

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Discussion on Joining the Race to Zero and the Local Governments for Sustainability - ICLEI150		
DEPARTMENT:	Recreation, Cultural and Community Services		
PRESENTED BY:	Autumn Salamack, Environmental Services Coordinator		
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

The City Council adopted the City's Climate Action Plan in September 2013, thereby committing to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050 (below 2009 levels). A 2019 evaluation of the City's GHG emissions revealed that we are not on track to meet those targets.

The City received an invitation to join the Cities Race to Zero, which would provide a Shoreline-specific, science-based 2030 emissions reduction target to achieve our fair share of the Paris climate goals and limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and a customized list of high-impact actions, for our community to take to achieve that target, with associated technical assistance. The Cities Race to Zero is the local government engagement opportunity within the United Nation's initiative and is coordinated by city network partners, including ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), of which the City of Shoreline is a member. The City received an invitation from ICLEI to join the Cities Race to Zero through the ICLEI150 Commitment Form (Attachment A) in July 2021.

Tonight, staff is looking for feedback from Council on joining the Cities Race to Zero and ICLEI150. If Council is supportive of this effort and would like the City to join, staff will bring back this item for potential Council action on October 18, 2021 to authorize the City Manager to submit the ICLEI150 Commitment Form and join the Cities Race to Zero.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no cost to join the Race to Zero. There will be costs associated with voluntarily implementing actions in support of the goals established by the Race to Zero. These are actions likely to be included in our updated Climate Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required tonight as this is a discussion item only. However, staff recommends that the City join the Race to Zero by authorizing the City Manager to

submit the ICLEI150 Commitment Form when this item is scheduled to return to Council on October 18, 2021.

Approved By: City Manager ***DT*** City Attorney ***MK***

BACKGROUND

The City Council adopted the City's Climate Action Plan in September 2013, thereby committing to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050 (below 2009 levels). A 2019 evaluation of the City's GHG emissions revealed that we are not on track to meet those targets.

The [Race To Zero Campaign](#) is a global campaign established by the United Nations (UN) High-Level Climate Champions in 2020 to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero-carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth. The [Cities Race to Zero](#) is the local government engagement opportunity within the UN's initiative and is coordinated by city network partners, including [ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability \(ICLEI\)](#), of which the City of Shoreline is a member. The City received an invitation from ICLEI to join the Cities Race to Zero through the ICLEI150 Commitment Form (Attachment A) in July 2021.

DISCUSSION

The benefits of joining the Race to Zero include the following:

- Demonstrates our ongoing commitment to climate action, with recognition at both the national and global level.
- Provides a good context for kicking off our Climate Action Plan update with the community to center conversation on high-impact actions.
- Provides a Shoreline-specific, science-based 2030 emissions reduction target based on our 2019 completed GHG emissions inventory. This target is the level of emissions Shoreline must reduce to achieve our fair share of the Paris climate goals and limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. This would align with the 2019 Comprehensive Plan amendment to “Protect clean air and the climate for present and future generations through significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, to support Paris Climate Accord targets of limiting global warming to less than 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels.”
- Generates a customized list of high-impact actions for our community to take to achieve our 2030 target, and technical assistance for implementing those actions. This is a key benefit that can help frame meaningful community conversations about priority actions to include in our updated Climate Action Plan.

The requirements of joining the Cities Race to Zero are outlined below.

Requirements of Joining	Potential Actions to Satisfy Requirements
<p>Endorse the following Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City recognizes the global climate emergency. • The City is committed to keeping global heating below the 1.5° Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement. • The City is committed to putting inclusive climate action at the center of all urban decision-making, to create thriving and equitable communities for everyone. • The City invites our partners – political leaders, CEOs, trade unions, investors, and civil society – to join us in recognizing the global climate emergency and help us deliver on science-based action to overcome it. 	<p>These principles could be endorsed in a climate emergency declaration at a Council meeting.</p>
<p>Pledge at the head-of-organization level to get to zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest. Set a 2030 interim target reflecting maximum fair share effort to reach 50% global CO2 reductions.</p>	<p>We can make this pledge via any official documentation, such as a Council decision or climate emergency declaration.</p>
<p>Plan the actions necessary to achieve both the 2030 and 2050 targets within 12 months of joining.</p>	<p>This will be part of the City's Climate Action Plan update.</p>
<p>Proceed with at least one high-impact action to achieve the targets during 2021.</p>	<p>Council action to prohibit fossil fuels – including natural gas – in new commercial construction, per the August 16th City Council discussion, would satisfy this requirement. Once The City receives our customized list of high-impact actions, staff can evaluate for other opportunities as needed.</p>
<p>Publish report Race to Zero actions by 2022</p>	<p>This could be satisfied by reporting via a unified ICLEI-Carbon Disclosure Project reporting platform, which the City already uses for reporting emissions.</p>

