

March 6, 2015

Honorable Shari Winstead
Mayor of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Ave North
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905

Clean healthy air for
everyone, everywhere,
all the time.

Re: Update on Puget Sound Clean Air Agency work and per capita rate

Dear Mayor Winstead:

Clean healthy air for everyone, everywhere, all the time.

Board of Directors

Bremerton
Patty Lent, Mayor

Everett
Ray Stephanson, Mayor
Paul Roberts, Board Chair

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Dow Constantine, Executive

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Pierce County
Pat McCarthy, Executive

Public-at-Large
Stella Chao

Seattle
Ed Murray, Mayor

Snohomish County
Dave Somers, Councilmember

Tacoma
Ryan Mello, Councilmember

Executive Director
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That's the vision our Board adopted in our 2014-2020 Strategic Plan. Last year, to implement the Plan, our Board adopted an increase in our supplemental assessment (per capita) for the first time since 2009. Based on feedback from a number of jurisdictions, the Board broke the proposed single step increase into two parts, with the first step effective Jan. 1, 2015 and the second step proposed for Jan. 1, 2016. In our fiscal year 2016 budget process, I'll be asking the Board to implement the second step.

So, how are we doing on achieving the vision?

1. The EPA recently announced that Pierce County is now in attainment with the federal air quality standards. That makes Washington the most populous state in the country that is fully in compliance with all air quality standards. That's not just good for public health; it's a competitive advantage.

2. We are reducing transportation emissions. Vehicle emissions affect our most vulnerable populations and drive our ozone (summer smog) levels. With a new federal standard coming, ozone is the next challenge we face regarding attainment. We're getting cleaner vehicles on the road, for example, by bringing in federal grants to clean up port drayage trucks. As a reminder, our Western Washington Clean Cities team already works with a number of cities and is always ready to help your fleet manager find ways to reduce costs and emissions.

3. There is a lot of debate in Olympia over policies on greenhouse gas emissions. We continue to play our important role of analyzing these policies and informing policy makers about the potential co-benefits on other pollutants like benzene from reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

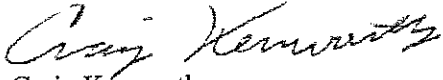
4. To get to clean healthy air for everyone, everywhere, we've increased our monitoring efforts to better understand and communicate what people are breathing. That includes developing new lower cost tools. At the same time, this work is being impacted by deferred maintenance on the software and systems that support our air quality monitoring tools. The second step of the increase will let us tackle those deferred maintenance problems and ensure we continue to communicate what people are breathing every day.

The proposed rate increase would move our supplemental assessment rate from 71 to 81 cents, with the level then held flat in FY2017. The Board will initially discuss this matter at their March 26th meeting and I will ask them to take action on the rate at their April 23rd meeting.

I had the opportunity to meet with many cities last year to explain more about our work and our Strategic Plan. I'd welcome a chance to meet or talk and answer whatever questions you have or convey anything you'd like back to our Board as we proceed with our FY2016 budget planning.

I can be reached anytime at 206-689-4004 or at craigk@pscleanair.org.

Sincerely,



Craig Kenworthy
Executive Director

cc: Patti Rader Finance Manager

jwc