

February 4, 2020

Dear Sound Cities colleagues:

On April 22, 1970 Earth Day was launched with 20 million participants from coast to coast taking to the streets demonstrating for a healthy and sustainable environment.

Five decades after the original event, <u>Earth Day Northwest 2020</u> aims to create a broad-based, welcoming movement founded on three pillars: protecting our environment; increasing equity and inclusion; and improving our communities – to be sustainable and livable.

Earth Day Northwest 2020 seizes the opportunity of the 50th anniversary, challenging all of us to take collective action and leadership. We hope to instill courage to take action as part of a broad-based movement that supports meaningful on-the-ground projects rather than a narrowly defined set of activities.

By endorsing Earth Day Northwest 2020 and the three pillars of Earth Day 2020, you will be joining numerous elected officials from Washington including Attorney General Bob Ferguson, Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz, King County Executive Dow Constantine and Fawn Sharp, president of the Quinault Indian Nation. I would like to add your name to this distinguished list. Our goal is 500 elected officials signing the pledge.

Started by a Leadership Group of more than 70 regional leaders including Denis Hayes, lead organizer of the first Earth Day, the late William Ruckelshaus, first administrator of the EPA, our unabashed goal is a generational legacy of regional sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration

Best,

Mayor Will Hall

Mayor Dana Ralph

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Councilmember John Stokes

Councilmember De'Sean Quinn