Additional information on the benefits and requirements of joining the Cities Race to Zero and ICLEI150 is included in Attachment B. Tonight, staff is looking for feedback from Council on joining the Cities Race to Zero and ICLEI150. If Council is supportive of this effort and would like the City to join, staff will bring back this item for potential Council action on October 18, 2021 to authorize the City Manager to submit the ICLEI150 Commitment Form and join the Cities Race to Zero.

COUNCIL GOAL(S) ADDRESSED

This action addresses City Council Goal #2: Continue to deliver highly-valued public services through management of the City's infrastructure and stewardship of the natural environment.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no cost to join the Race to Zero. There will be costs associated with voluntarily implementing actions in support of the goals established by the Race to Zero. These are actions likely to be included in our updated Climate Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required tonight as this is a discussion item only. However, staff recommends that the City join the Race to Zero by authorizing the City Manager to submit the ICLEI150 Commitment Form when this item is scheduled to return to Council on October 18, 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: ICLEI150 Race to Zero Commitment Sign-On

Attachment B: ICLEI150 Leading with Climate Science Race to Zero Explainer



ICLEI150 COMMITMENT FORM

I have read the information below about the ICLEI150 and the Race to Zero commitment and I understand all that is expected of me, my staff, and ICLEI USA. By signing below, I agree to participate and to allow ICLEI to publish our commitment, target, and actions on the ICLEI USA website and to report this information to the global Cities Race to Zero platform.

I pledge to join the ICLEI150 on the Race to Zero on behalf of _____,
_____.
(name of city/county)
(name of state)

Race To Zero is a global campaign (established June 2020) of the United Nations' Climate Champions to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero-carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth.

ICLEI's Climate Neutrality Framework provides a framework to engage with the Race to Zero, and calls for the necessary level of ambition and daring leadership to keep global temperature rise below the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement and to put climate action at the center of all urban decision-making, taking full advantage of ICLEI's five development pathways: low-emissions, resilient, circular, nature-based, and people-centered / equitable. The Climate Neutrality framework directs our work with you as an ICLEI member.

The "ICLEI150" represents a movement of 150 local governments across the ICLEI USA network that are stepping up to join the Cities Race to Zero to cut global emissions in half by 2030 and to zero by 2050.

The ICLEI150 communities in the Race to Zero participants will:

1. **Pledge:** at the head-of-organization level to get to zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest. Set a 2030 interim target reflecting maximum fair share effort to reach 50% global CO2 reductions.
2. **Plan:** the actions necessary to achieve both the 2030 and 2050 targets within 12 months of joining.
3. **Proceed:** with high-impact action to achieve the targets during 2021
4. **Publish:** report Race to Zero actions by 2022

ICLEI USA will provide ICLEI150 leaders and communities with:

- Your community's 2030 Science-Based Target, putting you on a path to climate neutrality by 2050.
- Community-specific high-impact actions to meet the 2030 target.
- Technical assistance to proceed with one or more high-impact actions during 2021.
- Personalized support package, pairing ICLEI's resources with your community's goals.
- Reporting your commitment and actions to the global Race to Zero platform. (Targets are reported via the CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting Platform).
- National and international recognition for your ambition and action from ICLEI USA and ICLEI World Secretariat.
- Provide opportunities to speak about and share your community's Race to Zero ambition.

