

KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020

6:00-8:00 P.M.

ZOOM VIDEO CALL

CALL IN:

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,86378293533#,,,,,0#,,330250#

Land line: +1 253 215 8782 US, Meeting ID: 863 7829 3533, Password: 330250

OR

LOG IN FROM A COMPUTER OR SMARTPHONE:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86378293533?pwd=cmVWRWpMRGhITiBrQnFiMEhBeXVJUT09>

MEETING AGENDA

6:00	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll call of commissioners• Announcement of staff and public for the record (please sign in to chat feature)• Approval of Agenda• Approval of September minutes	Nayab Khan, Chair
6:05	Old Business - Updates (approx. 3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commission Details (electing new officers next month)• KC Ag Program• CARES Act funding for Farm Businesses • King Conservation District• Land Conservation Initiative• Local Food Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patrice Barrentine• Richard Martin• Richard, Mike, Patrice• Josh Monaghan• Sarah Collier• Mike Lufkin
6:15	Public Comment related to a specific agenda item <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Nayab Khan
6:20	Policy updates: How we've been defending farmland <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Projects we review and how by ag commission request;○ Wetland mitigation banks inside the APD○ Q&A	Richard Martin
6:40	Commission's Representative and Alternate to King Conservation District Advisory Board <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interested commissioners and nominations• Discussion• Vote	Nayab Khan
7:00	New Business- Executive's Budget and Funding for Ag Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>New budget vs old budget</i>• Local Food Initiative, Agriculture Program, ADAP and Comprehensive Drainage, Farm, Fish, Flood, Public safety in unincorporated areas• <i>Q&A, Motion to send letter, Vote</i>	Richard Martin
7:25	2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Q&A, Discussion	Richard Martin
7:50	General Public Comment <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Nayab Khan
7:55	Concerns of Commissioners	Nayab Khan
8:00	Adjourn	Nayab Khan

Next Meeting: November 12



King County
Water and Land Resources Division
 Department of Natural Resources and Parks
 King Street Center
 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
 Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4800 Fax 206-296-0192
 TTY Relay: 711

King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 10, 2020 – 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference Call

Commissioners Present					
Nayab Khan, Chair	Y	Sarah Collier	Y	Darron Marzolf	Y
Kevin Scott-Vanderberge, Vice-Chair	Y	Lily Gottlieb-McHale	Y	Paul Pink	Y
Roger Calhoon	Y	Leann Krainick	Y		
Ex Officio Members Present					
Fereshteh Dehkordi, DLS	N	Josh Monaghan, KCD	Y	Kevin Wright, WSU	Y
County Staff/Representatives Present					
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP		Richard Martin, DNRP			
Kathy Lambert, KC Councilmember		Jackie White, KCC Staff (Lambert)			
Guests Present					
None					

Action Summary

- **Actions: Approvals of Meeting Agenda; July 2020 Meeting Minutes**
- **Old Business: Commission, County, and KCD Updates**
- **Discussion: KCD Request for KCD Advisory Board Representative**
- **Discussion/Action: Vote – Support Letter for KC Grant Proposal for Snoqualmie APD Broadband Support**
- **Discussion: Governor’s Guidance on Agritourism – Business Impacts**

Meeting called to order by Nayab Khan at 6:04 pm

Roll Call/Announcement of Staff & Public (Nayab Khan)

Roll call of Commissioners and announcement of staff/public guests were done via the chat function.

ACTION: Approval of Meeting Agenda (Nayab Khan)

Leann Krainick motioned to approve today’s agenda, with a requested addition of a Farm Bureau update under “Old Business.” Kevin Scott-Vanderberge seconded the motion as amended, and it carried unanimously.

ACTION: Approval of July 2020 Meeting Minutes (Nayab Khan)

Sarah Collier asked that a section of the July minutes regarding a Commission support vote on updates to the Land Conservation Initiative be phrased as a “possibility,” that the Commission will vote if their support is requested.

Ms. Collier motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Paul Pink seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Old Business – Updates

- **Commission Details (Patrice Barrentine):**
 - All document packets for the past two years of Commission meetings, along with new photos, have been uploaded to the Commission website thanks to Megan Moore.
 - A launch webinar is still planned for the Beefing Up Infrastructure project. Details will come when available.
 - King County Council (KCC) approved the Comprehensive Plan in July for changes regarding APD mitigation.
 - The new Local Food Finder is online. 60 farms, farm stands, CSAs, and other agricultural businesses are listed. It was asked for Commissioners to spread word for people to list their business. There will be a push for signups for fall promotions, highlighting activities such as pumpkin patches, corn mazes, and cider tastings.

Promotion of Christmas tree farms is also coming, with pre-sales for CSAs for the winter/holiday season. There has been significant customer use of the tool so far.

- **King County Agriculture Program (Richard Martin):** Progress has been made on a program to route funds from the Federal CARES Act to the King County agricultural community impacted by COVID-19. KCC approved an ordinance in late June to allocate CARES dollars for the County to support individual farmer businesses and farmers' markets throughout King County. There are five different program components:
 - Farmers' markets, \$400K. This component, led by Patrice Barrentine with support from the Washington State Farmers' Market Association, is accepting applications now.
 - Direct support for individual farm businesses, \$500K. This component goes live Monday and will mostly be an online reimbursement process. Commissioners will receive an email with the access link.
 - Food banks, to acquire more local farm products, \$150K. This support is coordinated through Harvest Against Hunger, who has similar programs in place.
 - Senior centers in more resource-challenged areas, to acquire more local farm products, \$150K. This portion is also coordinated by Harvest Against Hunger.
 - Helping farm businesses launch e-commerce platforms, \$125K. Support for this comes through Business Impact Northwest, which has established similar programs around the state.

KCC recognized the agriculture sector is facing many challenges and lost a lot of business at the beginning of the pandemic. The hope is that the County has developed good opportunities for some of these businesses to recoup some costs. Ms. Barrentine will send more information out next week.

Mr. Martin said there is a concern that farmers are busy now and may not apply, but there should be enough money to cover most or all submitted eligible expenses for farmers' markets and individual farm businesses. Low initial "soft" caps - \$1K – were set on individual applicant reimbursements, but a hope is the program funds won't be fully subscribed and the County can ask KCC if any unused funds can be used to exceed those soft caps. The County is asking farmers' markets and individual farm businesses to disclose the full extent of their COVID-related losses from March 1 through October 15, and the County will reimburse to the extent possible.

- **King Conservation District (Josh Monaghan):**
 - **Farm Services:** KCD staff are in full swing with site visits and farm technical assistance visits. Many staff are working from home but taking COVID-19 precautions when going on field visits. Farm equipment rentals are fully operational again, but with a three-day period between rentals and KCD delivering the equipment instead of having people pick it up, to reduce physical contact.
 - **Agricultural Drainage:** The KCD drainage coordinator position has not yet been filled, so KCD is partnering with the Snoqualmie WID and a contractor to get that work done this year. The WID has done needs assessment work around drainage the last couple of years and this new work will give them more experience for when they are ready to take a local leadership role in agricultural drainage. Projects include Cherry Valley and multiple landowner projects. When asked about impact of COVID-19 on existing drainage projects, Mr. Monaghan answered that one project in the Sammamish is not moving forward, which KCD had not planned to fund anyway, only support. Everything else is moving forward.
 - **Regional Food Grants:** KCD is in the first year of its next five-year work plan and is changing some things about its regional food work. This year's grant application process will be retooled to be simpler/one-step, and there is less money. More information will come in late October. KCD is investing more in strategic initiative areas. There will be a Farmland Access "Request for Proposals" on their website next week, and public notice to carry on work they've funded around farmland access. Other regional food projects are in the works.
- **Land Conservation Initiative (Sarah Collier):** Shortly after July's Commission meeting, County staff presented the Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) lid lift recommendations discussed at that meeting to the Executive's office. Two Executive office staff talked through some of the challenges. That team is to work with partners to gain more insight from key cities and counties. Work is now transitioning to a different group than the one Ms. Collier was involved in, but still moving forward in a different set of conversations. Leann Krainick said if the County wants Commission input, they'll contact the Commission. Neither Ms. Collier nor Ms. Krainick were aware of any future public meetings on the LCI at this time.
- **Local Food Initiative (Mike Lufkin):** There were no updates.
- **Farm Bureau (Leann Krainick):** Ms. Krainick relayed from Rosella Mosby that King-Pierce Farm Bureau is active in endorsements for the coming election, focused on their counties' legislative districts. They're also starting a campaign called "I Eat, I Vote," to make public aware their ballot choices impact farming. A marketing company has been hired to promote this. For more information, go to myforksupportsfarms.com or [#forksforfarms](https://twitter.com/forksforfarms). Also, Farm Bureau has been active in pushing back on some COVID-19 rule changes from the Governor's office, the

