and outreach specialists	Co-create with community communications and responses for climate-related emergencies
Policy analysts	Develop local, regional, and state policies focused on climate mitigation and adaptation
Support positions	Conduct an array of program support activities (e.g., monitor community contracts, coordinate translation of materials, arrange training opportunities for staff, and other administrative support activities)

In addition to staffing resources, support for programmatic and community needs are required to successfully implement the Health Blueprint and health related 2020 SCAP actions through the Climate and Health Program. These areas include:

- *Community-based organizations:* Partner with highly impacted communities. Community-based organizations are trusted messengers and provide expertise in community organizing, health, climate change, climate justice, and anti-racism actions. PHSKC will contract with these organizations to collaborate on program design and carry out community outreach. Community-

<sup>24</sup> Washington State Department of Health. Heat Wave 2021. [[Link](#)]

based organizations will be asked to inform PHSKC's planning and implementation processes. As part of Phase I planning, PHSKC seek to leverage and work with existing PHSKC and County collaborations with organizations focused on engagement and outreach.

- *Language and disability access:* Support for translations, interpretation, and/or alternative formats for materials and for events, including virtual meetings.
- *Communication and media engagement:* Develop, produce, and disseminate outreach and educational materials for ongoing messaging and emergency communications.
- *Data subscriptions and software:* Improve and maintain a comprehensive health data monitoring system.
- *Stipends for student projects and additional research and data analysis:* Partner with the University of Washington's climate programs, researchers, and students to help with training, local research, and development of new outreach and educational strategies and resources.

### **Phase II Staff and Budgetary Resource Needs**

- *Staffing for Phase II:* Estimated 10-15 positions are projected to be needed to implement the operational activities planned in Phase I. Funding will need to be identified for this phase.

With funding, PHSKC will shift into Phase II work with a broader team of staff experts. These staff will be shared across several divisions, serving the Climate and Health Program. The positions will be a mix of full-time, dedicated staff for the Climate and Health Program and part time staff with subject matter expertise who will provide program guidance and/or integrate climate and health related activities into their respective broader portfolios. As in Phase I, existing PHSKC staff is expected to be needed on a short-term basis each year to assist with County responses during climate-related emergencies.

The dedicated staff for the Climate and Health Program, that was assembled in Phase 1, will continue and increase. This is expected to include a project manager and coordinator to focus on monitoring broad program activities across all divisions, coordinating between programs and with other County agencies, and implementing the internal training strategy; a climate justice coordinator leading work with community based organizations; subject matter experts (e.g., air quality, water quality, zoonotic changes) monitoring and addressing health impacts and providing recommendations to County and community decision-makers; epidemiologists across the department (e.g., Assessment, Policy Development and Evaluation Section, Medical Examiner's Office, Emergency Medical Services) working together to collect and analyze data from multiple sources; a communications specialist; and staff supporting policy changes at the local, regional, and state levels that protect frontline communities from disproportional impacts working together across the department and with County staff.

As the work broadens and deepens, expanded support for programmatic and community needs will be necessary to ensure success of a community-centered climate change and health effort. The same areas identified above will require additional resources to reflect growth of the work:

- *Community-based organizations*
- *Language and disability access*
- *Communication and media engagement*
- *Data subscriptions*
- *Stipends for student projects and additional research and data analysis*

### **Phase III Staff and Budgetary Resource Needs**

This Phase will require increased PHSKC staff and program time, increased community engagement and partnerships, as well as tracking, monitoring, and sharing of data to assist with evidence-based decision making and solutions.

As work to implement the Health Blueprint and health related SCAP actions continues in Phase I and II, the future PHSKC staff level needed to effectively implement Phase III will become clearer. Determination of the staffing need for this phase will best be done in consultation with other County agency partners and consideration of future County SCAP actions.

As with Phases I and II, expanded support for programmatic and community needs will be necessary to ensure success of a community-centered climate change and health effort. The same four areas identified in Phases I and II will likely require additional resources to reflect growth of the work.

While PHSKC will staff certain elements of this work in the near term, adding work to already fully subscribed staff positions is unsustainable. Additional staff and resources are needed to fulfill the Health Blueprint and health related SCAP actions and implement action items identified in the phased plan. Without additional staffing and budgetary resources, the work cannot occur.

### **C. Potential Funding Options to Address Staffing and Budgetary Resource Needs**

Substantial funding is needed for this multifaceted Climate and Health Program where community-based efforts, health care, and social sectors are integrated, using traditional funding sources and identifying new funding sources and collaborations.

Funding for previous climate change work has come from a mix of sources. This mix has included leveraging existing programs with climate change connections such as existing PHSKC work focused on land use and transportation planning; short term COVID-19 funds for related issues (e.g., improving ventilation and distribution of box fans that also helps with wildfire smoke); and small, short-term grants. It is recognized that some of these funding sources are more appropriately used for short term or project enhancements rather than continuous and ongoing program needs.

For the first half of 2022, PHSKC will use Washington State Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) revenue for Phase I activities. This funding source is focused on core services which the governmental public health system is responsible for providing in a consistent and uniform way in every community in Washington (RCW 43.70.512). Long term funding options for the Climate and Health Program from this funding source is not yet determined, but PHSKC expects to continue to fund some core positions.

For PHSKC to carry out remaining Phase I activities, move into the next phases of a Climate and Health Program, and sustain the program and partnerships, a diversified portfolio of grants, contracts, investments, and internal funds is required. PHSKC has begun to research and identify potential funding sources for a Climate and Health Program, outlined in Table 8. These potential funding sources and additional novel sources will require further research. For example, the Multnomah County Health Department described examples of their statewide legislative and regional efforts to fund and coordinate efforts and their Medicaid managed care organizations contributing to their programs. Continued research of possible funding opportunities will be a focus of the operational planning during Phase I in 2022.