As a leader joining the Cities Race to Zero, I endorse the following principles:

1. We recognize the global climate emergency.
2. We are committed to keeping global heating below the 1.5°Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement.
3. We are committed to putting inclusive climate action at the center of all urban decision-making, to create thriving and equitable communities for everyone.
4. We invite our partners – political leaders, CEOs, trade unions, investors, and civil society – to join us in recognizing the global climate emergency and help us deliver on science-based action to overcome it.

As an ICLEI150 Leader, I will:

- **Commit my staff to work with ICLEI** to develop our “member journey” of technical and implementation aspects of the Race to Zero.
- **Spend 15 minutes each month** amplifying the Race to Zero movement within their community, with other elected officials, and at national and international forums.
- **Provide a 1- to 2-minute video** highlighting specific examples of what they are doing or planning to do to equitably reduce GHG emissions and why they are excited to be an ICLEI 150 leader in the Race to Zero. Submit [Here](#) within 30 days or email to sarah.ditton@iclei.org.
- **Provide a statement** about why the Race to Zero initiative is important to me and my community (in the box below). Please include a link to a portrait or include an attachment in your submission email. This will be used on the ICLEI USA website and social media to highlight your ambition.



I anticipate my community will need ICLEI’s assistance to complete the following steps of the Race to Zero:

- ☐ A declaration of a climate emergency and/or a commitment to climate neutrality
- ☐ A Science-Based Target
- ☐ Planning and implementing at least one inclusive and equitable climate action
- ☐ Reporting progress
- ☐ Unsure. I need ICLEI technical advisors to help create my plan.

Elected Official Signature

Date



ICLEI150

LEADING WITH CLIMATE SCIENCE

An explainer for ICLEI USA leaders working toward climate neutrality as part of the UNFCCC's Cities Race to Zero Initiative.

Stay up to date on ICLEI150's Race to Zero Initiatives at <http://icleiusa.org/race-to-zero>

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RACE TO ZERO OVERVIEW

Race To Zero is a global campaign (established by the UN High-Level Climate Champions in 2020) to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero-carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth. The Cities Race to Zero is the local government engagement opportunity within the UN's initiative and is coordinated by city network partners, C40, CDP, Climate Mayors, Global Covenant of Mayors, ICLEI, and others.



ICLEI USA is turning Cities Race to Zero into an actionable work plan for U.S. cities, towns, and counties.

The objective is to globally activate a decarbonized economy to keep atmospheric warming below 1.5°C. This global movement puts cities on track for the emissions reductions they must achieve by 2030 on the way to zero emissions by 2050.

There are two main ways ICLEI USA members can join the Race to Zero:

1. Joining the ICLEI150 (more on page 4) by signing, at the head-of-organization level, the **ICLEI150 commitment form** and sending it to kale.roberts@iclei.org. **ICLEI will report your participation in the Race to Zero** and work with your team to accomplish each step of the race; or
2. Sign up on the **Cities Race to Zero** portal.

This toolkit contains the informational materials for city and county leadership to participate in the ICLEI150 support package for the Race to Zero. It explains the intention and logistics of the ICLEI150, declaring your administration's commitment to using leading practices to direct your climate targets and action.

CITIES RACE TO ZERO COMMITMENTS

The Race to Zero is an opportunity to listen to the demands of constituents, develop new green economies, and foster innovation. With ICLEI's assistance, ICLEI leaders participating in the Cities Race to Zero will:

1. **Endorse:** the following Principles:

- a. We recognize the global climate emergency.
- b. We are committed to keeping global heating below the 1.5°Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement.
- c. We are committed to putting inclusive climate action at the center of all urban decision-making, to create thriving and equitable communities for everyone.
- d. We invite our partners – political leaders, CEOs, trade unions, investors, and civil society – to join us in recognizing the global climate emergency and help us deliver on science-based action to overcome it.

2. **Pledge:** at the head-of-organization level to get to zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest. Set a 2030 interim target reflecting maximum fair share effort to reach 50% global CO2 reductions.

3. **Plan:** the actions necessary to achieve both the 2030 and 2050 targets within 12 months of joining.

4. **Proceed:** with high-impact action to achieve the targets during 2021

5. **Publish:** report Race to Zero actions by 2022

ABOUT ICLEI150

ICLEI150 is a movement of local governments across the ICLEI U.S. network stepping up to join the Cities Race to Zero to cut global emissions in half by 2030 and to zero by 2050.

