| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
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| E-101 In addition to its regulatory authority, King County should use incentives to protect and restore the natural environment whenever practicable. Incentives ((shall)) should be monitored and periodically reviewed to determine their effectiveness ((in terms of)) at protecting and restoring natural resources. | Substantive change | To reflect current practice policy goals. This occurs when the County has available resources, in consideration of various regulatory priorities, but cannot always do it. For example, the County is reviewing the critical area regulations, including incentives, as part of the 2024 update; but this does not include globally looking at all incentives code. Other edits for clarity, consistent | None; reflects current practice | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Policy is weakened by changing "shall" to "should." If Councilmembers wish to retain "shall" language, Executive staff state that they would need to implement a formal monitoring and review scheme. Executive staff narrative states that there are not available resources for this. |
| E-102a King County ((will)) shall consider environmental justice and climate ((justice)) equity impacts and disparities in its planning, projects and services to assess and mitigate unintended impacts on frontline communities and to ensure solutions that enhance conditions for people and the environment. | Substantive change | with existing intent Additional updates to advance equity goals Clarifying edits to reflect that current terminology and that "will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen | Reductions in inequities for priority populations | Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan Strategic Climate Action Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Strengthens policy by requiring mitigation and solutions that enhance conditions for frontline communities, not just "consideration" of impacts. This is a policy choice. |
| E-103 King County should coordinate with local jurisdictions, universities, federal and state agencies, <u>Indian</u> tribes, special interest groups, special districts, businesses, and residents to implement, monitor, and update Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans for all areas of King County. | Technical change | Current terminology | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-104 Development of environmental regulations, restoration, and mitigation projects, and incentive and stewardship programs should be coordinated with local jurisdictions, federal and state agencies, Indian tribes, special interest groups, and residents when conserving and restoring the natural environment consistent with Urban Growth Area, Rural Area, and designated Natural Resource Land goals. | Technical change | Current terminology | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-105 Environmental quality and important ecological functions shall be protected and hazards to health and property shall be minimized through development reviews and implementation of land use plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, the Strategic Climate Action Plan, stormwater management plans and programs, flood hazard management plans, environmental monitoring programs, and park ((master)) management plans, as well as focused ongoing efforts such as the fish passage restoration program, Land Conservation Initiative, 30-Year Forest Plan, and Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan. Implementation of ((Ŧ))these plans and programs ((shall)) should also encourage stewardship and restoration of critical areas as defined in the Growth Management Act, ((and include)) such as including an adaptive management approach. | Substantive change | To ensure that that environmental protection and hazard reduction strategies also include these additional initiatives, consistent with existing practice and policy intent Clarifies that not all existing or added plans/initiatives also encourage stewardship and restoration | More plans and initiatives work to protect ecological functions and minimize health and property hazards, resulting in improved environmental outcomes | Strategic Climate Action Plan Land Conservation Initiative 30-Year Forest Plan Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan. | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | The SCAP is only adopted by motion. Including it in a "shall" policy elevates it to the level of a requirement, which is a policy choice. The 30-Year Forest Management Plan and Clean Water Healthy Habitat plan are Executive initiatives that have not been Council adopted. Including them in the Comprehensive Plan, particularly in a "shall" policy, elevates them to County policy documents, without the Council weighing in on the underlying policies in the plans. Typically these agency-level plans are not named in the Comprehensive |

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| | | | | | | Plan. References to them could be removed. The last sentence changes from "shall" to "should," weakening the policy regarding stewardship and restoration of critical areas. |
| Policy E-108 | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-110 Surface waters designated by the state as Water Quality Impaired under the Clean Water Act (water bodies included in Category 5 of the Water Quality Assessment) shall be improved through monitoring, source controls, best management practices, enforcement of existing codes, and, where applicable, implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load plans. The water quality of other water bodies shall be protected or improved through these same measures. | Policy Staff Flag | | | | | This policy only states what is already required by law. It could be removed |
| ((E-111 King County shall evaluate development proposals subject to drainage review in unincorporated King County to assess whether the proposed actions are likely to cause or contribute to violations of Washington State water quality standards in receiving waters for individual pollutants of concern and identify mitigation or requirements to avoid the impacts when appropriate.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | These are requirements in the Surface Water Design Manual and does not need to be a policy. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-112 When environmental monitoring, testing, or reliable data indicates human activities have caused impaired water quality, such as increased water temperature, fecal contamination, low oxygen, excess nutrients, metals, or other contaminants, King County shall take actions ((which will)) that help moderate those impairments. | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This policy only states what is already required by law. It could be removed. |
| Policy E-112a | | | | | | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-113 King County should actively participate in updating and implementing the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda, through the <u>Puyallup-White River</u> , South Central <u>Action Area</u> Caucus Group ((and)), Snohomish-Stillaguamish, and West Sound <u>Partners for Ecosystem Recovery</u> Local Integrating Organizations, consistent with King County goals. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Updates to current context | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-114 King County should collaborate with other watershed forum partners to ensure that recommendations of watershed-based salmon recovery plans, goals for regional stormwater controls, and goals for human and community health for King County are integrated with the Puget Sound Partnership recommendations. | Substantive change | To further support current and planned regional stormwater and health planning goals and efforts, including the Stormwater Summit series | Improved outcomes for stormwater management and human health | Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan Regional Stormwater Investment Planning Initiative | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The goals added here do not necessarily come from watershed forum partners. Executive staff indicate that the underlying language could be retained and a new policy could be added for clarity. |

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| E-115a King County shall ((exercise its authority under Revised Code of Washington 17.10 to)): (((1))) a. ((establish a)) Work with the King ((e))County ((h))oxious ((w))Weed ((e))Control ((b))Board to provide public oversight and direction of the County's Noxious Weed Control Program; and (((2)))b. ((i))Implement a program of activities that minimizes the impacts of noxious weeds to the environment, economy, recreation, and public health within the ((C))county; and c. Adopt regulations to ensure control of noxious weeds and weeds of concern as identified by the Noxious Weed Control Board. | Substantive Change | Updates for clarity and to reflect current context and practice, including existing implementing regulations in K.C.C. Title 21A | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This would require the County to adopt regulations to ensure control of noxious weeds. Executive staff state that the County's Noxious Weed Control Board already adopts regulations, but only the Council has authority to adopt regulations for the County. "Adopt rules" would be more consistent with the Noxious Weed Control Board's role. |
| E-200 The 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, or successor plans, should guide the planning, development, and implementation of greenhouse gas reduction goals and actions, equitable and community-driven climate solutions, and policies and actions that reduce climate change vulnerabilities and increase climate resilience. | New policy | Supports the role of the Strategic Climate Action Plan in guiding climate action across the County, consistent with new Growth Management Act climate change planning goal | Ensures integrity of climate action in greenhouse gas goals, the application of climate equity, and the planning and implementation of resilience efforts for all County communities, with emphasis on frontline communities. | Strategic Climate Action Plan 2023 House Bill 1181 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory, Capital Projects, and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. As the 2020 SCAP is adopted by motion, including it as a "should" policy is consistent with existing Council action. |
| ((E-205)) E-201 King County shall reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ((all facets of)) its operations and actions, including but limited to those associated with construction and management of ((e))County-owned facilities, infrastructure development, transportation, and environmental protection programs to achieve the emissions reductions targets set in ((E-206)) E-202 and to work towards the carbon neutral goal in F-215b. | Substantive Change | Edits for clarity, and to reflect policy number changes | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Substantive typo "including but limited to" that should be corrected to align with Executive intent |
| ((E-206)) E-202 King County shall reduce total greenhouse gas emissions from government operations, compared to a 2007 baseline by at least ((25%)) 50 percent by ((2020)) 2025 and ((50%)) 80 percent by 2030. | Substantive change | Strengthens targets to be consistent with Strategic Climate Action Plan | Accelerated actions supporting reduction in greenhouse gas reductions | Strategic Climate Action Plan County operational greenhouse gas goal and GHG 2 performance measure | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory, Capital Projects, and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Existing regulations in K.C.C. Title 18 Anticipated resource need: Yes Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Targets consistent with the 2020 SCAP. However, as the SCAP is only adopted by motion, this "shall" policy raises those targets to the level of requirements. According to the recently transmitted SCAP report, as of 2022, operational emissions have decreased by 30% below 2007 levels but it is not clear the decrease can be sustained as a portion of the decrease is attributable to reduced transit service in the wake of the pandemic. While Executive staff indicate they have identified actions to try to meet the 2025 target, it is unclear if it is achievable given existing staffing and budget constraints, especially since it will be 2025 when the Comp Plan is effective. |

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| ((E-206a)) <u>E-203</u> King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks, including the Wastewater Treatment Division, Solid Waste Division, Parks and Recreation Division, and Water and Land Resource Division, ((shall)) <u>should</u> achieve, <u>at a minimum</u> , net carbon neutrality ((for its operations by 2017)) <u>on an annual basis</u> . | Substantive change | To reflect targets in the Strategic Climate Action Plan Change from "should" to "shall" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans and practices, but reflects that there may be measures beyond County control that could limit implement of the policy as a mandate | No additional changes; reflects existing plans and practices | Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.3.3 | Planned implementation of proposal: Capital Projects and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Although the Executive narrative says that the change from "shall" to "should" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans (i.e. the SCAP), both the ordinance and the SCAP say "shall." Although the SCAP is adopted by motion and therefore does not carry the force of law, Ordinance 17971 does. |