**Table 8. Potential Climate and Health Program funding sources**

Source	Examples of Funding Opportunities
<b>Government</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Center for Disease Control and Prevention</li> <li>▪ Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>▪ Federal Emergency Management Agency</li> <li>▪ National Association of City and County Health Officials</li> <li>▪ Washington State Department of Health</li> <li>▪ Washington State Foundational Public Health Services funding</li> </ul>
<b>Foundations and Public/Private Partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Center for Disease Control and Prevention Foundation</li> <li>▪ Kresge Foundation</li> <li>▪ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</li> <li>▪ Seattle Foundation Philanthropic awards</li> <li>▪ Novel partnership development to focus climate investment</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Public Health funding directed from greenhouse gas mitigation legislation, e.g., HB1091 (2021)</li> <li>▪ Health care contributions towards direct services</li> </ul>

PHSKC will work with County and Department leadership to identify funding to support the work such as applying for state and federal funding opportunities and/or grants.

## Conclusion

Among public health and medical professional organizations, there is no question that climate change is a public health emergency.<sup>25</sup> It has often not been recognized as such because of the insidious nature of the human health impacts. Extreme weather events and long-term environmental consequences of climate change lead directly to human health effects such as heat-related death and illnesses like heat stroke, heart attacks, and renal failure along with disruptions of physical, biological, and ecological systems.<sup>26</sup> For example, the June 2021 heat wave in the pacific northwest was essentially a climate-related mass casualty event causing more than 600 deaths in one week.<sup>27</sup>

King County’s leadership in acknowledging and confronting climate change through the SCAP and the Health Blueprint provide a path to address its impacts. Through intentional collaboration with internal and external partners, and utilizing the expertise of public health professionals, King County has the opportunity to undertake climate change and health work. King County urgently needs to implement the Health Blueprint and health related SCAP actions to reduce the risk to the most vulnerable people and communities through adaptation measures, raising awareness of the health impacts of climate change and how to decrease personal and community risk, and driving healthy community policy and practice change to mitigate future risk.

<sup>25</sup>World Health Organization, Climate Change and Health Fact Sheet [\[Link\]](#)

American Public Health Association, Center for Climate, Health, and Equity [\[Link\]](#)

New England Journal of Medicine, Climate Crisis and Health [\[Link\]](#)

American College of Physicians, Climate Change and Health [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>26</sup>Centers for Disease Control, Climate Effects on Health website [\[Link\]](#)

<sup>27</sup>World Weather Attribution, “Western North American Extreme Heat Virtually Impossible with Human-caused Climate Change.” July 2021 [\[Link\]](#)

The ability for King County and PHSKC to conduct the coordination and planning necessary is limited due to a lack of designated resources. As funding is identified, PHSKC will tackle the work through a phased approach, starting with the groundwork of building an interdisciplinary climate change and health program centered on equity and community. With increased climate and health capacity and collaboration with County agencies and other partners, King County can better promote and protect the health of King County residents in the face of climate change, while centering equity and serving communities most impacted by the climate crisis.

## Appendices

- A. King County Council Motion 15866
- B. Listening sessions for the King County Council Report on health-related climate actions
- C. Health Blueprint core functions, strategies, and recommended actions
- D. 2020 SCAP actions items with PHSKC in lead or supporting role

**Appendix A: King County Council Motion 15866****A MOTION relating to the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, submitted in compliance with K.C.C 18.25.010.**

WHEREAS, King County's first Strategic Climate Action Plan was adopted in December 2012, and

WHEREAS, the King County executive transmitted an update to the plan in June 2015, which the King County council adopted in November 2015, and

WHEREAS, K.C.C 18.25.010 requires that updates to the plan shall occur at least every five years and that the executive shall transmit updates to the council for adoption by motion, and

WHEREAS, the King County council passed Motion 15620 on March 10, 2020, that extended the transmittal date for all work products by sixty days in consideration of the impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and statewide mitigation efforts, and

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

WHEREAS, climate change is occurring and is a paramount challenge with fundamental and far-reaching consequences that put our people, economy, and environment at risk, and

WHEREAS, impacts of a changing climate do not affect all King County residents in the same way. Experiences will vary based on income, health, age, and place of residence. Climate change impacts can magnify existing health issues and limited access to resources that are already experienced disproportionately by Black, Indigenous and people of color, and

WHEREAS, the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report recommended that measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions must be enacted with greater urgency to avoid long-lasting or irreversible changes to the global climate system, and

WHEREAS, preparing for climate change impacts is also urgently needed given the accelerating pace of climate change and the time required to increase the resilience of communities, infrastructure and natural systems, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan charts a five-year blueprint for climate action, integrating climate change considerations into all areas of county operations and in our work with King County cities, partners, communities and residents, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan identifies countywide and county operations sources of greenhouse gas emissions, and quantifies the emissions reductions from implementing key strategies, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Strategic Climate Plan targets are built in the understanding that climate change is a threat multiplier and creates complex challenges particularly for communities affected by historic and current inequities, and who have limited resources to adapt, and

WHEREAS, in 2014, King County and thirty-nine cities adopted shared regional targets to reduce countywide greenhouse gas emissions twenty-five percent by 2020, fifty percent by 2030 and eighty percent by 2050, compared to a 2007 baseline, and

WHEREAS King County and partners in the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, comprising sixteen cities and the Port of Seattle representing eighty percent of the population of the county, are partnering to advance those shared goals, and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration developed updated pathways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions fifty percent by 2030 and strengthened specific, shared action commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across King County with commitments to work closely with communities and ensure just transitions for workers, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan strengthens the county's commitment to prepare county operations and the community for the impacts of climate change on our infrastructure, natural environment and health and safety, and

