



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

November 8, 2016

Ordinance 18392

Proposed No. 2016-0489.1

Sponsors Upthegrove

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the Strategic Climate Action
2 Plan; amending K.C.C. chapter 18.25, Strategic Climate
3 Action Plan, in accordance with the 2015/2016 Biennial
4 Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 17941, Section 104, Proviso
5 P1, as amended; and amending Ordinance 17270, Section
6 2, and K.C.C. 18.25.010 and Ordinance 17166, Section 2,
7 as amended, and K.C.C. 18.50.010.

8 PREAMBLE:

9 Climate change is one of the paramount challenges of our generation.
10 King County is already experiencing the impacts of a changing climate:
11 warming temperatures, acidifying marine waters, rising seas, increasing
12 flooding risk, decreasing mountain snowpack, and less water in the
13 summer. Climate change will have long-term consequences for the
14 economy, the environment and public health and safety in King County.
15 King County has a long record of innovation, leadership and investment in
16 reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for the impacts of
17 climate change. Consideration of climate change impacts and
18 opportunities to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions are
19 deeply embedded throughout the work plans and capital investments of

20 county departments and lines of business. Since 2007, the investments in
21 energy efficiency and changes in operations have reduced normalized
22 building energy use by more than twenty percent, generating over three
23 million dollars in annual savings. King County Metro has pioneered the
24 use of hybrid bus technology, and the county is on track to have an all-
25 hybrid or electric bus fleet by 2018. King County is now producing
26 renewable energy equivalent to more than one hundred percent of total
27 operational energy use, excluding public transit vehicles.

28 The county's first Strategic Climate Action Plan was adopted in 2012 and
29 updated in 2015, consistent with K.C.C. chapter 18.25. The 2015 update
30 to the Strategic Climate Action Plan maps specific pathways and actions
31 needed to achieve the ambitious countywide climate goals of reducing
32 greenhouse gas emissions by eighty percent by 2050. It also integrates the
33 county's energy efficiency and renewable energy commitments and
34 outlines how the county will partner with cities, businesses and the civic
35 sector to lead the nation in demonstrating successful climate solutions.

36 The 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan update responds to the 2014
37 performance audit of the 2012 Strategic Climate Action Plan. The
38 performance audit made four recommendations:

- 39 1. Ensure that the 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan update and its
40 subsequent implementation and monitoring are informed by input from a
41 broad representation of community stakeholders in King County;

- 42 2. Establish explicit, and whenever possible, quantifiable connections
43 between the overarching climate goals and specific strategies and actions;
44 3. Incorporate verifiable economic analysis of the cost-effectiveness of
45 current and potential actions to reach Strategic Climate Action Plan
46 targets; and
47 4. Ensure there is an effective management structure and sufficient
48 resources in place to conduct the 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan
49 update.

50 In the report to the King County council dated August 4, 2015, the auditor
51 noted that "...the county executive provided an effective management
52 structure for strategic planning and that the updated Strategic Climate
53 Action Plan established explicit connections between actions and goals
54 based on rigorous technical analysis. The update has also made
55 substantive progress in strengthening community engagement and cost-
56 effectiveness analysis of climate actions."

57 The updated 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan was unanimously
58 adopted by the King County council in November 2015.

59 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

60 SECTION 1. Ordinance 17270, Section 2, and K.C.C. 18.25.010 are each hereby
61 amended to read as follows:

62 A.1. The executive shall develop a strategic climate action plan ~~((that uses the~~
63 ~~King County Strategic Plan 2010-2014, adopted by Ordinance 16897, as the organizing~~
64 ~~framework. The first strategic climate action plan shall be transmitted by June 29, 2012,~~

65 with a motion adopting the plan. Given the relatively short timeframe for completion of
66 the initial climate strategic plan, the scope will focus primarily on county operations and
67 activities that the county can influence through its direct operations, and will integrate
68 and refine current policies, plans, interlocal collaborations, and performance measures))
69 to establish long-term targets and guide actions within county services and operations to
70 reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, consistent with the
71 King County Strategic Plan. The strategic climate action plan shall include the
72 following:

