

An aerial photograph of Bellevue, Washington, showing a dense urban core with several high-rise buildings. The city is surrounded by lush green forests. In the background, the snow-capped peak of Mount Rainier is visible under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the event title and speaker information.

# Sustainable Bellevue Community Town Hall

Jennifer Ewing  
Sustainability Manager  
March 29, 2023

# Agenda

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- Welcome + Introductions
- Sustainable Bellevue Plan Progress + Workplan
- Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update
- Equity + Sustainability + Comprehensive Plan
- Bellevue Climate Challenge
- Wrap Up + Next Steps

# Environmental Stewardship Initiative Updates



# Sustainable Bellevue Plan Overview

- 5 Focus Areas
- 78 Actions over 5 years
- Short and Long-Term Targets:
  - 2030 and 2050 for Community
  - 2030 and 2040 City Ops
- Implementation table with lead department, and implementation timeframe
- Monitoring and Evaluation approach
- Long-term actions to consider



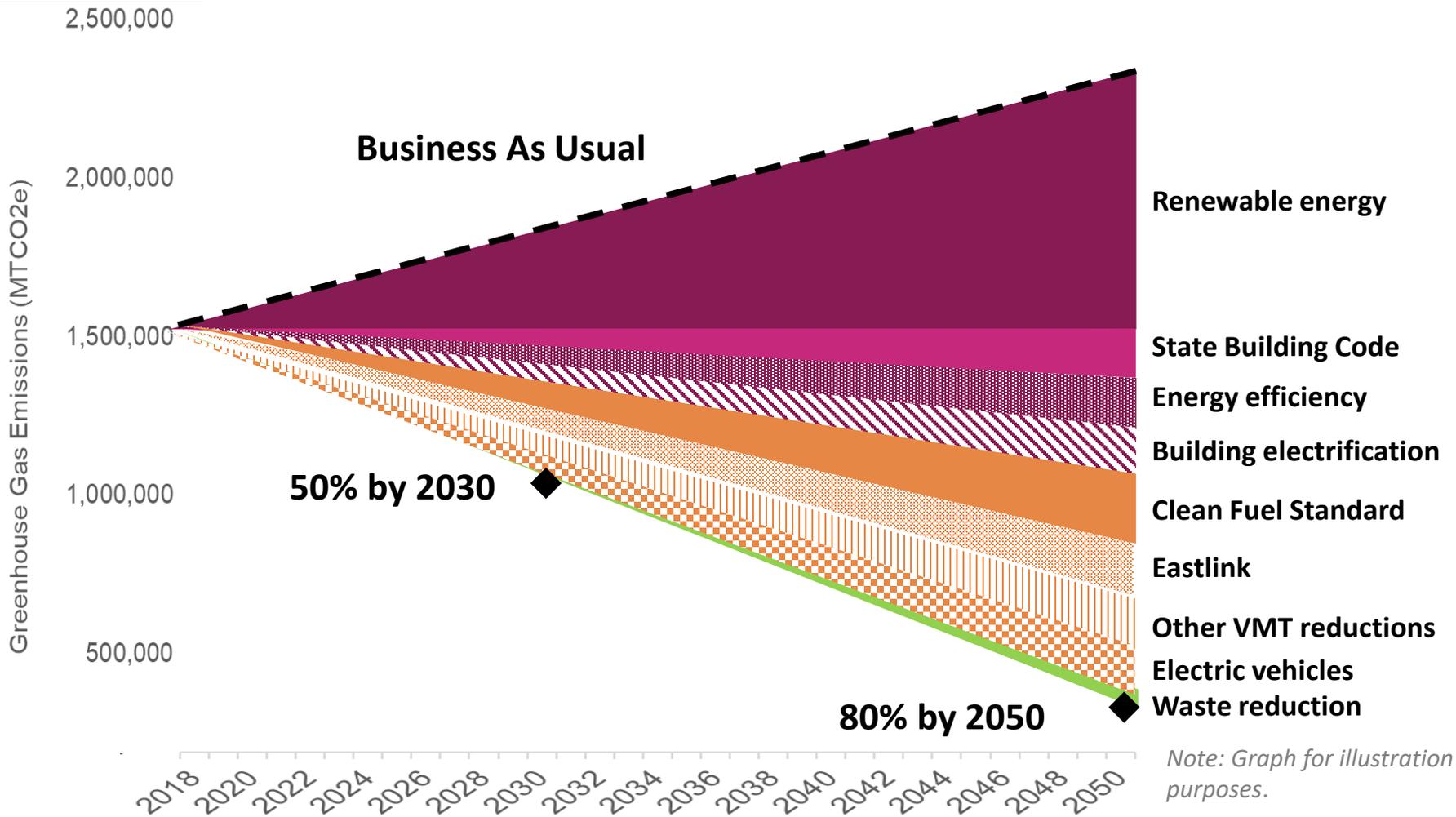
Energy		Goal: Ensure long-impacts of consum
KPI	Progress	Targets
Renewable energy source (% renewable energy)	45% 2019	80% by 2030 100% by 2045
Energy consumption (% reduction in energy use)	5% ↑ since 2011	15% by 2030 30% by 2050