WHEREAS, meaningful and equitable progress on climate change requires addressing the impacts of systemic racism and achieving racial justice, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan is developed with an environmental justice framework in partnership with frontline communities disproportionately impacted by climate change and in a manner consistent with Ordinance 16948, which establishes the county's fair and just principle, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan establishes specific goals, strategies, measures, targets and priority actions for county services and operations to reduce emissions consistent with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions fifty percent by 2025, and eighty percent by 2030, compared to a 2007 baseline as developed in the King County Carbon Neutral Implementation Plan, and

WHEREAS, with this motion, the executive has transmitted to the council, as part of the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, the biennial report as called for in K.C.C. 18.50.010, and

WHEREAS, with this motion, the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan responds to Ordinance 19041, enacted in December 2019, which calls for the development of an initial green jobs strategy, in consultation with community partners, environmental justice and climate justice organizations, tribes, local governments and regional groups, education, businesses, labor and workforce development organizations, and

WHEREAS, with this motion, the 2020 Strategic Climate Action plan responds to Ordinance 19041, which calls for the development of a community-driven strategy to achieve sustainable and resilient communities with the creation of the climate and equity community task force, and co-development of the Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities section by the task force, and

WHEREAS, the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan will next be updated in 2025, unless an update is needed sooner to respond to changing information about emissions sources, performance relative to targets, new technologies or a changing regulatory context;

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

A. The 2020 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan, which is Attachment A to this motion, dated May 4, 2021, and prepared in compliance with K.C.C. 18.25.010, is hereby adopted as the guiding policy document for King County climate action and its work with partners.

B. The Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities section of the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan is the first community-driven plan for climate justice co-developed with King County. The climate equity community task force contributed its expertise, insights and tremendous investment of time to develop the plan. Consistent with its Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan and commitment to environmental justice called for in Ordinance 19041, King County will strengthen its engagement with communities facing the greatest impacts from climate change and create opportunities for shared leadership and decision-making to develop solutions and prioritize investments in the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan update.

C. King County will continue to work in partnership with other local governments, utilities and community-based organizations to promote investment, programs and policies that support, promote and incent reductions in countywide greenhouse gas emissions and prepare our operations and communities for the impacts of climate change.

D. Implementation of the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan will require resources. Any funding requests are subject to approval through the county budget process.

E. The council requests that, no later than December 31, 2021, the executive transmit to the council a report on public health-related climate action needs, along with a motion acknowledging receipt of the report. The report should include, but not be limited to, information on the staffing and budgetary resources needed to implement the community health actions and strategies in the Blueprint for Addressing Climate Change and Health report, the Community Health and Emergency Preparedness focus area of the SCAP and the Preparing for Climate Change section of the SCAP, and potential options for addressing these needs. The report and accompanying motion should be filed in the form of a paper original and an electronic copy with the clerk of the council, who will retain the original and provide an

**Appendix A**

electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff and the lead staff to the mobility and environment committee or its successor.

F. The council requests that, as part of the next biennial progress report required in K.C.C. 18.50.010, the executive include an analysis of the effectiveness of the county's strategies and actions in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and proposals to continually improve the program to most effectively and quickly achieve the goals of the SCAP, including maximum greenhouse gas emissions reductions. The analysis and proposals should include, but not be limited to:

1. Identifying the actions that have reduced greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions by one percent or greater compared to the 2007 baseline for countywide emissions and for county operations and quantifying the GHG reductions from those actions;

2. Identifying the performance measures in the 2020 SCAP that have not achieved the planned targets, including the reasons for the outcomes and what adjustments could be made to make the actions meet targets or, if the actions seem unlikely to meet targets, what alternative actions should be pursued to make the SCAP more effective; and

3. A proposal of specific outcomes for 2020 to 2025 for measuring and reporting progress in each of the nine pathways identified in the 2020 SCAP for achieving countywide GHG reduction goals and each of the seven pathways identified in the 2020 SCAP for achieving operational GHG reduction goals. For each outcome, the proposal should include:

- a. a date for achievement;
- b. a description of the specific actions that need to be completed to achieve the outcome by that date;

- c. for outcomes to be achieved in 2021 or 2022, the status of progress toward the outcome, a description of the reasons for the status, the amount and type of financial and other investments needed to achieve the outcome, if any, and a proposal for alternative actions or changed emphasis on actions already planned in order to be most effective in meeting future objectives for the pathway.

G. The council acknowledges receipt of the 2015 SCAP Priority Action Progress report, dated April 8, 2021, which is Attachment B to this ordinance, and was transmitted to fulfill the requirements of K.C.C. 18.50.010.

**Appendix B. Listening sessions for the King County Council Report on health-related climate actions**

The council report findings and recommendations were informed by input gathered from internal and external stakeholder listening sessions. PHSKC held listening sessions with PHSKC divisions' leadership to understand staffing and resources needed to implement the community health actions and strategies in the Health Blueprint and SCAP. PHSKC also met with external selected agencies and partners.

**PHSKC Divisions and Sections**

Office of the Director, including:

- Office of Equity & Community Partnerships
- Administration Services Section
- Communications Section
- Preparedness Section
- Policy & Systems Delivery Section
- State & Local Affairs Section

Prevention Services Division, including:

- Communicable Diseases Section
- Medical Examiner's Office

Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Division, including:

- Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention Section
- Communities of Opportunity Program

Community Health Services Division

Environmental Health Services Division

Emergency Medical Services Division

Jail Health Services Division

**Other Partners and Stakeholders**

King County Climate Leadership Team

King County SCAP Climate Equity Community Task Force

Washington State Department of Health, Environmental Health Program, Climate and Health Section

University of Washington, Center for Health and the Global Environment and Collaborative on Extreme Event Resilience

Tacoma – Pierce County Health Department, Climate Program

Multnomah County Health Department (Oregon), Climate Program

**Appendix C. Health Blueprint core functions, strategies, and recommended actions**

The six Health Blueprint core functions serve as a framework to identify strategies and actions to guide PHSKC's climate change work.

