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# ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY ELEMENT

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## INTRODUCTION

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We live in a time of ever-increasing demands on our environment. Energy, climate change, and sustainability are three closely related issues that are driving major changes in the way that communities and their local governments function. Despite significant gains in productivity and energy efficiency, we continue to increase our consumption of energy. Energy and natural resource consumption is growing at an even higher rate across the globe, as developing economies strive to attain higher living standards. This growth is challenged by declining resources – fossil fuels, water, land, and air. Worldwide increases in energy consumption competing for dwindling resources will result in higher and more volatile prices for petroleum products and will drive the development of renewable and distributed energy systems. Efforts to mitigate climate change will further change our use of fossil fuels, increasing prices as carbon caps or similar measures are implemented. The challenge of sustainability is to achieve a balance between resource supplies and societal demand that can be continued for future generations. In order to assure that these future generations will have adequate resources and working ecological systems, we must increase our efforts to plan for sustainable development and land use practices. The challenge of planning for energy, climate change, and sustainability will also require the development of new tools and approaches to comprehensive planning.

It is the intent of this inaugural Energy & Sustainability Element to establish the intention of the City to fully embrace sustainability as a strategic principle framing a set of values from which critical current and future decisions made in the city will take direction and focus. It includes an examination of the current planning and regulatory context around these three issues – energy, climate change, and sustainability. The element is prospective in intent, focusing on a framework for establishing city goals and policies and the application of those policies to existing elements of the comprehensive plan, offering only a few specific new policies. This 2009 update to the Comprehensive Plan will expand and more fully develop this framework, leading to a full integration of sustainability policies in the 2011 major update.

Lynnwood's efforts will initially focus on the twin challenges of climate change and unprecedented changes in world energy markets<sup>1</sup>. These issues are at the core of the larger question of sustainability, and demand immediate attention if we are later to have sufficient

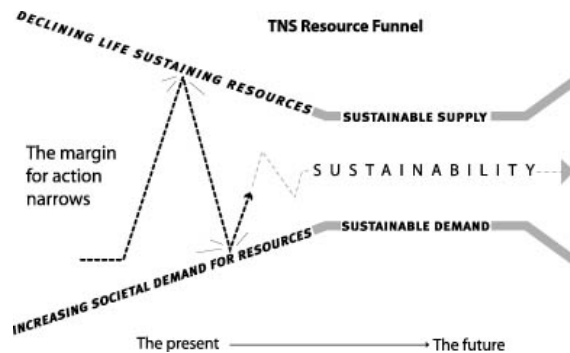
resources to deal with the broader relationships between community and environment over the following decades.

## PLANNING CONTEXT

### The Sustainability Imperative

The harsh economic reality of \$4 gasoline and growing concern over global warming has brought renewed focus to energy and sustainability planning. The modern roots of our concern with environmental pollution and its effects on worldwide ecosystems can be marked as the first American Earth Day in 1972. Sustainability and associated concepts were first addressed at the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. Subsequently, the United Nations in 1983 created the World Commission on Environment and Development. The commission was headed by former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. In 1987 the commission published its report, *Our Common Future*, now generally remembered as the “Brundtland report.” The report established a foundational definition of sustainability – “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need.”<sup>2</sup> – that still serves us well today.

The Resource Funnel concept (diagram at right) illustrates our dilemma. We live in global economic system with a declining supply of life sustaining resources, but with an increasing demand for these resources – both renewable and non-renewable. The combination of these two forces is continually narrowing our margin for action – without action we will likely reach a point where we have insufficient resources to meet our demands. Overall, the challenge is to both reduce the decline in resources by strengthening our natural systems and to reduce resource demands by becoming more efficient producers and consumers.



Sustainability is a very broad concept and principle.<sup>3</sup> While the effective range of influence that a community can have on sustainability is considerable, we will be most effective by focusing on a narrow set of initial objectives: city operations; decision-making and community action directed at energy conservation; ecoliteracy; climate change; health; and associated public policy and local economic development issues. At the same time, the city can adopt the basic framework of sustainability as guideposts for all of our operations and decisions. The elements of this framework are addressed in more detail in the Goals area of the element.