# Goals and Targets

## By 2050...



# Bellevue Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Strategies



# Sustainability Bellevue Partnership

- Engagement and partnerships with the business community and other stakeholders
- Regular engagement with residents and community groups on plan implementation progress and opportunities to get involved

## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE

### Sustainable Bellevue Partnership

#### SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS GROUP

- Businesses
- Non-profits
- Business organizations
- Environmental organizations

#### WORKING GROUPS

- Trees
- Residential energy
- Commercial energy
- Climate resiliency

#### RESIDENTS

- Single-family and multi-family housing
- Faith-based and cultural groups
- Schools
- Home owner associations

# 2022 ESI Program Accomplishments



# Community Actions

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- Launched new energy efficiency programs
- Comprehensive Plan update – climate and sustainability
- Initiated Tree Code update
- Planning for 2023-2025
- Enhanced Engagement



*October 2022 Tree Giveaway, Bannerwood Park*

# Municipal Operations Actions

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- Energy Efficiency and Decarbonization projects
- Green Fleet plan and implementation
- Green building for new facilities
- Planning for 2023-2025
- Purchasing an electric fire truck



# Implementation Team

**ONECITY**

*Committed to Excellence*



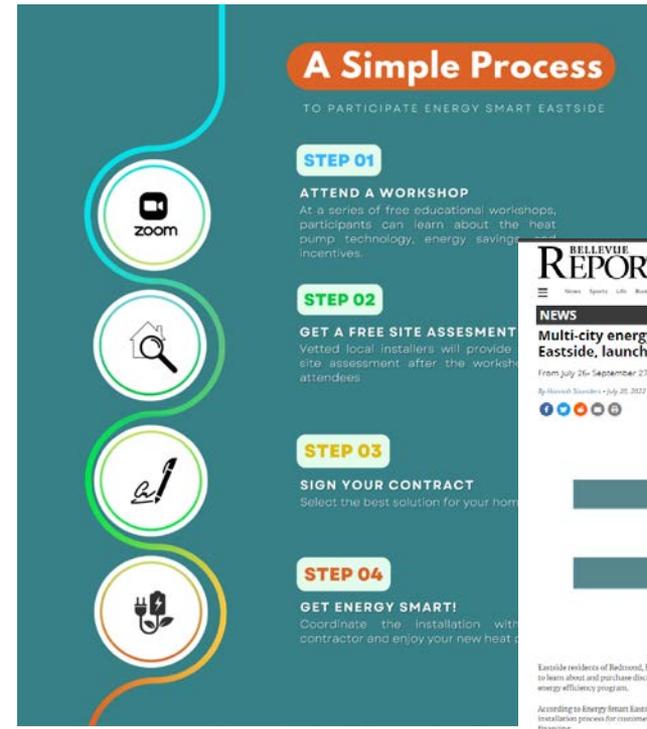
# 2023 Workplan



# Current: Energy Smart Eastside

- Launched in July
- 400 Attendees at 5 workshops
- Received WSU grant for \$1.2M
- Leveraging Inflation Reduction Act Incentives
- Shared management of program with Eastside cities

## ENERGY SMART EASTSIDE



**A Simple Process**

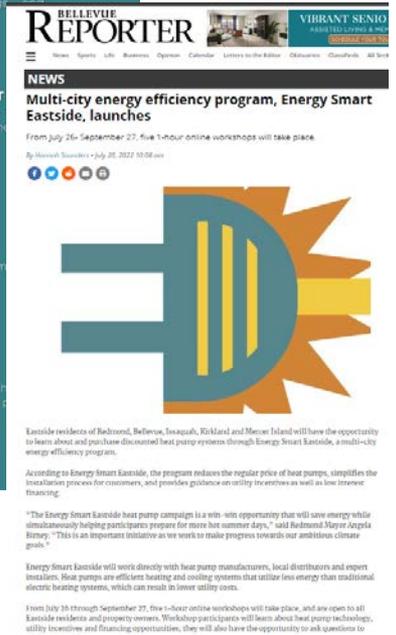
TO PARTICIPATE ENERGY SMART EASTSIDE

**STEP 01**  
**ATTEND A WORKSHOP**  
 At a series of free educational workshops, participants can learn about the heat pump technology, energy savings incentives.

**STEP 02**  
**GET A FREE SITE ASSESSMENT**  
 Vetted local installers will provide site assessment after the workshop attendees.

