

Dear Elected Officials,

Thank you for attending last week's King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) work session. I appreciate the thoughtful and candid conversation around our shared goals, priority actions and legislative interests.

As I mentioned at our work session, K4C formed out of the realization that much of what needs to happen on climate change is local, and that we can have more impact by working together. The K4C Joint Commitments have been foundational to the K4C model of working together to solve climate challenges. These updated Commitments reflect the significant impact and influence we as local governments have through our joint and individual decisions about transportation investments, land use and building codes, our operations, and through engagement in state and federal policy discussions.

As we discussed, we first developed joint commitments back in 2014 and recommended at our meeting in June 2019 that they be refreshed. This update reflects growth in K4C membership, changes in our state and federal policy landscape, and updated analysis of the most impactful pathways to achieving deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. They reflect our sense of urgency and growing community interest local climate action and equity.

These commitments reflect the unique roles and powers of local governments and represent our shared priorities for reducing deeply reducing greenhouse gas emissions across King County. ***Importantly, they recognize that each K4C partner has a unique potential for impact and community interests. We understand that each partner will tailor their local strategies and regional engagement for the greatest impact and influence and may not individually pursue every policy or program.***

Staff have incorporated the revisions we discussed and recommended at our October 23rd K4C K4C elected official work session. We agreed to send out this revised Letter of Commitment for a final review. Please reply by November 1st. If you have questions or concerns about these final revisions, please contact Megan Smith or Rachel Brombaugh in my office:

- Megan.Smith@kingcounty.gov, 206-225-4327
- Rachel.Brombaugh@kingcounty.gov, 206-263-9633

Once we have a final version, we will send out to all K4C members for sign-on. Nearly all K4C members signed on to our last commitment letter, and this helped to amplify our local voices when weighing in on state and federal policy. ***I hope that we can rally for a similar strong support of the updated commitments.***

I am also sharing the companion 2020 Shared State Legislative Interests as reviewed and approved by elected officials at our work session. I hope these can inform our actions in the upcoming session, and at other hearings and opportunities to weigh in on climate policy.

10/28/2019

Attachment B
County Executive Cover Letter

Again, I thank you for your commitment to protect the health and well-being of our residents and natural environment. I know that by working together, we will maximize the impact of our shared and individual actions. And, as always, if your city is not a member of K4C and you would like to join, please let us know!

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine
King County Executive