latest addressing agritourism. Many local farms were consulted, but their feedback not included, in the Governor’s recommendations. Farm Bureau pushed back so farms can have seasonal pumpkin patches, corn mazes, and similar on-farm experiences that allow family interaction and farm education. If anyone has any other impacts they think should be addressed, Ms. Krainick recommended contacting Caleb Gwerder at Farm Bureau.

Public Comment – Related to Specific Agenda Item (Nayab Khan)

There was no public comment given during this period.

DISCUSSION: KCD Request - Representative for KCD Advisory Board (Josh Monaghan)

Mr. Monaghan explained that King Conservation District is funded in part through an interlocal agreement with King County, part of which includes formation of a 14-seat Advisory Committee to seek input from all those impacted by KCD services. One of those seats, currently vacant, is designated for an Agriculture Commission representative. KCD wishes for this seat to be filled, and for an alternate representative as well. This position would represent the Commission, their priority needs/issues, and assure a line of support to KCD and their activities when possible.

It was asked if this role might be better filled by a farmer vs. a non-farmer representative. Another Commissioner replied that while a farmer representative might be nice, it’s not strictly necessary as all on the Commission are involved in discussions on the same issues. Mr. Monaghan said this position is a good opportunity to engage with urban community representatives on farm issues. Patrice Barrentine added that this representative should report back to the Commission on their experience at Advisory Committee meetings, on what issues come up.

Paul Pink said he might have some time available in the fall, and he may be willing to serve on the Advisory Committee. He asked to review the available information before deciding. It was agreed the information on the position would be sent not just to Mr. Pink, but all Commissioners. Mr. Monaghan said it wasn’t a problem if no one was ready today, that it was not expected all seats on the Advisory Committee would be filled by its October meeting. It was agreed a vote on this should be tabled until October’s Commission meeting.

DISCUSSION/ACTION: KC Grant Proposal for Snoqualmie APD Broadband Support (Patrice Barrentine, Nayab Khan)

Ms. Barrentine presented a brief draft letter to the County Executive from the Commission. The letter supports a recent Executive’s Office proposal to use a portion of COVID-19 CARES Act-allocated federal funding to create a broadband network in the Snoqualmie APD. The network would cover Fall City to Carnation and help farmers run their businesses and assure food security for north King County. There is not currently high-speed internet in this area. The network would be built by the County and operated by a service provider. Mr. Khan said this is intended as a pilot project starting with the Snoqualmie APD and should eventually be a statewide initiative.

The Executive’s Office reached out to Mr. Khan as a local tech-savvy business owner to write a support letter, and he brought the information to the Commission’s Executive Committee. Ms. Barrentine contacted the Executive’s Office, who said they’d love to add a Commission support letter to boost documented support for the project. She read the draft letter aloud for those who did not join today’s meeting by video.

There was a short discussion on suggested revisions. Most significant involved copying King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert, who could then forward the letter to state Senator Lisa Wellman, who is working on this project at the state level. Councilmember Lambert agreed to do so. She also asked why the proposed broadband area does not extend further, as the whole Snoqualmie Valley has broadband issues. It was speculated this may be an area chosen by the federal government, or there may be a specification in the grant that limits the geographic area. Leann Krainick said if the opportunity arose to send another letter to support broadband for the rest of the Valley, the Commission could vote on that at that time. No other changes were suggested.

Ms. Krainick motioned to send the letter with the suggested amendments as tracked by Ms. Barrentine. Sarah Collier seconded the motion, which carried with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION: Governor’s Guidance on Agritourism – Business Impacts (Commissioners)

Commissioners discussed the Governor’s recent guidance on agritourism and its impacts on seasonal agriculture. The Governor’s statement had basically nixed any seasonal harvest activities such as pumpkin patches, corn mazes, and Christmas tree farms. These can now be done with social distancing in counties under “Phase 2” of the state’s COVID-19 reopening process. However, this will still result in difficulties for farmers who rely on these seasonal events for income. The Commission discussed these concerns and brainstormed on ideas for what can be done to mitigate them.

Discussion fell into several broad topics:

- **Farmer Concerns:** It was agreed by several Commissioners that farmers should implement practices to ensure public health/safety and assure agriculture does not become associated with people contracting COVID-19, which would also affect future farmer livelihood. However, doing so cuts severely into profits. Social distancing means fewer customers during an already-limited earning window, often only a few weekends a year. More staff and supplies to ensure proper sanitation practices and crowd control also means higher costs. Many farmers' markets are managing crowds with three times the usual staff but only half the usual profits. It was also suggested perhaps customers be advised visiting these farms/events is, like many other activities, at their own accepted risk.
- **Public Education/Promotion:** The pandemic has significantly raised public awareness of the difficulties in growing one's own food. It was asked what can be done creatively to promote farming now. This includes County staff contacting the Executive, KCC, and DNR leadership; and the Local Food Initiative. Farmers were encouraged to take pictures of their farms at the height of their production season and use public social media tools and community groups to self-promote, as well as share their photos with local news outlets. Kimmi Devaney at the Washington Dairy Commission was referenced a contact for educational resources to navigate social and news media. Promoting agriculture-related science projects for students doing remote learning was suggested. Any policy issues or concerns affecting agriculture that arise should also be brought to the County's attention quickly so word can be spread to the public.
- **Online Tools:** An online appointment registration tool was suggested to help farms control crowds. Some funding for a service to help less tech-savvy farms implement online tools, as well as help with pros/cons cost analyses, will be available through the CARES Act. This service would be free to eligible applicants. Farm King County's Local Food Finder tool will also be available to promote seasonal agriculture activities/items including pumpkin patches/corn mazes, cider tastings, mums, and Christmas trees, which will all be featured in a major seasonal promotion. It was suggested this tool be made more visible across King County websites.
- **CARES Act Funding:** Commissioners are strongly encouraged to help spread word on this program, and apply right away if interested, to provide the County feedback on the application process. Any farm or farm business in King County is eligible to apply for reimbursement of COVID-related expenses, regardless of if they are in a city or not. There is a soft deadline of October 15 for farms and farm businesses to apply for reimbursement of expenses incurred back to March 1. There is a soft cap of \$1K awarded per applicant (\$10K for farmers' markets), which may be lifted by request to KCC if the program is not fully subscribed. The deadline for farmers' market applicants is October 1, so staff have time to submit to KCC a modification request for additional expenditures if needed. If the program is not fully subscribed, the County will accept applications after October 15 until the last date possible, but all funds must be awarded by December 30. Applicants should list all incurred COVID expenses and the program will reimburse as much as able. There is concern many farmers may not apply due to perceived difficulty in dealing with federal regulations, but it is asked if this barrier does arise, that Richard Martin be made aware. The County is making the applications available in multiple languages, including Spanish and Hmong, and will have several staff working to guide applicants through the process.
- **Wildfire Safety:** Fire danger has been a significant concern this season for farmers in some areas. It was suggested Farm King County's website add resources for evacuating animals. The King County Fairgrounds and the Enumclaw Sales Pavilion were brought up as places to evacuate animals if needed. Rick Reinlasoder at King County was referenced as a contact for livestock issues. It was also suggested FKCC's website could share tips on topics such as defensible space, fire management, tree trimming, and pasture mowing. KCD has a wildfire preparedness program that works with individuals and communities to manage defensible spaces; Josh Monaghan was advised to contact Kimmi Devaney at the Washington Dairy Commission, who has worked with local fire districts and done training on farms.

