

**King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C)  
2022 Annual Work Plan and Budget**

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January 2022



**King County**

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## II. Motion Text

Motion 14449<sup>1</sup>, Section B, Paragraph 1:

B. Consistent with Ordinance 17285, which authorized the Interlocal Agreement for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, the executive is requested to coordinate with staff of the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its successor, in developing the annual work plans and budget for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration under the interlocal agreement. The executive is requested to submit by January 31, and every year thereafter, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration annual work plan and budget to the council for acceptance by motion.

Motion 14449 is attached as Appendix A.

## III. Executive Summary

This report provides annual information about the [King County-Cities Climate Collaboration](#) (K4C) work plan and budget, as required by Motion 14449. This is the seventh annual K4C work plan and budget submitted to the King County Council.

The King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) is a voluntary formal partnership between King County, 16 cities, and the Port of Seattle (“partners”), focused on coordinating and enhancing the effectiveness of local climate and sustainability action.<sup>2</sup> The work of K4C partners is guided by the [K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments](#), which were updated in 2019.

In 2021, the K4C developed shared [K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests for 2022](#), engaged partners and the King County Council to encourage and support the use of a new [Climate Action Toolkit](#) (adopted by the King County Council in April 2021), and supported unanimous adoption in May 2021 of King County’s [2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#), among other accomplishments.

The K4C budget is based on shared contributions by K4C partners, as stipulated in the [K4C interlocal agreement](#) (ILA). The K4C budget for each year (2021 and 2022) is \$46,700, or \$93,400 for the two-year period. In 2021 and 2022, the K4C is partnering with King County to expend \$50,411 of this budget to develop city-specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data and related technical and planning work.

Much of the K4C’s work is completed by staff and elected officials of K4C partners and is not part of the K4C budget. Examples of 2022 work will include supporting city staff in integrating new climate-related Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) into updates to city comprehensive plans, developing new communications tools and outcomes related to the GHG inventories and modeling project, supporting engagement by elected officials on state legislative issues, engaging in development of regional approaches to supporting energy efficiency retrofit programs, and developing and implementing a K4C climate preparedness agenda.

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<sup>1</sup> [Link to Motion 14449](#)

<sup>2</sup> The K4C partners are the cities of Bellevue, Burien, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kent, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park, Mercier Island, Sammamish, Seattle, Shoreline, Snoqualmie, Tukwila; the Port of Seattle; and King County.

The work of the K4C is an important part of the County’s commitment to and support of climate action and is integrated with King County’s 2020 SCAP.

## IV. Background

**Organizational Overview:** The [King County-Cities Climate Collaboration](#) (K4C) is a voluntary but formal partnership between King County, 16 cities, and the Port of Seattle (“partners”) focused on coordinating and enhancing the effectiveness of local government’s actions on climate and sustainability. K4C staff collaborate on the following:

- Outreach – to develop, refine, and utilize messaging and tools for climate change outreach to engage decision makers, other cities, and the general public
- Coordination – to adopt consistent standards, benchmarks, strategies, and overall goals related to climate change response
- Solutions – to share local success stories, challenges, data, and products that support and enhance climate mitigation efforts by all partners
- Funding and resources – to secure grant funding and other shared resource opportunities to support climate-related projects and programs

Staff from the King County Executive Office and Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) help lead and support the K4C, with support and participation from additional County staff from Metro Transit, the Department of Executive Services, and the Department of Local Services. Staff and elected officials from K4C partners are equal decision makers and partners in the work of the K4C.

**Key Historical Context:** This report is the seventh annual K4C work plan and budget to be submitted to the King County Council, as required by Motion 14449. Details of the requirements of Motion 14449 are included in Section III of this report.

**Key Current Context:** In 2021, K4C staff and elected officials worked to implement recently updated [K4C Joint Climate Action Commitments](#) (2019), develop shared [K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests for 2022](#), and engage, through the [Growth Management Planning Council](#) and related forums, to support updates to CPPs that strengthened shared County and city GHG emission targets and updated related measurement policies.

The K4C also supported implementation of a new [Climate Action Toolkit](#) (adopted by the King County Council in April 2021), which will help mobilize cities throughout King County, uniting efforts to rapidly cut GHG emissions and realize multiple co-benefits, including equitable distribution of benefits and preparation for regional climate impacts. The toolkit, with actionable and practical actions and policies and an Excel-based analysis model, is designed to enable cities to develop customized climate solutions to meet the specific needs of all local cities – urban, suburban, and rural – while working toward region-wide carbon emission reductions. [“How To” videos](#) about using the toolkit resources were published in December 2020 and used by K4C partners in 2021. K4C staff also organized and hosted a related Climate Action Planning Roundtable in April 2021. The cities of Burien and Issaquah also adopted climate action plans in 2021 that build on this toolkit.