| ((E-206b)) E-204 King County's Wastewater Treatment Division and Solid Waste Division ((shall)) should each independently achieve carbon-neutral operations by 2025. | Substantive change | Change from "should" to "shall" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans and practices, but reflects that there may be measures beyond County control that could limit implement of the policy as a mandate | No additional changes; reflects existing plans and practices | Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.3.4 | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Capital Projects and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Although the Executive narrative says that the change from "shall" to "should" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans (i.e. the SCAP), both the ordinance and the SCAP say "shall." Although the SCAP is adopted by motion and therefore does not carry the force of law, Ordinance 17971 does. According to Executive staff, this target is not on track. The change from "shall" to "should" here removes the mandate in the comp Plan that it be met; however, Councilmembers may want to consider amending Ordinance 17971 to remove the mandate there as well. |
| ((E-207)) E-205 King County shall ((develop and)) continue to implement an operational "social cost of carbon." The social cost of carbon should be used in life-cycle assessments and decision making related to County operations, including for purchase of vehicles, buses and fuels, for facility construction and resource efficiency projects, and for related technology investments. ((King County should also pursue using the cost of carbon to inform broader County planning and decision making.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | Reflects that operational cost of carbon has been developed and is in use. Updated to align with K.C.C. 18.20.015, cost of carbon defined term is "social cost of carbon" Note that this was an outstanding 2016 Work Plan Action 5 "Implementation Needs" item, which has related code changes proposed in K.C.C. Chapter 21A.17 to implement policy amendments adopted in 2016 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The County would no longer be required to pursue using the social cost of carbon to inform broader County planning and decision-making outside of the sectors specifically listed. Executive staff state that climate and GHG emission impacts are being considered in those broader contexts and using the social cost of carbon may not be appropriate in all circumstances. |
| ((E-208 King County shall maximize the creation of resources from waste products from county operations such as gases produced by wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal in a manner that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and produces renewable energy.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | Duplicative of F-310 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-209)) E-207 King County ((will)) shall continue to evaluate its own maintenance and operations practices, including procurement, for opportunities to reduce its own emissions or emissions produced in the manufacturing of products. | Clarification of existing policy intent | "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |

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| ((E-240)) E-209 King County shall ((collaborate)), independently and in collaboration with ((ite)) cities((;)) and other partners, ((to reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050)) adopt and implement policies and programs to achieve a target of reducing countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 50 percent by 2030, 75 percent by 2040, and 95 percent, including net-zero emissions through carbon sequestration and other strategies, by 2050. King County shall evaluate and update these targets over time in consideration of the latest international climate science and statewide targets aiming to limit the most severe impacts of climate change and keep global warming under 1.5 degrees C | Substantive change | To align with 2021 Countywide Planning Policies. During development of the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, the County knew that needed stronger greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets were needed, but determined it would be best to adopt stronger targets in coordination and collaboration with cities through the Countywide Planning Policies. So, there is a direction in the Strategic Climate Action Plan to "strengthen long-term countywide GHG targets to reflect public input and science, King County commits to work with cities and partners to analyze pathways to more ambitious targets, including a 2050 carbon neutral target, and to develop recommendations to shared GHG reduction targets as part of the next update to Countywide Planning Policies, planned for 2021." Based on that direction and in coordination/collaboration with the cities, stronger targets were adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies. Given this, the 2024 Comprehensive Plan proposes to use the Countywide Planning Policy greenhouse gas reduction targets, rather than those in the Strategic Climate Action Plan. | Accelerated actions supporting reduction in greenhouse gas reductions | Countywide Planning Policy EN-27 Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 1.1.2 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Commensurate proposed target changes in K.C.C. 18.25.010 Proposed code changes in K.C.C. Title 21A to incentivize development of middle housing near transit Recently adopted code changes supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes in 2024. Anticipated resource need: Yes Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Aligns with CPP requirements for greenhouse gas emissions reductions. It should be noted that the Executive states that significant additional resources are needed to meet this requirement. As emissions rose 11% between 2007 and 2019, a reduction of 50% below 2007 levels within seven years is unlikely without additional resources. Additionally, Executive staff are assuming that existing state, federal, and other policies could contribute more than half the reductions for 2030, however, these initiatives and their success in reducing GHGs are outside of the County's control. The phrase "and 95 percent, including net-zero emissions through carbon sequestration and other strategies," is not accurate, as net-zero is in addition to the 95%, not included the 95%. This language could be clarified. |
| ((E-212 King County will work with its cities and other partners to establish a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively measure progress toward countywide targets.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | The policy direction has been completed, and is substantively redundant to revised policies E-216 and E-217 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-213)) <u>E-210</u> King County should ensure that its land use policies, development and building regulations, technical assistance programs, and incentive programs support and encourage the use of viable renewable energy, energy efficiency, and fossil fuel reduction and transition technologies that ((have)) produce zero or minimal greenhouse gas emissions, while considering equity and racial and social justice siting impacts. | Substantive change | To reflect: current status of County regulations and programs, as well as future intention to continue this moving forward; reflect additional measures to reduce greenhouse gases and move towards elimination of fossil fuel use in the built environment; and environmental justice considerations | Increased use of greenhouse gas-reducing technologies, in consideration of siting impacts on priority populations | Strategic Climate Action Plan – Building Energy – Countywide – Performance Measure 13 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |

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| E-211 King County shall develop and implement building and energy codes that reduce energy use and phase out fossil fuel use in the built environment within King County's jurisdiction. | New policy | Recognizes the important role building and energy codes play in to support goals to phase out fossil fuel use in unincorporated King County | New construction and retrofits of buildings within King County's jurisdiction reduce their energy use and phase out use of fossil fuels esp. natural gas | Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Actions GHG 3.3.1, GHG 3.6.1 and GHG 4.03.01 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted code changes supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes in 2024. Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Proposed code changes in 2024 are anticipated. Those code changes should be adopted concurrently with the KCCP to comply with K.C.C. 20.18.090. Alternatively, a requirement to transmit the Proposed Ordinance within a certain timeframe could be added. |
| E-212 King County shall support: a. Stronger Washington State building and energy codes and policies that reduce energy use, reduce the embodied carbon of materials, phase out fossil fuel use, and support deployment of electric vehicles and clean energy; and b. Increased state resources for local code development and implementation. | New policy | Recognizes the important role the state plays in development of local codes to support goals to phase out fossil fuel use in unincorporated King County | State building and energy codes are strengthened to support reduced energy use in the state and throughout the county; increased resources for local implementation | Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 4.02.01 and Performance Measure GHG 18 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | No issues identified. |
| E-213 King County should work with other local building officials and staff, as well as community partners and the building industry, to effectively implement energy and building codes that reduce energy use and embodied carbon of materials and phase out fossil fuel use. | New policy | Recognizes the role King County can play as a leader in efforts, and to the importance of collaboration to, support goals to phase out fossil fuel use in unincorporated King County | Cities adopt building energy codes that result in reduced greenhouse gases from buildings in throughout the county | Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 4.02.01 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-214 King County shall develop and implement countywide community-scale built environment programs and policies that: a. Reduce energy use, increase the use of renewable energy, and phase out the use of fossil fuels, such as: energy loan, residential efficiency retrofits; and fossil fuel reduction and transition incentives and programs; and b. Prioritize access and affordability of solutions for frontline communities, especially for low-income, senior, and renter households. | New policy | Supports strategies to implement programs that reduce energy use community wide, including programs that support frontline communities | Reduced greenhouse gases throughout the county | Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 3.1.1, GHG 3.5.1, and GHG 3.10.1 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted code changes supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes in 2024. Recent adoption of Ordinance 19360 (as amended by Ordinance 19449), which launched a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency program that enables commercial and multi-family property owners to finance efficiency, renewable, and resiliency improvements to their facilities. Anticipated resource need: Has current authority and an funded pilot program; scale of future programs will be dependent on scale of future funding (federal state, and/or local funding, grants, etc.) | No issues identified. |

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| ((E-214)) E-215 King County, through its Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations, should promote healthy community designs that enable ((walking, bicycling,)) active transportation and public transit use, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and regional air pollution. | Substantive change | To reflect current terminology | n/a | n/a | Anticipated timeline: Ongoing Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | "Active Transportation" is a broader category than walking and biking; it also includes equestrian travel and micromobility devices such as e-bikes and e-scooters, among other things. The Department of Commerce's 2023 checklist for comprehensive plan updates does require an active transportation component, but whether any given policy addresses all active transportation or a subset (such as walking and bicycling) is a policy choice. |