## Global Energy and Climate Change Issues

Energy is our most immediate sustainability challenge. We are clearly in a narrowing “funnel” of increasing demand and declining supplies of petroleum – a fossil fuel that pervades nearly every aspect of modern life. But as the case with many sustainability issues, the problem does not stop there. We now have conclusive evidence that greenhouse gas emissions from our increasing worldwide use of petroleum and other fossil fuels are changing the global climate.

In 1988, two United Nations organizations, the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Program, established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to assess the “scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant for the understanding of the risk of human-induced climate change.” Over the past twenty years, the IPCC has released periodic assessments. The First Assessment, completed in 1990, supported the negotiations at the 1992 Rio de Janeiro “Earth Summit” leading to creation of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The U.S. ratified the convention in October, 1992.

In the intervening years, there has been a growing consensus in the worldwide scientific community around the role of manmade (anthropogenic) greenhouse gases (GHG) in increasing global warming. This consensus reached a critical milestone in February 2007 with the release of the Fourth Assessment, which concluded that “warming of the climate system is unequivocal”<sup>4</sup>, and that “[m]ost of the global average warming over the past 50 years is very likely due to anthropogenic increases.”<sup>5</sup> In scientific terms, “very likely” means at least a 90% probability.<sup>6</sup> The Washington State Department of Ecology estimate that temperatures in the Pacific Northwest will warm by 0.5° per decade<sup>7</sup>, and the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group warns of widespread environmental impacts including rising sea levels, increasing percentage of annual precipitation as rainfall, increase in irrigation demands, increased susceptibility of forests to disease and wildfire, and varied human health impacts<sup>8</sup>.

## Washington State Government Response

While the federal government has been slow in responding to the challenge of global climate change, many state governments – including Washington – have launched serious programs aimed at mitigating GHG emissions and adapting to climate change impacts.

### Governor’s Climate Change Initiative

On February 7, 2007, Governor Gregoire signed Executive Order No. 07-02 directing the departments of Ecology and Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED) to lead the “Washington Climate Change Challenge”. In the order, the Governor noted several significant actions previously undertaken by the state, including the 2005 Clean Car Act, the widely acclaimed Energy Code, and citizen approval of the Washington Clean Energy Initiative (I-937). The order, for the first time, formally established statewide GHG emissions reduction targets:

- **By 2020, reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels (10MMT below 1994)**
- **By 2035, reduce GHG emissions to 25% below 1990 levels (30MMT below 1994)**
- **By 2050, “do it’s part” to reach climate stabilization by reducing emissions to 50% below 1990 levels**

The order also directed Ecology and CTED to create what became known as the Governor's Climate Action Team<sup>9</sup>, or CAT. The Climate Action Team then formed five Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and five Preparation/Adaptation Working Groups (PAWGs) to research specific measures for achieving the targets.

During 2007 and early 2008, the CAT held several public meetings and released numerous interim reports, including policy evaluations from the TWGs and PAWGs. The 2008 Climate Change Interim Report, Leading the Way on Climate Change: The Challenge of Our Time<sup>10</sup>, identifies twelve recommendations for a "broad, flexible and long-term response to Washington's Climate Change Challenge."

- *Recommendation 1:* Build market-based mechanisms to unleash investment in the creativity and innovation of Washington's economy to deliver cost effective emission reductions.
- *Recommendation 2:* Establish emissions reporting so that progress in emission reduction can be tracked and acknowledged.
- *Recommendation 3:* Analyze greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation options early in decision-making, planning processes, and development projects.
- *Recommendation 4:* Invest in worker training for the emerging clean economy to ensure having a skilled workforce and to provide meaningful employment opportunities throughout the state.
- *Recommendation 5:* Build and continue to redesign communities that offer real and reliable alternatives to single occupancy vehicles.
- *Recommendation 6:* Ensure Washington has vehicles that are as efficient as possible and use non-carbon or lower carbon intensity fuels developed sustainably from regional resources.
- *Recommendation 7:* Focus investments in Washington's transportation infrastructure to prioritize moving people and goods cleanly and efficiently.
- *Recommendation 8:* Design, build, upgrade, and operate new and existing buildings and equipment to maximize energy efficiency.
- *Recommendation 9:* Deliver energy from lower or non-carbon sources and more efficient use of fuels.
- *Recommendation 10:* Restore and retain the health and vitality of Washington's farms and forest lands to increase carbon sequestration and storage in forests and forest products, reduce the releases of greenhouse gas emissions, and support the provision of biomass fuels and energy.
- *Recommendation 11:* Reduce waste and Washington's emissions of GHGs through improved product choices and resource stewardship.
- *Recommendation 12:* Allocate sufficient state resources to maintain Washington's leadership role regionally and nationally and to fulfill its responsibilities for structuring and guiding implementation of emission reduction strategies.