**STEP 03**  
**SIGN YOUR CONTRACT**  
 Select the best solution for your home.

**STEP 04**  
**GET ENERGY SMART!**  
 Coordinate the installation with contractor and enjoy your new heat pump.



**BELLEVUE REPORTER**  
**Multi-city energy efficiency program, Energy Smart Eastside, launches**

From July 26-September 27, five 1-hour online workshops will take place.

By Hannah Saunders • July 26, 2022 10:08 am

Eastside residents of Redmond, Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland and Mercer Island will have the opportunity to learn about and purchase discounted heat pump systems through Energy Smart Eastside, a multi-city energy efficiency program.

According to Energy Smart Eastside, the program reduces the regular price of heat pumps, simplifies the installation process for consumers, and provides guidance on utility incentives as well as low interest financing.

"The Energy Smart Eastside heat pump campaign is a win-win opportunity that will save energy while simultaneously helping participants prepare for more hot summer days," said Redmond Mayor Angela Hermy. "This is an important initiative as we work to make progress towards our ambitious climate goals."

Energy Smart Eastside will work directly with heat pump manufacturers, local distributors and expert installers. Heat pumps are efficient heating and cooling systems that utilize less energy than traditional electric heating systems, which can result in lower utility costs.

From July 26 through September 27, five 1-hour online workshops will take place, and are open to all Eastside residents and property owners. Workshop participants will learn about heat pump technology, utility incentives and financing opportunities, they will also have the opportunity to ask questions to program experts.

# Current: Clean Buildings Incentive Program

- Support for commercial buildings for compliance with WA State Clean Buildings Standard and Early Adopter Incentives



# Current: Tree Code Update

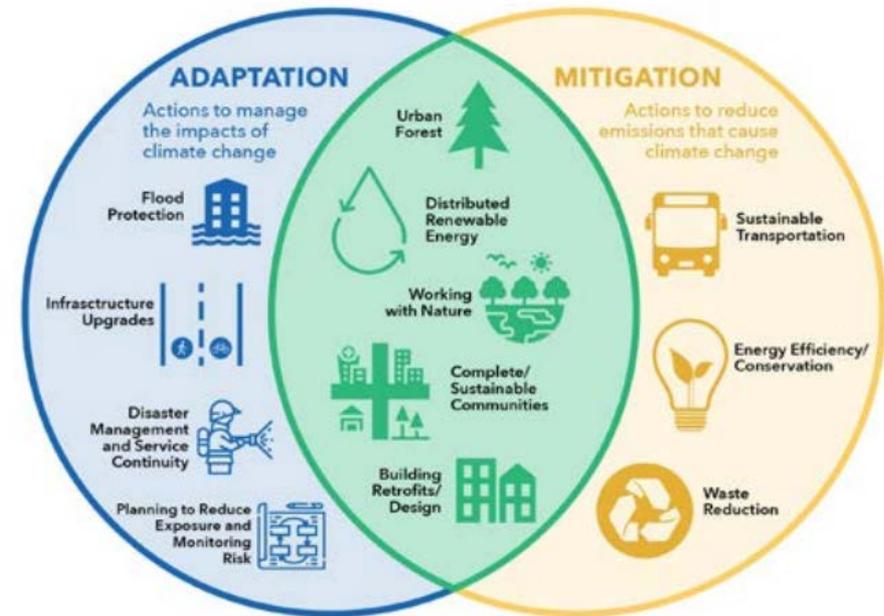
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- Tree Code Update:
  - Launched: November 2022
  - Scoping underway
  - Outreach starting Q1/Q2
  
- Bellevue Tree Giveaway:
  - October 2022
  - Goal: 1000 trees
  - Grant from Amazon for 2022 and 2023 giveaways