Respond to the moment and be recognized for real action by joining ICLEI150.

When you join ICLEI150, ICLEI will provide your community with:

- National and international recognition for your ambition and action from ICLEI USA and ICLEI World Secretariat.
- Your community's 2030 Science-Based Target, offering your city or county its calculated share of the Paris Agreement goal and putting you on a path to climate neutrality by 2050.
- Community-specific high-impact actions to meet the 2030 target.
- Technical assistance to proceed with one or more high-impact actions during 2021.
- Personalized support package, pairing ICLEI's resources with your community's goals.

ICLEI USA embraced the challenge and the opportunity of the Cities Race to Zero. With your community's climate data already in our industry-leading emissions management software, ClearPath, and technical expertise, ICLEI USA is uniquely positioned to provide your community support on ambitious greenhouse gas reductions.

Knowing this, Angie Fyfe, ICLEI USA's Executive Director, committed to Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry, that we will engage 150 U.S. local governments in the Race to Zero. The ICLEI150 opportunity is now underway.

PARTICIPATING IN ICLEI150

**GETTING STARTED:
PLEDGE TO REACH
ZERO EMISSIONS AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE**



**All local governments in
the ICLEI USA network
are welcome to
participate in ICLEI150.**

Pledges bring both recognition and accountability—but they must urgently be followed by action. Within 12 months of joining the Race to Zero your community must:

1. Pledge at the head-of-organization level to reach (net) zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest.

Local governments can make this pledge via any official documentation such as a council decision, commission decision, or strategy paper. Notify ICLEI of the pledge. For inspiration, see:

- Ann Arbor, MI's **A2Zero Carbon Neutrality Plan**
- Pittsburgh, PA's **Carbon Neutral by 2050 Executive Order**
- and Montgomery County, MD's **Emergency Climate Mobilization Resolution.**

2. Set an interim 2030 target that reflects maximum effort toward or beyond a fair share of 50% CO2 reductions by 2030.

ICLEI will support the city or county in developing their 2030 Science-Based Targets (more on pages 6-7).

YOUR 2030 SCIENCE-BASED TARGET: OVERVIEW



If you have a completed 2016 to 2019 community-wide greenhouse gas inventory, ICLEI's technical experts will calculate your science-based target (SBT). This target is the level of emissions your city or county must reduce to achieve your fair share of the Paris climate goals. ICLEI's technical advisors will review the SBT with city contacts.

Embrace this target and encourage your community, colleagues, and other elected officials to develop and embrace their targets. Ways you can publicly embrace your 2030 Science-Based Target:

- Align your budget with the climate imperative
- Communicate around a 2030 goal, crafting messaging that speaks for the world 9 years from now.
- Encourage your city council or county government to adopt a resolution integrating the target
- Include the target in the next climate action plan
- Put out a public statement of the climate action plan and your commitment to achieving it
- Add to or develop a climate target dashboard on your government website

WHY A SCIENCE-BASED TARGET?

Science-based targets build internal and external support needed to achieve ambitious greenhouse gas reductions and boost public confidence in local climate action. They show local governments what they need to do by 2030 and 2050, spurring innovation and collaboration.

< WHAT IS A SCIENCE- BASED TARGET?

Science-based targets are climate goals in line with the latest climate science. They represent your community's fair share of the ambition necessary to meet the Paris Agreement commitment of keeping warming below 1.5°C. To achieve this goal, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that we must reduce global emissions by 50% by 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. Equitably reducing global emissions by 50% requires that high-emitting, wealthy nations reduce their emissions by more than 50%.

ICLEI'S METHODOLOGY

The foundation of ICLEI's science-based target calculation methodology is based on the One Planet Cities Challenge (OPCC) calculation methodology. While our methodology is based on the OPCC, ICLEI adapted it to fit our diverse network of local governments.

KEY DIFFERENCES

Baseline years range from 2016-2019

Justification: Many local governments produce inventories every 2-5 years. ICLEI prefers the science-based target baseline emissions to be precisely calculated rather than extrapolated based on a 2018 normalization.

ICLEI can provide a separate target for scope 3 emissions

Justification: Many local governments have influence over their scope 3 emissions allowing them to plan and implement high-impact actions (HIAs) to reduce them.

