



King County
Executive Climate Office

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 1, 2025

TO: Jake Tracy, Council Staff

FROM: Marissa Aho, Director, Executive Climate Office
Marissa Aho

RE: State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Threshold Determination of Non-Significance for a non-project action identified as: **Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0174.2 - King County Code Updates to Align with the 2025 Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP)**

CC: Erin Auzins, Supervising Legislative Analyst
Erin King-Clancy, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Carrie Lee, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Manager, ECO

The King County Executive Climate Office (ECO) was tasked with preparing the SEPA checklist, dated August 8, 2025. As the SEPA Official within ECO, I performed the SEPA review and threshold determination under SEPA for the proposed ordinance **No. 2025-0174 - King County Code Updates to Align with the 2025 Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP)**.

As part of that process, I reviewed the proposed ordinance, existing codes, regulations and policies, and the SEPA Checklist prepared by the Executive Project Lead, Carrie Lee, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Manager.

A Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) was issued August 11, 2025, and published on August 13, 2025. The comment period ended August 27, 2025. No public comment was received.

Proposed Ordinance 2025-0174.2 incorporates amendments made by committee on September 8, 2025, which included:

- EV Charging Fees: Reinstate existing code for using EV charging fees/penalties for maintenance and define "custodial agency," changing "director" to "custodial agency head."
- Green Building: Require LEED Platinum or Living Building Challenge CORE for market-rate transit-oriented developments on County property. New zero energy/carbon requirements

only apply to projects initiated post-January 1, 2026. Clarifies Envision Platinum for specific project types, adds a cost threshold for Envision certification, and changes Parks and Recreation's salmon-safe requirement to programmatic.

- Fleet Electrification: Standardizes EV charging targets to charging ports, not chargers.
- SCAP Development & Reporting: Restores labor advisory council involvement in SCAP development, aligns SCAP elements with recent SCAPs, removes cost-effectiveness/major expense summaries, updates terminology, and clarifies reporting frequency.
- DNRP Carbon Neutrality: Reinstates carbon neutrality requirement for DNRP, WTD, and SWD.
- Throughout: Makes technical/clarifying changes, removes obsolete requirements, and streamlines duplicative code.

These changes do not affect the original SEPA threshold determination. Proposed Implementation of Proposed Ordinance 2025-0174.2, as amended by the Transportation, Economy, and Environment Committee, would not cause significant adverse environmental impact.

No further action as it relates to this SEPA review, and the DNS is necessary at this time.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at 206-259-1737.