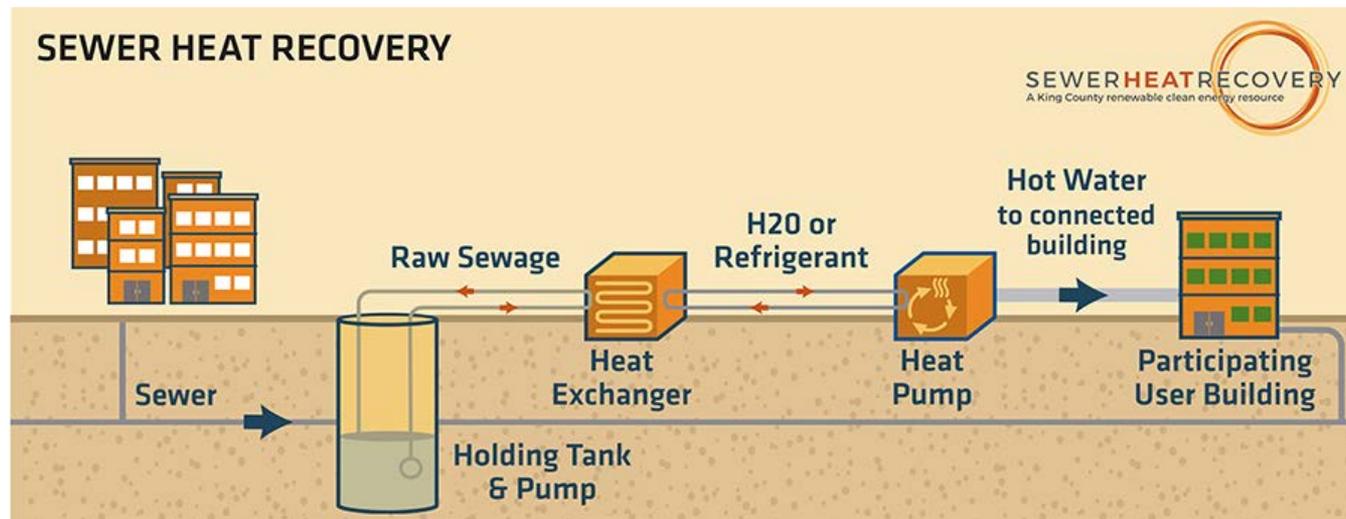
# Current: Climate Vulnerability Assessment

- Understand risks and vulnerabilities
- Incorporate climate resiliency into comprehensive plan
- Identify strategies for increasing resiliency



# Upcoming: Wilburton Sustainable District Study

- Opportunity to support District Energy for Wilburton project.
- King County Sewer Waste Heat Recovery possibility
- Other possible sustainability elements: green building, air quality considerations for land use planning, tree buffer



# Upcoming: Electric Vehicle Roadmap

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- Strategic plan to understand gaps and prioritize EV infrastructure investments and incentives
- Strategies for electrifying various modes of transportation (e.g. e-bikes, car share, buses, trucks, etc)
- Preparation for state and federal EV charging grants





# ESI + Comprehensive Planning





# Online Engagement

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Mentimeter

# GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT (GMA)

- All large cities must **plan for growth**
- Plans must be **updated every 10 years**
- **Urban growth boundary**
- Some requirements of the GMA
  - Protect agricultural, resource and natural areas from development
  - Grow in areas with existing infrastructure
  - Move around using many transportation options
  - Create many different housing types and options affordable to households at different income levels