While each of these recommendations will have some impact on local government, seven of them – #2, #3, #5, #7, #8, #10, and #11 – depend upon some level of local government action.

### Legislative Policies and Actions

Following upon Governor Gregoire's Executive Order 07-02, the 2007 legislature enacted ESSB 6001, effectively codifying the administrative targets in the Executive Order. In the following session, the legislature took the additional step, through HB2815, replacing the

administrative targets with legally binding, enforceable targets. The 2008 legislation also directed Ecology and CTED to:

- develop specific policy recommendations for reducing emissions and implementing several recommendations of the Governor's Climate Action Team;
- develop systems for monitoring and reporting GHG emissions by large emitters;
- coordinate with the Western Climate Initiative to develop a regional cap-and-trade system for GHG emissions, including methods for local government

Perhaps most importantly for local government, HB2815 recognized the major contribution of transportation to GHG emissions, and established benchmarks<sup>11</sup> for reducing *per capita* vehicle miles of travel:

- 18 percent by 2020;
- 30 percent by 2035; and
- 50 percent by 2050.

The 2008 legislature also recognized the importance of land development and transportation decisions and critical role of the state's Growth Management Act (GMA) in reducing GHG emissions. As initially proposed SB 6580 would have placed significant new responsibilities on local government, adding climate change language to the GMA goals and requiring a climate change element. While these dramatic changes were not enacted in 2008, SB6580 as passed into law requires CTED to review possible changes to GMA required to meet the GHG emissions reductions goals set forth in HB2815 and to report these recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2008. SB6580 also expands CTED technical assistance role in developing protocols for measuring the GHG emissions impacts of local land use decisions, and created a small competitive grant program.

#### The Western Climate Initiative

The Western Climate Initiative (WCI) is a collaborative effort between seven western states and four Canadian provinces to establish regional strategies to address climate change. The primary efforts of WCI have been directed toward the creation of a framework for a regional cap-and-trade system for reducing GHG emissions. While simple in concept, realization of a workable cap-and-trade system deals with a very complex set of relationships required for allocation of emissions among the region's impacted industries, determination of available offsets, standardizing emissions measurement, and working with the complexities of the regional electrical generation and supply system.

#### Washington's Growth Management Act (GMA)

While the GMA does not directly address the issue of climate change, several broad GMA goals – reducing sprawl, encouraging efficient multimodal transportation systems, preserving agricultural and resource land, and protecting the environment – are common to most climate change action plans. RCW 36.70A.080 allows for inclusion of optional elements, and the Energy & Sustainability Element is incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan in that spirit. As noted above, there are likely to be significant changes to GMA in response to evolving state climate change policies. By adopting this Energy & Sustainability Element, the City is taking a major step towards compliance with these emerging requirements.

### The Emerging Regulatory Framework – Two Key Federal Court Cases

While a federal climate change policy has been very slow to develop, both environmental groups and state governments have challenged the adequacy of the implementation of current environmental law. Two important federal court cases in 2007 have altered the regulatory landscape. In April 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court issued an opinion in *Massachusetts v. EPA*, holding that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) was an air pollutant subject to regulation under the Clean Air Act. This decision was in response to a lawsuit filed by twelve states (including Washington). Legal and political wrangling still continues around EPA's response to this decision. It is likely to be years before the finding makes its way into revised rules.

