

August 7, 2017

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ITEM

SUBJECT

Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) Update

STAFF CONTACTS

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POLICY ISSUES

Policy support for the ESI and for advanced green building is found in the following:

Bellevue Comprehensive Plan

The Environmental Element of the Comprehensive Plan provides the key policy directives driving ESI's work. These policies call for the promotion and investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy (EN-4); development of a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target (EN-6); regional leadership on environmental issues (EN-8); education and outreach on environmental issues (EN-9); support partnerships with private landowners (EN-11); and increasing the citywide tree canopy to 40 percent (EN-12).

Several Comprehensive Plan policies support green building and low impact development: (1) Provide land use incentives to minimize the amount of impervious surface area below that allowed through prescriptive standards (EN-44); (2) Implement the city-wide use of low impact development techniques and green building practices (EN-45); (3) Support the use of emerging best practices in the area of green building and site design through the use of pilot programs and model ordinances (EN-48); and (4) Provide education and incentives to support the implementation of low impact development practices, integrated site planning, and green building, with a focus on early consideration of these in the site development process (EN-49).

Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement (Res. 7517)

Council signed on to the Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement in 2006, establishing a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to seven percent below 1990 levels by 2012.

King County Cities Climate Collaboration (Res. 8789)

Council joined the King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) on August 4, 2014. The K4C is a partnership among cities across King County working to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions consistent with Countywide Planning Policies.

King County Countywide Planning Policies, Environmental Element

The following policies related to greenhouse gas emissions reduction are included in the Countywide Planning Policies:

- Reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25 percent by 2020, 50 percent by 2030, and 80 percent by 2050 (EN-17).
- Establish a GHG emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively measure progress toward countywide targets established pursuant to policy EN-17 (EN-18).

Regional Leadership

ESI seeks to implement Council's vision and priorities for regional leadership by partnering with neighboring jurisdictions through the K4C and by securing greater levels of grant funding through regional and national partnerships.

DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL

ACTION



DIRECTION



INFORMATION ONLY



This presentation will provide an update to Council on the work of the ESI. The presentation will cover program accomplishments and provide a brief overview of green building trends and a proposed Advanced Green Building Pilot program, as a follow up to the last ESI update to Council on September 26, 2016.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Environmental Stewardship Initiative Updates

The initial portion of the presentation will focus on brief updates on ESI program accomplishments, including work on the U.S. Department of Energy grant, Georgetown University Energy Prize, benefits of trees education and outreach campaign, the interdepartmental tree canopy working group, municipal energy benchmarking, and the K4C. The presentation will also provide an update on the implementation of the ESI Strategic Plan and ESI key performance indicators.

Advanced Green Building Pilot Program

Staff will provide an update on the potential for an Advanced Green Building Pilot program. This will be a follow up from the last ESI update to Council on September 26, 2016, in which this idea was introduced. This update will focus on the strategy in the ESI Strategic Plan to improve performance of community buildings and sites, and will also address the following policy from the Comprehensive Plan: to support the use of emerging best practices in the area of green building and site design through the use of pilot programs and model ordinances (EN-48).

The presentation will provide the policy context for green building, along with an overview of green building programs, incentives, and trends, in the region. The presentation will then summarize the goals, benefits, key considerations, and implications of an Advanced Green Building Pilot program and the proposed next steps for developing a proposal for Council to review.

OPTIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Environmental Stewardship Initiative Strategic Plan Progress Report
- B. Advanced Green Building Pilot Program proposal
- C. Green Building Developers Forum Summary Report, 3/13/2017

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY

ESI Strategic Plan, 2013 – 2018