General Public Comment (Nayab Khan)

There was no public comment during this period.

Concerns of Commissioners (Nayab Khan)

Leann Krainick advised that King County Councilmembers are starting to hold public Town Hall meetings on Zoom. Councilmember Von Reichbauer is having his soon, and Councilmember Dunn will also hold his for the Enumclaw area. Anyone can log in to these meetings. While agriculture is not often brought up, it is occasionally.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm

Next Meeting

October 8, 2020 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Zoom Video Conference Call)

Defending Farmland

- **Acquisitions**
 - **Checklist**
- **Habitat Restoration Proposals**
 - **Decision Memo Process**
- **KCC 21A.24.381**
 - **Ag Procedures Committee**

Request for Acquisition (Parks Division and WLRD)

Revised acquisition form

- Has AFI been consulted?
- Is the property actively or recently farmed (last 10 years)?
- Could existing home and/or farm infrastructure be used on the subject property or by adjacent farms?
- Is the property located within an APD?
- Attach documentation from AFI outlining our position on the proposed acquisition.

RPU/AFI Decision Memo

Property Description:

Project Implications (habitat restored, farmland affected):

Project Summary:

Proposed Course of Action:

Project Review History:

Final Decision:

RPU Supervisor

AFI Unit Supervisor

RRS Section Manager (if needed)

WLRD Director (if needed)

Mitigation Banks vs. Mitigation Reserve Program

Mitigation Banks

- Permitted and constructed prior to receiving payment for development impacts
- Typically operated by for-profit ventures
- Not required to advance King County goals
- If sited within an APD, prohibited from compensating for wetland development outside of the APD (KCC 21A.24.345)

Mitigation Reserve Program

- Collect fees until sufficient revenue received for land acquisition and restoration (*in lieu* fee bank")
- Coordinates with KC departments to advance KC goals
- Not operated as a for-profit venture (DNRP)
- If sited within an APD, can accept payment for wetland development outside of the APD (KCC 21A.24.381)

KCC 21A.24.381 (Aquatic habitat restoration project approval)

- Aquatic habitat restoration, floodplain restoration, mitigation reserves within APDs
 - Supported by landowner AND
 - Sited on lands unsuitable for agriculture OR
 - No unsuitable farmland alternatives available AND
 - Ability to farm in area not reduced and ag remains predominant use in APD AND
 - Project identified in watershed plans, OR
 - APD baseline ag productivity retained
- Does not apply to projects that don't require permits (e.g., noxious weed removal, buffer planting)
- Agriculture Procedures Committee (DNRP/DLS)

Proposed Refinement of Ag Review Processes

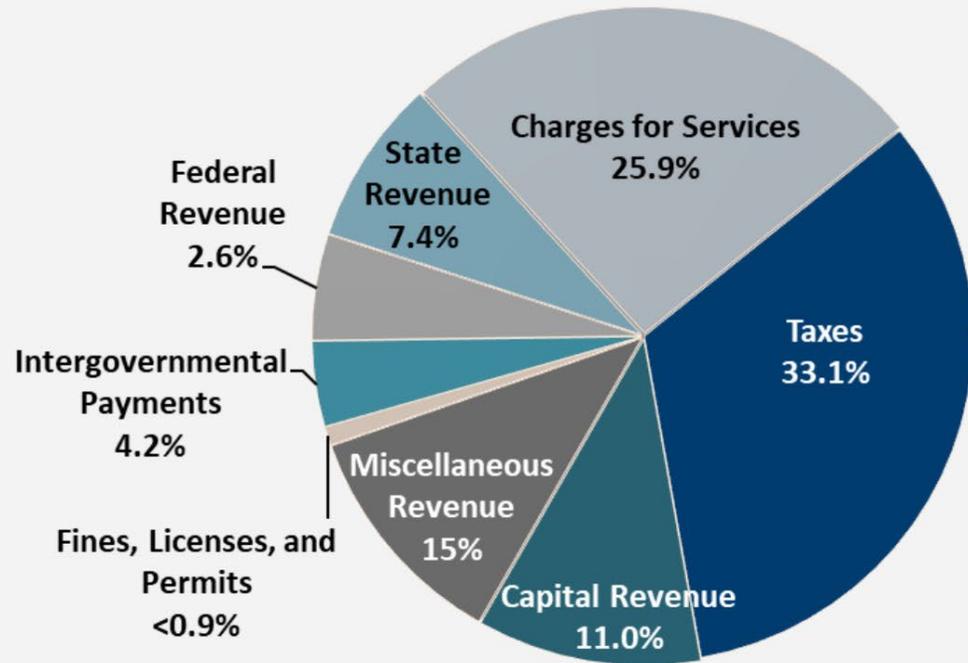
Enhance RPU/AFI Review Process

- Project inside APD?
- Landowner supports project?
- Land unsuitable for agriculture?
- If suitable for agriculture:
 - Any alternative sites within APD?
 - Will the project reduce ability to farm in the area?
 - Will the APD remain predominantly agriculture?
 - Is project included in watershed-scale plan?
 - Will project reduce APD baseline agricultural productivity?
- Documentation shared with DLS-PD

