

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Authorizing the City Manager to Join the Race to Zero and the Local Governments for Sustainability - ICLEI150
DEPARTMENT:	Recreation, Cultural and Community Services
PRESENTED BY:	Bethany Wolbrecht-Dunn, Community Services Manager
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

Council adopted the 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.

Tonight, the City Council is scheduled to approve joining the Cities Race to Zero by authorizing the City Manager to sign the ICLEI150 Race to Zero Commitment. The Cities Race to Zero was discussed by the Council on October 4, 2021, and Council directed that staff return for approval tonight.

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

Staff recommends that the City join the Race to Zero by authorizing the City Manager to sign the ICLEI150 Race to Zero Commitment (Attachment A).

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

BACKGROUND

The 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, including 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 in July 2021.

The City Council discussed the Cities Race to Zero at its October 4, 2021, meeting. A copy of the staff report for that discussion can be found at the following link: <http://cosweb.ci.shoreline.wa.us/uploads/attachments/cck/council/staffreports/2021/staffreport100421-9b.pdf>.

DISCUSSION

At the October 4th City Council meeting, the Council did not raise any issues with the requirements outlined in joining the Cities Race to Zero and directed staff to come back tonight with a motion to direct the City Manager to sign the ICLEI150 Race to Zero Commitment (Attachment A).

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

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: ICLEI150 Race to Zero Commitment



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