King County and K4C partners also supported final approval of King County’s [Strategic Climate Action Plan](#) (SCAP), which was adopted by the County Council in May 2021. The K4C collaboration on the SCAP update included shared technical analyses, collaborative updates to the Joint Climate Action

Commitments that frame the SCAP, and K4C partner engagement and collaboration in developing many of the SCAP’s commitments and actions.

In 2021, the K4C hosted two Elected Official Work Sessions. [Key takeaways from the June 2021 K4C Elected Official Work Session](#) focused on green affordable housing, energy code issues, and low carbon, transit-oriented communities. At the October 2021 K4C Elected Official Work Session, key outcomes were developing [K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests for 2022](#) and a session on integrating resilience and climate equity into comprehensive planning.

The 2021 Elected Official Work Sessions were each followed with virtual public “Town Hall” events in which K4C staff and local elected officials recapped discussions from the sessions, facilitated a series of panel discussions with elected officials, and engaged in dialog with constituents. Recordings of each town hall are available here: [July 2021 Town Hall recording](#) and [October 2021 Town Hall recording](#).

**Report Methodology:** This report was drafted by County staff that support the K4C. The report summarizes decisions and work completed in 2020 and 2021 and outlines the 2022 K4C work plan and priorities based on this recent work. No additional outreach was conducted for the preparation of this report. This report builds on previous K4C work plans and budgets that have been submitted to the King County Council annually since 2016.

## V. Report Requirements

This report is organized to respond to and to align with Motion 14449, which requires coordination and information annually about the K4C’s budget and work plan. This section includes the following subsections:

- A. Budget
- B. Expenditures
- C. Work Plan

### A. Budget

The K4C budget is based on shared contributions by K4C partners as stipulated in the [K4C Interlocal Agreement](#) (ILA). The table below shows annual expected contributions for both 2021 and 2022 based on contributing K4C partners, as of December 16, 2021. Partners contributing to the K4C budget did not change in 2021. However, the populations of the cities of Burien, Redmond, and Tukwila have each increased such that the annual contributions of these partners increased starting in 2021, raising the expected total budget from what was estimated in the K4C 2021 Annual Work Plan and Budget (\$44,900) to the total summarized below (\$46,700).

Partner	Annual contribution
Bellevue	\$2,500
Burien	\$2,000
Issaquah	\$1,200
Kenmore	\$1,200
Kent	\$2,500
King County	\$10,000

<b>Partner</b>	<b>Annual contribution</b>
Kirkland	\$2,500
Lake Forest Park	\$700
Mercer Island	\$1,200
Port of Seattle	\$7,000
Redmond	\$2,500
Renton	\$2,500
Sammamish	\$2,000
Seattle	\$5,000
Shoreline	\$2,000
Snoqualmie	\$700
Tukwila	\$1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,700</b>

## **B. Work Plan**

The K4C’s 2022 Work Plan focuses on the priorities below and supporting actions organized by relevant sections of the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments. Priorities are recommended by elected officials at Elected Official Work Sessions, as defined in the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments, and as developed in shared K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests. Much of the K4C’s work is completed by staff and elected officials of K4C partners and does not require K4C budget or expenditures.

### **1. Shared Goals**

- In 2021, K4C staff engaged through the [Growth Management Planning Council](#) and related forums to support updates to the CPPs that strengthened shared County and city GHG emission targets and updated related measurement policies. In 2022, K4C will support partners integrating these new shared targets and related climate policies into comprehensive plan updates and city climate and sustainability plans and actions.