The findings in *Massachusetts v. EPA* certainly gave weight to the arguments of the plaintiffs in *Center for Biological Diversity v. NHSTA* for that climate change impacts be considered in decisions subject to the National Environment Policy Act (NEPA). In December, 2007, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held that the "impact of greenhouse gas emissions is precisely the kind of cumulative impact analysis that NEPA requires agencies to conduct."<sup>12</sup> As Washington's State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) is largely based upon the federal NEPA, the effects of this precedent on state litigation may be substantial. In response to the Ninth Circuit ruling and litigation in several states, the Washington Department of Ecology in April, 2008, announced its intention to clarify the state's SEPA rules to avoid such a case-by-case "policy by litigation" situation in Washington.<sup>13</sup> This challenge has now been taken up by the 2008 Climate Action Team Implementation Working Group<sup>14</sup>.

### **Local Government Response**

Local governments across the U.S., and especially in Washington and Oregon, have been in a leadership role in formulating a response to the challenge of climate change. The cities of Seattle, Portland, Olympia, Kirkland and Bellingham, as well as King County, have been early adopters of programs aimed at reducing GHG emissions and, more recently, using SEPA as one tool. But beyond individual local actions, success in dealing with the complexities of climate change and creating a sustainable economy requires the development of strong networks to cooperatively develop solutions. Two of these networks will be especially helpful to the City of Lynnwood in formulating goals and implementing solutions.

#### USCM Climate Protection Agreement

On February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol for the reduction of greenhouse gases became law in the 141 countries. On the same day, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels began a campaign to encourage U.S. cities to strive to meet the goals of the Kyoto Protocol through their own local initiatives. By the 2005 U.S. Conference of Mayors annual meeting in June, 2005, Mayor Nickels and eight other mayors had gathered 141 signatures to the original version of what was to become the "U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement."

By May 2007, 500 cities had signed on; as of August 15, 2008, some 850 cities – including 32 in Washington State – had become signatories to the agreement. Under terms of the Agreement, participating cities commit to take following three actions:

- Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities, through actions ranging from anti-sprawl land-use policies to urban forest restoration projects to public information campaigns;

- Urge their state governments, and the federal government, to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol -- 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and
- Urge the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system

### ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability

The International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives – ICLEI – is an international association of local governments dedicated to climate protection chartered in 1990. ICLEI USA was founded in 1995 and counts 32 Washington State cities and counties<sup>15</sup> among its more than 450 members.

Originally conceived to establish local laws to phase out ozone-depleting chemicals, ICLEI built upon this success to address broader sustainability issues. In 2003, members voted to change the name to ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability to reflect this broader mandate. Through ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection campaign, local governments and funding organizations have come together to create a range of tools and support programs to help local governments measure their needs, create local actions programs, and measure success toward these community-based goals. ICLEI has been successful in attracting funding to develop tools for local government, including development of web-based software tools underwritten by Microsoft and the Clinton Foundation.

## **THE ICLEI FIVE MILESTONE PROCESS**

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Organizing an effort to deal effectively with the challenge of climate change can be a daunting task. The ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection campaign has developed a set of five important milestones to serve as a broad framework.

### **1. Conduct a baseline emissions inventory and forecast**

The baseline inventory is the important first step towards understanding the energy needs of our community. The emissions inventory describes how various activities in the community contribute to GHG emissions, both now and in the future. The inventory separately tracks emissions from municipal operations and community activities. ICLEI's Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACP) software provides a tool to create an emissions inventory for at least a base year and a forecast year.

### **2. Adopt an emissions reduction target for the forecast year**

The reduction target is the specific GHG emissions reductions goal for the community. It is expressed as a percentage reduction to be achieved in the target year relative to the baseline year. The target makes a clear statement of the local government's commitment and provides a framework to guide planning and implementation.

### **3. Develop a Local Action Plan**

The Local Action Plan describes the policies and measures that will be undertaken to reach the emissions reduction target. Plans should include timelines, financing mechanisms, and assignment of responsibilities for implementation. Strong community input, both from

residents and business, should be included in order to build stakeholder consensus needed to implement the chosen measures. ICLEI provides the Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant (CAPPA) Decision Support Tool to assist in the process of identifying and prioritizing measures that fit each community's needs.

