CITY OF KIRKLAND
Planning and Community Development Department
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033
425.587-3225 - www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Eric Shields AICP, Planning Director

Date: February 19, 2015

Subject: Ratification of Countywide Planning Policies; Greenhouse Gas Emissions
File No. PLN15-00326

RECOMMENDATION

Council adopts the attached resolution ratifying Ordinance 17952 adopted by Metropolitan King County Council amending Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) concerning the reduction and monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

On December 15, 2014, the Metropolitan King County Council passed Ordinance 17952 adopting amendments to the CPPs and ratifying the amendments on behalf of unincorporated King County. The amendments set goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and direct King County to assess and report on emissions. The amendments were recommended for approval by the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC).

As established by Policy G-1 of the CPPs, amendments to the CPPs become effective if and when they are ratified by at least 30 percent of city and county governments representing at least 70 percent of the population of King County. A city will be counted as ratifying the amendments unless it formally disapproves them within 90 days of adoption – in this case by April 3, 2015.

Attachment: King County signature report showing amended CPPs

King County

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

KING COUNTY

Signature Report

December 16, 2014

Ordinance 17952

Proposed No. 2014-0464.1 **Sponsors** Dembowski

AN ORDINANCE adopting and ratifying Growth Management Planning Council Motion 14-5.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. **Findings:**

A. Growth Management Planning Council Motion 14-5 recommends that King County Countywide Planning Policy EN-17 be amended to define countywide greenhouse gas reduction targets and that EN-18A be added to establish greenhouse gas measurement and reporting commitments.

B. On July 23, 2014, the Growth Management Planning Council unanimously adopted Motion 14-5, which recommends amendment of the 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies.

SECTION 2. The amendments to the 2012 King County Countywide Planning

Policies, as shown in Attachment A to this ordinance, are hereby adopted by King County and ratified on behalf of the population of unincorporated King County.

Ordinance 17952 was introduced on 12/1/2014 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 12/15/2014, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott and Mr. Dembowski
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Mr. Upthegrove

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

RECEIVED
2014 DEC 26 PM 3:39
CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

APPROVED this 24th day of December, 2014.

for Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: A. GMPC Motion No. 14-5

7/23/14

2014-464

Sponsored By: Executive Committee

GMPC MOTION NO. 14-5

A MOTION amending the 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies; defining countywide greenhouse gas reduction targets and greenhouse gas measurement and reporting commitments.

WHEREAS, Countywide Planning Policy EN-17 calls for the establishment of a countywide greenhouse gas reduction target that meets or exceeds the statewide reduction requirement; and

WHEREAS, Countywide Planning Policy EN-18 calls for the establishment of a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework; and

WHEREAS, increasing air temperatures, ocean acidification, rising sea levels, decreasing snow pack, and changing river flows are examples of climate change impacts that are already occurring; and

WHEREAS, jurisdictions will choose from a menu of strategies and actions to implement within their own boundaries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that collectively will result in significant countywide emissions reduction; and

WHEREAS, the proposed greenhouse gas reduction targets are ambitious but achievable; and

WHEREAS, King County government has agreed to accept responsibility for implementing and maintaining a countywide greenhouse gas inventory and measurement framework.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Growth Management Planning Council of King County hereby recommends that King County Countywide Planning Policy EN-17 be amended and that new policy EN-18A be added, as follows:

EN-17 ((~~Establish a countywide~~)) Reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas ((~~reduction target that meets or exceeds the statewide reduction requirement that is stated as the 2050 goal of a 50 percent reduction below 1990 levels~~)) emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050.

Assuming 1% annual population growth, these targets translate to per capita emissions of approximately 8.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2e) by 2020, 5 MTCO2e by 2030, and 1.5 MTCO2e by 2050.

EN 18A King County shall assess and report countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and other local government buildings, on road vehicles and solid waste at least every two years. King County shall also update its comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory that quantifies all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated with local consumption at least every five years.

Dow Constantine, Chair, Growth Management Planning Council

King County

Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	12	Name:	Christine Jensen
Proposed No::	2014-0464	Date:	December 2, 2014

SUBJECT

A proposed ordinance adopting and ratifying Growth Management Planning Council Motion 14-5.

SUMMARY

Proposed Ordinance 2014-0464 would amend Countywide Planning Policy EN-17 and add a new policy EN-18A, both related to greenhouse gas and as recommended by the Growth Management Planning Council, and ratify the changes on behalf of the population of unincorporated King County. If approved, this ordinance would begin the ratification process by the cities.