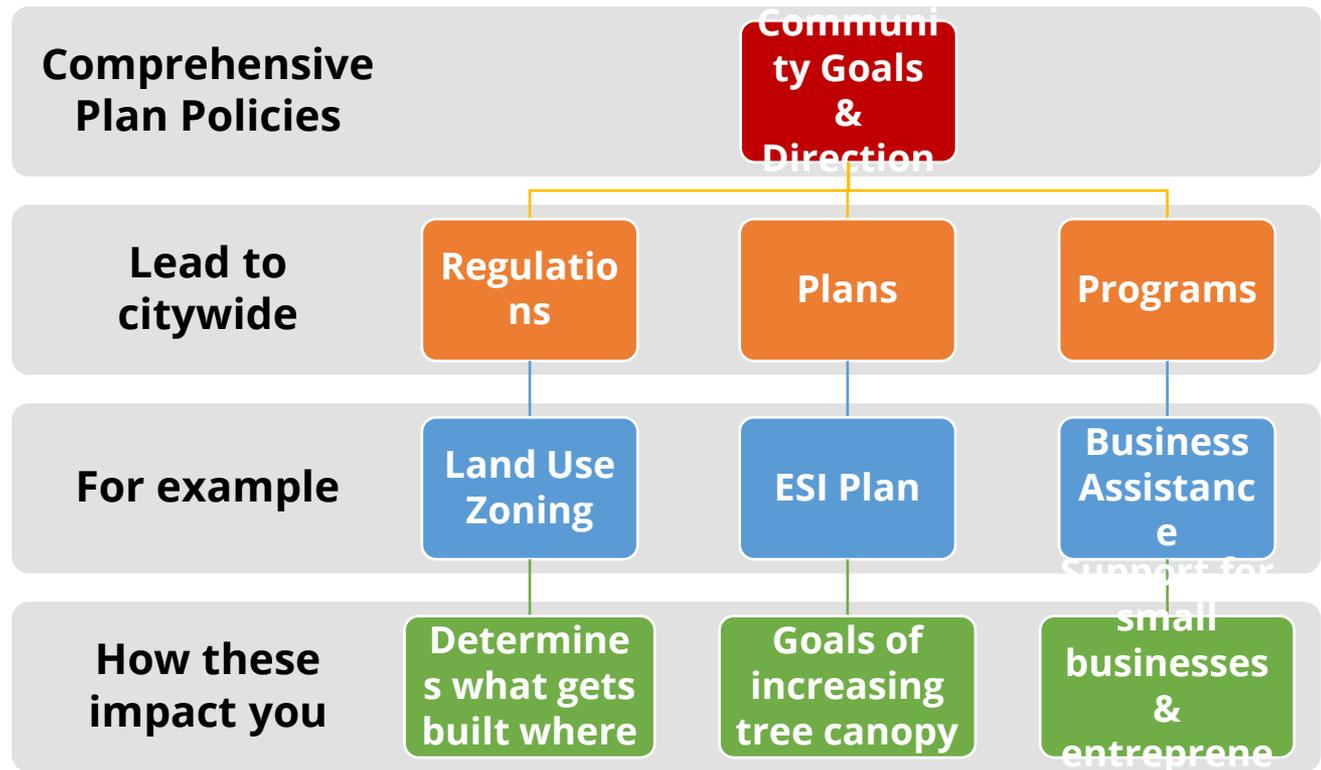


# What is the Comprehensive Plan?

A foundational document

Guides decision making by City Council, Boards & Commissions, and City Staff

Decisions must align with Comprehensive Plan



# Priorities

- **Plan** for at least 35,000 housing units and 70,000 jobs by 2044
- **Provide** a variety of housing types at a different affordability levels
- **Focus** growth near transit & infrastructure
- **Support** small businesses & local commercial centers
- **Address** equity, displacement & historic, systemic racism
- **Grow** sustainably and respond to climate change



# Requirements

- Focus new housing and job growth near high-capacity transit to maximize potential benefits.
- Expand the variety of housing types and densities, including affordable housing, near transit.
- Ensure all residents regardless of race, social, or economic status have clean air, clean water, and other elements of a healthy environment.
- Advance the adoption and implementation of actions that substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- support resilience and adaptation to climate change impacts.

More at [www.psrc.org/planning-2050/vision-2050](http://www.psrc.org/planning-2050/vision-2050)

# Growth Targets



# EIS GROWTH ALTERNATIVES

Alt		City Housing Capacity	
0	Current Strategy	41k housing units 125k jobs	Growth mostly in Downtown & BelRed
1	Provide Options for Families	59k housing units 179k jobs	Add in Mixed Use Centers, especially Wilburton
2	Access for More Residents	76k housing units 177k jobs	Add in areas with access to transit & jobs
3	Options Throughout the City	95k housing units 200k jobs	Add in areas near neighborhood centers

# EIS Growth Alternatives

## Urban Core

Downtown

BelRed

East Main

Wilburton Commercial Area

## Mixed Use Centers

Crossroads

Factoria

Eastgate

## Neighborhood Centers

Small Commercial Centers like Yarrowood & Lake Hills Shopping Center

## Transit Nodes

Within walking distance of frequent bus or light rail service

## NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTIAL

areas that are primarily single family with limited or no walkable access to retail/amenities

# What is an EIS?

- Provides information to the public and decision-makers about the environmental effects of plans or projects on the natural and built environment.
  - Describes alternative courses of action.
  - Analyzes the environmental impacts of each alternative.
  - Identifies ways to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts to the environment.



# What is Being Analyzed

- Earth and water quality
- Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- Plants and animals
- Energy and natural resources
- Noise
- Land use patterns and urban form
- Historic resources
- Relationship to plans, policies, and regulations
- Population, employment, and housing
- Transportation
- Public services
- Utilities
- Additional analysis on:
  - Displacement
  - Equity impact
  - Economic impact



# EIS Timeline



45 Day Comment Period  
3 Public Meetings  
Opportunity to Submit Comments Online





# Online Engagement

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Mentimeter

# Equity + Sustainability + Comprehensive Plan



# Climate and Sustainability Topics

## Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

- Greenhouse gas emissions reduction policies
- Stronger policy around green building for capital facilities
- Environmental justice and equity
- Air quality and land use planning
- Climate resiliency



*August 2018 Smoke Event, Sunrise over Bellevue*

# Equity and Sustainability Topics

## Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

- Access to parks and transit
- Walkable neighborhoods
- Air quality and housing
- Variety of housing types
- Transportation options
- Climate vulnerabilities
- Equity Impacts Analysis



# Equity + Sustainable Bellevue Plan

- Consider benefits and burdens of new policies or programs
- Outreach to diverse communities
- Outcomes to advance equity
- Equity Lens Examples:
  - Tree giveaway and tree equity score
  - Low-income household decarbonization
  - Commercial building energy efficiency





# Bellevue Tree Code Update



# Project Goals

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- **Comprehensive** code review
- Support tree **preservation, retention, replacement,** and **protection**
- **Balance** housing production needs
- Improve the function and **clarity** of code
- Capture better **data**



# How do we regulate trees?

- Regulate **significant** and **landmark** trees
- Tree **retention** standards for development
- Tree **removal** regulations outside of development
- **Critical areas** limitations



