



**Signature Report**

**Motion 15379**

**Proposed No.** 2019-0056.1

**Sponsors** Upthegrove

1           A MOTION accepting the King County-Cities Climate  
2           Collaboration (K4C) 2019 Work Plan and Budget, prepared  
3           as the annual work plan and budget requested under Motion  
4           14449.

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

9           WHEREAS, the King County executive and council unanimously adopted the  
10          2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan, and

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

14          WHEREAS, King County will continue to play a key role in the King County-  
15          Cities Climate Collaboration, whose members represent more than eighty percent of the  
16          population of the county, and which lays out a shared countywide vision for confronting  
17          climate change upon which the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan is built,  
18          and

19          WHEREAS, the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan strengthens the

20 county's strategy to prepare for the impacts of a changing climate on local communities,  
21 infrastructure, economy, public health and safety and the natural environment, and

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

26 WHEREAS, consistent with Ordinance 17285, which authorized the interlocal  
27 agreement for the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration, and with Motion 14449,  
28 which adopted the 2015 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan, the executive was  
29 requested to coordinate with staff of the transportation, economy and environment  
30 committee, or its successor, in developing the annual work plans and budget for the King  
31 County-Cities Climate Collaboration under the interlocal agreement, and

32 WHEREAS, Motion 14449 also requested that the executive submit by January  
33 31, 2016, and every year thereafter, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration annual  
34 work plan and budget to the council for acceptance by motion;

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

36 The King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) 2019 Work Plan and

37 Budget, which is Attachment A to this motion and prepared as the annual work plan and  
38 budget as requested by Motion 14449, is hereby accepted.  
39

Motion 15379 was introduced on 2/27/2019 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 4/17/2019, 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



KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Rod Dembowski, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** A. King County-Cities Climate Collaboration K4C 2019 Work Plan and Budget

**King County-Cities Climate Collaboration  
(K4C) 2019 Work Plan and Budget**

**Prepared per Motion 14449**

This report was developed to provide information about the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C)<sup>1</sup> 2019 Work Plan and Budget, as required by Motion 14449 which states:

- 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.

**Background: Elected Official and K4C Partner Guidance on K4C Priorities**

K4C partners have collaboratively developed a Letter of Commitment, Principles for Collaboration, and Joint County-City Climate Commitments<sup>2</sup> ( K4C's Joint Commitments) - that will help get the region on track towards shared and ambitious countywide, community scale climate change and greenhouse gas reduction targets formally adopted by King County and 39 King County Cities through the Growth Management Planning Council. The K4C's Joint Commitments have been formally endorsed by the chief elected official of 13 K4C partners that together represent three quarters of the County's population. The K4C's Joint Commitments serve as an anchor and guiding document informing the work plan and activities of the K4C. In 2018, two new partners joined the K4C: the City of Kent and the Port of Seattle. In January of 2019, the City of Kenmore became the newest member.

Recognizing that K4C partners cannot implement all of the K4C's Joint Commitments at once, partners are currently focusing on areas that:

- maximize greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction potential;
- recognize an appropriate and strategic role for K4C;
- pursue untapped potential or opportunity;
- and/or represent an opportunity for political action or partnership among K4C partners, Washington State agencies, energy utilities, and others.

At the October 2018 K4C Elected Official Summit, K4C elected officials reviewed and discussed local, state, and federal actions to move shared climate and energy goals and commitments to inform:

- Which actions K4C members see as the highest priority in the near-term,
- Where K4C members are seeking more information, and
- Whether there are additional or modified actions, K4C members would like to pursue.

The elected officials also reviewed and discussed draft 2019 Shared State Legislative Interests, which were finalized in November 2018<sup>3</sup>. Recommendations from this Summit are guiding priorities for shared work by staff and engagement by elected officials in 2019. Beyond these

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<sup>1</sup> To learn more about the K4C: [www.kingcounty.gov/climate/pledge](http://www.kingcounty.gov/climate/pledge)

<sup>2</sup> The K4C's Joint County-City Climate Commitments: <https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrrp/library/dnrrp-directors-office/climate/2016-K4C-LetterOfCommitments.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> K4C State Policy and Legislative Interests for 2019: <https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrrp/climate/documents/2019-K4C-Legislative-Interests.pdf>

priority focus areas agreed to, the K4C will continue to collaborate on other K4C Joint Commitment areas, for example through hosting trainings and staff opportunities on climate related topics.

### **2019 Work Plan**

The K4C's 2019 Work Plan focuses on the following, organized by relevant section of the K4C's Joint Commitments. These priorities are as recommended by K4C elected officials at and in follow up from the October 2018 K4C Elected Official Summit. Most of these actions are supported with in-kind contributions of K4C members staff time, including King County staff time.

#### **1. Shared Goals**

- K4C partners will continue to work on common approaches to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions accounting through projects such as the Bellevue-led Cities Leading through Energy Analysis and Planning (C-LEAP) project and through efforts such as Scope 5 sustainability reporting.
- In 2019, King County will update the community-scale emissions inventory as part of the upcoming 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP) update and will work closely with K4C partners on common assumptions and approaches to community scale GHG reporting and tracking.

#### **2. Climate Policy**

- The K4C developed shared legislative interests for 2019 that K4C members can use in support of developing legislative agendas and K4C staff can use as a basis for drafting sign on letters or testimony.
- As an additional resource, County staff are developing fact sheets that summarize potential state legislation related to climate and energy, how it relates to K4C goals, and legislative history, including who supported and opposed.
- Several K4C Elected Officials are leading a K4C Elected Outreach Committee including working on state legislative issues.