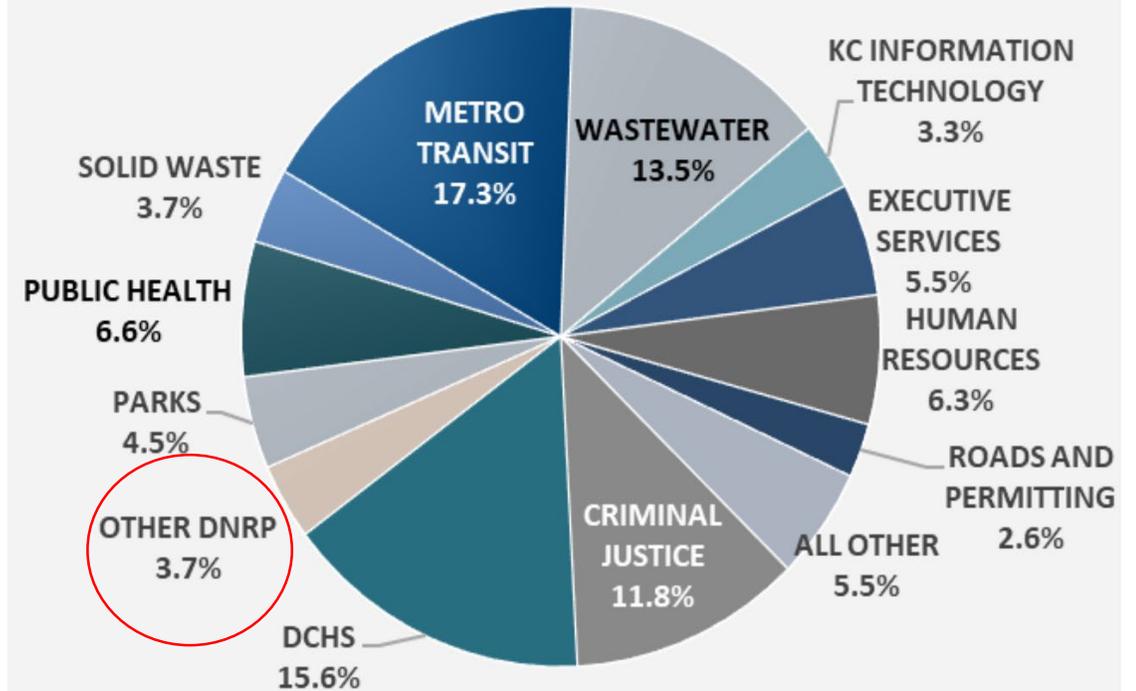
Focus Ag Procedures Committee

- Non-WLRD projects within APDs
- Complex projects

TOTAL BUDGET REVENUES

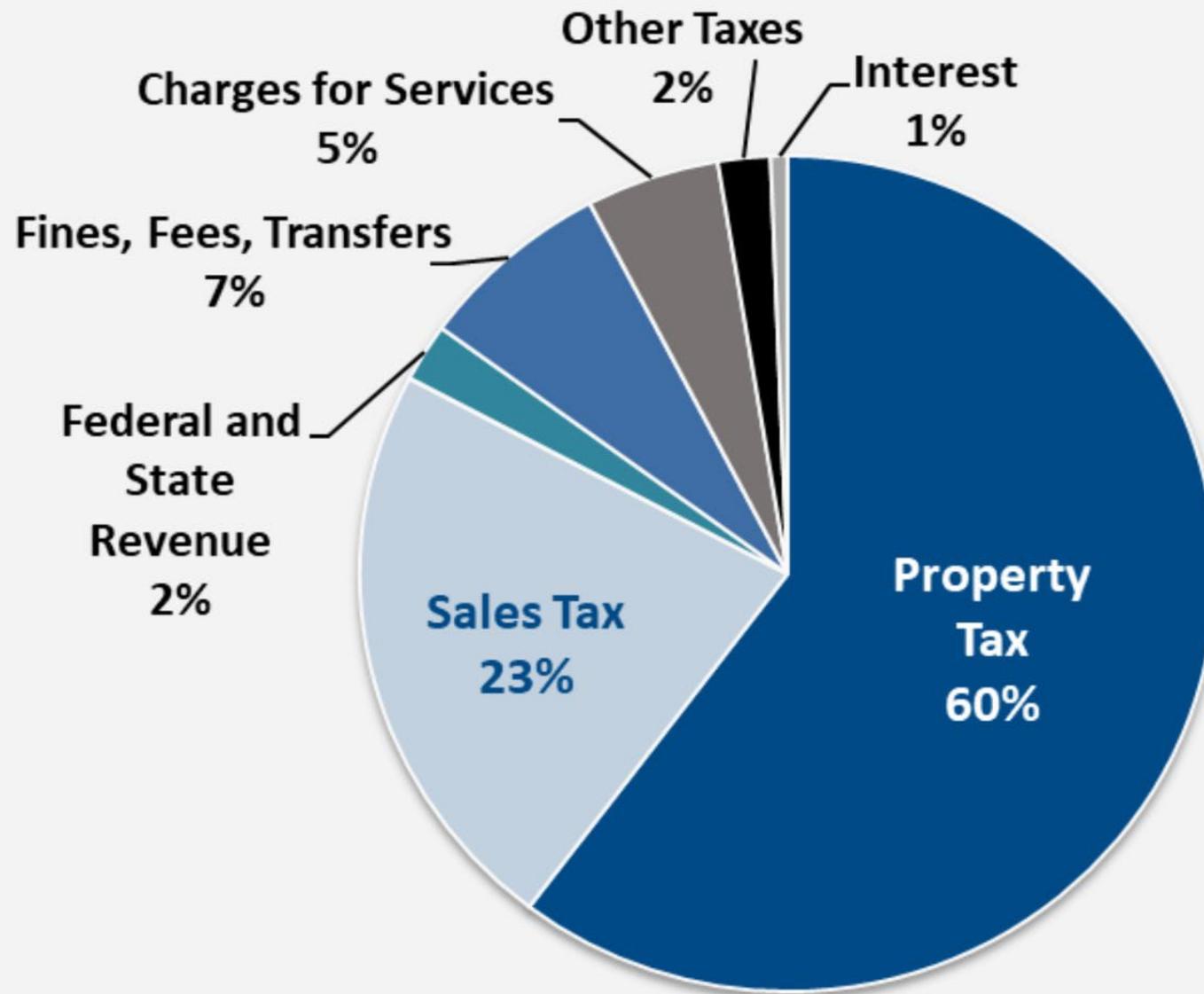


TOTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

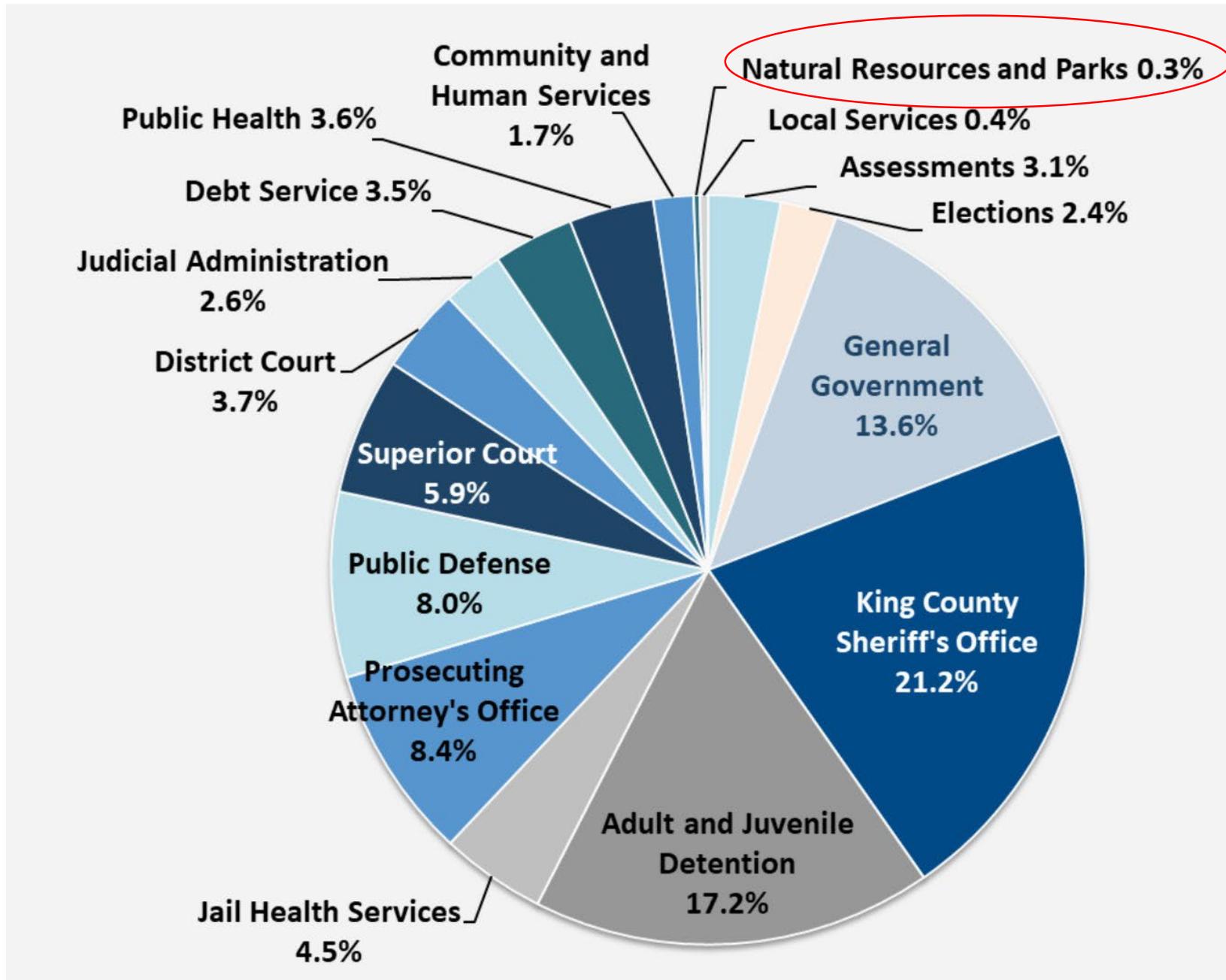


2021-2022 King County Proposed Budget \$12.4 billion (7% increase from 2019-2020)