# Opportunities for Improvement

## Tree Preservation

- Reviewing definition of **significant** and **landmark** trees
- Reviewing **permit** requirements
- Considering **limits** on tree removal outside development



# Opportunities for Improvement

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## Tree Retention

- Reviewing **share of trees** to retain
- Improving **guidance** on which trees to retain
- **Counting recent** tree removal
- **Clarifying** time period for retention



# Opportunities for Improvement

## Tree Replacement and Protection

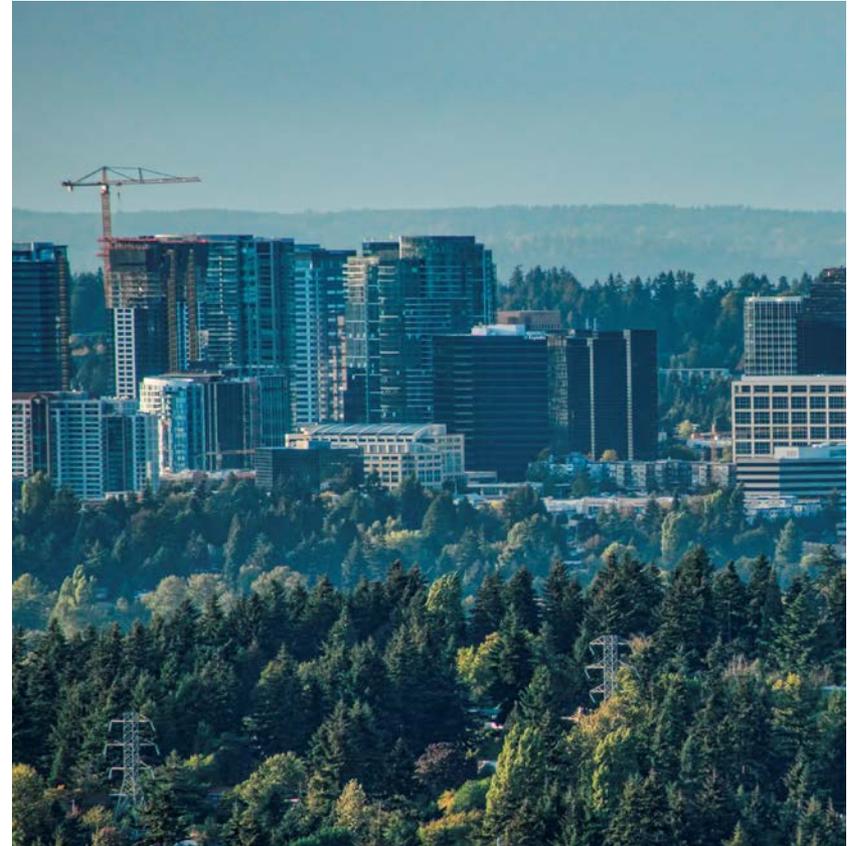
- Evaluating **expanding replacement** requirements
- Adding **key protections** into land use code