BACKGROUND

The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) is a formal body comprised of elected officials from King County, Seattle, Bellevue, other cities and towns in King County, and special purpose districts. The GMPC was created in 1992 by interlocal agreement[1] in response to a provision in the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requiring cities and counties to work together to adopt Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs).[2] Under the GMA, the CPPs serve as the framework for each individual jurisdiction's comprehensive plan, and ensure countywide consistency with respect to land use planning efforts.

As provided for in the interlocal agreement, the GMPC developed and recommended the original CPPs, which were adopted by the King County Council[3] and ratified by the cities in 1992. Subsequent amendments to the CPPs follow the same adoption process, which is outlined in CPP G-1: recommendation by the GMPC, adoption by the

[1] Motion 8733
[2] RCW 36.70A.210
[3] Ordinance 10450

King County Council, and ratification by the cities. Amendments to the CPPs become effective when ratified by ordinance or resolution by at least 30% of the city and county governments representing at least 70% of the population of King County. A city shall be deemed to have ratified an amendment to the CPPs unless, within 90 days of adoption by King County, the city disapproves it by legislative action.

ANALYSIS

Regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements
Proposed ordinance 2014-0464 would amend the CPPs by making the following changes to policy EN-17, which currently calls for establishment of countywide greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets:

> **EN-17** ((~~Establish a countywide~~)) Reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas ((~~reduction target that meets or exceeds the statewide reduction requirement that is stated as the 2050 goal of a 50 percent reduction below 1990 levels~~)) emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050. Assuming 1% annual population growth, these targets translate to per capita emissions of approximately 8.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2e) by 2020, 5 MTCO2e by 2030, and 1.5 MTCO2e by 2050.

The existing EN-17 language is consistent with current Washington State 2050 emissions reduction requirements contained in RCW 70.235.020. The proposed language would change the King County 2050 countywide reduction target from 50 percent below 1990 levels to 80 percent below 2007 levels, which is a more aggressive requirement. This proposed countywide 80 percent reduction is in line with the countywide target in the 2012 King County Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP).[4]

Similar to the current EN-17 policy, King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP) policy E-210 requires collaboration with "cities and other partners to meet or exceed the state requirements of 50 percent below 1990 levels by 2050." However, in policy E-211, the KCCP goes on to require that the County collaborate with cities and partners to develop "near term targets" to achieve the higher, 80 percent regional reductions below 2007 levels by 2050.[5] In line with policy E-211, not only does the proposed EN-17 language utilize the 80 percent below 2007 levels threshold, but it would also add to the CPPs near-term emissions reduction milestones of 25 percent by 2020 and 50 by 2030. State

[4] Adopted by the Council in Motion 13777 "Communitywide target: King County shall partner with its residents, businesses, local governments and other partners to reduce countywide greenhouse-gas emissions by at least 80 percent below 2007 levels by 2050."
[5] KCCP policy E-211: "King County shall collaborate with its cities and other partners to develop near term targets to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions throughout the region to 80 percent below 2007 levels by 2050." In response to this, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) was formed as a regional, voluntary partnership to collaborate on climate and sustainability issues. Membership currently includes King County and eleven cities: Bellevue, Burien, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Redmond, Renton, Seattle, Shoreline, Snoqualmie, and Tukwila. More information can be found here: http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/climate/other-governments/climate-pledge.aspx

law also includes near-term requirements (reduction to 1990 levels for 2020 and 25 percent below 1990 levels by 2035); however the proposed milestones in EN-17 would be more ambitious than state law. The SCAP does not include near-term targets.

The following is a table that compares the some of the adopted emissions targets in the region.

Jurisdiction	Near-term reductions	2050 reductions
Current EN-17		50% below 1990 levels
Proposed EN-17	25% below 2007 levels by 2020, 50% by 2030	80% below 2007 levels
Washington State	At 1990 levels by 2020, 25% by 2035	50% below 1990 levels
KC SCAP		80% below 2007 levels
KCCP		50% below 1990 levels
Kirkland	10% below 2005 levels by 2010, 20% by 2020	80% below 2005 levels
Issaquah		80% below 2007 levels
Mercer Island		80% below 2007 levels
Seattle		Carbon neutral
Shoreline	25% below 2007 levels by 2020, 50% by 2030	80% below 2007 levels

In addition to setting more ambitious emissions reductions, the proposed amendments to the EN-17 language would also transition to a more formal reduction requirement. The current policy only calls for establishment of countywide "targets" for reduction of greenhouse gas; whereas, the proposed language calls for actual reduction of not only greenhouse gas as identified in metric tons of carbon dioxide, but also reduction in *sources* of greenhouse gas emissions.

On average, the reductions required in the proposed language could be achieved by a slightly less than two percent reduction in emissions each year from 2007 to 2050. However, actual implementation may not follow this average trajectory. Additionally, because some time has passed since the 2007 baseline, aggressive early actions may be needed in order to achieve the initial 2020 milestone.