73 a. the identification of specific ~~((objectives))~~ goals, strategies, measures,
74 targets and priority actions for ~~((reducing))~~ county services and operations to reduce
75 emissions ~~((and mitigating climate impacts))~~ consistent with the countywide goal of
76 reducing greenhouse gas emissions twenty-five percent by 2020, fifty percent by 2030
77 and eighty percent by 2050, compared to a 2007 baseline. The ~~((list of strategies shall be~~
78 ~~sufficiently detailed to provide clear guidance on how King County can directly affect the~~
79 ~~outcomes of reducing emissions and addressing the impact of climate change in King~~
80 ~~County))~~ strategic climate action plan should address five goal areas for reducing
81 greenhouse gas emissions: transportation and land use; building and facilities energy;
82 green building; consumption and materials management, including the environmental
83 purchasing program; and forestry and agriculture. The strategic climate action plan
84 should establish explicit and, whenever possible, quantifiable connections between the
85 overarching climate goals and specific strategies and actions;

86 b. ~~((related strategies, program activities and targets the 2010 Energy Plan~~
87 ~~adopted by Motion 13368, given the highly dependent relationship of reductions in~~

88 ~~climate pollution of both energy efficiency improvements and the strategic climate action~~
89 ~~plan))~~ the current assessment of climate change impacts in King County and
90 identification of goals, strategies, measures, targets and priority actions within county
91 services and county operations to address climate change impacts; ~~(and)~~

92 c. performance measures and related targets for both operational emissions and
93 implementation of priority strategies that advance the strategic climate action plan and
94 provide for assessment of progress relative to overarching climate goals at the community
95 scale; and

96 d. an assessment of cost effectiveness for key county services and operations
97 building on the pilot cost effectiveness assessment in the 2015 strategic climate action
98 plan update.

99 2. Consistent with the county's strategic planning cycle, updates will occur at
100 least every five years, unless more frequent updates are needed to respond to changing
101 information about emissions sources, performance relative to targets, new technologies,
102 or a changing regulatory context. The executive shall transmit updates to the strategic
103 climate action plan to the council for adoption by motion.

104 3. In developing future updates to the ~~((King County))~~ strategic climate action
105 plan, the executive shall continue to review climate change-related plans being developed
106 by other municipalities, including the city of Seattle's climate action plan, and identify
107 ~~((any))~~ opportunities ~~((for partnerships with cities or strategies or activities that could be~~
108 incorporated as part of the King County climate strategic plan)) and strengthen
109 recommendations for partnership with cities, businesses and nonprofit organizations to
110 advance actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for climate change

111 impacts. Future updates shall also continue to strengthen engagement of communities
112 most impacted by climate change, review and address the disproportionate impacts of
113 climate change, and develop solutions in a manner consistent with Ordinance 16948
114 establishing the county's fair and just principle.

115 ~~((3.))~~ 4. The council recognizes that ~~((the climate change related strategies~~
116 ~~identified in the King County Strategic Plan 2010-2014 may benefit from revision and~~
117 ~~thus the strategies identified for the climate action plan transmitted by June 29, 2012,))~~
118 science related to climate change and successful climate solutions is evolving, and the
119 strategic climate action plan should build upon and refine the strategies, activities~~((;))~~ and
120 performance targets ~~((identified as part of the King County Strategic Plan 2010-2014))~~ in
121 accordance with best available science, practices and progress toward emissions
122 reductions targets.

123 ~~((4. Subsequently, the executive shall transmit an update to the strategic climate~~
124 ~~action plan by June 29, 2015, for adoption by motion.))~~

125 5. Future ~~((U))~~ updates shall include the requirements of subsection A.1. of this
126 section ~~((and should also identify community level actions the county can implement to~~
127 ~~reduce climate pollution and prepare for the impacts of climate change. Given the strong~~
128 ~~interdependence between climate emissions and energy use, the King County Energy~~
129 ~~Plan will be combined and integrated with the 2012 update of the strategic climate action~~
130 ~~plan.~~

131 ~~5. Consistent with the county's strategic planning cycle, updates after 2015 will~~
132 ~~occur at least every five years, unless more frequent updates are needed to respond to~~

133 ~~changing information about emissions sources, performance relative to targets, new~~
134 ~~technologies, or a changing regulatory context)).~~

135 6. Progress in achieving strategic climate action plan performance measure
136 targets and accomplishment of priority actions identified in subsection A.1.~~((e-))~~ of this
137 section, as well as findings outlining recommendations for changes in policies, priorities
138 and capital investments, shall be reported and transmitted to council ~~((annually))~~
139 biennially. The progress report shall be included as part of the report required in K.C.C.
140 18.50.010.

141 B. Future updates to climate-related objectives and strategies in the King County
142 Strategic Plan should be informed by the strategic climate action plan.

143 C. The executive must transmit the legislation and reports required to be
144 submitted by this section in the form of a paper original and an electronic copy with the
145 clerk of the council, who shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all
146 councilmembers, the council chief of staff and the lead staff for the transportation,
147 economy and environment committee or its successor.

