

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>	Adopt Resolution No. 418- Join Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Planning & Community Development
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	Miranda Redinger, AICP; Senior Planner, P&CD
<b>ACTION:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

The Central Puget Sound Region is experiencing sea level rise, increasing temperatures, changes in precipitation, a long-term decline in snow and ice, ocean acidification, and decreased air quality from wildfires. These trends are expected to continue and accelerate in the coming decades, increasing the potential for flooding, landslides, summer drought, wildfire, disruption of ecological communities, and other impacts in our region. These impacts increase risks to public health, infrastructure, safety, local economies, and the environment.

Protecting public health and safety, providing critical infrastructure, supporting economic prosperity, and protecting natural resources are core roles for tribal, local, and regional governments. It is mutually beneficial for government organizations to work together to increase resiliency of these systems to withstand projected impacts of climate change. By sharing information about these impacts, pooling resources and expertise, and collaborating on approaches to climate preparedness research and action, agencies can serve communities, customers, and taxpayers more effectively and efficiently.

Adopting Resolution No. 418 (Attachment A) would commit the City to joining partner agencies in the formation of a Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative.

**RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There are no fees associated with the Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative and no cash contribution is being sought. However, as resources permit, partners are asked to provide in-kind contributions of staff time, which includes a quarterly in-person meeting and periodic conference calls, workshops or webinars, document reviews, and emails.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council adopt Resolution No. 418 and partner with the Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative to work with other local, tribal, and regional governments, organizations, and professionals in addressing regional climate risks.

Approved By:            City Manager *DT*            City Attorney *JA-T*

## **BACKGROUND**

The Central Puget Sound Region is experiencing sea level rise, increasing temperatures, changes in precipitation, a long-term decline in snow and ice, ocean acidification, and decreased air quality from wildfires. These trends are expected to continue and accelerate in the coming decades, increasing the potential for flooding, landslides, summer drought, wildfire, disruption of ecological communities, and other impacts in our region. These impacts increase risks to public health, infrastructure, safety, local economies, and the environment.

Protecting public health and safety, providing critical infrastructure, supporting economic prosperity, and protecting natural resources are core roles for tribal, local, and regional governments. It is mutually beneficial for government organizations to work together to increase resiliency of these systems to withstand projected impacts of climate change. By sharing information about these impacts, pooling resources and expertise, and collaborating on approaches to climate preparedness research and action, agencies can serve communities, customers, and taxpayers more effectively and efficiently.

These efforts are in line with the work the City of Shoreline has already done on environmental sustainability. Since the 2008 adoption of the City's [Environmental Sustainability Strategy](#), Shoreline has positioned itself to be a regional and national leader on how local governments can work to reduce the potential severity of climate change. Other City initiatives that have focused on environmental sustainability and climate action include:

- Analysis of City and Community Carbon Footprints ([2009](#) and [2012](#));
- Launching of the [forevergreen](#) indicator tracking website (2012);
- Adoption of the [Climate Action Plan](#) (2013);
- Adoption of [King County-City Climate Collaboration \(K4C\) Joint Letter of Commitments](#) (2014);
- Development of [Carbon Wedge Analysis](#) and Strategies (2015);
- Completion of significant capital projects with a variety of climate and other benefits, such as the construction of a LEED Gold certified City Hall (2010) and the Aurora Avenue Corridor project (completed in 2016);
- Promoting transit-oriented development and multi-modal transportation systems through subarea planning for light rail stations opening in 2023 (2013-2016);
- Adoption of a [Deep Green Incentive Program](#) to encourage development of green buildings that meet the most stringent certification standards available (2017); and
- Studying feasibility of District Energy.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative would consist of local, tribal, and regional governments, and other organizations and professionals working together to pursue the following shared actions:

1. **Capacity Building:** Build shared understanding of regional climate impacts in Central Puget Sound and best practices for climate preparedness through information sharing, joint workshops and training, and periodic meetings.
2. **Community Engagement:** Collaborate with communities in our efforts to better understand how climate change will impact public health, safety, and economic opportunities for diverse communities across Central Puget Sound, with an emphasis on understanding how climate change can worsen existing disparities in health outcomes, economic opportunity, and environmental impacts.
3. **Communications:** Develop and communicate consistent, reliable, and easily accessible information on climate impacts and risks in Central Puget Sound informed by current science and reflecting the concerns and priorities of impacted communities.
4. **Coordinated Research:** Identify and pursue opportunities for joint research and assessment of climate impacts that can be accomplished more efficiently and effectively through coordinated efforts.
5. **Funding and Resources:** Jointly pursue grant, foundation, and other funding to support our efforts to strengthen understanding of climate impacts and climate preparedness across the Central Puget Sound Region.
6. **Planning:** Seek and consider information on climate impacts and risks to public health and safety, critical infrastructure, economy, treaty trust resources, and our natural environment as part of regional planning efforts like Transportation 2040 and Vision 2040, and make recommendations to strengthen climate preparedness and community resiliency in local, regional, state, tribal, and federal policies and plans.