Minimally compliant inventories must be compliant with ICLEI's U.S Community Protocol (USCP) or the GPC Basic reporting level.

Justification: Many local governments within ICLEI USA's network build inventories in compliance with the U.S Community Protocol. Other local governments build inventories in compliance with the GPC Basic reporting level. The GPC Basic reporting level requires all activities required by the U.S. Community Protocol, except the use of energy in potable water and wastewater treatment and distribution.

[Click for info on "Inventory Guidance for Science-Based Targets"](#)



ACT NOW: HIGH- IMPACT ACTION



ICLEI's technical staff will meet with your team to develop high-impact actions to achieve the 2030 target. Once identified, ICLEI will provide technical assistance to help your team begin implementation.

ICLEI's Carbon Neutrality Framework and ClearPath planning module will support high-impact actions. ICLEI will draw from and leverage our partners, including American Cities Climate Challenge, America's Pledge, C40 Green and Just Recovery, and Project Drawdown.

ICLEI150 participants are invited to participate in ICLEI's technical assistance workshops targeting high-impact actions. Topics may include building electrification, strategies for working with your utility provider, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, etc. **ICLEI will report your participation as Cities Race to Zero Element 3: Plan.**

ICLEI technical advisors will help local governments understand their respective science-based targets (SBTs) and then help to identify the High Impact Actions (HIAs) that can help them meet those targets. ICLEI will provide guidance on best practices for HIA implementation, helping cities to focus their reduction strategies on activities that will deliver the intended results, and maintain confidence that their approach will move them towards their RTZ goals and commitments. This guidance will include sector- and regional-specific technical workshops and resource modules that address the high-impact policy concepts and initiatives. Lastly, ICLEI will strengthen each local government's reduction trajectory as they map their Race to Zero on the ClearPath tool planning module.



HOW WILL ICLEI SUPPORT YOUR HIGH IMPACT ACTIONS?

REPORT OUT: LET THE WORLD KNOW YOUR PROGRESS



The world needs your immediate action. As you work to achieve your goal, reporting will give your progress visibility and develop internal and external support for climate neutrality.

ICLEI views the Race to Zero as a long-term commitment to achieving your 2030 target and then your climate neutrality by 2050. Reporting your progress allows ICLEI and your team to co-develop the next steps in your journey and I amplify your progress and actions through its media and partner channels.

HOW TO REPORT THE RACE TO ZERO?



Report progress at least annually, including via, to the extent possible, platforms that feed into the UNFCCC Global Climate Action Portal. Cities can report targets and progress, as part of their existing commitments through the CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting System. ICLEI technical experts will be available to answer reporting questions.

For cities that have reported to the CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting System in the past, there are no additional reporting questions for the Race to Zero. Cities that have never reported can contact CDP at cities@cdp.net to sign up. The reporting system is free to use.

[Click here for more Race to Zero reporting guidance.](#)



YOUR ICLEI WORK PLAN IN THE UNFCCC'S CITIES RACE TO ZERO

Attachment B

For those with a GHG inventory

ICLEI Support

For those creating or updating GHG inventory

Commit to join the Race to Zero.

Commit to reach zero emissions by 2050 at the latest

Ready.
Set.
Go.

Recognize your leadership

Ready.
Set.
Go.

Commit to join the Race to Zero.

Commit to reach zero emissions by 2050 at the latest

Address any data needs

Review GHG inventory data for completeness and accuracy // Provide GHG inventory tools and training

Create a community GHG inventory

Accept your SBT and report it in the CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting System

Share the Race to Zero process with other communities

Calculate your 2030 science-based target (SBT)

Supply modeled high-impact actions. Host technical workshops

Accept your SBT and report it in the CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting System

Share the Race to Zero process with other communities

Enroll in ICLEI technical workshop

Publish intention to pursue High-Impact Action

COP 26

Recognize your efforts at COP26

COP 26

Enroll in ICLEI technical workshop

Publish intention to pursue High-Impact Action

Proceed with high-impact action(s)

Provide implementation technical assistance

Proceed with high-impact action(s)

Report annually

Support climate reporting

Report annually

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