Net General Fund Revenues (\$1.29 billion)



General Fund Appropriations By Agency





King County
Agriculture Commission
Water and Land Resources Division
Department of Natural Resources and Parks
King Street Center
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206.477-4800 Fax 206.296.0192

October 8, 2020

The Honorable Dow Constantine
County Executive, King County
Chinook Building 401 5th Ave. Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Executive Constantine:

The King County Agriculture Commission is writing in support of your budget regarding agriculture programs and services. As an essential business sector, agriculture needs continued investment for both food security and economic recovery in our region.

We applaud the investment in Stormwater services for agriculture drainage and fully support the need for continued county agriculture programs and services that support land access to King County Farms for socially disadvantaged farmers, water rights transfers, economic development for food processing, farmland preservation, livestock and habitat harmony, regulatory and permitting assistance, marketing and business assistance, promotion, CARES Act grant programs for the ag sector, and, of course, staff support for the Agriculture Commission.

The Local Food Initiative, Farm, Fish, Flood and County agriculture programs are pointed endorsements that support the continued production of food, employment for thousands of essential workers, and care of thousands of acres of working lands by King County's commercial farmers.

While the Commission greatly appreciates what is being proposed to maintain current DNRP funding, one area of concern in the budget proposal is public safety. A vast majority of King County farms and farmers reside and work in the unincorporated area. For decades, farmers have relied heavily on the King County Sheriff to not only respond to robberies and unsafe motorists, but from things as small as alerting and helping farmers remove livestock who escaped their pasture or barn to investigating farm equipment theft and neighboring drug manufacturing. While we realize policing may need to change, please reconsider the reductions in safety personnel being removed from the Sheriff's office. In order to properly maintain and be good stewards of King County open space, the work provided to the unincorporated area by our public servants is essential.

We appreciate this opportunity to support the Executive's budget proposal. Thank you for your commitment to King County farm businesses.

Sincerely,



Nayab Khan, Chair
King County Agriculture Commission

cc: Dow Constantine, County Executive, King County
King County Councilmembers
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD),
DNRP
Katherine Taylor, Government Relations, DNRP
Richard Martin, Manager, AFI, WLRD, DNRP
Patrice Barrentine, Staff Liaison, Agriculture Commission, WLRD, DNRP

2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan

Agriculture Commission

October 8, 2020



King County

CLIMATE ACTION

Clean Future. Strong Communities.



UW Climate Impacts Group

Projections (by 2080)

- higher annual temperature (3°–6° F increase)
- More days above 90° (67%-200% increase)
- Less snowpack, early melt (38%-70% decrease)
- Heavier winter precipitation
- Higher, high flows in winter (18%-55% increase)
- lower, low flows in summer (23%-44% decrease)

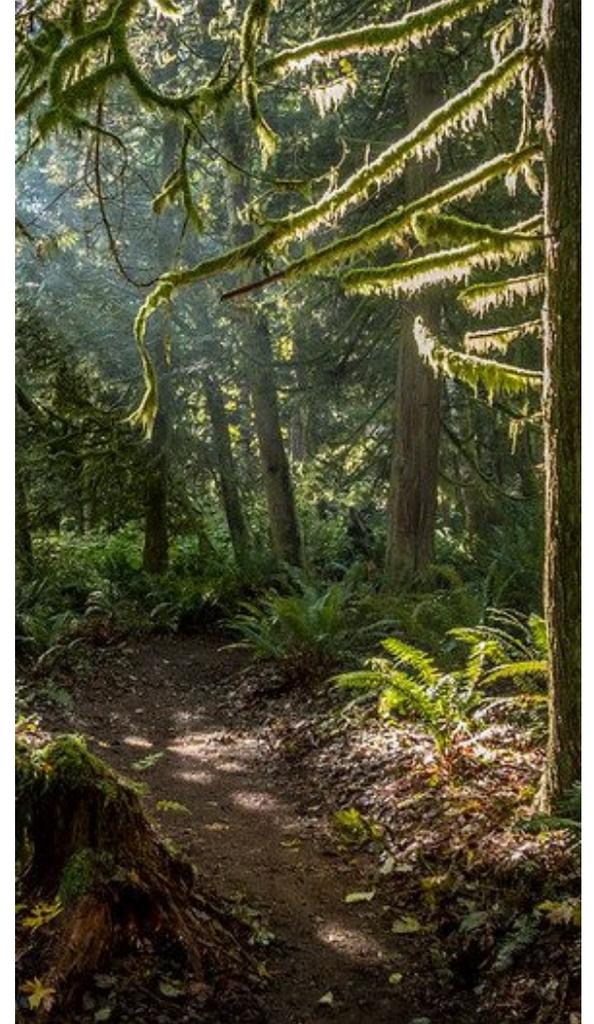
Washington crops and livestock will be affected by

- increasing temperatures and water stress
- declining availability of irrigation water
- rising atmospheric carbon dioxide
- changing pressures from pests, weeds, and pathogens.

As a result, the overall vulnerability of Washington's agricultural sector to climate change is expected to be low.

2020 SCAP Update

- A guiding document for climate policy and investments in GHG emission reduction, climate equity, and preparedness
- Builds on 2015 SCAP progress, led by data and community input
- Transmitted to King County Council on August 27, 2020
- **Council hearings to consider plan for adoption in late 2020 / early 2021**



Guiding Principles and Engagement Strategies

2020 SCAP Guiding Principles

- Act with urgency and intention
- Lead with racial justice and equity
- Respond to community needs and priorities
- Use and develop best available science
- Seek systemic solutions
- Lead through local action
- Prioritize health and co-benefits
- Be transparent and accountable

Stakeholder Engagement

- Climate Equity Community Task Force
- Topic-based convenings
- Youth workshops
- Public workshops
- King County Comprehensive Plan meetings
- Community presentations
- King County employee engagement
- Online information and survey

Public Engagement: Agriculture

- Enhance access to local food for health and climate benefits
- Continue to preserve farmland
- Support management practices that have both environmental and agricultural benefits (“regenerative agriculture”)
- Maintain strong local food production system to buffer climate-related challenges in southern regions
- Encourage expanded use of King County-produced compost
- Transition to more climate friendly vegetarian diets

2020 King County SCAP

Section I Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Greenhouse Gas Targets and Policy 1	Green Building 4
Transportation and Land Use 2	Consumption and Materials Management 5
Building and Facilities Energy 3	Forests and Agriculture 6

Section II Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities

Community Leadership and Community-Driven Policy 1	Food Systems and Food Security 5
Community Capacity Development 2	Housing Security and Anti-Displacement 6
Equitable Green Jobs and Pathways 3	Energy Justice and Utilities 7
Community Health and Emergency Preparedness 4	Transportation Access and Equity 8

Section III Preparing for Climate Change

Mainstream Climate Preparedness 1	Community and Organizational Partnerships 4
Technical Capacity 2	Outreach and Engagement 5
Health and Equity 3	

Section 1: Reducing GHG Emissions

GOALS

Countywide emissions reductions 50% by 2030; 80% by 2050

King County government operations emissions reduction 50% by 2025; 80% by 2030



Elected leaders at a King County – Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) Elected Official Work Session, October 2019. The SCAP's countywide GHG targets and pathways were developed collaboratively through the K4C.

