

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an Interlocal Agreement for the Eastside Climate Partnership with the Cities of Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, and Mercer Island to support collaborative climate action. The executed agreement shall be substantially in the form of the agreement in the Council Library.

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Community Development Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution authorizes execution of an interlocal agreement between the City of Bellevue and the Cities of Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, and Mercer Island for the Eastside Climate Partnership. If approved, the agreement would allow for collaborative climate action and management of the Energy Smart Eastside program.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10205

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On December 5, 2022, staff presented the Eastside Climate Partnership Interlocal Agreement (ECP ILA) to Council, and Council directed staff to bring the ECP ILA back to Council to authorize execution. The ECP ILA is between the Cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, and Mercer Island, and if approved, will help advance climate action and collaboration between these five Eastside cities (see Attachment A, Eastside Climate Partnership Interlocal Agreement).

The ECP ILA builds on the interlocal agreement for the King County - Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C), allowing for deeper collaboration amongst Eastside cities. It does not supersede or negate the K4C ILA or Bellevue's participation in K4C.

The ECP ILA formalizes collaboration and shared resources for an Energy Smart Eastside Heat Pump Program ("ESE Program") and future collaborative efforts, consistent with approved strategies in Bellevue's Environmental Stewardship Plan related to energy conservation and renewable energy. If approved, the ECP ILA allows for the hiring of a shared staff person to manage the ESE Program, which would be a Bellevue limited-term staff position, pending available budget funding from each partner city.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

There are several Council approved plans, priorities, policies, and cooperative commitments that are advanced by the proposed ECP ILA:

2021-2025 Environmental Stewardship Plan, (Res. 9859, 2020)

- E.2.2: Home energy retrofit program. Develop a home energy retrofit program to support retrofits and incentivize energy efficiency.
- E.2.3: Equitable access to energy programs. Improve access to energy efficiency programs for low-income and historically underserved and underrepresented policies.
- E.2.4: Building electrification training. Develop an education and outreach program for contractors and homeowners on the benefits of building electrification in partnership with green building organizations, other cities, or the K4C.

Bellevue City Council Vision and Priorities (2021-2023)

- Priority #8: Implement the Environmental Stewardship Plan, which identifies actions in five focus areas:
 - Climate change
 - Energy
 - Materials management and waste
 - Mobility and land use
 - Natural systems

Bellevue Comprehensive Plan Climate Change Policies (2015)

- EN-6. Establish an achievable Citywide target and take corrective actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions such as reducing energy consumption and vehicle emissions and enhancing land use patterns to reduce vehicle dependency.
- EN-8. Provide regional leadership on environmental issues that extend beyond Bellevue's boundaries and require regional cooperation.

King County Cities Climate Collaboration (Res. 8789, 2014)

- Council joined the King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) on August 4, 2014, by signing an Interlocal Agreement (Resolution 8798). K4C is a partnership among cities across King County working to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions consistent with Countywide Planning Policies.

K4C Joint Commitments (February 17, 2015 and September 14, 2020)

- VI. Green Building and Energy Efficiency – Project or Program. Develop a multi-city partnership to build a regional energy efficiency retrofit economy, including tactics such as: collaborating with energy efficiency and green building businesses, partnering with utilities, working with community partners, and expanding on existing retrofit programs. Foster opportunities for economic development, job creation, community-based representations, and pro-equity strategies.

Fiscal Impact

The adopted 2023-2024 City Budget includes an additional \$500,000 in the ESI Operating budget to support the implementation of the Environmental Stewardship Plan along with \$560,000 per year for 2023-2024 for implementing the plan in the ESI Implementation CIP budget. Any costs associated with the ECP, such as City contributions to the Energy Smart Eastside program and expenses for the shared staff limited-term position, have been included in the ESI operating and CIP budgets for 2023-

2024. The shared staff position will be in the City of Bellevue's Community Development Department's Environmental Stewardship team. The other Eastside cities are also in the process of finalizing their 2023-2024 budgets and hiring the Energy Smart Eastside Program Manager limited term shared staff position is dependent on the adoption and final funding allocations for each city's sustainability program.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an Interlocal Agreement for the Eastside Climate Partnership with the Cities of Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, and Mercer Island to support collaborative climate action. The executed agreement shall be substantially in the form of the agreement in the Council Library.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Eastside Climate Partnership Interlocal Agreement
Proposed Resolution No. 10205

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Sustainable Bellevue Environmental Stewardship Plan, 2021-2025