| E-215 King County shall evaluate proposed actions subject to the State Environmental Policy Act for their greenhouse gas emissions. King County may exercise its substantive authority under the State Environmental Policy Act to condition or deny proposed actions in order to mitigate associated individual or cumulative impacts to global warming. In exercising its authority under this policy, King County should consider project types that are presumed to be not significant in generating greenhouse gas emissions and do not require review for their greenhouse gas emissions. (Any standards related to consideration of greenhouse gas emissions through the State Environmental Policy Act process shall be subject to Council review and adoption by ordinance.)) | Substantive change | Under state law, evaluating proposals under the State Environmental Policy Act requires consideration of impacts, and mitigation where appropriate, to air quality, including greenhouse gas emissions. A separate policy is not needed to reflect this mandate. | None; continues implementation of existing mandates under the State Environmental Policy Act | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | This policy was the subject of Work Plan Action 21, added in the 2020 Comp Plan update. It required, in part, "completion of a study evaluating options for implementing greenhouse gas mitigation from all development projects requiring SEPA review, as allowed in Comprehensive Plan Policy E-215." The required report was transmitted as 2022-RPT0087 and stated that 1) new state laws prohibit the County from requiring GHG mitigation from the largest emitters and 2) that they evaluated options for requiring mitigation from smaller emitters – carbon credits and offsets, and requiring use of low-embodied-carbon materials – was not recommended due to lack of precedent at the local level. Removal of this policy does not prohibit the County from using its substantive authority under SEPA to mitigation emissions from individual projects; it instead removes the requirement that Council approves standards before it does so. This is a policy choice. |

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| ((E-202)) E-216 King County shall ((assess and publicly report on: a. Its normalized and total energy usage and total greenhouse gas emissions associated with county operations; b. Countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and other local government activities; and c. Countywide greenhouse gas inventories that quantify all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated with local consumption)); a. Assess and publicly report on countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and local government buildings, vehicles, and solid waste at least every two years; b. Update its comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory that quantifies all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions and emissions associated with local consumption at least every five years; and c. Develop city-specific emissions inventories and data, in partnership with cities. | Substantive change | To align with Countywide Planning Policies and Strategic Climate Action Plan Sub-a is now substantively captured in E-217 | Timely data, which can identify how greenhouse gas reduction actions are working and inform where changes may be needed to achieve goals and targets | Countywide Planning Policy EN-29 Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Actions GHG 1.2.1. and GHG 1.2.2. | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Existing regulations in K.C.C. Title 18 Anticipated resource need: These activities are currently funded but will need ongoing support. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Aligns with CPPs. Strengthens policy by adding timelines for countywide reporting. This would mean that recent data is available for tracking of the County's progress towards its Greenhouse Gas emission reduction goals. Would require King County to develop city-specific inventories and data in partnership with cities, as required in the CPPs. As noted in the implementation column, these activities will require ongoing appropriations. |
| ((E-203)) E-217 King County ((shall collaborate to set transparent standards to account for the net energy and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of government actions such as constructing transportation infrastructure and providing services such as recycling and transit and shall)) should assess and ((publically)) publicly report on ((these impacts as practicable)) the net energy and net greenhouse gas impacts of the County providing services, such as recycling and public transit, and constructing infrastructure, using best practice accounting standards. | Substantive change | The current policy was written in time when made more sense to invest in quantification approach development. However, these are not targets that the County tracks in the current Strategic Climate Action Plan. These are metrics that departments have sometimes used on their own; for example, Metro has reported this value. But because it is not across the board, it is reoriented to a should, and revised to focus on assessing and reporting rather than developing standards. | No change; aligns with current practice | Strategic Climate Action Plan metrics | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The policy is weakened compared to the language in the deleted subsection a. of the policy above, which is a policy choice. Previously, it said that King County "shall" assess and publicly report on its operational energy usage and GHG emissions. Now this is changed to a "should," and changed to "net" rather than "total," and is limit to certain sectors. The County has not published detailed inventories of its own operational emissions in several years, in favor of providing broader summaries of trends in the SCAP and SCAP progress reports. |
| E-218 King County shall prioritize and support ongoing partnerships with frontline communities in co-development and implementation of County climate planning, policies, and programs. | New policy | As part of new Climate Equity section of the Comprehensive Plan, supports frontline community leadership focus area of the Strategic Climate Action Plan | Co-development of equitable climate solutions | Strategic Climate Action Plan Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section Focus Area 1 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: Resources needed for community compensation and engagement across King County departments relating to climate action. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | First of three new policies related to climate equity, taken out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy, E-219, and E-220 are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice. |
| E-219 King County shall invest in and enable culturally and linguistically contextualized climate change education that builds frontline communities' capacity to engage on climate change impacts and solutions. | New policy | As part of new Climate Equity section of the Comprehensive Plan, supports community capacity building focus area of the Strategic Climate Action Plan Examples includes Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Actions SRFC 4.1.1: " opportunities for frontline communities to co-create | Climate literacy investments for frontline communities | Strategic Climate Action Plan Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section Priority Actions SRFC 2.1.1, SRFC | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: Resources needed for multilanguage, relevant climate change communications across King County. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Second of three new policies related to climate equity, taken out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy, E-218, and E-220 are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice. In terms of the resource need, Exec staff state that the amount of resource |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
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| | | communications around climate events and health, access emergency resources and warnings, and collaborate on training events and climaterelated health impacts while reducing access and participation barriers." | | 2.3.1, and SRFC 4.1.1 | | need has not been quantified, but more funding is needed to support building frontline community capacity to engage on climate impacts and solutions. |
| E-220 King County shall invest in climate solutions that result in equitable outcomes that benefit frontline communities by: a. Centering and funding access and pathways to living wage green jobs and careers for frontline communities, including youth and Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color populations; b. Providing frontline communities with resources and support to respond to extreme weather events and public health emergencies through culturally relevant strategies and avenues; c. Supporting a just food economy that increases affordability and access to healthy foods; d. Addressing housing insecurities intensified by climate change through programs and resources expanding frontline community access to climate-resilient housing and anti-displacement strategies; e. Prioritizing an affordable transition to renewable energy infrastructure and utility assistance; and f. Expanding public transportation mobility access and climate-resilient infrastructure for frontline communities in greatest need of public transit. | New policy | As part of new Climate Equity section of the Comprehensive Plan, supports green jobs, community health, food justice, housing security, energy and utilities justice, and transportation and mobility access goals of the Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section of the Strategic Climate Action Plan | Frontline communities are beneficiaries of co- benefit climate solutions | Strategic Climate Action Plan Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section Focus Areas 3,4,5,6,7, and 8 | Planned implementation of proposal: Capital Projects and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: Resources needed to ensure climate planning and climate action account for subs-a, b, c, d, and e in planning, coordination, and prioritization that of solutions that include frontline communities. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Third of three new policies related to climate equity, taken out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy, E-218, and E-219 are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice. |
| E-221 King County shall take actions that equitably reduce climate change vulnerabilities and increase the resilience of King County residents, communities, natural systems, and the built environment by: a. Integrating and accounting for climate impacts in policies, plans, practices, and procedures, and implementing climate-resilient decisions; b. Investing in and using data and other technical information to inform climate preparedness work at King County; c. Prioritizing health and equity in climate preparedness actions and activities; d. Strengthening collaborations and partnerships to address countywide climate impacts and increase regional resilience; and e. Investing in public outreach, engagement, and technical assistance related to climate preparedness. | New policy | New overarching goal statement based on climate preparedness vision of success in the Strategic Climate Action Plan, and the five strategic priorities established to guide that work | Residents have improved and equitable climate change resilience | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 1-5, including Prep 1.1.1, 2.2.4, 3.1.1, 4.1.1, and 5.1.4 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory, Capital Projects, and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Proposed changes to K.C.C. Chapter 16.82 to remove permitting barriers for vegetation management for wildfire risk reduction Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | This is a shall policy coming out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice. |
| ((E-215b)) <u>E-222</u> King County ((will)) <u>shall</u> plan and prepare for the likely impacts of climate change on County-owned facilities, infrastructure, and natural resources. | Clarification of existing policy intent | "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-215bb)) E-223 King County ((should)) shall develop and implement regulations that help mitigate and build ((resiliency)) resilience to the anticipated impacts of climate change, based on best available information. Such impacts could include sea level rise, changes in rainfall patterns and flood volumes and frequencies, changes in average and extreme temperatures and weather, impacts to forests including increased wildfires, droughts ((and pest | Substantive change | Strengthened to "shall" to reflect that we're already doing this and intend to continue to do so. Other clarifying edits to reflect that we cannot ensure mitigation for and building resiliency to all | Improved resilience to climate change | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Area 1 | Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted updates to the flood code in K.C.C. chapter 21A.24 and establishment and regulation of the Sea Level Rise Risk Area. | Policy strengthened from "should" to "shall". Exec staff indicate that, as the County is already undertaking this work, no additional resource impacts are anticipated. |

