

DATE: June 18, 2024

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Sarah Phillips, Energy Smart Eastside Program Manager, 452-5362
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SUBJECT: Energy Smart Eastside Briefing

Energy Smart Eastside (ESE) is a residential energy efficiency program jointly funded by the Eastside Climate Partnership cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond, Mercer Island, and Sammamish. This program is centrally administered by staff at the City of Bellevue, through a shared funding agreement.

Today's agenda will include a brief presentation on Energy Smart Eastside to provide context in how the combined \$4m in recent grant funding from the Washington State Department of Commerce and Puget Sound Energy on the consent agenda for this evening will help support the smart electrification of our community, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and deliver benefits to residents who need it most.

Twenty-five percent of all greenhouse gas emissions generated in Bellevue are attributable to energy use in the home. Replacing gas appliances with efficient electric appliances is a vital strategy to reducing those emissions. Heat pumps, in particular, are a climate 2-for-1 solution that dramatically reduces carbon (CO₂) emissions generated in the home, while increasing health and safety by offering summer cooling and air filtration. ESE was founded in 2022 and completed a pilot in 2023 that is now beginning to scale. Below is a quick reference on program tracks and metrics. All programming is currently focused on adoption of heat pumps. To date, the program has helped 212 households transition to heat pumps, 66 of those in Bellevue. Expansion of programming to other building decarbonization measures are expected in 2025-2026.

Heat Pump Campaign Goal	Current State
99% of residential HVAC sales are heat pumps by 2032	Eastside – 54% of permits are heat pumps / Bellevue – 52% of permits are heat pumps

Program tracks	Population served	Results to date
Awareness, information & support	Homeowners – all incomes	20,000 unique website visitors, 590 webinar attendees, 236 applications for rebates, 53 1:1 coaching sessions

100% cost coverage of heat pump purchase and installation	Households <80% AMI	36 single family homes served (12 Bellevue) 83 affordable housing units served (24 Bellevue) <i>79 projects in progress (12 Bellevue)</i>
Rebates for switching from fossil fuel heat to heat pump	Households <150% AMI	19 rebates used (6 Bellevue)
Manufacturer rebate for all Eastside residents	Homeowners – all income levels	74 rebates used (24 Bellevue)