Reducing GHG Emissions

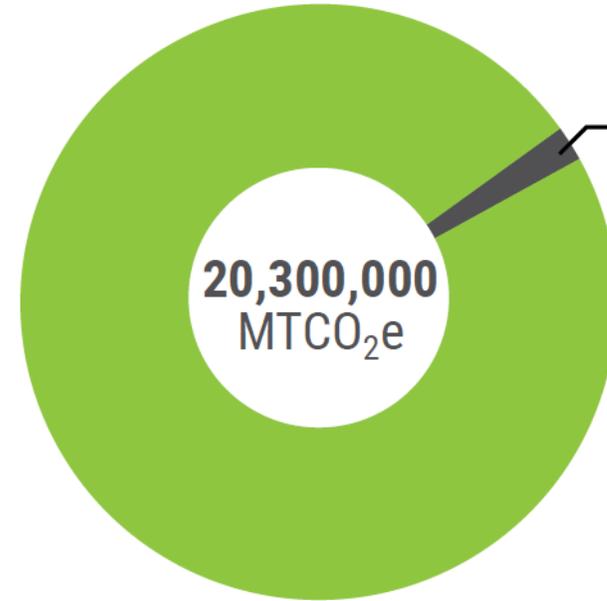
Total Emissions

TOTAL KING COUNTY GHG EMISSIONS (2017)

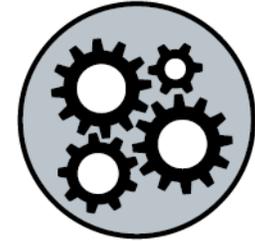
King County Community
(Countywide) Emissions:
energy use, transportation,
solid waste disposal
19,940,000 MTCO₂e



*50% GHG reduction goal by 2030;
80% GHG reduction goal by 2050*



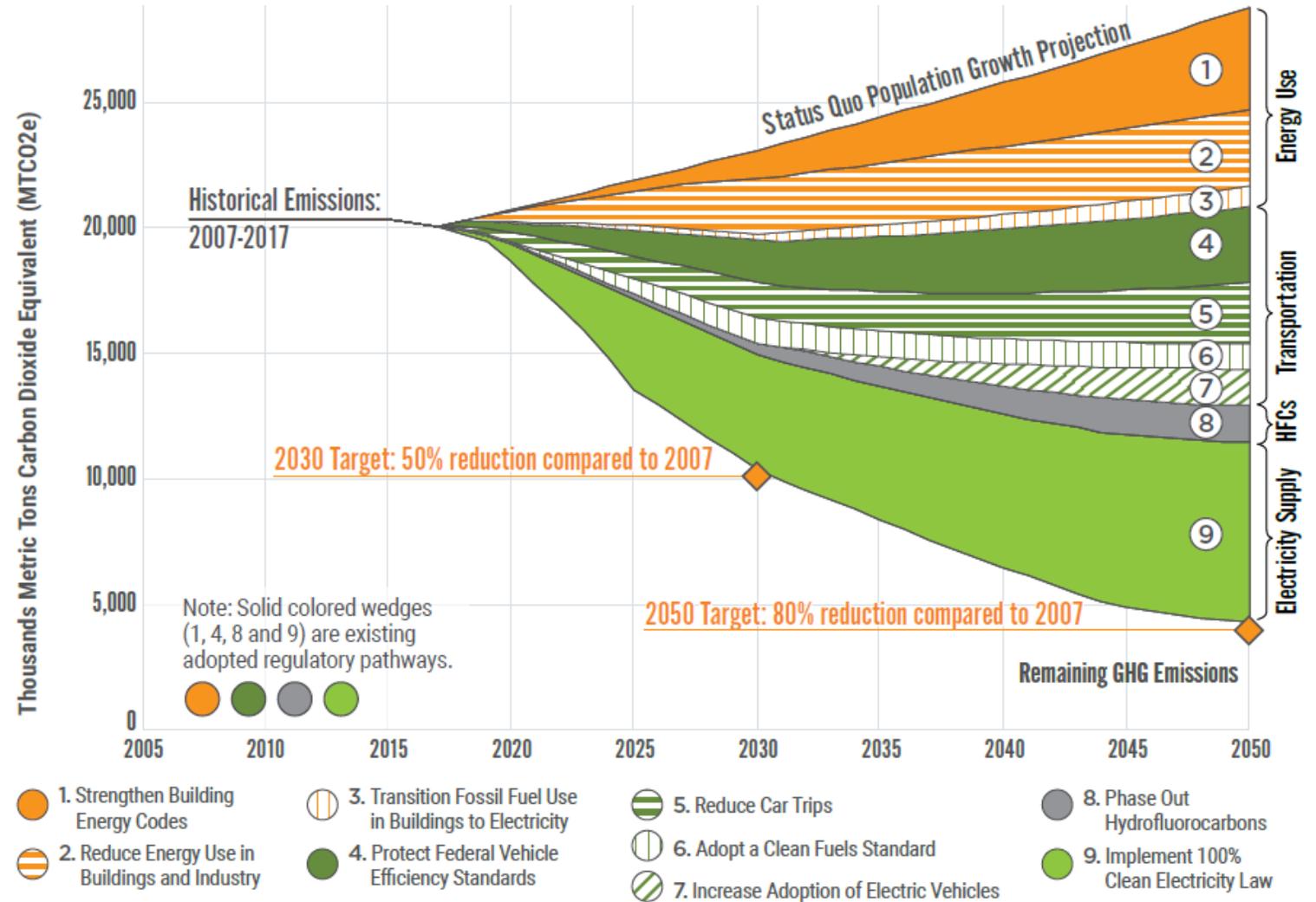
King County
Government
Operations
Emissions
360,000 MTCO₂e



