

2025 ESAP Refresh

Issue	Discussion Notes	Issue Status
1	<u>Council Discussion</u> Councilmember Fields asked whether the costs of climate impacts have been quantified. <u>Staff Comments</u> Several jurisdictions in our region have estimated the cost of inaction on climate change. - King County's Costs of Climate Change analysis estimates that without action, local impacts such as flooding, wildfire smoke, and extreme heat could cost the region billions of dollars in damages, lost productivity, and health impacts over the coming decades. - The City of Tacoma conducted a similar study through the development of their 2020 Climate Action Plan which linked climate inaction to higher infrastructure repair costs, increased public health burdens, and economic disruptions for residents and businesses. Tacoma's study found that their "community faces \$250 million or more in potential economic costs of lost ecosystem services by 2080 due to climate change impacts, including worsening wildfires, reduced food production, lost recreational opportunities, and increased health and energy related expenses. A benefit-cost analysis conducted as part of Tacoma's Climate Adaptation Strategy work further estimates a cost of inaction of \$2.9 billion between now and 2080 related to human mortality and illness, as well as damage and loss to natural systems, utilities, commercial and residential buildings, and agriculture." Tacoma Climate Action Plan, pg.14 While methodologies differ, these studies consistently show that the financial and social costs of inaction far exceed the costs of proactive mitigation and adaptation. Investing in resilience now helps avoid future losses, supports community health, and protects Redmond's economy from escalating climate risks.	Opened 9/23/25

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2	Water Supply as a Priority <u>Council Discussion</u> Councilmember Stuart asked how water conservation is addressed in the 2025 ESAP. <u>Staff Comments</u> The 2025 ESAP expands the City's focus on water as both a critical resource and a climate resilience priority. The plan introduces four strategic actions around water conservation: 1. The development of a Water Reduction and Resilience Strategy (Action 5.9) to inform programmatic priorities as the city works to advance an efficient and climate resilient drinking water system. This work will include, but is not limited to: data analysis to better understand trends in water use, peak use conservation potential, and climate impacts, as informed by the Climate Vulnerability Assessment, to inform policy changes. 2. Evaluation of policies for land uses with high resource demands (Action 2.9) or significant impacts on natural systems and utility capacity (ex: bottled water production, data centers, etc.). 3. Water conservation education and outreach (Action 5.11) in partnership with Cascade Water Alliance to help residents and businesses use water more efficiently. 4. Roll out of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) (Action 5.10) to improve efficiency and leak detection. AMI will provide real-time data to help manage water use more proactively. These actions position the City to strategically advance water resilience and continue to build on the work underway through Redmond's water utility.	Opened 9/23/25
3	Construction and Ordinance <u>Council Discussion</u> Council Vice President Forsythe requested an update on the progression of the construction and demolition ordinance. <u>Staff Comments</u> The C&D ordinance went into effect in May 2025. Since then, 588 tons of materials have been documented through the data tracking platform, Green Halo. 333 tons of that material was recycled, equating to a 57% diversion rate overall. Per the ordinance, the first phase of the policy will allow the City to collect data and inform future construction and demolition recycling requirements. The second phase of work is identified as Action 4.3 in the 2025 ESAP: "Amend the Construction and Demolition Ordinance to establish a required diversion rate and evaluate a deconstruction requirement."	Opened 9/23/25

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4	<u>Council Discussion</u> Council Vice President Forsythe noted that the RCW preventing HOAs from unfairly banning EV infrastructure will sunset in January. What can we as a City do to ensure that HOAs don't hinder EV charging infrastructure and installs? <u>Staff Comments</u> These statutes were originally enacted through HB 1793 (2022) as part of Washington's broader clean energy strategy. The goal was to make it easier for homeowners to install EV chargers by preventing HOAs from imposing unreasonable restrictions. HB 1793 included a sunset clause, and both RCW 64.38.062 and RCW 64.90.513 are set to expire on January 1, 2026. To prevent a lapse and modernize HOA governance, the Legislature passed SB 5129 (2025). This bill repeals RCW 64.38.062 and updates RCW 64.90.513 to extend protections beyond 2026 and strengthen them further. It also expands the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (WUCIOA) to cover all HOAs and condominiums, including older ones that were previously exempt. In effect, the EV charger provisions that were previously governed by RCW 64.38.062 are now incorporated into RCW 64.90.513 under the WUCIOA framework. This ensures that EV charger protections continue seamlessly beyond the sunset date. Policy advocacy continues to be a priority within the 2025 ESAP. Action 2.7 notes the City will continue to "Support state and regional policies that preserve and advance clean energy and climate goals, including incentives for renewable energy production and adoption of advanced energy codes."	Opened 9/23/25

