

KING COUNTY

Signature Report

Motion 16485

Proposed No. 2023-0340.1 **Sponsors** Perry and Dembowski 1 A MOTION expressing support for the Re+ Strategic Plan. 2 WHEREAS, climate change is an urgent challenge with far-reaching current and 3 future impacts to our environment, public health, and economy, and 4 WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration declared that 5 in June 2023 the Earth experienced the hottest June on record, and 6 WHEREAS, climate change and related extreme heat events account for twenty-7 four percent of all weather-related deaths, and 8 WHEREAS, King County is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 9 and reducing the impacts of climate change on our communities, and 10 WHEREAS, King County and King County Cities Climate Collaboration partners 11 are measuring, reporting, and developing new strategies to reduce consumption-related 12 greenhouse gas emissions, and 13 WHEREAS, greenhouse gas emissions generated globally from the production, 14 transport, use, and disposal of goods, foods, and services consumed in King County are a 15 major part of our communities' climate footprint and are more than locally generated 16 greenhouse gas emissions, and 17 WHEREAS, with the enactment of Ordinance 14811 in 2003, the King County 18 council adopted and codified a goal for King County to achieve zero waste of resources 19 by 2030 through cost-effective prevention, reuse, and reduction of solid wastes going into 20 its landfills and other processing facilities, and

WHEREAS, "zero waste of resources" is defined in K.C.C. 10.04.020 as "a
planning principle and framework designed to eliminate the disposal of materials with
economic value through reuse, recycling, or both," and
WHEREAS, the 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan ("the 2019
CSWMP") approved by Ordinance 18893 reaffirmed the county's goal to achieve zero
waste of resources by 2030, and
WHEREAS, the King County 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan ("the 2020
SCAP") adopted by Motion 15866 included "consumption and materials management" as
a focus area and outlined a series of actions and recommendations related to the county's
regional solid waste system, and
WHEREAS, the 2019 King County Waste Characterization and Customer Survey
Report states that up to seventy-two percent of what ends up in the landfill could be
composted, reused, or recycled, and
WHEREAS, reclaiming these items and repurposing them through composting,
reuse, or recycling is a necessary and prudent component to helping King County reach
its zero-waste goal, and
WHEREAS, King County's Re+ program aims to divert recoverable material
from the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill ("landfill"), which should reduce greenhouse gas
emissions and contribute to a circular economy, and
WHEREAS, the Re+ Strategic Plan was published in November 2022 and a
formal public launch occurred in February 2023, and

42	WHEREAS, executive staff provided briefings to the council on the RE+
43	Strategic Plan this year in the transportation, economy and environment committee on
44	March 21, 2023, and in the regional policy committee on June 14, 2023, and
45	WHEREAS, since July 2022, King County staff have been making presentations
46	to cities on the Re+ program, and
47	WHEREAS, executive staff indicate that the Re+ program is consistent with,
48	consolidates, and accelerates progress towards achieving the approved goals and
49	strategies of the 2020 SCAP, the 2019 CSWMP, and the Joint Climate Action
50	Commitment of the King County Cities Climate Collaborative, and
51	WHEREAS, the Re+ program is providing competitive grants to community
52	based organizations and cities, technical support, and providing model language for
53	countywide program and policy implementation, and
54	WHEREAS, in alignment with Policy ES-3 in the 2019 CSWMP and the
55	Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities section of the 2020 SCAP, as well other
56	County plans, efforts to increase recycling, reuse, composting, and diversion from landfill
57	disposal must engage in ways that are fair, equitable, and inclusive towards those who are
58	part of historically under-represented communities, and
59	WHEREAS, the population of unincorporated King County is greater than any
60	one city making King County's leadership essential to the collaboration and
61	implementation of the Re+ Strategic Plan in coordination with the county's city and
62	community partners, and
63	WHEREAS, as of June 2023 sixty-three of King County cities have signed the
64	City Re+ Pledge affirming their shared support for the Re+ program and many cities are

Attachments: None

65 actively pursuing approval of the pledge as a first step in showing their shared 66 commitments and mutual goals; 67 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County: That the King County council expresses support for the Re+ Strategic Plan, city 68 69 and county collaboration efforts related to the RE+ Strategic Plan, and efforts to reach 70 King County's goal of zero waste by 2030. Motion 16485 was introduced on 9/26/2023 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/28/2023, by the following vote: Yes: 9 - Balducci, Dembowski, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry, McDermott, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON DocuSigned by: Dave Upthegrove, Chair ATTEST: DocuSigned by: Melani Hay 8DE1BB375AD3422... Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

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