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| infiltrations)), disease, and insect attacks. Methods could include mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, establishing sea level rise regulations, managing existing and limiting new development in floodplains, and/or strengthening forests ability to withstand impacts. | | listed impacts, and that the listed impacts change over time. Added disease as a missing impact for forests (e.g., harmful funguses) and changed from "pest infiltrations" to "insect attacks" to be consistent with terminology used in forest management. Connections between development and flooding is added as an additional mitigating method of climate change impacts, consistent with existing regulations and a input from Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. | | | Proposed changes to K.C.C. Chapter 16.82 to remove permitting barriers for vegetation management for wildfire risk reduction • Anticipated resource need: n/a • Anticipated timeline: n/a | New regulations for landscape management in wildfire risk areas are included in proposed ordinance. Updated in Draft Critical Areas Ordinance. |
| ((E-219)) E-224 King County shall integrate estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change impacts into capital project planning, siting, design, and construction and ((also)) implement infrastructure operation and maintenance programs that consider full life-cycle costs and climate change impacts in asset management. | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-216)) E-225 King County shall integrate observed and projected climate change impacts, including severe weather, extreme heat, flooding, drought, wildfire, and landslides, into emergency management planning and programs. | Substantive change | Updates to reflect current context and existing practice Creates additional policy support for the planned 2025 update of the King County Hazard Mitigation Plan and King County Extreme Heat Strategy anticipated in 2024 | No change; reflects existing practice | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Area 1 King County Hazard Mitigation Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | No issues identified. |
| ((E-223)) E-226 King County shall consider projected impacts of climate change on habitat for salmon and other wildlife when developing long-range conservation plans and prioritizing habitat protection and restoration actions. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Relocation of policy without edit | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-224)) E-227 To foster resilience to climate change in ecosystems and species, King County should prioritize efforts such as: the restoration of floodplains to improve the resilience of major rivers to changing flow regimes and temperatures; the protection and restoration of riparian vegetation and mature and old-growth forests to reduce warming in cold water systems, of wetlands to reduce drought and flooding, and of connections between different habitats to maintain current seasonal migration; and facilitate migration opportunities for species whose ranges shift in latitude and altitude. | Substantive change | To recognize importance of mature and old growth forests to integrity of ecosystems, and support associated proposed Work Plan action | Additional protection and restoration of mature and old growth forests | 30-Year Forest Plan Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-204)) E-228 King County shall collaborate with experts in the field of climate change, including scientists at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group, or successor groups, to monitor, assess, and publicly share information about the impacts of | Clarification of existing policy intent | To make policy more timeless, in case the name of the referenced group changes | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a | This policy could be combined with E- 229. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
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| climate change in King County. | | | | | Anticipated timeline: n/a | |
| ((E-215c)) E-229 King County should collaborate with the scientific community, state and federal agencies, and other jurisdictions to develop detailed, science-based estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change, including impacts on air temperatures and heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, forest health and wildfire, public health river flooding, sea level rise, biodiversity (including fish and wildlife), and ocean acidification ((in King County)). | Substantive change | Expands the list of impacts that this policy applies to, while also ensuring that the work of this policy is not limited only to the items listed here, and consolidates E-222. | More comprehensive collaboration with scientific community, which can better inform climate change actions | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 2, 4 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This policy could be combined with E- 228. Councilmembers could also consider aligning the "shall"/"should" of the two policies. Updated in Draft CAO |
| Policy E-230 | | | | | | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| ((E-220)) E-231 King County shall periodically review and evaluate climate change impacts on natural resources that its resource programs are designed to protect, such as open space, forests, fisheries, productive farmland, and water quality and treatment, ((in order)) to assess and improve the efficacy of existing strategies and commitments. | Technical change | Grammar and relocation | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-218)) E-232 King County shall ((apply its Equity Impact Review process)) use equity impact reviews to help prioritize investments in making infrastructure, natural resources, and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change. | Clarification of existing intent | Reflects current terminology and new defined term in the Comprehensive Plan | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-225)) E-233 Through land use and transportation actions, King County should work to reduce ((air quality and)) climate change ((related)) health inequities ((and)) related to the exposure of vulnerable populations to poor air quality and extreme weather events. | Clarification of existing intent | Edits for clarity and streamlining | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-226)) E-234 King County shall develop and incorporate into outreach efforts public health messages related to the health implications of climate change, particularly in urban communities, and the benefits of actions((, such as using alternative transportation options that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and improve public health)) that can reduce climate impacts on health. | Clarification of existing intent | Clarified to include clear connection to climate change and health impacts. Removed examples because the phrasing seemed like it was putting the burden of taking alternative transportation on those whose health is affected. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |

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| ((E-215a)) E-235 King County ((will)) shall collaborate with local cities, residents, and other partners to prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change on the environment, natural resources, human health, public safety, infrastructure, and the economy. | Substantive Change | Updates for clarity, to reflect current context, and consolidation of E-217 "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | King County would now be required to adapt to, not just prepare for, climate change impacts. This would acknowledge that climate impacts are already occurring. Preparation for climate impacts involves developing strategies, policies, and plans that aim to reduce vulnerability to future climate impacts, whereas adaptation involves modifying practices, systems, and behaviors to cope with the changes that are happening or are anticipated. This requirement is a policy choice, but is consistent with the SCAP. Infrastructure and natural resources are new areas of preparation and adaptation. This acknowledges that the grey infrastructure (roads, pipes, facilities, etc.) and green infrastructure (forests, floodplains, wetlands, soils, etc.) that King County manages and depends on are vulnerable to climate threats. |
| ((E-215d)) <u>E-236</u> King County ((should)) <u>shall</u> share information on climate change impacts and collaborate on approaches to improving ((resiliency of)) infrastructure <u>resilience</u> , disaster preparedness, and public engagement with ((local)) cities and other partners to ((make the best use of limited resources and)) more <u>efficiently and</u> effectively engage King County residents. | Substantive change | Strengthened to "shall" to reflect current practice Other edits for clarity, consistent with existing intent | No change; reflects current practice | 2020 SCAP Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 4 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Strengthens "should" to "shall", requiring the County to share information on climate change information. This is consistent with how E-235 is written, which already requires collaboration. |
| E-237 King County should implement and support equitable outreach, engagement, and technical assistance related to reducing climate risks. This should include providing information on climate change impacts in King County, local efforts to address climate change, and actions that individuals and communities can take to reduce climate risks. | New policy | To align with strategic focus in the Strategic Climate Action Plan to include climate preparedness in outreach, engagement, and technical assistance | Supports future ongoing and future investments in climate communications that are equitable | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Area 5; Priority Actions SRFC 2.1.1, SRFC 2.3.1, and SRFC 4.1.1 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | E-218 through E-221, which involve work with and for frontline communities, are all "shall" policies, although the things the County "shall" do in E-218 through E-220 are potentially softer – "shall prioritize," "shall invest in." This one about equitable engagement on reducing climate risks is the only "should" policy relating to the topic, although the action – "implement" – is potentially stronger than "prioritize" or "invest in." The level of mandate in each of these policies is a policy choice. Use of "shall" with concrete actions may require the County to appropriate additional funding. |
| E-217 King County will work with its cities and other partners to formulate and implement climate change adaptation strategies that address the impacts of climate change to public health and safety, the economy, public and private infrastructure, water resources, and habitat. | Clarification of existing intent | Consolidated with E-235 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-222 King County should collaborate with climate scientists in order to increase knowledge of current and projected climate change | Clarification of existing intent | Consolidated with E-229 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a | No issues identified. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
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| impacts to biodiversity. | | | | | Anticipated resource need: n/aAnticipated timeline: n/a | |
| ((E-201)) E-238 King County ((should)) shall participate in and support appropriate local, regional and national efforts and organizations focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, advancing climate equity, and preparing for climate change impacts. | Substantive change | Strengthened to "shall" and account for equity to reflect current practice | No change; reflects current practice | Aligned with Strategic Climate Action Plan identified actions where King County role is "convener" | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | No issues identified. |
| ((E-227)) E-239 King County shall support((s)) a comprehensive federal, regional and state science-based limits and a market-based price on carbon pollution and other greenhouse gas emissions. A portion of revenue from these policies should support local greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts, such as funding for transit service, energy efficiency and fossil fuel reduction projects, and forest protection and restoration initiatives; efforts that advance climate equity and frontline community investments; and climate preparedness and resilience efforts. King County shall also support((s)) renewable energy standards for electricity production and vehicle efficiency performance standards. | Substantive change | Reoriented from statements to policy directives, consistent with existing intent Additional changes to support eliminating fossil fuel use in the built environment and reflect Strategic Climate Action Plan focus areas | Increases opportunities to advance more strategies to achieve climate change goals | Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.1.1 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | No issues identified. |
| ((E-228)) E-240 King County ((should)) shall advocate for federal, regional and state initiatives and grant and loan programs that support local investments in projects and programs, such as community solar, fossil fuel reduction, ((and)) energy efficiency retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, climate equity, and ((prepare)) preparedness strategies for climate change impacts. | Substantive change | Strengthened to a "shall" to reflect existing work and intent to continue to do so into the future. Additional changes to support eliminating fossil fuel use in the built environment and reflect Strategic Climate Action Plan focus areas | Increases opportunities to advance more strategies to achieve climate change goals | Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.1.1 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | This policy is strengthened to require the County advocate for climate change impact-related projects and programs. |
| ((E-229)) E-241 King County shall work with ((the business community)) relevant industry sector partners to support efforts that reduce energy and fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions, ((and to promote King County and the Puget Sound region as a center for green manufacturing)) as well as promoting locally recognized high growth sectors identified in the Green Jobs Strategy, such as green manufacturing, construction, transportation, and professional services in King County and the Puget Sound. The ((e))County shall also work with community groups, consumers, and the retail sector to promote the consumption ((ef green-manufactured products)) and adoption of products and services supporting reduced energy use and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. | Substantive change | To support eliminating fossil fuel use in the built environment and Green Jobs Strategy | Increases opportunities to advance more strategies to achieve climate change goals | Strategic Climate Action Plan Green Jobs Strategy Report – "Invest in local high-demand industry sectors" goal | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | The green jobs strategy has not been adopted by Council. Including it in a shall policy raises it to the level of Council policy. The reference in this policy is also not necessary given the examples provided, and the policy could be reworded to delete the reference to an agency-level plan. Also, the high growth sectors may change over time, so calling out what they are at this moment may not be useful over the long-term. |
| E-301 King County should support initiatives that reduce <u>air pollution</u> emissions due to indoor and outdoor wood burning consistent with the actions of Puget Sound Clean Air Agency to control this source of ((public health threat)) <u>health impacts</u> . | Clarification of existing policy intent | Edits for clarity | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-302 King County ((will)) shall continue to actively develop partnerships with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, local jurisdictions, the state, and public, private, and ((not-for-profit)) nonprofit groups to promote programs, ((and)) policies, and code | Substantive change | "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen. | Additional actions to improve air quality include those that benefit | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic and Regulatory Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted code changes | No issues identified. |

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| <u>changes</u> that reduce emissions <u>and health impacts</u> of ozone, <u>wildfire smoke</u> , fine particulates, toxics, and greenhouse gases, particularly for those populations already experiencing health disparities linked to air quality. | | Other edits for clarity and to reflect current context and practice | health and address wildfire smoke | section Focus Areas 3, 4 | supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes In 2024. • Anticipated resource need: No • Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | |
| E-303 King County should encourage the use of methods to improve indoor air quality and reduce smoke infiltration into indoor environments during wildfire smoke events, particularly for populations already experiencing health disparities, such as air filtration technologies and other mechanisms that reduce the level of wildfire smoke that can make its way into indoor environments. | New policy | To recognize the health effects of particulates from wildfire smoke on indoor air quality and health. Supports planned work on wildfire smoke. | Mitigation of the health effects of wildfire smoke indoors, especially for frontline communities | Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 3, 4, Priority Action Prep. 4.2.10; Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities Focus Area 4 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The County is already pursuing such strategies; the Council may want to consider changing this to a "shall" policy. |
| Policy E-402 | | | | | | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-403 King County should develop a biodiversity conservation framework and conservation strategy to achieve the goals of maintaining and recovering native biodiversity. ((This framework should be coordinated with the Washington Biodiversity Conservation Strategy where applicable.)) King County should collaborate with other governments and private and nonprofit organizations on the creation and implementation of this strategy. | Substantive change | To broaden beyond just coordination and just this one listed other body of work. | Supports regionally aligned and cosupportive actions on biodiversity, which can improve effectiveness | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-404 King County should collaborate with other governments and private and non-profit organizations to establish a bioinventory, an assessment and monitoring program, and a database of species currently using King County to provide baseline and continuing information on wildlife population trends in the county.)) | Substantive change | This is not a current or planned body of work. Instead, goal is to collaborate as part of biodiversity conservation as a whole in E-403. | Creates flexibility on how to deploy limited resources, consistent with planned work | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-405 King County should evaluate a range of projected future climate scenarios based on best available science to help ensure that <u>biodiversity</u> conservation efforts are able to meet their objectives in a changing climate. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Edit for clarity consistent with existing intent, as this policy is in the biodiversity section of the Comprehensive Plan | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-408 King County should carry out conservation planning efforts in close collaboration with other local governments, <u>Indian</u> tribes, state and federal governments, land((-))owners, community groups, and other conservation planning ((stakeholders)) <u>partners</u> . | Technical change | Current terminology | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-409 King County should develop a countywide landscape characterization system based on ecoregions as a key tool for assessing, protecting, and recovering biodiversity. | Substantive change | This is not a current or planned body of work. Instead, it is planned to develop a new corridor map, which will include ecoregion data as part of the inputs. This policy is not needed to do that | Creates flexibility on how to deploy limited resources, consistent with planned work | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |

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| Policy E-411 | | | | | | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-412 King County should work with adjacent jurisdictions, state and federal governments, <u>Indian</u> tribes, and landowners during development of land use plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, <u>fish passage plans</u> , and site development reviews to identify and protect habitat networks at jurisdictional and property boundaries. | Clarification of existing policy intent | To reflect current terminology and context and practice | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-412a King County should work with non-governmental organizations and regulatory agencies to accelerate removal of barriers to fish passage and should: a. Seek opportunities to accelerate permitting and project implementation; b. Explore all mechanisms available to remove barriers and restore salmon access to the most and highest quality habitat as quickly as possible; and c. Aggressively seek funding for projects to remove barriers. | New policy | To support fish passage outcomes. Emphasizes proactive coordination and collaboration to address bottlenecks related to regulations and funding sources that make it challenging to accomplish projects. Supports regional coordination to get the most bang for the buck as quickly as possible. This isn't addressed by current legal requirements to do the work, which in some cases are also causing the bottlenecks, if we just proceed as we've done in the past. | Expands reach and effectiveness of fish passage barrier removal planning and implementation | Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan 2021 Final Report Regarding Remedies to Existing Fish Passage Barriers for King County | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The "shoulds" could be changed to "shalls" to align with state mandates. |
| E-413 King County's efforts to restore and maintain biodiversity should place priority on protecting and restoring ecological processes that create and sustain habitats and species diversity and support climate change resilience. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Consolidates E-414 (acquisition is part of King County's efforts restore and maintain biodiversity) | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-414 When acquiring land for habitat protection, efforts should be made to protect and restore areas of each habitat type most likely to be resistant to and enhance resilience to climate change.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | Consolidated in E-413 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-420 King County should incorporate climate change projections into new species protection plans and shall revise older species protection plans when feasible or when conducting ((eight)) 10-year updates to incorporate projected impacts from climate change. | Clarification of existing policy intent | To reflect planning cycle changes recently adopted in state law | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Executive staff state that reports summarizing climate impacts on salmon and potential adaptation actions for salmon habitat protection and restoration were developed for King County's four Water Resource Inventory Areas between 2017-2019. The County does not have species protection plans for other species. |
| Policy E-423 | | | | | | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| ((E-426 Introductions of non-native, invasive plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate species should be avoided in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine environs.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | Consolidated in E-423 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a | No issues identified. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | Anticipated timeline: n/a | |
| E-427 King County should promote and restore native plant communities where sustainable, feasible, and appropriate to the site and surrounding ecological context and should incorporate climate change considerations into planting design, including: a. Encouraging management and control of nonnative invasive plants, including aquatic plants; b. Using environmentally sound methods of vegetation control to control noxious weeds; c. Use of locally- or climate- adapted species for natural area landscaping, restoration, rehabilitation, and erosion control on County-owned lands; and d. Adequate maintenance of plantings in habitat restoration projects to prevent invasion of weeds and ensure survival of native plantings. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Consolidates E-504 and E-428, as these are strategies that help to implement the overarching goal in this policy | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This policy could be strengthened by removing "encouraging" from sub a. |