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5	<u>Council Discussion</u> Council President Kritzer asked whether extended producer responsibility covers durables and compostables for restaurants? <u>Staff Comments</u> The Recycling Reform Act is still in the rulemaking process, and the first phase of implementation will begin in 2026. The Act has dedicated funding for durables programs that will be rolled out in the future by the Producer Responsibility Organization that is selected to implement the Extended Producer Responsibility program. Compostable packaging can still be problematic in local compost systems, but efforts are underway to require compostable packaging to be properly labeled to avoid confusion. Labeling and degradability requirements as well as organics collection requirements are covered under the separate Organics Management Law. There are several model durables programs in Washington, including Seattle’s www.reuseseseattle.org.	Opened 9/23/25
6	<u>Council Discussion</u> Councilmember Fields requested an update on ebikes subsidies and which department would lead that work. <u>Staff Comments</u> Staff from Executive’s Sustainability Division and Planning’s Transportation, Planning, and Engineering Division have partnered with the cities of Bellevue and Issaquah on a joint Puget Sound Energy grant application to launch an e-bike incentive subsidy program. Bellevue is the lead on that grant and PSE is currently reviewing applications with a decision likely in December. If awarded, a regional program will launch, leveraging a similar structure and approach used by the State.	Opened 9/23/25

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7 Net Zero City Operations	<u>Council Discussion</u> Councilmember Stuart asked if the actions in the 2025 ESAP keep the City on track towards the Climate Emergency Declaration goal of carbon neutrality for City operations by 2030? <u>Staff Comments</u> Council's 2020 Climate Emergency Declaration establishes a target of <u>carbon neutrality for City operations by 2030</u>. City operations greenhouse gas emissions have declined 51% since 2018. While the City has made significant progress sourcing renewable electricity for operations and reducing emissions from its facilities and fleet, achieving full operational decarbonization by 2030 would require significant investment and the early replacement of functional equipment. The 2025 ESAP continues the City's leadership and commitment to decarbonization, but does so in a way that balances available resources and recognizes that City operations represent less than 0.5% of total community emissions. The Plan prioritizes steady, strategic progress across facilities and fleet while also focusing on actions that catalyze broader community-wide emission reductions. <u>The 2025 ESAP also focuses on efforts to achieve carbon neutrality for the Redmond community by 2050.</u> Community greenhouse gas emissions have declined 14% since 2018. State policies and the 2025 ESAP actions keep Redmond on a path to achieve community 2030 and 2050 GHG reduction targets. Achieving the 2030 community GHG reduction target is dependent on Puget Sound Energy meeting the Washington Clean Energy Transportation Act, with the assumption that 80% of the electricity they generate will be clean by 2030. If PSE does not meet this milestone, Redmond will not meet the community 2030 GHG target.	Opened 9/23/25

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	Action 5.17 Hire an urban forestry position that unifies and manages tree canopy programs, policies, and community engagement. Action 5.18 Restore and enhance urban forests, wetlands, and riparian corridors to improve habitat, carbon storage, and climate resilience. These actions, together with ongoing restoration and watershed efforts, strengthen Redmond’s role in regional salmon recovery efforts.	
9	Reporting Out on Past Success Council Discussion Council President Kritzer asked how we are going to report out on the ongoing and completed actions from the 2020 ESAP? And how are going to talk about 2030+ actions? Staff Comments The 2025 ESAP is designed to prioritize and focus efforts on the most impactful actions for the next five years. Based on community feedback, we have narrowed the plan’s focus to ensure progress is clear and achievable, while maintaining transparency around ongoing and completed work from the 2020 ESAP. The City will continue to report on ongoing actions and share updates through progress metrics and stories that highlight the great work already underway across the community. Longer-term, 2030+ actions will be included in an appendix to the final 2025 ESAP and revisited during the next plan update to ensure they remain aligned with community priorities, technology advancements, and available resources.	Opened 9/23/25

		Action 2.13 Evaluate and advance resilient material standards and practices to ensure City facilities and infrastructure withstand changing climate conditions. Big Move 3: Transportation Action 3.4 Provide subsidies and incentives for e-bikes, scooter shares, and other shuttle options to mitigate first/last mile barriers for commuters who utilize public transit. Big Move 4: Zero Waste Action 4.1 Launch a public education campaign in partnership with Recology focused on waste reduction and resources for recycling and composting. Action 4.4 Develop and implement a solid waste strategic plan informed by stakeholder outreach and a waste characterization study. Action 4.8 Implement a sustainable purchasing and procurement program. Big Move 5: Resilient Community and Natural Environment Action 5.1 Create a robust communications network that leverages trusted messengers and diverse tactics to reach a wide audience, including those with limited English proficiency. Action 5.3 Establish partnerships with nonprofits, schools, universities, and other organizations to reach broader audiences and build capacity across the community for climate initiatives and programming. Action 5.9 Develop a community water resilience and reduction strategy that guides programs and planning to protect both water quantity and supply quality. Action 5.11 Continue to partner with Cascade Water Alliance to raise awareness of water conservation techniques and incentive programs. Action 5.12 Form partnerships and increase tree canopy plantings and habitat restoration on public and private land.	
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	Action 5.13 Create and disseminate outreach materials to educate the community about proper tree care and sustainable landscaping practices, including guidance informed by Traditional Ecological Knowledge strategies.	
	Action 5.16 Implement stormwater and surface water system upgrades to reduce runoff and fortify against climate impacts.	
	Action 5.18 Restore and enhance urban forests, wetlands, and riparian corridors to improve habitat, carbon storage, and climate resilience.	
	Action 5.19 Provide ongoing training and skill development to support operational decarbonization and electrification.	
	Action 5.20 Evaluate Implement a series of pilot projects to install reflective pavement and cool roofs to reduce urban heat island effect.	