Core Functions	Key Strategies	Recommended Actions
1. Leadership and Organizational Capacity	1.1 Build climate and health knowledge among Public Health and other King County agency leaders and employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Develop and deliver training to Public Health and King County staff about climate and health and opportunities to mitigate and adapt to impacts</li> <li>b. Develop and equip Public Health staff with key messages regarding climate and health intersections to contribute at meetings, conferences, and other venues</li> </ul>
	1.2 Build capacity to integrate climate change into Public Health and King County programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Expand the Climate Health Action Team to include representatives from each Public Health Division and other King County programs</li> <li>b. Assess how climate change affects functions of Public Health and partner with relevant programs to identify early action steps</li> <li>c. Work with King County climate change program to find cross-departmental opportunities for health integration into climate actions and message development</li> <li>d. Explore options for long term sustainability of Public Health climate and health actions</li> <li>e. Expand the Climate Health Action Team to include representatives from each Public Health Division and other King County programs</li> <li>f. Assess how climate change affects functions of Public Health and partner with relevant programs to identify early action steps</li> <li>g. Work with King County climate change program to find cross-departmental opportunities for health integration into climate actions and message development</li> <li>h. Explore options for long term sustainability of Public Health climate and health actions</li> </ul>
	1.3 Develop Public Health leadership at the local, regional, and national levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Continue and expand active participation in the West Coast Climate and Health Collaborative, NACCHO Global Climate Change Workgroup, and other workgroups</li> <li>b. Participate in local and national conference planning to include intersections of climate, health, and community resilience</li> <li>c. Seek opportunities to represent climate and health and equity concerns on commissions, councils, boards, and other committees</li> </ul>

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2. Assessment, Surveillance and Research	2.1 Prioritize and track key climate and health indicators and data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Conduct a gap analysis of data needs and design an acquisition method, such as including climate and resilience-related questions on the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)</li> <li>b. Build on the work of current climate and health indicators, such as the Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists Environmental Health Indicators for Climate Change</li> <li>c. Support partners, such as city and county agencies, academic institutions, and community groups, on GIS mapping of local climate and health indicators and establishing a climate vulnerability index</li> <li>d. Establish a community resilience dashboard to track social and health equity indicators and climate change vulnerability, preparedness, and resilience-related measures</li> <li>e. Integrate community resilience and climate-related indicators into existing initiatives, such as Best Starts for Kids, Communities of Opportunity, King County Land Conservation Initiative, King County Million Tree Initiative, and Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy</li> <li>f. Provide opportunities for community input to develop indicators that identify community assets, concerns, and vulnerabilities</li> </ul>
	2.2 Expand the use of surveillance of climate related health effects to provide timely information for Public Health action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Develop systems to routinely monitor health impacts, such as from air pollution, wildfire smoke, carbon monoxide poisoning, heat impacts and infectious disease (e.g., foodborne, waterborne, vector-borne) to inform emergency response and preparedness, such as early alert notifications</li> <li>b. Develop capacity to provide timely assessment of short and long-term effects during and after extreme climate events to improve prevention and mitigation strategies for future events</li> </ul>
	2.3 Encourage and participate in practical and applicable research related to climate and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Expand partnerships with academic and research programs, such as the University of Washington's School of Public Health and Medicine and the Climate Impacts Group, to increase opportunities for Public Health to engage on local/regional climate change research and data development</li> <li>b. Develop research priorities for climate, health, equity, and community resilience with academic organizations</li> <li>c. Collaborate with academic partners, NOAA, and others to partner on applications for funding</li> </ul>

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		d. Identify projects for students and develop a Public Health network for supervising climate-related student projects
3. Listen and Educate	3.1 Collaborate with partners through ongoing opportunities for information sharing that guides climate and health message development	<p>a. Conduct community-led research to learn about knowledge of climate and health, how to address gaps in knowledge, and how to message mitigation and adaptation actions</p> <p>b. Convene partners to identify communication and knowledge gaps and discuss resilience strategies</p> <p>c. Participate in King County Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP) community engagement presentations and listening sessions to inform the 2020 plan update</p>
	3.2 Collaborate with partners to develop key messaging that addresses identified gaps in climate and health knowledge	<p>a. Align messaging and communication strategies with key stakeholders and partners</p> <p>b. Develop and translate messaging tools, such as a climate and health infographic, that can be used by Public Health and other King County agencies</p> <p>c. Integrate climate change messaging into existing Public Health communications, such as extreme heat and weather event alerts</p> <p>d. Develop a toolkit with resources for local decision-making to assist partners in engaging community members in climate, health, and resilience discussions</p>
	3.3 Disseminate and exchange climate and health information with communities	<p>a. Leverage existing King County initiatives and networks, such as Best Starts for Kids, Healthcare for the Homeless Network and Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy, to share key messages and encourage two-way communication regarding climate and health</p> <p>b. Leverage existing community partner networks and opportunities to share key messages and encourage two-way communication regarding climate and health</p> <p>c. Utilize Public Health programs to disseminate relevant climate and health messages through their activities and communication channels, such as home visits, health fairs, newsletters, listservs, and blogs</p>
4. Community Partnership Development	4.1 Engage in climate and health planning that maximizes community ownership and promotes problem solving and collective action	a. Ensure understanding and assessment of community partner's needs to best inform how Public Health can support and help strengthen community assets, capacities, and interests