| ((E-428 On county-owned lands, King County should use locally adapted native species for natural area landscaping, restoration, rehabilitation, and erosion control. Habitat restoration projects should include provisions for adequate maintenance of plantings to prevent invasion of weeds and ensure survival of native plantings.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | Consolidated in E-427 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-430 King County shall implement its strategy to minimize impacts of noxious weeds to the environment, recreation, public health, and the economy on all lands in the County. This includes preventing, monitoring and controlling infestations of state-listed noxious weeds and other non-native invasive weeds of concern on ((e))County-owned and managed lands. | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-430a Through training and other programs, King County should actively encourage the use of environmentally safe methods of vegetation control. Herbicide use on King County-owned and leased properties shall be restricted to low toxicity products applied by trained and licensed staff or contractors, and used only as necessary. King County shall be a good steward of public lands and protect water quality, by reducing the use of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides through the use of integrated pest and vegetation management practices. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Related to 2016 Work Plan Action 5 – Implementation Needs Changes to this policy adopted in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan were reviewed further to determine if code changes were needed to implement them. It was determined that the 1st sentence was intended to be about private actions, the 2nd and 3rd sentences were intended to be about King County actions. The policy is proposed to be updated accordingly. With these clarifying changes, no implementing code regulations are necessary. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-431 Management activities should, when feasible and practicable, be ((designed)) implemented in a manner that can test ((them)) results against management objectives and adjust as appropriate. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Edits for clarity | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| Policies E-432 through 442 | | | | | | These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | | | changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-446 King County should: a. ((e))Evaluate the need for product or material restrictions because of water quality impacts; b. Ensure the use of a data- and science-driven approach to identify and reduce the use of contaminants of emerging concern; c. Seek changes to state regulations and permits that incentivize regional stormwater investments where they will achieve the best outcomes for pollution reduction; and d. Continue to support regional collaborative stormwater management approaches, including consideration of incentives for regional collaboration and identification of supplemental funding sources for collaborative stormwater management in the region. | Substantive change | To further support current and planned regional stormwater planning goals and efforts | Improvements in regional collaboration on stormwater management and implementation of science-based program and regulatory strategies to address contaminants of emerging concern | Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan Regional Stormwater Investment Planning Initiative | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The elements of this policy relating to regional collaborative stormwater planning may make more sense in Policy F-273 than in this policy. |
| E-447 ((King County recognizes that conserving and restoring headwater and upland forest cover is important for preventing flooding, improving water quality, and protecting salmon and other wildlife habitat.)) The central role that forests ((cover)) play((s)) in supporting hydrologic and other ecological processes should be reflected in ((policies and programs addressing)) stormwater management, flooding, wildlife, and open space policies and programs. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Removed statement that is not policy direction; this statement is already covered in the narrative. Other edits for clarity | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-448 King County's critical areas and clearing and grading regulations should provide for activities compatible with long-term forest use, including use of recreational trails, firewood collection, forest fire ((prevention)) risk reduction, forest management, and control of invasive plants. | Substantive Change | To reflect current terminology and context | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This change was identified as a clarification in the Executive transmittal, however it is substantive because it changes the County's focus from preventing forest fires to reducing risk from forest fires. This change in focus is a policy change, but aligns with current best practice that trying to prevent all forest fires leads to more large, catastrophic fires, and that a risk reduction approach is preferable. Flag for Critical Area Ordinance update |
| E-449a King County should identify and implement strategies that optimize ecological, social, and economic benefits of establishing and maintaining large blocks of forest, particularly in upper watershed areas and along major river corridors. These approaches should: a. Promote establishment of a broad mix of native tree species and age classes, including eventual establishment of forests with old growth characteristics in areas prioritized as having high conservation value; and b. Consider the effect of conservation acquisitions on the viability of the timber resource economy in King County. | New policy | Supports, and sets guidance for, exploring establishment of old growth corridors to result in multiple benefits (ecological, water quality, climate resilience) while considering viability of timber economy. Relates to new proposed Work Plan action. | Potential protected areas intended for long-term development as future old growth forests | Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan Land Conservation Initiative | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The policy direction is not clear. It could be reworded to align with Work Plan Action 5 in Chapter 12. |
| ((E-450-Site development practices should minimize soil disturbance and maximize retention of native vegetation and soils. Where soil disturbance is unavoidable, native soils should be stockpiled on site and reused on site in accordance with best management practices to the maximum extent practicable. | Clarification of existing policy intent | This is a requirement of the Surface Water Design Manual and does not need to be a policy | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| E-451 King County shall require the use of organic matter to restore disturbed soils on site developments. | Clarification of existing policy intent | More appropriate for code; see K.C.C. 16.82.100.G.1. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-452 The role of salmon in transferring nutrients and maintaining the productivity of riparian and floodplain soils should be incorporated in the development of salmon and soil conservation plans.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | This policy likely resulted from an effort in the early 2000s that was highly focused on soils during development. This is now settled science and longstanding practice. No need for policy to promote the concept. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| ((E-454 King County shall regard the region's organic waste materials as resources which should be reused as much as possible, and minimize the disposal of such materials.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | Redundant to E-456 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-455 King County shall work with regional ((stakeholders)) partners to ensure a viable and safe organics recycling infrastructure that allows for yard, food, wood, biosolids, manure and other organic wastes to be turned into resources benefiting climate change, soil health, water quality, and maximizing landfill diversion, consistent with the County's zero waste of resources and Re+ goals. | Substantive change | Connects to County goals for zero waste of resources Other edits to reflect current terminology | Creates consistent delivery of solid waste management services in support of progress towards zero waste | Re+ Strategic Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Although the Council has expressed support for the Re+ plan via motion, adding its goals to a shall policy gives it greater weight, which is a policy change. |
| E-456 King County shall promote, encourage, and require, where appropriate, the beneficial use <u>and reuse</u> of organic materials <u>and minimize their disposal</u> , including but not limited to their use in the following activities: agriculture and silviculture; road, park and other public project development; site development and new construction; restoration and remediation of disturbed soils; nursery and sod production; and landscaping. For these purposes, organic materials do not include fly ash. | Substantive change | Connects to County goals for zero waste of resources | Increased reuse and minimization of disposal of organic material | Re+ Strategic Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | No issues identified. |
| E-457 King County agencies shall use <u>compost and</u> recycled organic products, ((such as compost,)) whenever feasible, and promote the application of ((organic material)) <u>compost</u> to compensate for historic losses of organic content in soil caused by <u>human actions, including</u> development, <u>landscaping</u> agricultural practices, and resource extraction. | Substantive change | Updated to align with new composting requirements in RCW 43.19A.160 and .120 (while retaining existing requirements from RCW 43.19a.040), as well as composting requirements in Ordinance 19552. | None; reflects current practice and requirements | RCW 43.19A.160 and .120 Ordinance 19552 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Executive staff state that a comma is missing, which changes the meaning of this policy, and that it should read "landscaping, agricultural practices." The wording of this policy could be clarified to more closely align with Executive intent, which is that agencies are required to first consider use of compost, but that there may be circumstances where compost use is not feasible and other recycled organic products, such as biosolids, would be appropriate to consider. Without a change, this policy could be interpreted as requiring agency use of both compost AND recycled organic products, which appears out in front of existing adopted policies. |
| E-458 King County ((will)) shall seek to enhance soil quality((¬,)) and protect water quality and biodiversity across the landscape by | Clarification of existing policy intent | "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a | No Issues Identified. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| developing policies, programs, and incentives that support the goal of no net loss of organic material. | | directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen. | | | Anticipated timeline: n/a | |
| E-461 King County shall use incentives, regulations, capital projects, open space acquisitions, public education and stewardship, and other programs ((like)) such as recycled water to manage its aquatic resources (Puget Sound, rivers, streams, lakes, freshwater and marine wetlands, and groundwater) and to protect and enhance their multiple beneficial uses. Use of water resources for one purpose should, to the fullest extent practicable, preserve opportunities for other uses. | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-465 King County should use the information from local and regional water supply planning processes to enhance the county's water resource protection and planning efforts, including implementation of Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans. | Policy Staff Flag | | | | | • It's unclear what this policy is intended to cover. Executive staff state that the existing coordinated water system plans do not address the connection between potable water supply and impacts to streamflow. There are also changes to a related policy, F-242, which calls for additional regional water planning. E-465 could be deleted. |
| E-466 As watershed plans are developed and implemented, zoning, regulations, and incentive programs ((may)) should be developed, applied, and monitored so that critical habitat in King County watersheds is capable of supporting sustainable and fishable salmonid populations. Watershed-based plans should define how the natural functions and values of watersheds critical to salmonids are protected so that the quantity and quality of water and sediment entering the streams, lakes, wetlands and rivers can support salmonid spawning, rearing, resting, and migration. | Clarification of existing policy intent | As written, this policy allows these actions to happen (as a permissive "may"), when an encouragement to do it is intended (as a "should"), consistent with Comprehensive Plan nomenclature | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No Issues Identified. |
| ((E-467 Responsibility for the costs of watershed planning and project implementation, including water quality, groundwater protection, and fisheries habitat protection, should be shared between King County and other jurisdictions within a watershed.)) | Clarification of existing policy intent | This is an outdated policy; shared funding model has been in place for many years and the continued funding model for Water Resource Inventory Area work is not in question. Policy is no longer necessary. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No Issues Identified. |
| E-469 ((A tiered system for protection of aquatic resources should be developed based on an assessment of basin conditions using Regionally Significant Resource Area and Locally Significant Resource Area designations, Water Resource Inventory Area Plans, habitat assessments completed for acquisitions plans, the Water Quality Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Loads, engoing monitoring programs, and best available science.)) Through a coordinated approach of incentives and acquisitions, King County should prioritize, enhance, and protect a variety of ecosystems, including urban open space uplands, riparian areas, floodplains, and aquatic systems with the highest conservation value and those supporting equitable access to quality open space. | Substantive change | Current policy is redundant to E-468; updated to reflect current work King County is doing in this area. | Conservation of high-value open space | Land Conservation Initiative Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No Issues Identified. |