<b>Shared Goals - Special 2021-2022 K4C Partnership Project – GHG Inventories and Modeling</b>	
<p><i>The K4C is partnering (with staff time and budget) with King County, the Puget Sound Regional Council, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, the City of Seattle, Snohomish County, Kitsap County, and Pierce County on a comprehensive data and inventory update about local GHG emissions sources and trends. The project is named the Puget Sound Regional Emissions Analysis Project (<a href="#">project fact sheet</a>; <a href="#">October 2021 public meeting video recording</a>). A major goal of this work is to provide as much city-specific data as possible to each K4C partner (and other cities in King County), while recognizing that some data may only be available at a broader geographic level. The project will be completed in 2022. K4C related deliverables from the project are listed below.</i></p>	
<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Deliverable Details</b>
Countywide geographic emissions inventory and analysis	Update of countywide inventory, including analysis of recent trends and an update of existing countywide GHG pathways analysis <sup>3</sup> toward new stronger 2040 and 2050 targets being considered by the K4C and the <a href="#">Growth Management Planning Council</a> .
Countywide consumption emissions inventory and analysis	Update of countywide inventory and analysis that articulates actions to reduce consumption emissions for two 2050 scenarios: an 80 percent reduction in emissions and net carbon neutrality
Assess viability of different city-scale emissions data	Recommendations about which data sources to use for major local emissions sources, including consideration of local data sources and third-party sources, such as those developed by <a href="#">Google’s Environmental Insights Explorer</a> , the <a href="#">Department of Energy’s City Energy Profile</a> , or <a href="#">Boston University’s Database of Road Transportation Emissions</a> .
City-specific data collection and reporting	Collect and tabulate city-specific local data from local sources, including <a href="#">Seattle City Light</a> , <a href="#">Puget Sound Energy (PSE)</a> , and the <a href="#">Puget Sound Regional Council</a> . Additionally, develop a tool with city-specific emissions data (for 2019) and city-specific data visualizations.
Guidance about government operational GHG inventories	Develop a guidance or a tool to support cities completing government operational GHG inventories in ways consistent with the methodologies used for community-scale emissions inventories.
King County Cities GHG Wedge Analyses	In June 2021, K4C expanded the scope of the project to add development to city specific GHG wedge analyses for all cities in King County.

## 2. Climate Policy

- The K4C developed shared state policy and legislative interests for 2022 that K4C partners can use in support of developing legislative agendas and K4C staff can use as a basis for drafting sign on letters or testimony.
- Several K4C Elected Officials are leading a K4C Elected Outreach Committee, including working on state legislative issues. Throughout 2021, the Outreach Committee included participation from elected officials in the cities of Shoreline, Snoqualmie, Sammamish, Kirkland, Burien, Kenmore, Mercer Island, Bellevue, and Issaquah, as well as the Port of Seattle.

<sup>3</sup> See pages 53 and 54 of King County’s [2020 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan](#) for details of existing countywide GHG pathways analysis.

- Climate-related goals in the 2022 State Legislative Session, [as detailed by Washington Governor Inslee](#), include to (1) decarbonize the building sector; (2) successfully implement the Climate Commitment Act; (3) increase investment in clean transportation; and (4) build the clean energy future in Washington. The K4C Outreach Committee will track and analyze these bills throughout the session and advocate for bills that would advance the K4C Joint Commitments.

### 3. Transportation and Land Use

- K4C partners will work to update local plans and incentives to support transit-friendly development and easy connections, including through the [Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2050 update](#).
- K4C partners will learn about and, as appropriate, support countywide transportation-related policy updates, such as land-use updates to CPPs, Metro's Service Guidelines, and new equitable transit-oriented development (TOD) policies.

### 4. Clean Fuels and Electric Vehicles

- K4C partners will support engagement and partnership with utilities and organizations to develop pilots or programs to incentivize the transition to electric vehicle (EV) ownership.
- K4C partners will support adoption of a proposed EV charging code that was developed through the [Regional Code Collaboration](#).
- K4C and King County Metro Transit staff will coordinate on countywide EV data compilation and information sharing, for example, on electric buses and public EV purchases.

### 5. Energy Supply

- K4C partners will continue engagement between elected officials, PSE, Seattle City Light, and state utility regulators to work toward a renewable energy-powered future, with accelerated coal phase-out and limitation of new natural gas-based electricity.
- K4C partners will be engaged in King County 2020 SCAP work to develop regional approaches to supporting energy efficiency retrofit programs. For example, in the implementation of the [King County Commercial - Property Assessed Clean Energy Program \(C-PACER\)](#).

### 6. Green Building and Energy Efficiency

- K4C will continue to partner through the Regional Code Collaboration on implementation and development of ambitious energy and green building policies and codes, including advancing energy efficiency in small residential buildings.
- K4C staff will consider using the K4C budget to support tools and training as new energy code requirements are adopted.
- K4C will collaborate with the Washington State Department of Commerce to increase awareness of, and provide support to, building owners about new incentives for energy efficiency projects related to the [State's Clean Buildings Act](#).