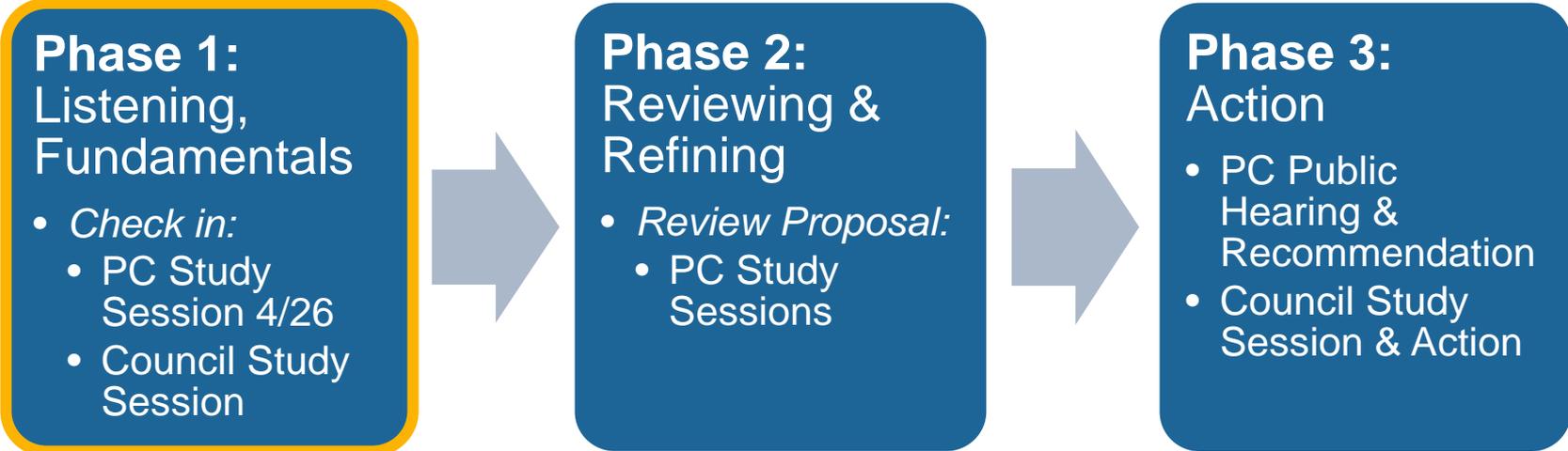
# Opportunities for Improvement

## Tracking and Enforcement

- Improving **tracking** systems
- Assessing **enforcement** mechanisms



# What's Next?



Survey

Technical Analysis

Listening Sessions

Public Info Sessions ★



**Thank you!**

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**Questions?**

Kristina Gallant, [kgallant@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:kgallant@bellevuewa.gov)

(425) 452-6196



# Bellevue Climate Challenge



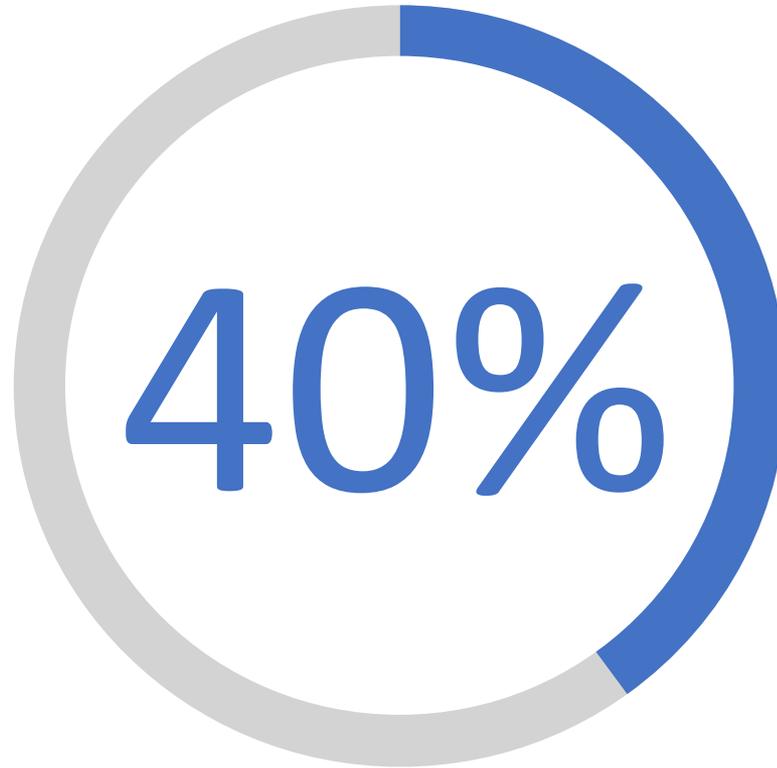


# Eastside **CLIMATE CHALLENGE**





## U.S. Emissions



**5** basic household activities

Join the Eastside Climate Challenge and help create a cleaner, healthier community!

[JOIN THE CHALLENGE](#)

[WHY JOIN? →](#)



**1,400**

HOUSEHOLDS BY DECEMBER 2023  
PARTICIPATION GOAL



**500**

TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> BY DECEMBER  
2023 REDUCTION GOAL

TOP COMMUNITY GROUP  
**Issaquah Kiwanis**

TOP TEAM  
**Make Earth Great Again Again**

# Discover 100+ actions to reduce impact & save money

All levels ▾ All categories ▾  Renter friendly actions Sort by Points ▾



**Buy or Lease an Electric Vehicle**

Ditch the gas pump for BIG savings

☆ Challenging   ★ 14,910   \$ 1,780



**Install Electric Heat Pump Heater**

Go heat pump for a big impact!

☆ Challenging   ★ 4,830   \$ 90



**Eat Lower Down the Carbon Chain**

Did you know cows create a powerful greenhouse gas?

★ Easy   ★ 3,670   \$ 210



**Reduce & Reuse**

The two most important R's

★ Easy   ★ 3,320   \$ 360



**Reduce Air Travel**



**Take the Train or**



**Replace Lawn**



**Install Electric Heat**



## Take Action as a Household



### Lower Thermostat

Lowered the heat by 3 degrees in the winter.



### Eat Less Meat

Replace 1 meal with red meat per week with a plant-based meal.



### Combine Trips

Drive 25 miles less per week by combining trips & errands.



### Choose 100% Green Electricity

Upgrade to Green Power through PSE.