| Policies E-470 through E-489 | | | | | • | These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| E-490 Lakes ((should)) shall be protected through management of lake watersheds and shorelines. Lakes ((sensitive to nutrients shall)) should also be protected through the management of nutrients that stimulate potentially harmful algae blooms and aquatic plant growth. Where sufficient information is available, measurable standards for lake quality should be set and management plans established to meet the standards. Formation of lake management districts or other financing mechanisms should be considered to provide the financial resources necessary to support actions for protection of ((sensitive)) lakes. | Substantive change | Strengthened first existing "should" to a "shall" to reflect current practice - the County currently does and plans to continue to protect lakes through watershed management actions (stormwater infrastructure and retrofits, riparian buffer plantings etc.) The County protect lakes for many reasons - bacteria, nutrients, etc. The term "sensitive to nutrients" is not a currently used term for lake management. So, it's misleading, as the County doesn't have a separate approach for these lakes than others. The policy should capture that all lakes should be protected to align with current practice. Given this change, the second clause should also be changed to "should," as the nutrient standard would have large, non-resourced implications to the current program. | No change; reflects current practice | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic and Regulatory Description of proposed regulations: Existing Shoreline Master Program regulations Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | Proposed changes invert the previous should/shall within the policy. The County now "shall" protect lakes through management generally, but "should" protect lakes through management of nutrients, whereas the opposite is the case in the existing comp plan. |
| E-491 King County, in partnership with other governments and community groups, should monitor and assess lake water and sediment quality, physical habitat, ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology. Assessment should identify trends and describe impacts on human and ecosystem health, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat. | Clarification of existing policy intent | To reflect current context and practice 2nd half of the policy is made into new policy E-491a, as the 1st part of E-491 is about monitoring/ assessments, and this part is about addressing pollution sources. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-491a ((The c)) King County should collaborate with other ((affected)) jurisdictions, Public Health - Seattle & King County((, the State Department of Health, and the State Department of Ecology)), and state agencies to identify and address pollutant sources adversely impacting aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem health((; through local or grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce or remove these inputs)). | Substantive change | Relocation of 2 nd half of E-491. Removed direction to do this work only through local or grant funding and only with 2 state agencies, as it limits the opportunities and sources that allows the County to reduce/ remove/ address the pollutant inputs. Funding considerations are already implied in the "should" at the start of the policy. Other edits for clarity and current context and practice | Broader collaboration and funding opportunities, which can improve outcomes for management of pollution sources | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| E-492 Swimming beaches on lakes should be monitored for ((bacterial)) fecal contamination and algal toxins. When data shows public health to be at risk, Public Health - Seattle & King County should take appropriate action to address public health risks. | Clarification of existing policy intent | More specific wording of what is actually monitored | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| Policy E-493 | | | | | | This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-494 King County should protect the quality and quantity of groundwater countywide by: a. Implementing adopted Groundwater Management Plans; b. Reviewing and implementing approved Wellhead Protection Programs in conjunction with cities, state agencies and groundwater purveyors; c. Developing, with affected jurisdictions, best management practices for development and for forestry, agriculture, and mining operations based on adopted Groundwater Management Plans and Wellhead Protection Programs. The goals of these practices should be to promote aquifer recharge quality and to strive for no net reduction of recharge to groundwater quantity; d. Refining regulations to protect Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas and well((-))head protection areas; e. Educating the public about Best Management Practices to protect groundwater; f. Encouraging forest retention and active forest stewardship; g. Incorporating into its land use and water service decisions consideration of potential impacts on groundwater quality and quantity, and the need for long-term aquifer protection; h. Coordinating groundwater management efforts with cities, water districts, groundwater committees, and state and federal agencies; i. Requiring the proper decommissioning of any well abandoned in the process of connecting an existing water system to a Group A water system; and j. When funding is available, monitoring groundwater status and trends, especially for the groundwater protection planning areas established by King County, and evaluating the groundwater monitoring results, along with groundwater monitoring performed by public water systems, plus their annual quantities of groundwater management area. | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. This policy is also being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations matrix. |
| E-495 King County should protect groundwater recharge quantity and quality by promoting low impact development and other methods that infiltrate stormwater runoff where site conditions permit and where pollution source controls and stormwater treatment can prevent potential groundwater contamination. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Edits for clarity, to reflect current practice, and align with similar language E-496 | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Low impact development and infiltration of stormwater is required. This policy could be deleted. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|--|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| E-496 ((In making future zoning and land use decisions that are subject to environmental review,)) King County ((shall)) should periodically evaluate and monitor groundwater policies, their implementation costs, and the impacts upon the quantity and quality of groundwater. The depletion or degradation of aquifers needed for potable water supplies should be avoided or mitigated, and the need to plan and develop feasible and equivalent replacement sources to compensate for the potential loss of water supplies should be considered. | Substantive change | Evaluation of impacts on quantity/quality of zoning changes occurs where appropriate (such as when evaluating the Vashon affordable housing special district overlay); but it may not be applicable in all cases. That type of review is more appropriate for review of development proposals subject to State Environmental Policy Act review, which is already required and does not need a policy to do. Additionally, evaluation all policies and their implementation costs would not make sense as to occur part of reviewing an individual zoning change or development proposal. This would be its own evaluation. This is not something that is currently resourced; so, a should is more appropriate. | Evaluation occurs in a more appropriate pathway, and in consideration of available resources | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | This is a substantive change, to change a "shall" to a "should." The rationale column states that this is not resourced and should occur as needed as part of development proposals or as part of specific zoning proposals that are likely to have an impact on groundwater. As this is the case, the Councilmembers may wish to consider whether this policy is necessary. |
| E-497 King County should protect groundwater in the Rural Area by: a. Preferring land uses that retain a high ratio of permeable to impermeable surface area, and that maintain and/or augment the natural soil's infiltration capacity and treatment capability for groundwater; b. Evaluating impacts on groundwater, where appropriate, during review of commercial, industrial and residential subdivision development projects that are proposed to be located within critical aquifer recharge areas, and, where appropriate, requiring mitigation for anticipated groundwater impacts to domestic water supply resulting from these projects; and c. Requiring standards for maximum vegetation clearing limits, impervious surface limits, and, where appropriate, infiltration of surface water. | Policy Staff Flag | | | | | The reference to maximum clearing limits could be removed, consistent with the repeal of unconstitutional code sections. |
| E-498 King County should, in partnership with water utilities, ((evaluate the likely effects of)) work to ensure that climate change impacts on ((aquifer recharge and groundwater supplies and develop a strategy to mitigate potential impacts in coordination with other climate change initiatives)) groundwater are being accounted for in water supply planning and management, such as by a. Evaluating effects of climate change on aquifer recharge and groundwater supplies; and b. Developing strategies through climate change initiatives with cities, water districts, groundwater committees, state and federal agencies, and Indian tribes to mitigate impacts of climate change. | Clarification of existing policy intent | Restructured and edited to provide clarity on the policy direction, with implementing actions as examples | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Executive staff state that they are not aware of any current work in this area, but note that state law now requires that Group A community public water systems include a climate resilience element in their water supply plans. As no work is currently planned and regulations have adopted, Councilmembers could consider giving further direction or removing the policy. The state of the state that they are not aware not aware and required the state of th |
| Policies E-498a, E-499, E-499b and E-499f | | | | | | These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | | | 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-499g King County should collaborate with ((the))federal and state agencies, (((including))) the Puget Sound Partnership((;)), cities, Indian tribes, other counties, and universities to monitor and assess Puget Sound marine waters, nearshore areas, and embayments. Monitoring and assessment should: aAddress water and sediment quality, bioaccumulation of chemicals, physical habitat, ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology ((.Assessment should)); and bIdentify trends and describe impacts on human and | Clarification of existing policy intent | Edits for clarity: restructured into sub items and broke out into two separate policies, as E-499g is about monitoring/ assessments, and new E-499gg is about addressing pollution sources. Other edits for clarity, current | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The policy could be streamlined by removing the specific potential partners. |
| ecosystem health and safety, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat. | | terminology, and consistent language as with lakes in E-491 and E-491a. | | | | |
| E-499gg ((The c)) King County should collaborate with other ((affected)) jurisdictions, Public Health – Seattle & King County, ((the State Department of Health, and the State Department of Ecology)), and state agencies to identify and address pollutant sources adversely impacting aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem health((; through local or grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce or remove these inputs)). | Substantive change | Relocation of 2 nd half of E-499g. Removed direction to do this work only through local or grant funding and only with 2 state agencies, as it limits the opportunities and sources that allows the County to reduce/ remove/ address the pollutant inputs. Funding considerations are already implied in the "should" at the start of the policy. | Broader collaboration and funding opportunities, which can improve outcomes for management of pollution sources | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| | | Other edits for clarity and current context and practice | | | | |