### 7. Consumption and Materials Management

- Re+:** K4C partners will engage on and support the Re+ regional work to support a more circular economy, in which waste is minimized and materials stay in use longer, thereby reducing GHG emissions. This Re+ plan is in development with support of the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee through a convened Task Force that includes many cities. This work will help develop and implement related policy, projects, and programs focused on options for (1) waste prevention and reuse, (2) product stewardship, recycling, and composting,

and (3) beneficial use. Strategies will include a combination of education, incentives, and regulatory tools.

- **Tools to Reduce Consumption Emissions:** Building on K4C participation and contributions to the GHG Inventories and Modeling Project (see Section 1 of this document), in 2022 K4C partners will collaborate with King County on community engagement and strategy development to support development of new tools and guidance to inform choice and use of low-GHG-emissions products and services<sup>4</sup>, so that residents, governments, and businesses can understand and play their part in reducing GHG emissions.

## 8. Forests and Farming

- K4C partners will work to increase tree canopy, improve forest health, and encourage tree planting, including through [King County's 3 Million Trees initiative](#) and in support of the [King County 30-Year Forest Plan](#), which was developed with input from K4C partners.

## 9. Government Operations

- K4C partners will increase use of clean vehicles and alternative fuels in local fleets. For example, King County will continue to host Fleet Managers Working Group<sup>5</sup> events with the K4C to enhance the sharing of information and support development of best practices for vehicle use and fleet investments across partners.
- K4C partners will reduce energy use in their facilities and operations to reduce GHG emissions, with support from King County and the K4C partnership. For example, King County offers low-cost financing through the [Cities Fund to Reduce Energy Demand \(C-FRED\)](#) loan program. All cities are encouraged to use this program to invest in their own projects.
- K4C staff will support analysis for partners and engagement with PSE and the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission on the [Green Direct](#) electricity program.
- K4C partners will increase demand for recycled content-products and materials, such as compost and recycled plastic, by exploring and implementing best practices in sustainable procurement policies and actions.

## 10. Climate Preparedness

- K4C staff will continue to expand the model to collaborate on preparedness topics and issues, which will increase community resilience by planning and preparing for the impacts of climate change on K4C communities.
- In coordination with King County, K4C staff will continue to develop a preparedness agenda. This will identify overarching goals and desired outcomes for K4C work on preparedness and include a plan for meeting staffing/facilitation needs for work sessions around preparedness topics.

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<sup>4</sup> Low-GHG-emissions products include those sustainably produced and delivered. Low-GHG-emissions services refers to services that have low associated emissions and/or that are provided by companies that have reduced their GHG footprint.

<sup>5</sup> The Fleet Managers Working Group is a King County staff team led by the Fleet Services Division that, as part of its role, works to implement the County's commitment to increase the efficiency of County vehicle fleets and minimize their GHG emissions.

## 11. Collaboration

- *Green Building Task Force and Regional Code Collaboration:* K4C partners with the Green Building Task Force<sup>6</sup>, a group led by King County’s Solid Waste Division that collaborates with cities on research, tools, and policies related to green building. The K4C also partners with a second building collaborative effort called the [Regional Code Collaboration](#), which includes partners outside of King County, and is focused on code development for local governments to further sustainable development. The K4C will continue to partner with these groups.
- *Local Best Practices and Coordination:* In 2022, the K4C will continue to host dedicated staff work session(s) to support local action. Examples of topics in 2021 included sessions on local climate action planning; the City of Seattle Benchmarking/Tune Up Program; and training for local government staff on reducing resource use in the built environment.
- *Climate Planning:* The K4C will continue to serve as a forum for partners to share their approaches to developing local climate and sustainability plans as a resource to other partners, so that others are not “reinventing the wheel.”

## VI. Conclusion/Next Steps

The 2022 K4C Work Plan and Budget build on the K4C’s Joint Commitments, elected official input and engagement, and interests and direction of all K4C partners. The K4C budget is defined by the K4C ILA. The 2022 spending priorities will align with the direction provided by the K4C’s Joint Climate Action Commitments and recommendations from K4C Elected Official Work Sessions.

The work of the K4C is an important part of the County’s commitment to climate action, directly supporting a range of Priority Actions and Performance Measures in King County’s 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan.

## VII. Appendices

Appendix A: Motion 14449

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<sup>6</sup> The Green Building Task Force is an interjurisdictional staff team that helps provides green building education countywide for residential and commercial construction and is led by staff in King County’s Solid Waste Division.