148 SECTION 2. Ordinance 17166, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 18.50.010 are
149 each hereby amended to read as follows:

150 The executive shall transmit by June 30 of ~~((each))~~ every other year a report on
151 the county's major environmental sustainability programs intended to reduce energy use,
152 climate emissions and resource use and prepare for the impacts of climate change, as
153 required in subsections A., B. and C. of this section. The executive shall transmit the
154 report to council, filed in the form of a paper original and an electronic copy with the
155 clerk of the council, who shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all

156 councilmembers, the council chief of staff and the lead staff for the transportation
157 economy and environment committee or its successor. ~~((The report shall cover the
158 climate change, energy, green building and environmental purchasing programs. For
159 each of these programs, the executive shall describe the major accomplishments and
160 include a summary of performance relative to key environmental goals and indicators,
161 challenges and opportunities and recommendations.))~~ The report shall be structured in a
162 way that links actual performance to established goals and indicators and can ~~((guide))~~
163 inform policy choices, program priorities ~~((;))~~ and investments in capital projects. ~~((The
164 report required in K.C.C. 18.25.010.A.6 shall be included as part of the report.))~~ The
165 report should address the following:

166 A. ~~((The climate change program))~~ Greenhouse gas emissions reductions,
167 including:

168 1. Progress towards achieving ~~((F))~~ the overarching greenhouse gas emissions
169 reduction targets for both county government operations and the county as a whole ~~((and
170 actions to reduce operational and community scale greenhouse gas emissions.))~~;

171 2. ~~((Specific climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, performance measures
172 and targets))~~ Progress against targets and measures and updates on the implementation of
173 strategies and priority actions in five goal areas for the strategic climate action plan:
174 transportation and land use; building and facilities energy; green building; consumption
175 and materials management, including the environmental purchasing program; and
176 forestry and agriculture; and

177 3. ~~((All))~~ A summary of major expenses associated with the climate impacts
178 research, community-scale emissions inventories, climate change ~~((program))~~ community

179 engagement, and climate change and energy efficiency partnerships with businesses and
180 cities;

181 ~~((4. A cost-benefit analysis of the program;))~~

182 B. ~~((The energy program, including energy targets established in the 2010 Energy~~
183 ~~Plan)) An update on implementation of climate preparedness strategies and priority
184 actions recommended in the current strategic climate action plan; and~~

185 C. The green building program, ~~((including:~~

186 ~~1. The total number of capital projects for which a division is responsible, and~~
187 ~~the number of LEED projects and other sustainable development projects, such as~~
188 ~~historic restoration and adaptive reuse, and their status;~~

189 ~~2. The additional costs associated with achieving LEED certification;~~

190 ~~3. The total number of non-LEED projects that have completed a sustainable~~
191 ~~development scorecard;~~

192 ~~4. The green strategies employed;~~

193 ~~5. The operations and maintenance costs for all completed projects~~
194 ~~incorporating green building principles and practices and projects incorporating~~
195 ~~renewable energy or energy efficiency components, as well as the operations and~~
196 ~~maintenance costs that were projected before construction;~~

197 ~~6. The reductions in greenhouse gas emissions;~~

198 ~~7. The construction waste recycled; renewable resources used;~~

199 ~~8. The green materials used; and~~

200 9. ~~The fiscal performance of all projects incorporating green building principles~~
201 ~~and practices including an accounting of all project costs and benefits that can be~~
202 ~~quantified, documented and verified; and~~

203 D. ~~The environmental purchasing program, including:~~

204 1. ~~Quantities, costs and types of recycled and other environmentally preferable~~
205 ~~products purchased, and quantities of computers and electronics recycled;~~

206 2. ~~A summary of savings achieved through the purchase of recycled and other~~
207 ~~environmentally preferable products;~~

208 3. ~~A summary of program promotional efforts; and~~

209 4. ~~Recommendations for changes in procurement policies)) as required in~~

210 K.C.C. 18.17.020.M.1.


211 SECTION 3. This ordinance amends K.C.C. chapter 18.25, in accordance with

212 the 2015/2016 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 17941, Section 104, Proviso P1, as
213 amended.
214


Ordinance 18392 was introduced on 10/31/2016 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/7/2016, by the following vote:

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

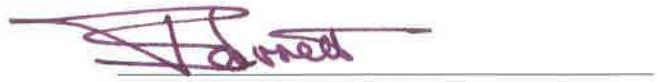

J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:


Melani Pedroza, Acting Clerk of the Council

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL CLERK

APPROVED this 17th day of November, 2016.


Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None