| E-499hh King County shall continue to support efforts of the Poverty Bay Shellfish Protection District to safeguard against threats to water quality that limit access to existing commercial shellfish harvesting areas. | New policy | Ensures continued resourcing and support for/ management of the Poverty Bay Shellfish production District, which extends beyond just unincorporated King County, and thus has more uncertainty of continuation | Safe-to-harvest shellfish in Poverty Bay | Ordinance 18840 RCW 90.72.030 and 90.72.045 | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | No issues identified. |
| E-499hhh King County should continue to support regional program and actions to monitor and address fecal pollution of King County lakes, streams, and beaches, such as the Pollution Identification and Control Program being run in collaboration with the King Conservation District and Public Health – Seattle & King County. | New policy | Supports future cooperation with partners to manage pollution and reduce toxics and pathogens in lakes, streams, and beaches beyond just unincorporated King County. The Pollution Identification and Control Program is one of the strategies identified in the Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan to support associated goals | Improved quality of lakes, streams, and beaches countywide | Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-499ii King County supports the coexistence of beavers and people in rural King County. ((King County should prepare a beaver management strategy to guide a program on issues such as where and how beavers and humans can co-exist with or without | Substantive change | Creates flexibility in how to manage the coexistence of beavers and people; a "strategy" is not needed before | Streamlining beaver management actions | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | As this does not have a policy direction, "should" or "shall" could be added. |

| Policy | Type of Change | Executive's Rationale | Executive's Anticipated outcome | Consistent with other plans | Executive's Planned Implementation | Policy Staff Comments |
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| engineered solutions and where beavers should be excluded or removed.)) | | implementing programs, actions, and/or regulations. | | | | |
| E-499j King County shall continue to participate in the Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plan implementation efforts and in other regional efforts to recover salmon and the ecosystems they depend on, such as the Puget Sound Partnership. King County's participation in planning and implementation efforts shall be guided by the following principles: a. Focus on federally listed salmonid species and declining stocks protected under Indian tribal treaty rights first, take an ecosystem approach to habitat management and seek to address management needs for other species over time; b. Concurrently work on early actions, long-term projects and programs that will lead to improvements to, and information on, habitat conditions in King County that can enable the recovery of endangered or threatened salmonids, while maintaining the economic vitality and strength of the region; c. Address both King County's growth management needs and habitat conservation needs; d. Use best available science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative Code ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925)); e. Improve water quality, water quantity and channel characteristics; f. Coordinate with key decision-makers and ((stakeholders)) partners; and g. Develop, implement and evaluate actions within a watershed-based program of data collection and analysis that documents the level of effectiveness of specific actions and provides information for adaptation of salmon conservation and recovery strategies. | Policy Staff Flag | To reflect current terminology. Taking WAC citation up a level to cover the whole chapter, as intended. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Sub a. contains a typo making the direction unclear. If the intent is that "federally listed salmonid species and declining stocks protected under Indian tribal treaty rights" be the first focus, with ecosystem approaches and seeking to address management needs of other species being secondary priorities, it should read "then take an ecosystem" If the intent is for all three of these things happen simultaneously, then "first" should be struck. This is a policy choice. |
| E-499k King County should use the recommendations of approved Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans to inform the updates to development regulations as well as operations and capital planning for its <u>floodplain management</u> , <u>fish passage</u> , surface water management, transportation, wastewater treatment, parks, and open space programs. | Substantive Change | To reflect current practice | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-499I King County should seek to support Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plan goals of maintaining intact natural landscapes through: a. Retaining low density land use designations such as Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Area designations; b. Promoting Current Use Taxation and other incentives; c. Promoting stewardship programs including development and implementation of Forest Plans, Farm Plans, and Rural Stewardship Plans; d. Promoting the use of ((\(\beta\))\(\left\)\(\pri\)\(\pri\)\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\pri\)\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\pri\)\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\pri\)\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\pri\)\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\pri\)\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\frac{1}{2 | Technical change | Grammar | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The lead in says that salmon recovery goals of "maintaining intact natural landscapes" but not all the subs actually do this (sub. a., sub. d). There are other WRIA policies, so any rewrite should look at all of them holistically. |

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| E-499mKing County ((will)) shall monitor and evaluate programs and regulations to determine their effectiveness in contributing to Endangered Species Act listed species conservation and recovery, and ((will)) shall update and enhance programs and plans as necessary. King County should amend regulations, plans and best management practices to enhance their effectiveness in protecting and restoring salmonid habitat, using a variety of resources, including best available science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative Code ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925)). | Clarification of existing policy intent | "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen. Taking WAC citation up a level to cover the whole chapter, as intended. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-499n Through the Watershed Resource Inventory Area planning process, geographic areas vital to the conservation and recovery of listed salmon species are identified. King County ((will)) shall evaluate this information to determine appropriate short and long-term strategies, including, but not limited to: designation of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, development regulations (special district overlays, zoning, etc.), acquisitions, facility maintenance programs, and capital improvement projects. | Clarification of existing policy intent | "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen. | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | The first sentence is not policy direction and could be deleted. |
| E-499q King County should continue to take actions that ensure its habitat restoration and protection actions are implemented as part of a watershed-based salmon conservation strategy that integrates habitat actions with actions taken by harvest and hatchery managers. Harvest and hatchery managers specifically include Indian tribes with treaty-reserved fishing rights , the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Appropriate venues for this coordination include watershed plan implementation groups and other local or regional salmon management entities that rely on actions by habitat, harvest, and hatchery managers to achieve specific goals and objectives. | Substantive change | Edits for clarity to align with existing intent | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. Executive staff indicate that there are not hatchery managers run by Indian tribes that don't have treaty rights. |
| Policies E-499qq, E-499qqq, E-499r, E-501, E-503, E-504, E-506, E-507, E-507a, E-507b, E-509, E-511, and E-514 | | | | | | These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix |
| E-499t King County should review new business permit and change of use applications for businesses that propose to use hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous waste as part of their operations. The ((e))County should offer to provide technical assistance related to hazardous waste disposal requirements, ((spill response,)) and non-toxic alternatives. | Substantive Change | To align with current County role | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | Executive staff states that "new business permit" means "business license." It should be noted that the vast majority of businesses in unincorporated King County do not require business licenses, so many businesses that use hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous waste would not be captured by this review. This language could be clarified to capture all new and changed uses. |
| E-601 King County shall ((incorporate into)) consider high priority strategies and actions identified in the King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, or successor plans, in its land use and transportation planning, economic development efforts, and natural resource management ((the most promising actions)) to reduce | Substantive change | Related to 2016 Work Plan Action 5 – Implementation Needs "Most promising actions" was added to the policy in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update. | Improved alignment with regional strategies for natural disasters, which can improve | Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan | Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing | This policy is softened by changing "shall incorporate into" to "shall consider." Executive staff state the change is recommended to reflect current context and adopted policy framework. |

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| impacts from natural hazards, such as earthquake, flooding, and landslide risk. | | This was identified as possibly needing implementing code changes due to the "shall incorporate." Upon further review, it was determined that the new language was vague and needed refinement/ clarification. Given this, the policy is recommended to be updated to reflect current context and adopted policy framework by referencing the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Code changes are premature at this time; so, "shall consider" is more appropriate. | outcomes for more resilient systems and communities | | | |
| E-701 King County should conduct a comprehensive and coordinated program of environmental monitoring and assessment to track long-term changes in climate (((e.g.,)) such as precipitation(($_{7}$)) and temperature), water quality and quantity, toxics in fish and shellfish, land use, land cover and aquatic and terrestrial habitat, natural resource conditions, and biological resources as well as the effectiveness of policies, programs, regulations, capital improvement projects, and stormwater treatment facility design. This monitoring program should be coordinated with other jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, Indian tribes, and universities to ensure the most efficient and effective use of monitoring data. | Technical change | Grammar and current terminology | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |
| E-704 King County should continue to collect data on key natural resource management and environmental parameters for use in ((KingStat, King County's Strategic Plan implementation goals and objectives, and other)) environmental benchmarking programs. Findings should be reported to the public, partner agencies, and decision makers. The information collected should be used to inform decisions about policies, work program priorities and resource allocation. | Technical change | | | | | No issues identified. |
| E-705 King County shall fully comply with the monitoring requirements in its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, including seeking compliance strategies that are cost-effective and useful. | Policy Staff Flag | | | | | This policy, related to NPDES permit requirements, is not needed and could be deleted. |
| E-707 King County shall continue to coordinate with other governments, agencies, <u>Indian</u> tribes, non-governmental organizations and others to develop and implement regional and watershed-based Monitoring and Adaptive Management programs focused on achieving salmon recovery goals. The programs shall continue to include monitoring of salmon populations and habitat status and trends over time in order for the ((e)) <u>C</u> ounty and its partners in salmon recovery to be able to access the overall trajectory of salmon recovery efforts. | Technical change | Grammar and current terminology | n/a | n/a | Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a | No issues identified. |