**KING COUNTY**  
**Signature Report**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**November 6, 2015**

**Motion 14449**

**Proposed No. 2015-0252.3**

**Sponsors Phillips and Dembowski**

1           A MOTION adopting the 2015 King County Strategic  
2           Climate Action Plan, submitted in compliance with K.C.C.  
3           18.25.010.A.4.

4           WHEREAS, K.C.C. 18.25.010.A.4. requires the King County executive to  
5           transmit to the council a plan by June 29, 2015 updating the King County Strategic  
6           Climate Action Plan, and

7           WHEREAS, with this motion, the executive has transmitted to the council as  
8           Attachment A to this motion the updated plan called for in K.C.C. 18.25.010.A.4., and

9           WHEREAS, confronting climate change through effective strategies to reduce  
10          greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of a changing climate requires an  
11          integrated countywide effort involving public, private and non-governmental  
12          partnerships, and

13          WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan presents a bold  
14          course of action that will make progress toward achieving the countywide goal to reduce  
15          greenhouse gas emissions by eighty percent by 2050, and

16          WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan identifies the  
17          county’s top sources of greenhouse gas emissions and quantifies the greenhouse gas  
18          emissions reduction benefits of key strategies, and

19 WHEREAS, King County will continue to play a key role in the King County-  
20 Cities Climate Collaboration, whose members represent seventy-five percent of the  
21 population of the county, and which lays out a shared countywide vision for confronting  
22 climate change upon which the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan is built,  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan strengthens the  
25 county's strategy to prepare for the impacts of a changing climate on local communities,  
26 infrastructure, economy, public health and safety, and the natural environment, and

27 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan advances King  
28 County's guiding principle of promoting fairness and opportunity and eliminating  
29 inequities by considering the equity and social justice impacts in its decision-making on  
30 climate change strategies, and

31 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan recognizes that  
32 the burdens and benefits of climate change will affect King County's current and future  
33 residents in disparate ways, with the potential to disproportionately affect some  
34 populations, such as those who are low-income, have limited English proficiency or  
35 reside in certain geographic areas, and

36 WHEREAS, with this motion, the executive has transmitted to the council, as part  
37 of the 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan, the annual report on the county's major  
38 environmental sustainability programs as called for in K.C.C. 18.50.010, and

39 WHEREAS, Appendix B of the 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan responds to  
40 Motion 14349, passed May 4, 2015, which requested that the executive consider specific

41 climate action activities and policies for inclusion in the 2015 Strategic Climate Action  
42 Plan, and

43 WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan directly reflects  
44 the recommendations of a 2014 Performance Audit conducted by the King County  
45 auditor's office;

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

47 A. The 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan, dated October 20,  
48 2015, which is Attachment A to this motion and prepared in compliance with K.C.C  
49 18.25.010.A.4., is hereby adopted.

50 B. Consistent with Ordinance 17285, which authorized the Interlocal Agreement  
51 for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, the executive is requested to  
52 coordinate with staff of the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its  
53 successor, in developing the annual work plans and budget for the King County-Cities  
54 Climate Collaboration under the interlocal agreement. The executive is requested to  
55 submit by January 31, and every year thereafter, the King County-Cities Climate  
56 Collaboration annual work plan and budget to the council for acceptance by motion. The  
57 2016 work plan should include recommendations on the timing and approach for an  
58 update to the interlocal agreement that includes addressing drafting issues identified  
59 during the council's initial review of the agreement.

60 C. Implementation of the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan may lead to

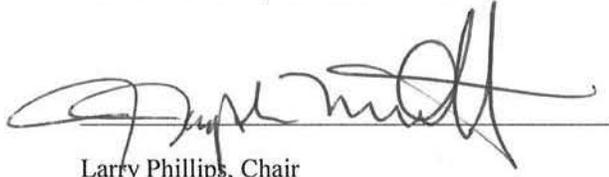
61 the need for additional resources. However, any additional FTE/TLT requests are subject  
62 to approval through the county budget process.

63

Motion 14449 was introduced on 7/6/2015 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/2/2015, by the following vote:

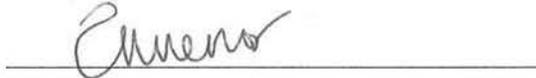
Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr.  
Upthegrove  
No: 0  
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** A. Strategic Climate Action Plan November 2015