Investment	Free!	Free!	Free!	< \$100
\$ Savings / Year	\$20	\$100	\$410	\$0
Carbon Impact / Year	210 lbs	1,830 lbs	1,400 lbs	1,617 lbs

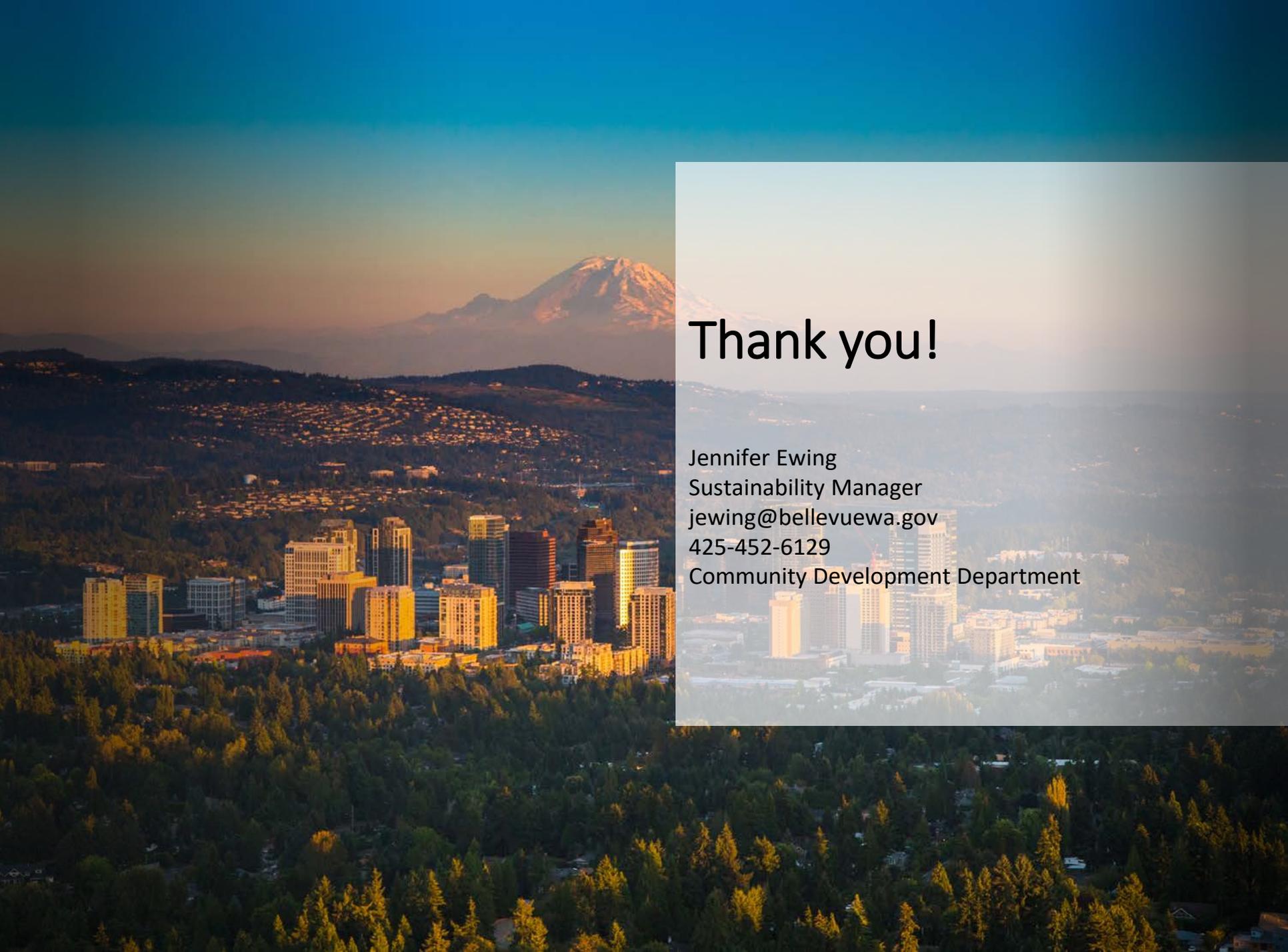
With just 4 easy actions, this family will **save over \$400/year** and **reduce their carbon impact by over 5,000 lbs!**

# Join the Eastside Climate Challenge!

- Discover 100+ simple, affordable actions to save money, energy and water, and reduce waste
- Connect with other Eastside residents
- Join community discussions, webinars & events
- Earn prizes!



[www.eastsideclimatechallenge.org](http://www.eastsideclimatechallenge.org)

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Bellevue, Washington, with a prominent snow-capped mountain (Mount Rainier) in the background. The city is surrounded by dense green forests, and the sky is a clear, bright blue. The image is used as a background for a presentation slide.

# Thank you!

Jennifer Ewing  
Sustainability Manager  
[jewing@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jewing@bellevuewa.gov)  
425-452-6129  
Community Development Department