



CITY OF  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

## Memorandum

Date: November 4, 2021  
To: Honorable Mayor and Council  
From: Blair King, City Manager  
Subject: First Anniversary of the Climate Action Plan

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On November 10, 2020, the City Council adopted the Climate Action Plan (CAP). This month marks the one-year anniversary. The 2020 CAP has three overarching goals:

1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2045 compared to 2014 levels, with interim milestones of 25% reduction by 2025 and 60% by 2035;
2. Ensure Bainbridge Island is climate savvy and can withstand the impacts of climate change; and
3. Inspire community action and partner with local and regional organizations to take meaningful and equitable climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.

The CAP outlines actions in multiple sectors, including energy, building efficiency, waste, environmental resilience, and transportation, with 18 priority actions identified for implementation in the first year. While some actions were delayed as we worked to hire staff to coordinate implementation of the plan, initial steps were taken to both educate the community about the plan and initiate actions, as noted below.

Climate Officer Autumn Salamack has prepared a summary of actions taken to implement the Climate Action Plan.

### 2021 Actions in Support of the Climate Action Plan

- In January, the Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) hosted two online events with more than 55 attendees to provide an overview of the CAP and answer questions from the community (Action 8.A.1.d).
- In June, Council passed Ordinance No. 2021-18, which updated the City's municipal code ([BIMC 8.24](#)) to only allow single-use food service products to be provided when a customer asks or confirms they would like to use them (Action 7.A.2.a). Additional actions to reduce waste-related emissions are scheduled before the City Council.
- The City opened the Senior Community Center as a cooling center in June and August in response to excessive heat warnings. Air conditioning and water were available for visitors, and BI Ride and Island Volunteer Caregivers provided rides to the Center as needed (pertains to overarching CAP goal 2).
- In September, Council allocated over \$2 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds for CAP-related activities, including:

- \$250,000 to install solar panels and storage batteries at a limited number of emergency hubs across the island (Action 8.C.2.a), and
- \$2 million for implementation of projects recommended in the forthcoming Sustainable Transportation Plan (Action 4.A.1.a).
- In September, we substantially completed the construction of separated bike lanes on a portion of Eagle Harbor Drive, and in November, we celebrated the opening of the next segment of the Sound to Olympics Trail, a major sustainable transportation network providing a separated shared-use pathway along the SR305 Corridor (Action 4.A.1.a).
- In October, the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Officer began work to coordinate activities in support of the CAP (Action 8.C.1.b).
- In October, staff submitted a Department of Ecology grant application to help fund work related to mapping sea level rise vulnerabilities and gathering geographic-specific community feedback (Actions 5.B.1.a/b, 5.B.2.a. and 8.A.1.e/f).
- In October, staff submitted a draft Partnership Agreement to Puget Sound Energy to accompany their Franchise Agreement with the City. The Partnership Agreement seeks collaborative action between the City and PSE to address climate change by both reducing GHG emissions and improving the safety and reliability of electricity on the Island (Action 3.B.1.a).
- In October, staff developed Goals and Objectives for a Groundwater Management Plan, including reducing and adapting to climate change impacts (Action 6.B.2.a).
- In November, staff began evaluating the conversion of gas-powered landscaping tools to electric (Action 4.B.1.a).
- Staff is currently finalizing a municipal GHG emissions inventory using 2019 data to evaluate changes in climate pollution resulting from City activities and operations (Action 2.A.2.a).
- The draft Sustainable Transportation Plan, currently planned for submittal to Council in December, includes weighted Climate Action and Resilience criteria to evaluate and rank potential projects and programs using a climate lens (Action 4.A.1.c).

#### Next Steps

The City's Climate Officer is currently working with staff and the CCAC to develop a 2022 work plan and budget to accelerate implementation of the CAP and provide meaningful opportunities for residents to help us meet our climate action goals. The Climate Officer will also work with the CCAC to produce a brief CAP progress report in early 2022 to be posted on the City website and presented at a future City Council meeting.