If adopted, the emissions reductions would be measured on a countywide basis. As a result, individual jurisdictions could have varying levels of reductions that still collectively add up to the percentages in the proposed policy. Additionally, strategies for implementation would vary for each jurisdiction within the county. Actions could be dependent on factors such as location and development history.

Regional greenhouse gas inventory
Proposed Ordinance 2014-0464 would also add a new climate change policy to the CPPs:

> **EN 18A** King County shall assess and report countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and other local government buildings, on road vehicles and solid waste at least every two years. King County shall also update its comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory that quantifies all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated with local consumption at least every five years.

This new policy would require the County to implement and maintain a countywide greenhouse gas inventory and measurement framework. This will allow for the region to track progress towards meeting the emissions reduction milestones. The KCCP currently calls for the county to work with cities and partners to establish this type of inventory and measurement framework[6] – but, the KCCP does not specify whether the County would be solely responsible for this work. Proposed policy EN-18A would further define the County's role as the responsible party for the inventory. This, however, would not be a big change, as the County has already been monitoring greenhouse gas emissions and preparing associated reports since 2000. The proposed EN-18A policy would set out requirements for the frequency and content of such emissions reports – which is consistent with the County's previous work in this area.

GMPC action
On July 23, 2014, the GMPC unanimously approved Motion 14-5, which recommends approval of both CPP changes: amending policy EN-17 and adding policy EN-18A. The GMPC action is a recommendation to the County Council and is not binding.

Consistent with CPPs adoption requirements, Proposed Ordinance 2014-0464 forwards this GMPC recommendation to the County Council for consideration for possible approval. If adopted by the Council, the ordinance would ratify the change on behalf of the population of unincorporated King County, and would begin the ratification process by the cities.

Fiscal Impacts
The fiscal note indicated a no additional cost impact for adopting the ordinance. Executive staff have indicated that the updated EN-17 policy would not increase County costs, as the County is already working towards this reduction target as a result of the SCAP. Specific future costs, however, will be identified through the actions that the County chooses to take over time and consistent with the strategies outlined in the SCAP. Future costs may range from minimal by amending transportation and building regulations to more substantial by implementing expanded or new programs (the impact

[6] E-212 "King County will work with its cities and other partners to establish a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively measure progress toward countywide targets."

of which could be mitigated by partnering with other jurisdictions or utilities). Some costs could also potentially be off-set due to reduced resource costs and the avoided costs of climate change impacts.

Similarly, there would be no additional fiscal impact to the County if EN-18A is added to the CPPs, because the County has already been doing this work. According to Executive staff, it costs approximately $10,000 to update core greenhouse gas emissions for all King County cities and unincorporated areas. If the policy is adopted, this work would be done on a biennial basis, which is consistent with the County's previous work. The more comprehensive update of all geographic-based greenhouse gas emissions, which would be required once every five years (also consistent with previous efforts), costs approximately $30,000 - $40,000, with potential additional costs for including consumption-based emissions data. For past inventories, the County has cost shared these efforts with partners such as the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Ordinance 2014-0464, with attachments
    A. GMPC Motion 14-5
2. Transmittal letter dated October 31, 2014
3. Fiscal Note

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Countywide Planning Policies:
http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/codes/growth/GMPC/CPPs.aspx

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RESOLUTION R-5113

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND RATIFYING AMENDMENTS TO THE 2014 KING COUNTY COUNTYWIDE POLICIES REGARDING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

WHEREAS, King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) were adopted by the King County Council in December, 2012 and subsequently ratified by King County city governments; and

WHEREAS, the CPPs establish a process for amending the CPPs wherein amendments must be adopted by the Metropolitan King County Council and ratified, within 90 days of adoption by the Metropolitan King County Council, by at least 30% of city and county governments representing at least 70% of the population of King County; and

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) was established as a collaborative forum for city and county governments within King County to develop and amend CPPs; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2014, the GMPC adopted Motion 14-5 recommending that CPP EN-17 be amended and a new CPP EN-18A be added addressing greenhouse gas emmissions; and

WHEREAS, on December 24, 2014, the Metropolitan King County Council adopted Ordinance 17952 adopting the above referenced amendments to the CPPs and ratifying the amendments on behalf of the population of unincorporated King County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The Kirkland City Council hereby ratifies King County Ordinance 17952 approving amendments of the King County Countywide Planning Policies amending CPP EN-17 and adding a new CPP EN-18A.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 3rd day of March, 2015.

Signed in authentication thereof this ____ day of _____, 2015.

_____
MAYOR

Attest:

_____
City Clerk