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and Capacity Building		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Increase planning and collaboration across King County agencies for community engagement by identifying joint goals and responsibilities and coordinating messaging</li> <li>c. Pursue grant opportunities and other funding to support community-led education, coalition building, and community-based actions</li> </ul>
	4.2 Emphasize community resilience in Public Health partnerships that integrates climate change adaptation and mitigation and all-hazards preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Implement coordinated, community resilience-related strategies in Public Health community capacity building initiatives, such as community health boards, Best Starts for Kids, Communities of Opportunity, and Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy</li> </ul>
5. Preparedness and Response	5.1 Build capacity to effectively prepare for and respond to climate-related health emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Work with partners, such as Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, Washington Department of Health and Ecology, and Northwest Weather Service, to identify communication strategies and a concept of operations for better response to climate change-related events</li> <li>b. Provide guidance to local jurisdictions on best practices related to cooling center locations, including transportation access considerations and other accessibility issues</li> <li>c. Integrate climate and health messaging into public information and warning systems maintained by local offices of emergency management</li> <li>d. Work with local jurisdictions to leverage neighborhood preparedness groups, such as Citizen Corps, Communication Hubs and Certified Emergency Response Teams, to increase knowledge about climate change and health impacts</li> </ul>
	5.2 Incorporate climate projections into hazard mitigation and public health preparedness planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coordinate with the Northwest Health Care Response Network to integrate climate change planning into health care response plans and strategies</li> <li>b. Support King County Office of Emergency Management in raising awareness and engaging emergency planning partners in preparing for climate change impacts</li> </ul>
6. Policy and Planning	6.1 Include climate and health considerations in policies and plans at the local, regional, and national level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Review Public Health and King County policies for consideration of climate mitigation and benefits for health, such as telecommuting, transportation and fleet policies, facility siting, resource utilization, and contracting policies</li> <li>b. Integrate health considerations into governmental climate change planning, including county and city climate action plans</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>c. Support King County Cities Climate Collaboration (KC4) efforts and the integration of health and emergency management-related needs into goals</li><li>d. Integrate climate and health into local, county, regional, and state transportation and land use planning efforts</li><li>e. Develop tools and resources, such as vulnerability mapping and checklists, to address climate, health, and equity in policy/plan development and implementation</li></ul>
	6.2 Promote climate-related policies and planning that promote equity and improve health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Promote the inclusion of community member/organization seats on local and regional planning committees, commissions, and boards</li><li>b. Provide health and equity information to guide decision-making on climate-related policies and legislation at the local, state, and national level in partnership with King County agencies</li></ul>

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## Appendix D. 2020 SCAP actions items with PHSKC in lead and supporting role

2020 SCAP Priority Actions			
PHSKC Lead Agency: PHSKC as one of the lead agencies to move priority action forward			
Name	Focus Area	Title	Description
<b>SCAP Section: Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities</b>			
SRFC 4.01.01	Community Health & Emergency Preparedness	Expand Communications & Education	Create and resource opportunities for frontline communities to co-create communications around climate events and health and collaborate on training materials to prepare communities for emergency events and climate-related health impacts while reducing access and participation barriers.
SRFC 4.01.01a			Collaborate with Public Health and community partners to address gaps in climate and health knowledge and co-develop inclusive and equitable climate and health messaging, resources, and guidance. (Cross-listed action, Prep 3.1.2). Make materials available in multiple languages & culturally relevant.
SRFC 4.01.01b			Build awareness for frontline communities around how to access preparedness resources and supplies when they face natural disasters or extreme weather events. Integrate climate change and equity messaging into emergency trainings and messaging.
SRFC 5.01.01	Food Systems & Food Security	Expanding Affordability and Accessibility	Advocate for the expansion of nutrition incentive programs and other support mechanisms for low-income and frontline community members who could be disproportionately impacted by climate-influenced food insecurity to afford fresh, healthy, culturally relevant, and accessible produce while supporting local and BIPOC growers, where possible.
SRFC 5.01.01a			Advocate for the sustainability and expansion of nutrition incentive programs (such as Fresh Bucks) to cover the food security gap and secure ongoing funding for the program (in alignment with the Local Food Initiative, GHG 6.2.1).
SRFC 5.01.02			Explore and support the development of programs focused on the production and distribution of affordable and healthy foods to communities that live in areas experiencing food insecurity and have low accessibility to public transit, people with disabilities and/or who have health disparities, and people who are disproportionately impacted by climate change.

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SRFC 5.01.02a			Support development of nutrition incentive programs across the County by facilitating knowledge management between assistance programs and local jurisdictions that do not have these programs.
SRFC 5.01.02b			Partner with food incentive programs, food providers, and relevant stakeholders to develop and expand food assistance and/or incentive programs to address unmet needs, including sharing lessons learned from the COVID-19 crisis around emergency food access.
<b>SCAP section: Preparing for Climate Change</b>			
PREP 3.1.2	Health & Equity	Health Impact Messaging/Guidance	Develop messaging and guidance to prepare equitably for and mitigate climate-related health impacts. PHSKC will collaborate with agency and community partners to address gaps in climate and health knowledge and co-develop inclusive and equitable climate and health messaging, resources, and guidance.
PREP 4.2.10	Community & Organizational Relationships	Wildfire Smoke Strategy	Develop and Implement a King County Wildfire Smoke Strategy. PHSKC, in partnership with the office of Emergency Management, the Climate Action Team, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, and King County communities, will develop and implement a strategy for responding to and mitigating the health effects of wildfire smoke on King County residents with an emphasis on those who are disproportionately impacted by wildfire smoke.
PREP 4.2.15		Health Impacts Surveillance Strategy	Develop and implement a climate change health impact surveillance strategy for PHSKC. Information collected through these systems will inform timely public health action and provide a clearer understanding of trends in health status, inequities, and vulnerabilities related to climate impacts.
<b>PHSKC is Partner/Supporting Agency: PHSKC will participate as a partner/supporting agency</b>			
<b>SCAP Section: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>			
Name	Focus Area	Title	Description
GHG 1.02.03	GHG Targets and Policy	Aircraft Emission Task Force	Convene Joint Aircraft Emission technical and Community Task Force. The purpose of this task force is to centralize and disseminate data that will aid KC in effectively measuring aircraft GHGs and creating policies that may reduce aircraft GHG in impacted communities.
GHG 2.14.02	Transportation & Land Use	GHG Emissions / Employee Travel	Evaluate the GHG emissions associated with employee travel. Expand data collection and reporting of indirect employee travel. To date, King County has been reporting on

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			transportation-related GHG emissions and developing GHG reduction goals based on the emissions from County-owned vehicles and equipment. Once the County understands the scope of these sources, it can set goals to reduce emissions.
GHG 3.02.02	Building & Facility Energy Use	Energy Efficiency Information Hub	Create a website/central information hub that educates residents on programs, incentives, financing options, and energy-saving technologies.
GHG 3.12.01		Capital Project Energy/Water Accountability	Create additional accountability of capital project managers and county agencies to ensure life cycle cost-effectiveness criteria are used for capital and maintenance investments that impact energy and water consumption.
GHG 3.15.01		Teleworking / Energy Use Impacts	Analyze and evaluate opportunities and challenges related to increased teleworking, with the intent of minimizing energy use while ensuring healthy and safe space.
GHG 3.16.01		Agency Fossil Fuel Inventories	All County agencies shall inventory all fossil fuel uses in each of their facilities, including space heating, water heating, backup generator operations, and other needs.
GHG 3.16.02		Fossil Fuel Elimination Action Plans	All agencies will create fossil fuel elimination action plans that detail the projected end-of-life date of each piece of fossil fuel-consuming equipment, and non-fossil fuel replacement and retrofit options.
GHG 3.17.01		Policy / No Fossil Fuels in New Construction	Develop County policy for the elimination of fossil fuel use in new construction, with minor exceptions for backup power, food service, and limited industrial processes for which electric alternatives do not exist.
GHG 3.22.01		Solar at New Facilities	New facilities shall install 0.25 watts per square foot of solar power
GHG 3.24.02		GHG Neutral Electricity Purchasing	As of July 1, 2020, all electricity purchased by King County government is greenhouse gas neutral.
GHG 5.07.01	Consumption & Materials Management	Optimize Printing Management	King County shall optimize print management efficiencies countywide, through new procurement practices and the use of Managed Print Services.
GHG 5.07.02		Build Recycling / Compost Markets	Build markets for compost and other recycled content materials. To achieve a circular economy, to improve the health of the recycling system and to achieve the maximum GHG reductions, materials that enter the recycling stream need to be made into new products.

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GHG 5.08.01		Low Carbon Materials / Capital Projects	Specifying low-embodied carbon building materials in King County capital projects. The mining, manufacturing and transportation of building materials result in significant GHG emissions. To reduce these “embodied” emissions, King County will develop requirements and specifications for the use of low emission alternatives for concrete, asphalt, wood, and steel by County project managers and designers in bid solicitations.
<b>SCAP Section: Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities</b>			
SRFC 1.01.01	Community Leadership / Community- Driven Policymaking	Supporting Community Leadership	Provide and support community organizations and climate justice leaders with tools, materials, compensation, professional development, and technical assistance to effectively engage and share their expertise with King County and other jurisdictions in climate action, policy, and advocacy across sectors.
SRFC 1.01.01a			Provide frontline community organizations and leadership with technical assistance, workshops, trainings, registration scholarships, professional development opportunities and/or materials that further climate leadership.
SRFC 1.01.01b			Seek funding partnerships to support frontline community organizations in developing and/or continuing their own climate justice programs, trainings, and/or pilot projects, and follow their lead in engaging communities.
SRFC 1.02.01		Community-Driven Policymaking	Document the CECTF policy development framework and develop King County capacity for authentic and collaborative community-driven climate policy development processes.
SRFC 1.02.01a			Document the equitable community-driven climate policy-making framework used for the SRFC section, identify ways to maintain the institutional knowledge of this body of work to provide guidance for future community-driven policy development processes.
SRFC 1.02.02			Develop a framework in partnership with frontline communities for continued collaboration with and leadership of the CECTF in implementing community-driven climate policy and programs, such as developing qualitative and quantitative measures for climate justice.
SRFC 1.02.02a			Work with CECTF members to develop a framework and charter for continued engagement of the CECTF and frontline communities in implementing SCAP actions.
SRFC 1.03.01		Relationship and Trust Building	Build, cultivate, and support authentic relationships with frontline community members and organizations by collaborating on projects, providing resources, using positional

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			power to help organizations achieve their missions, participating in community events, and hosting community events and listening sessions.
SRFC 1.03.01a			Build positive presence in frontline communities through sponsorships, collaboration, participation in community events, listening sessions, and providing gathering space.
SRFC 1.03.02		Relationship and Trust Building	Build King County capacity to engage with frontline communities in ways that acknowledge inherent power dynamics, privilege, and historic harm to create foundational long-term partnerships by preparing staff with knowledge, awareness, ground rules, tools, background in environmental/climate justice, and equity trainings in alignment with the goals of the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan.
SRFC 1.03.02a			Require all King County staff working on climate-related programs attend climate justice issue-specific trainings, such as King County's Equity and Social Justice Fundamentals, trainings on the social determinants of health, and/or climate equity training.
SRFC 1.03.02b			Increase staff knowledge, skill, and abilities to effectively serve communities of color and limited-English-proficient and low-income communities.
SRFC 2.01.01	Community Capacity Development	Growing Community Capacity	Grow leadership capacity in frontline communities by co-creating inclusive climate resources, building a shared climate literacy, supporting leadership development opportunities and trainings, and reducing barriers to participation for frontline communities to engage in and influence King County's climate and environmental work.
SRFC 2.01.01a			Support and/or sponsor community-led leadership development programs that empower frontline community members to be active on boards, commissions, or other leadership bodies across King County.
SRFC 2.01.01b			Partner with community organizations to create workshops and trainings focused on climate justice that are inclusive and accessible to frontline communities and builds support for an environmental/climate justice network.
SRFC 2.02.01		County Capacity / Systems to Support Communities	Strengthen King County climate justice efforts by aligning related work across departments, increasing staff capacity to address climate inequity and build authentic community and tribal partnerships, addressing access barriers to sustainability-related programs, and providing guidance on addressing climate inequities.

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SRFC 2.02.01a		Establish an inter-departmental work group focused on climate justice topics.
SRFC 2.02.01b		In partnership with frontline communities, the Preparing for Climate Change section, and in alignment with state-level environmental justice efforts, develop metrics/indicators to assess resilience of frontline communities, including qualitative metrics that incorporate benefits and burdens to low-income populations and BIPOC communities.
SRFC 2.02.01c		Collaborate with frontline communities to create guidelines for inclusive community building to develop climate partnerships that center community values and establish trust. Share these guidelines with the interdepartmental climate justice workgroup.
SRFC 2.03.01	Community Education / Language Access	Co-design and implement culturally relevant communication and education strategies that best inform frontline communities about climate change and intersecting climate justice issue areas, including co-creating tailored materials with frontline communities that are culturally relevant and in accessible languages.
SRFC 2.03.01a		Partner with frontline communities to co-create culturally relevant climate education materials that are accessible, inclusive, and in-language, connecting climate justice to other intersecting topics (e.g., housing, health), and that are translated in partnership with communities.
SRFC 2.03.01b		Collaborate with communities to develop an interpretation/translation resource list and common climate terms list in multiple languages. Encourage usage of climate language resources across communications teams that work on climate-issues.
SRFC 2.04.01	Support Youth Education	Intentionally partner with youth-serving organizations and educational institutions across King County to make climate change and climate justice education more accessible, especially in frontline communities.
SRFC 2.04.01a		Identify environmental justice and climate change education resources and provide guidance to King County environmental programs, youth-serving organizations, and school programs.
SRFC 2.04.01b		Partner with youth clubs, teachers, educational institutions, and/or youth-serving organizations to provide climate change workshops, presentations, curricula, field trips, and/or other climate education opportunities, prioritizing areas that rank high in environmental health disparities according to the Washington Environmental Health Disparities Map.

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SRFC 2.04.01c			Partner with the King County Green Schools program to expand edible food waste prevention program and integrate climate change and food in educational opportunities.
SRFC 3.01.01	Equitable Green Jobs & Pathways	Partnerships for Green Jobs Strategy	Partner with frontline communities, CECTF, labor organizations, educational institutions, youth programs, environmental justice and climate equity organizations, businesses, facility managers, utilities, tribes, local governments, climate scientists, King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, and the Puget Sound Regional Council to develop a green jobs strategy that evaluates and establishes pathways to bring frontline communities, particularly BIPOC, into living-wage green jobs.
SRFC 3.01.01a	Equitable Green Jobs & Pathways		Establish interdepartmental green jobs workgroup that includes BIPOC employees in a variety of green jobs and across different seniority levels (including interns) to help inform internal strategies.
SRFC 3.01.01b			Provide resources and staffing to support the development and implementation of a green jobs strategy that aligns with the SCAP, economic development, and Investing in You goals through a collaborative and coordinated process with stakeholders and relevant partners.
SRFC 3.01.01c			Conduct current state analysis, including collecting quantitative and qualitative data on racial and ethnic diversity (with options for multiracial and Indigenous people), of green jobs across sectors within King County government, including contractors.
SRFC 3.03.01		Work Toward Just Transition	Partner with frontline community workers and industries to identify strategies to equitably transition workers to greener jobs, shift to more sustainable practices, and promote green skills development, while prioritizing worker health and economic well-being.
SRFC 3.03.01a			Partner to identify and promote trainings, educational materials, and technical assistance around sustainable practices and green skill development.
SRFC 3.03.01b			Work with partners and Public Health to promote worker safety, particularly for essential workers and those experiencing climate impacts such as farm and food systems workers exposed to extreme heat and/or wildfire smoke.
SRFC 4.02.01	Community Health &	Climate-Related Public Health Impacts	Coordinate agencies to make investments and resources available in frontline communities to prepare for, mitigate, and address disparities in climate-related public health impacts using best available data.

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SRFC 4.02.01a	Emergency Preparedness		Develop coordinated strategies to systematically remedy disparities in open space access and utilization, green space, and tree canopy coverage to address environmental justice concerns (Cross-listed action, GHG 6.1.3).
SRFC 4.02.01b			The Climate Action Team will work with internal and external partners to develop and implement coordinated strategies for reducing temperatures and the associated risk of heat-related illness in areas identified as urban heat islands based on heat mapping efforts. (Cross-listed action, Prep 3.1.1)
SRFC 4.02.01c			Identify ways to reduce susceptibility to adverse health impacts for farm and food systems workers due to climate impacts, such as exposure to extreme heat and smoke from wildfires during peak summer months.
SRFC 4.03.01		Preparing for Climate Emergencies	Prioritize the identification of strategies, resources, and training opportunities in partnership with frontline communities to ensure residents, communities, and small businesses can effectively respond and recover after a climate and/or public health emergency event.
SRFC 4.03.01a			Partner with Climate Action Team, Public Health, CECTF, and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to develop training opportunities for frontline community members (in multiple languages) to become educators in their own communities.
SRFC 4.03.01b			Work with frontline communities, households, and small businesses identify ways to bolster preparedness programs that address security gaps (food, housing, water, medical supplies, transportation, economic security, etc.) during climate crises.
SRFC 4.04.01		Climate Equity Data & Mapping	Partner with frontline communities to identify, evaluate, prioritize, and disseminate key climate and health indicators and mapping data around climate justice, public health, and emergency preparedness to coordinate decision-making and public awareness.
SRFC 4.04.01a			Share and accessibly disseminate climate impacts and environmental justice mapping data with the public, especially the County's frontline communities, in accessible formats through trusted community partners.
SRFC 4.04.01b			Coordinate mapping efforts of environmental justice and climate impacts across agencies and partners including Public Health, OEM, Climate Action Team, and the statewide Environmental Health Disparities Map.

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SRFC 4.04.01c			Decolonize climate data by partnering with frontline communities to inform, identify, evaluate, and prioritize key climate equity and health indicators, in partnership with Public Health and the Preparing for Climate Change section. “Decolonize data” is a term used by many BIPOC communities (but particularly Indigenous communities) to reflect that data should be collected, informed by, and interpreted in collaboration with the communities that data reflects.
SRFC 5.03.01	Food Systems & Food Security	Supporting a Just Food Economy	Partner with frontline communities to support a regenerative and sustainable local zero waste food economy that prioritizes the physical and economic vitality of communities, health of food ecosystems, and well-being of food/farmworkers.
SRFC 5.03.01a			Support the development of the community-led food justice coalition in partnership with Public Health and LFI.
SRFC 5.03.01b			Identify ways to reduce susceptibility to adverse health impacts for farm and food systems workers due to climate impacts (e.g., exposure to extreme heat and smoke from wildfires).
SRFC 5.03.01c			Develop a Good Food purchasing policy or guidelines that prioritizes and supports local, sustainable, small business and WMBE food vendors to purchase from for County led and sponsored events.
SRFC 5.03.01d			Develop a circular economy framework and deliver a zero waste of resources plan that identifies opportunities to support community food banks, community-based compost initiatives, and community-owned food businesses. (Cross-listed, GHG 5.1.1 & GHG 5.2.1)
SRFC 6.01.01	Housing Security & Anti- Displacement	Capacity Around Climate and Housing	Expand capacity, knowledge, and resources for frontline communities to articulate the connections between housing and climate change through accessible workshops, trainings, informational resources, and/or partnerships.
SRFC 6.01.01a			Integrate climate equity and sustainability with resources and information around affordable housing, eviction prevention, utility assistance programs, and climate resilient home improvements with frontline communities.
SRFC 6.01.02			Address housing insecurities that are exacerbated by climate change by expanding access to affordable housing resources, homeownership strategies, eviction prevention, equitable development, utility assistance programs, and climate-related home improvements.

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SRFC 6.01.02a			Support King County Affordable Housing Committee equitable development goals around pathways to homeownership and increasing housing stability, specifically for renters, low-income communities, and communities of color.
SRFC 6.01.02b			Partner with DCHS and Public Health Learning Communities to support land use planning, development, and zoning workshops for community members to build capacity to influence policy decisions.
SRFC 8.02.01	Transportation Access & Equity	Climate Resilient Transportation Infrastructure	Improve and develop infrastructure that is climate resilient with a design process that uses a clear climate justice lens in capital planning and design processes and emergency planning.
SRFC 8.02.01a			The Bus Stop Improvements team will develop and incorporate climate change metrics in the process for selecting and prioritizing bus stop shelter improvements. Beginning in 2021, at least 10 percent of the weather-related improvements will be constructed at bus stops in climate priority areas. (Cross-listed, Prep 3.1.4)
SRFC 8.02.01b			Review transit emergency plans to ensure that Metro is prepared to provide safe and ongoing transportation during natural disasters, weather emergencies, or climate-related crises. Ensure Metro infrastructure and services support community resilience to climate change (Metro Mobility Framework - #4 Ensure Safety).
SRFC 8.02.01c			Ensure that transit stops and transfer points are designed and located in ways to promote safety, particularly for BIPOC, people with disabilities, limited-English-speaking communities, women, and LGBTQIA people. Conduct ongoing safety review to assess environmental health and potential safety disparities.
<b>SCAP Section: Preparing for Climate Change</b>			
PREP 3.1.1	Health & Equity	Urban Heat Island Strategy	Develop and implement an Urban Heat Island Strategy. The Climate Action Team will work with internal and external partners to develop and implement strategies for reducing temperatures and the associated risk of heat-related illness in areas identified as urban heat islands. The strategy will leverage and build on ongoing efforts related to mapping surface temperatures increasing tree canopy, providing access to green space and open space, and green building.

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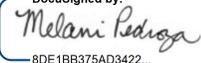
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 King County Council  
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:  
  
 8DE1BB375AD3422...  
 Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image  
 Using IP Address: 198.49.222.20

Sent: 3/2/2022 10:46:57 AM  
 Viewed: 3/2/2022 10:58:19 AM  
 Signed: 3/2/2022 10:58:28 AM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**

Not Offered via DocuSign  
 Supplemental Documents:

Motion 16051 Attachment A.docx

Viewed: 3/2/2022 10:58:25 AM  
 Read: Not Required  
 Accepted: Not Required

**In Person Signer Events**

**Signature**

**Timestamp**

**Editor Delivery Events**

**Status**

**Timestamp**

**Agent Delivery Events**

**Status**

**Timestamp**

**Intermediary Delivery Events**

**Status**

**Timestamp**

**Certified Delivery Events**

**Status**

**Timestamp**

**Carbon Copy Events**

**Status**

**Timestamp**

<b>Witness Events</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
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<b>Notary Events</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
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<b>Envelope Summary Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	3/2/2022 10:20:29 AM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	3/2/2022 10:58:19 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	3/2/2022 10:58:28 AM
Completed	Security Checked	3/2/2022 10:58:28 AM

<b>Payment Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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