To accomplish these shared actions (and subject to available City resources), City staff may meet quarterly with other partner organizations to develop and implement a work program that supports and advances this collaboration. City staff (again, subject to available City resources) may also attend annual meetings to review current information on climate impacts and best practices, review progress on collaborative efforts, and develop recommendations for joint action for the following year. Additional information is included in the form of Frequently Asked Questions in Attachment B.

The intent is to launch the Collaborative with a signing ceremony with other city, county, and tribal leaders, likely in mid-November 2017.

### **COUNCIL GOAL ADDRESSED**

This agenda item addresses Council Goal #2: Improve Shoreline's infrastructure to continue the delivery of highly-valued public services, and most specifically:

- Action Step #5- Implement the 2016-2019 Priority Environmental Strategies, including adoption of incentives for environmentally sustainable buildings, exploration of district energy, update of the City's "forevergreen" website, and continued focus on effective storm-water management practices including restoration of salmon habitat.

## **RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There are no fees associated with the Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative and no cash contribution is being sought. However, as resources permit, partners are asked to provide in-kind contributions of staff time, which includes a quarterly in-person meeting and periodic conference calls, workshops or webinars, document reviews, and emails.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council adopt Resolution No. 418 and partner with the Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative to work with other local, tribal, and regional governments, organizations, and professionals in addressing regional climate risks.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Resolution No. 418

Attachment B: Climate Preparedness Collaboration FAQ

**RESOLUTION NO. 418**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, PLEDGING TO JOIN AS PARTNERS IN THE PUGET SOUND REGIONAL CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS COLLABORATIVE AND TO WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHER LOCAL, TRIBAL, AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND PROFESSIONALS IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL CLIMATE RISKS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Central Puget Sound Region is experiencing sea level rise, increasing temperatures, changes in precipitation, a long-term decline in snow and ice, and ocean acidification, and

**WHEREAS**, these trends are projected to continue and to accelerate in the coming decades; increasing the potential for flooding, landslides, summer drought, wildfire, disruption of ecological communities, and other impacts in our region, and

**WHEREAS**, these impacts increase risks to public health, infrastructure, safety, local economies, the environment, and

**WHEREAS**, protecting public health and safety, providing critical infrastructure, supporting economic prosperity, and protecting natural and treaty trust resources are core roles for tribal, local and regional governments; and

**WHEREAS**, coordinated efforts across the region to prepare for climate impacts will improve local and tribal government efforts to build the region's preparedness for existing natural hazards including droughts, wildfire, seismic and extreme weather events; and

**WHEREAS**, climate preparedness augments and is complementary to existing local and tribal government efforts to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases; and

**WHEREAS**, concerted action and investments to prepare for climate impacts and build resilience offer opportunities to address broader inequities in health, mobility, and access to economic opportunity; and

**WHEREAS**, tribal, local and regional governments face similar challenges in assessing climate change impacts and risks and developing climate preparedness strategies with limited resources; and

**WHEREAS**, climate impacts like changing rainfall patterns or sea level rise often cross jurisdictional and service area boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pacific Northwest is home to world-recognized climate research institutions that are contributing greatly to our common understanding of regional climate impacts, risks, and vulnerabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, by sharing information on climate impacts, pooling resources and expertise, and collaborating on approaches to climate preparedness research and action, we can serve our communities, customers and taxpayers more effectively and efficiently; and

**WHEREAS**, by working together to define shared climate change risks and actions our investments will have greater impact and visibility, and

**WHEREAS**, upcoming updates to Transportation 2040 and Vision 2040 for the Central Puget Sound Region create opportunities to integrate the latest information on climate impacts and vulnerabilities into regional transportation, growth, and economic development plans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES:**

The City Council pledges to join as partners in the **Puget Sound Regional Climate Preparedness Collaborative** and to work together with other local, tribal, and regional governments, organizations, and professionals to pursue the following shared actions:

1. **Capacity Building:** Build shared understanding of regional climate impacts in Central Puget Sound and best practices for climate preparedness through information sharing, joint workshops and training, and periodic meetings.
2. **Community Engagement:** Collaborate with communities in our efforts to better understand how climate change will impact public health, safety, and economic opportunities for diverse communities across Central Puget Sound, with an emphasis on understanding how climate change can worsen existing disparities in health outcomes, economic opportunity, and environmental impacts.
3. **Communications:** Develop and communicate consistent, reliable, and easily accessible information on climate impacts and risks in Central Puget Sound informed by current science and reflecting the concerns and priorities of impacted communities.
4. **Coordinated Research:** Identify and pursue opportunities for joint research and assessment of climate impacts that can be accomplished more efficiently and effectively through coordinated efforts.
5. **Funding and Resources:** Jointly pursue grant, foundation, and other funding to support our efforts to strengthen understanding of climate impacts and climate preparedness across the Central Puget Sound Region.
6. **Planning:** Seek and consider information on climate impacts and risks to public health and safety, critical infrastructure, economy, treaty trust resources, and our natural

environment as part of regional planning efforts like Transportation 2040 and Vision 2040, and make recommendations to strengthen climate preparedness and community resiliency in local, regional, state, tribal and federal policies and plans.