#### **4. Implement policies and measures**

The local government implements the policies and measures contained in the Local Action Plan. Some measures – so-called “low hanging fruit” such as interior lighting efficiency and traffic signal retrofits – may be implemented in advance of the Local Action Plan. Other policies and measures that require new capital investments or changes in organizational culture will require a level of cooperation and political will that will likely only evolve following consensus on the Local Action Plan coupled with some early successes.

#### **5. Monitor progress and report results**

The monitoring program measures and verifies that the policies and measures are having the desired effect. Feedback provides local government and the community with a sense of success from implementing the measures in the action plan. Monitoring also can be used to alter measures or the Local Action Plan as required to help achieve reduction targets. Annual updates of the emissions inventory, using CACP, are an important tool in monitoring progress. The new ICLEI – US Green Building Council Star Community Index will provide a standardized framework for tracking and evaluation of community sustainability projects. Other tools, like the EPA's Energy Star Portfolio Manager, can help in tracking and evaluating energy use by municipal buildings.

## **LYNNWOOD'S ROLE IN ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY**

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What can the City of Lynnwood, or any other community, do to help meet the climate change challenge? Public attention has been focused by media coverage of alternative energy, fuel economy standards, melting glaciers and ice caps, and vanishing species, little attention, if any, attention has been given to the role of local governments and communities. But as the Governor's Climate Action Team has so clearly pointed out, local government in fact has a crucial role in guiding communities through the kinds of changes needed to slow and eventually stabilize GHG emissions. Transportation and buildings are the two largest contributors to GHG emissions. While state and federal governments can do their part by mandating higher efficiency standards for vehicles and appliances, providing higher funding levels for transit, and supporting development of alternative energy sources, these policies are only half-measures without complementary changes in locally controlled land use patterns, building codes, and infrastructure that allow these larger initiatives to have real impact.

### What has Lynnwood done?

Our City has made some wise investments and decisions in the past few years in recognition of its responsibility to reduce energy consumption and begin planning for climate change. Under a low-interest loan program from the State of Washington, the City was able to make several investments in energy-efficient technologies, with annual estimated savings in excess of \$50,000:

- Replace incandescent lighting in traffic signals with LEDs
- Modify motors and pumps in the wastewater treatment plant
- Update lighting and HVAC systems in the library and civic center complex

While Lynnwood's Comprehensive Plan has recognized a few sustainability issues, it has lacked a comprehensive treatment of energy issues. In 2006, the City pursued and was awarded a \$30,000 competitive grant towards the development of an Energy Element. While this grant, a first for CTED, was able to underwrite the development of an initial energy inventory and explore policy options, matching city resources were insufficient to either complete the inventory or fully develop a model element.

#### What do we need to do next?

Local governments are a key to success in dealing with climate change and other emerging challenges to sustainability. Lynnwood should:

- **Lead by example** – As one of the largest and most visible enterprises in the local community, Lynnwood can exercise both significant market power and provide leadership in demonstrating sustainable solutions.
- **Empower our citizens** – Lynnwood can empower citizens to make sustainable choices by removing antiquated zoning and building code restrictions and providing incentives to make sustainable choices.
- **Regulate when markets fail** – Market mechanisms are frequently absent or too slow to act. Lynnwood can develop and enforce zoning and building regulations to accelerate adoption of new technologies and elimination of wasteful practices.
- **Act as a regional partner** – The city can also act as the voice of the community in proposing and implementing regional sustainability solutions that are beyond the capability of any single local government.
- **Education** – As the city gains experience with climate change mitigation and sustainable development measures, this knowledge can be shared with local business and citizens through outreach programs and environmental education initiatives such as E3 Washington<sup>16</sup>. The city is in a unique position to establish partnerships with energy utilities, developers, the construction industry, and local educational institutions to build sustainability as a community value.

## **INITIAL ENERGY INVENTORY**

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Our baseline inventory is a crucial step in understanding how both city government as an enterprise and the broader community use energy. Analysis of these energy use patterns leads to estimates of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In 2001, Transportation, at 61%, was the largest use of energy in the community. As nearly all of this energy is in the form of liquid petroleum (gasoline and diesel fuels), transportation accounted for a full 73% of Lynnwood's GHG emissions. This percentage is significantly higher than the statewide contribution of 52%. