



Memorandum

Date: 4/22/2025

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 25-244

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Executive	Lisa Maher	425-556-2427
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Executive	Jenny Lybeck	Sustainability Manager
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TITLE:

Energy Smart Eastside - Residential Electrification Program Update

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Redmond and the Eastside cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, Mercer Island, and Sammamish launched the Energy Smart Eastside program in 2022 to accelerate existing building electrification work. The program includes multiple tracks, with a focus on low and moderate-income homes earning between 50%-80% AMI. Heat pumps reduce heating-related greenhouse emissions 91% relative to a gas furnace and support community climate resilience, making adoption a key strategy for meeting city climate goals. Staff will provide an overview of the 2024 program achievements (see Attachment A) and review priorities for 2025 and beyond.

Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached

REQUESTED ACTION:

Receive Information Provide Direction Approve

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
Community Strategic Plan, Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP), Climate Vulnerability Assessment, Climate Emergency Declaration, Housing Action Plan
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**
Energy Smart Eastside (ESE) includes three tracks: Boost, Fuel Switch, and a distributor incentive combined with education.
 - ESE Boost program <<https://www.energysmarteastside.org/boost>> provides 100% cost coverage heat

pump installations for low-income single-family residents earning between <50%-80% AMI. The Boost pilot program launched in April 2023 and has served more than 33 Redmond community members, and 169 total community members on the Eastside.

- Fuel Switching Incentive: ESE launched a new marketing campaign called Make the Switch <<https://www.energysmarteastside.org/maketheswitch>> to drive program participation. The ESE Fuel Switching program provides an additional market-rate incentive for middle-income residents (80%-150% AMI) who switch from gas, oil, or wood as a primary heat source. Community members can receive up to \$8,400 off the purchase of a new heat pump when ESE incentives are stacked with federal tax credits and utility incentives.
- Distributor Incentive: All community members are eligible for a \$1000 rebate on approved products and free educational resources.

The Eastside cities of Redmond, Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, and Mercer Island formalized their collaboration in January 2023 with the Eastside Climate Partnership Interlocal Agreement. The agreement allows the partners to share resources for the Energy Smart Eastside Heat Pump program, including staff capacity and future programs supporting joint climate and clean energy goals.

OUTCOMES:

The Energy Smart Eastside implements the 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Strategy B3 - *Shift to renewable sources and building decarbonization.*

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
Ongoing
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
Direct outreach in partnership with Hopelink, tabling, social media, Focus, enewsletter, workshops, webinars, contractor outreach, etc.
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

\$1,300,000 - CIP

Approved in current biennial budget: Yes No N/A

Budget Offer Number:

CIP - Energy Smart Eastside

Budget Priority:

Healthy and Sustainable

Other budget impacts or additional costs: Yes No N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

Grant funds
CIP

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
3/26/2024	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:

N/A

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

This is an information only item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Energy Smart Eastside Annual Report