*50% GHG reduction goal by 2025;
80% GHG reduction goal by 2030*

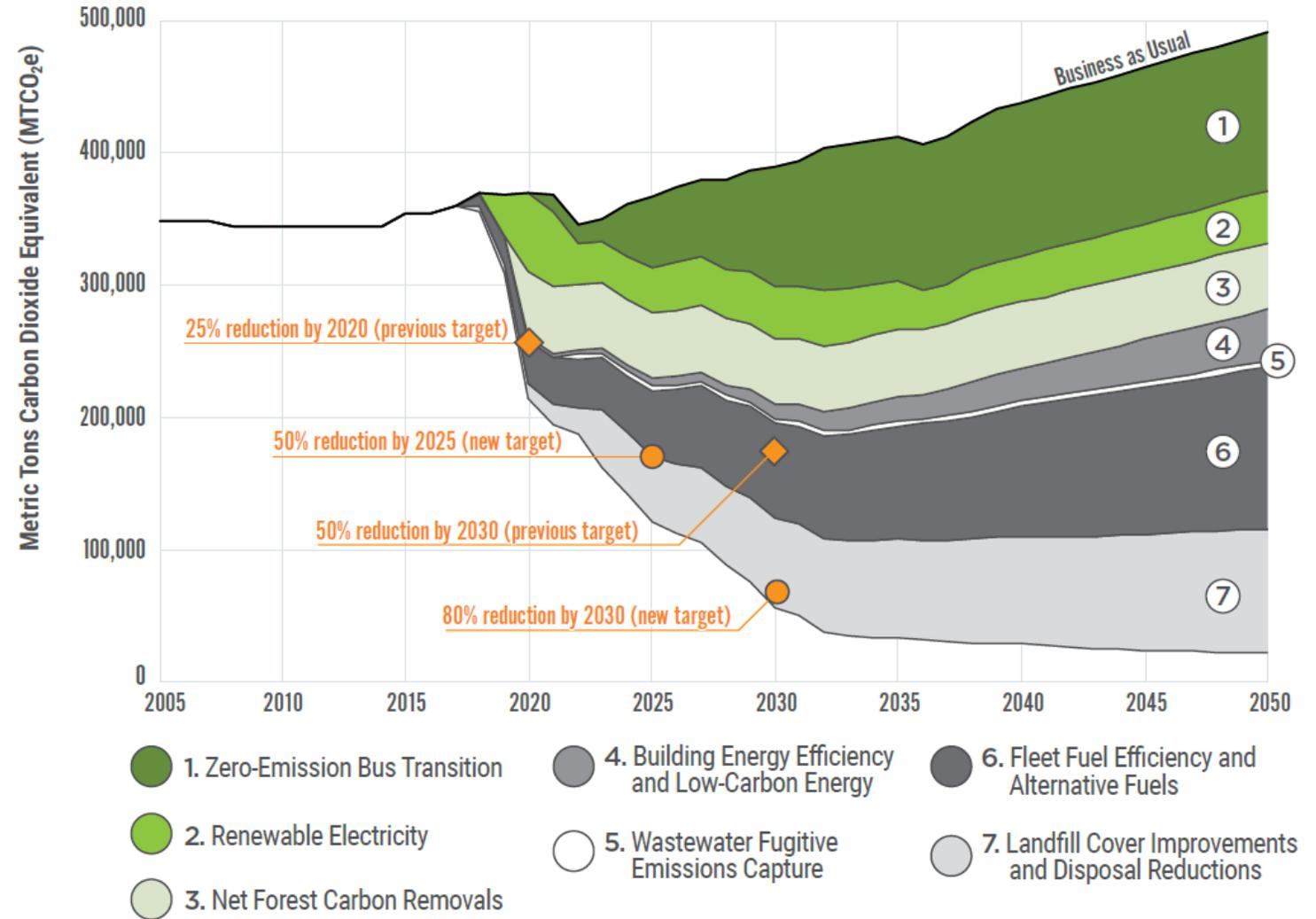
Reducing GHG Emissions Countywide

GHG Reduction “Wedge” Pathways to Achieve Overarching Countywide Goals



Reducing GHG Emissions County Operations

GHG Reduction “Wedge” Pathways to Achieve Overarching Operational Targets



2020 King County SCAP



Agriculture Strategies



GHG 6.1. Implement Land Conservation Initiative (LCI).

6.1.1: Sustain accelerated pace of farmland easement to meet LCI acreage targets.

6.1.2: Increase rate of Public Benefit Rating System/Current Use Taxation enrollments and focus on LCI properties that are not on the near-term acquisition list.

6.1.4: Restore Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) to effective rate closer to 6.25 cents that was approved in 1982.

Agriculture Strategies



GHG 6.2 Provide forestry and agricultural-related technical assistance and incentives to private landowners to support and enhance sustainable farming and forestry, including information about increasing carbon sequestration and preparing for local climate change impacts.

6.2.2: Develop a multi-partner, fully-integrated program to support immigrant and refugee farmers.

6.2.5: Explore compost benefits.

6.2.6: Amend farm plan and forest plan public rules.

6.2.7: Streamline multi-jurisdictional processes.

Forest Strategies



GHG 6.3. Assess, prioritize, and plan projects to maximize the carbon sequestration potential of County-owned lands.

6.3.2: Complete comprehensive farmland stewardship plans for all County-owned farmland.

Section 2: Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities

VISION

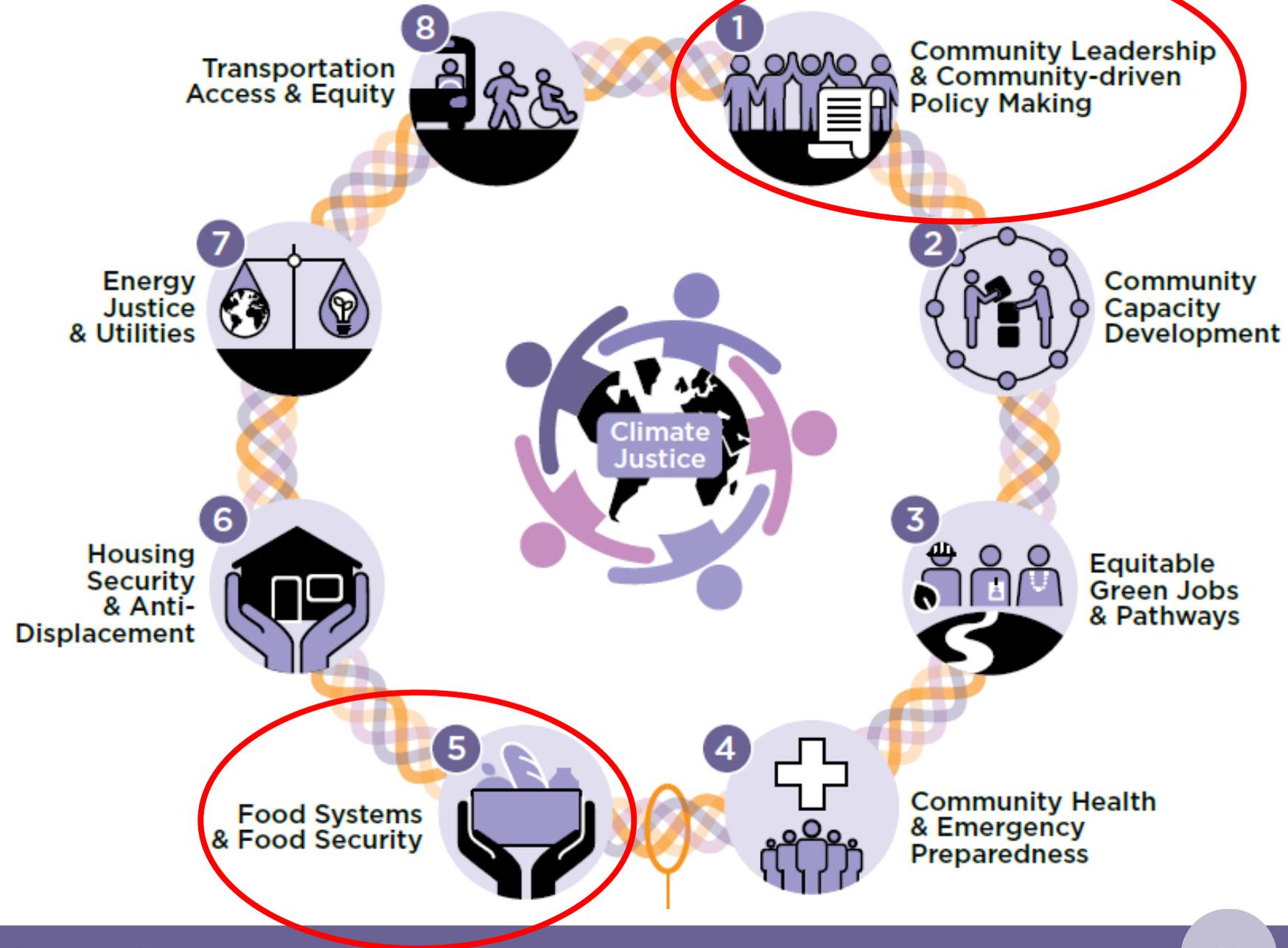
Frontline communities are centered in developing climate solutions and have the knowledge, skills, resources, capacity, and social political capital to equitably adapt, lead, and thrive in a changing climate.