#### **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:
  - Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC's) Vision 2050 is an upcoming opportunity for the K4C staff and elected officials to engage to help ensure that local GHG targets and climate preparedness efforts are pursued as they relate to our transportation system.
  - The PSRC's Transit Supportive Planning Toolkit provides guides and resources for communities to support transit; these policies are examples that can be advanced through regional and local plans and programs.
  - King County's planned 2019 update to its GHG emissions inventory and related technical work to support the update of the County's SCAP and will include analysis of how strategies such as transit and land use will support GHG emissions reductions.
- As the K4C develops case studies that highlight K4C partner efforts, transit friendly development will be a priority.

- Elected officials will have the opportunity to weigh in on a bill enabling a Clean Fuels standard, which is slated to be proposed in the 2019 legislature.

#### **4. Energy Supply**

- K4C partners will continue engagement between elected officials, Puget Sound Energy, 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.
- As part of its 2020 SCAP update, King County will consider regional approaches to supporting residential and commercial energy efficiency retrofit programs.
- Elected Officials have identified the importance of being able to show case studies of benefits of energy efficiency investment, particularly the operating savings that can offset the initial capital investment. K4C partner staff have developed case studies that help make the case for these types of investments and posted them on the K4C web page.

#### **5. Green Building and Energy Efficiency**

- K4C will continue to partner through the Regional Code Collaboration (RCC), which includes partners outside of King County, and is focused on code development for local governments to further sustainable development. Collaboration will focus on implementation and development of ambitious energy and green building policies and codes, including an advanced tier Energy Code for small residential structures in 2019.
- K4C staff will consider using the K4C budget to support tools and training for staff as new energy code requirements are adopted.
- K4C staff will encourage jurisdictions to maximize and use their voting power allowed by the International Code Council in order to support stronger energy codes nationwide through an effort being led by the Energy Efficient Code Coalition.
- Several K4C members are electing to support a state bill that strengthen base energy codes and give local governments the authority to opt in to even stronger codes.

#### **6. Forests and Farming**

- K4C partners will work jointly to increase tree canopy, improve forest health, and encourage tree planting including through King County's Million Trees initiative and in developing a comprehensive plan to "ReTree King County".
- K4C staff will explore options for using the 2019 K4C budget to support local forest health and tree planting efforts. Interests identified by K4C staff include developing model policies, coordinating messaging campaigns in support of forests and tree planting, and potentially funding tree planting.

#### **7. Government Operations**

- K4C partners will work to increase use of clean vehicles and alternative fuels in local fleets.
  - King County will jointly host three K4C Fleet Managers Working Group events in 2019. The first will be a King County/K4C/Western Washington Clean Cities Coalition supported Electric Vehicle Service Equipment (EVSE) Expo. These meetings enhance information sharing and to support development of best practices for vehicle use and fleet investments across partners.

- Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is developing new electric vehicle programs and opportunities, and there will be opportunity for K4C partners to collaboratively weigh in on this topic and potentially to partner with PSE on pilot projects.
- Reduce Energy Use in K4C Partners Facilities and Operations
  - K4C staff have developed an “Energy Efficiency Challenge” for partners to reduce the energy use of their facilities and will continue to advance this priority.
  - King County offers low-cost financing through the Cities Fund to Reduce Energy Demand (C-FRED) loan program and all cities are encouraged to use this program to invest in their own projects.

**8. Collaboration**

- Green Building Task Force and RCC: K4C partners with the “Green Building Task Force,” a group led by King County’s Solid Waste Division that collaborates with King County cities on research, tools and policies related to green building. The K4C also partners with a second green building collaborative effort called the RCC. The K4C will continue to partner with these groups on green building strategies.
- Coordinate and support development of county and city climate and sustainability plans: K4C will continue to serve as a forum for members 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”. In 2019, King County will work towards a 2020 update to its Strategic Climate Action Plan and this will be an opportunity to engage on King County and K4C partner priorities for future climate related actions.
- Refresh K4C Joint County-City Climate Commitments: This action involves updating the K4C’s Joint Commitments based on an updated inventory of the sources of community scale greenhouse gas emissions. K4C coordination can help ensure that we are collectively pursuing the actions are most impactful and will put us on track to meet our shared goal of reducing community-scale emissions 80 percent by 2050.
- Develop common climate change messaging and tools: County staff have worked with K4C staff to put case studies into a format that can easily be posted on county and city web pages. Additionally, K4C sponsored and hosted an in-depth training on climate communications for K4C staff in November 2018. Finally, K4C members have developed climate change infographic templates that can be easily customized by K4C members for use with their residents.

**Development of 2019 K4C Budget Using Cost-Share Revenue**

The K4C held an initial 2019 budget planning meeting on November 29, 2018. The total estimated cost-share revenue in 2019 is \$49,200, broken down as follows:

<b>2019 K4C Budget</b>	
ILA Defined Partner Contributions (estimated based on K4C partners as of 12/31/18)	\$34,200
Related Contribution in King County’s Adopted 2019/2020 Budget	\$15,000
<b>Total Estimated Budget for 2019</b>	<b>\$49,200</b>

The K4C Interlocal Agreement (ILA) includes a requirement that 75 percent of parties must approve of budget expenditures. There was strong support for continued K4C funding for the Bellevue led Scope 5 – Greenhouse Gas Measurement and Tracking Program, with proposed expenditure of \$10,750. A second proposal was discussed to support International Energy



Conservation Code membership for K4C partners, but this proposal was referred for further development. With only two budget proposals submitted by K4C partners for discussion in November 2018, a second K4C budget discussion was agreed to and is planned for January 29, 2019, with formal decision making planned for Q1 2019.

**Conclusion and Next Steps**

The 2019 K4C work plan and budget builds 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 and is supported by King County's 2019-2020 Budget.