To accomplish these shared actions, and subject to available City resources, City staff may meet quarterly with other partner organizations to develop and implement a work program that supports and advances this collaboration in the areas outlined in this Pledge. City staff, subject to available City resources, may attend annual meetings to review current information on climate impacts and best practices, review progress on collaborative efforts, and develop recommendations for joint action for the following year.

This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon passage by the City Council.

**ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2017.**

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Mayor Christopher Roberts

**ATTEST:**

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Jessica Simulcik Smith  
City Clerk



# The Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative

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## Overview and FAQs

**Goal: Work together across the Puget Sound Region to ensure that our communities, economy, and environment are resilient to the impacts of a changing climate.**

### What is the Challenge?

- Climate change is affecting the Northwest and is expected to accelerate in the coming decades, increasing risks for public health and safety, roads and bridges, critical public services like wastewater treatment and water supply, and economic continuity. Some communities, including low income communities, communities of color, and all tribal communities, will be disproportionately impacted by climate change.
- While a number of governments and NGOs in central Puget Sound are taking steps to prepare for the impacts of climate change, many climate impacts cross jurisdictional boundaries and the resources to prepare and build resiliency vary greatly between organizations.

### What is the Opportunity?

- Tribal, local, and regional governments in the Puget Sound region face similar climate change impacts and similar challenges in addressing climate change risks with limited resources.
- Strategic regional collaboration on climate preparedness can help leverage limited resources, reduce duplication of effort, facilitate institutional learning, and increase the competitiveness of grant proposals designed to support regional preparedness needs.
- Regional collaboration on climate preparedness can strengthen ongoing efforts to increase community resilience to natural hazards such as droughts, wildfire, flooding, and seismic and extreme weather events. Additionally, investments in climate preparedness provide opportunities to address broader inequities in health, mobility, and access to economic opportunity.
- Regional collaboration can also support efforts to increase ecosystem resilience, helping to ensure that our natural areas continue to provide the water and ecosystems services we all depend on, including Treaty trust resources, in the face of climate change and population growth.
- Opportunities to pool expertise and resources and to coordinate our efforts regionally include updates to the region's long-range transportation and land use plans, local comprehensive plans, hazard mitigation plans, local climate action plans, habitat restoration, and major capital facilities plans.

### What is Being Proposed?

We are proposing to enhance coordination and improve the outcomes of climate change preparedness efforts in the central Puget Sound region (defined as Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Kitsap counties) by creating a forum for peer-to-peer and cross-disciplinary exchange of information, ideas, and opportunities related to climate preparedness. More specifically, the Collaborative will provide a forum for:

- **Sharing** assessments, research, and approaches for integrating climate preparedness into local plans and capital programs and to inform major capital facilities siting and design.
- **Identifying** shared climate change impact assessment/research needs and develop joint proposals to address those needs.

- **Developing** consistent public messaging about climate preparedness in the central Puget Sound.
- **Coordinating** public engagement opportunities for climate preparedness.
- **Partnering** with organizations, networks, and groups to engage diverse communities in co-development of preparedness strategies that prevent and address the disproportionate impacts of climate change and create broader benefits for health, mobility, housing, and access to economic opportunity.
- **Engaging** business sectors (like the financial and insurance industries) and economic development entities to develop a better understanding of the economic and financial risks and opportunities of climate change.

### **Who Participates in the Collaborative?**

- Expected Collaborative participants include staff from local, regional, and tribal governments. This may include emergency managers, planners, capital facilities managers, community engagement staff, sustainability managers, natural resource management staff, and public health specialists. We also anticipate partnering with community based organizations, universities, non-governmental organizations and other partners to achieve to the vision outlined above.
- Initial support for scoping, convening, and facilitating the Collaborative has been provided by the Puget Sound Regional Council with the support of the Institute for Sustainable Communities. Over time, the Collaborative may consider a more formal structure through a Memorandum of Understanding or Interlocal Agreement.

### **Is There a Cost to Participating?**

There are no fees associated with the Collaborative and no cash contribution is being sought. Partners are providing in-kind contributions of staff time (a quarterly in-person meeting and periodic conference calls, workshops or webinars, document reviews, and emails).

### **What are the Benefits to Participating?**

Regional collaboration on climate preparedness can contribute to:

- A broader base of support for local climate preparedness efforts.
- More efficient and strategic use of resources for climate preparedness research, community engagement, and development of planning approaches.
- Increased integration across various disciplines such as planning, emergency management, capital facilities, public health, and equity and social justice.
- Better informed and more efficient investment in major capital facilities.
- Increased competitiveness for future federal grant and foundation funding.
- More consistent and credible communication with the public about climate impacts and preparedness.
- Coordinated engagement of diverse communities to prevent and address disparate impacts of climate change and develop solutions that will enhance co-benefits.
- A clear demonstration that this region is a national leader in proactively addressing climate change impacts and risks, giving prospective investors and businesses greater certainty and encouraging business retention and economic development.