Some members of the Climate Equity Community Task Force at a meeting in Tukwila

Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities

- Climate equity and community-driven policy, guided by the **Climate Equity Community Task Force**
- **Eight equity-driven focus areas** and priority actions that promote equity, recognize intersectionality, and the impact of climate change on other social issues



Section 3: Preparing for Climate Change

- Overarching vision of success
- Strategic framework to focus and organize preparedness work
- Performance measurement framework for tracking progress
- Expanded set of preparedness activities

VISION

King County creates, supports, and implements policies and actions that reduce climate change vulnerabilities, equitably and increase the resilience of King County communities, natural systems, and the built environment.



Wildfire smoke impacts air quality and health, August 2018

Preparing for Climate Change

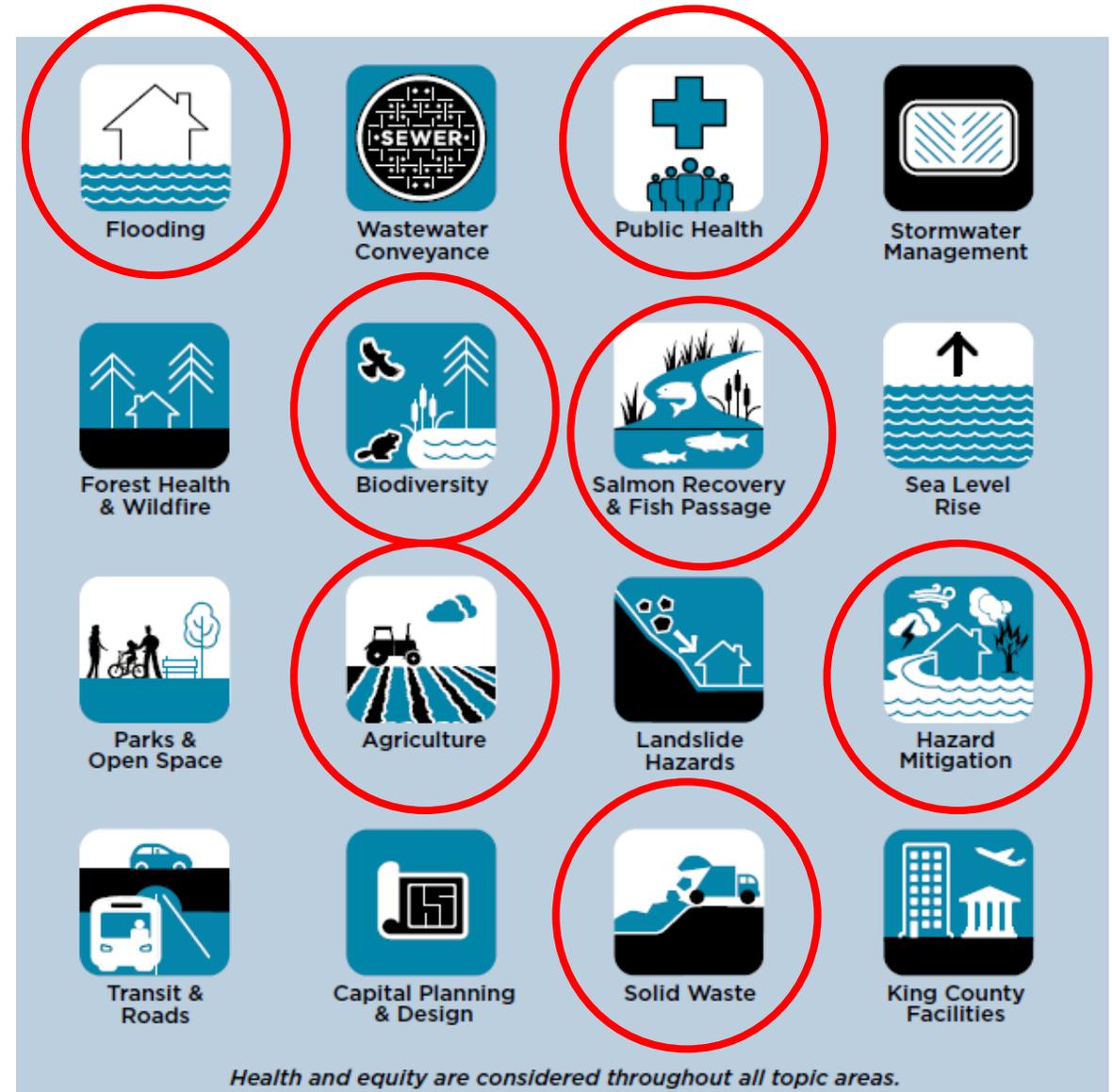
Why plan now?

- Significant climate change impacts are projected; changes in the next few decades are virtually unavoidable
- Decisions with long-term impacts are being made every day; today's choices will shape tomorrow's vulnerabilities
- Significant time is required to motivate and develop adaptive capacity, and to implement changes
- Proactive planning is generally more effective and less costly than reactive planning, and can provide benefits today



Preparing for Climate Change

Preparedness actions cover a range of impacts and related issues



Preparing for Climate Change

Key priorities in the 2020 SCAP:

- **Reduce climate risks**, particularly related to stormwater management, forest health and wildfire, sea level rise, flooding, lower summer stream flows, and hotter summer temperatures
- **Operationalize climate preparedness** into capital planning processes, operations, and strategic planning. Focus on addressing health and equity in actions and plans
- **Accelerate regional preparedness** by leadership and participation in partnerships seeking to align local/regional efforts

Preparing for Climate Change: Agriculture

Strategy 2: Invest in and use best available science and other technical information to inform climate preparedness work at King County.

2.2.8 Assess King county irrigation water needs.

2.2.9 Conduct a climate change impacts assessment for agricultural production in King County.

2.2.11 Explore opportunities to update the 2006 vulnerable roads assessment and incorporate climate change impacts as factors in that assessment.

Preparing for Climate Change: Agriculture

Strategy 4: Strengthen collaborations and partnerships to address climate impacts and increase regional resilience.

- 4.2.2 Expand the use of recycled water in the Sammamish Valley to help mitigate projected changes in summer low streamflows.
- 4.2.10 Account for climate change impacts in the Agricultural Land Resource Strategic Plan for the Snoqualmie Valley.
- 4.2.11 Work with partners to ensure that climate change mitigation and preparedness are incorporated into farm plans and strategies.
- 4.2.12 Work with partners to help farmland owners elevate homes within the Snoqualmie River 100-year floodplain and increase access to high ground for animals and equipment during floods.

Preparing for Climate Change: Agriculture

Strategy 5: Invest in public outreach, engagement, and technical assistance related to climate preparedness.

5.1.1 Incorporate information on changing flood risk and ways to reduce that risk into outreach for coastal and river floodplain property owners.

5.1.6 Support increased farmer participation in federal disaster insurance programs.

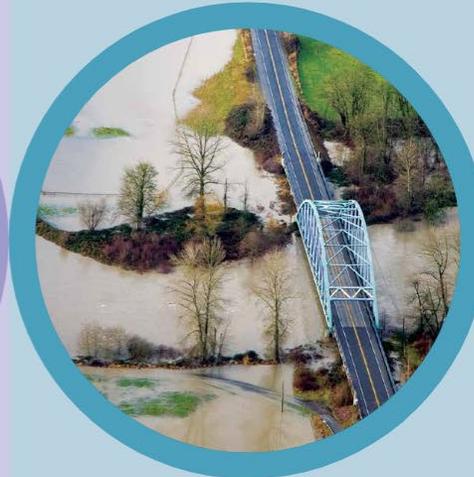
**Section I
Reducing
Greenhouse Gas
Emissions**



**Section II
Sustainable &
Resilient Frontline
Communities**



**Section III
Preparing for
Climate Change**



Learn more about our climate work:

www.kingcounty.gov/climate