



King County

Shannon Braddock

King County Executive

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June 11, 2025

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits proposed legislation that would, if approved, update the King County Code (KCC) to align the KCC standards and language with the 2025 Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP). Updating the KCC to reflect the 2025 SCAP enables the efficient implementation of SCAP. The proposed changes aim to provide clarifications, technical adjustments, and updates to help the KCC better reflect contemporary best practices, new research and programs, and changes in terminology that collectively will lead to greater efficiency and alignment. This proposed legislation is transmitted simultaneously with the 2025 update to the SCAP.

The proposed changes also address several key topic areas, where a range of specific refinements are suggested to align with SCAP goals and current operational practices, including:

- Electric vehicle (EV) adoption – updates target dates and percentages for the transition of the County’s non-bus fleet based on market availability and consistency with 2025 SCAP targets.
- Installation and operation of EV charging stations – expands the range of venues where the County might install public EV chargers and clarifies the custodial agencies involved. Also adds greater flexibility to the process for setting and updating user fees to align with current regional standards.
- The green building program – clarifies net zero and third-party certification requirements in King County, and updates minimum diversion rates for the recycling of construction and demolition materials.

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- The carbon offset program – amends section to require alignment with the SCAP, addresses operational and data management requirements, and adjusts language to reflect the maturation of the County's climate work.

Please see the enclosed supplemental documentation listing additional details of the proposed amendments.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. Together with the 2025 SCAP, these proposed amendments to KCC will allow more efficient and streamlined implementation of SCAP goals.

If your staff have questions, please contact Marissa Aho, Director, Executive Climate Office, at 206-259-1737.

Sincerely,



for

Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Stephanie Pure, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Marissa Aho, Director, Executive Climate Office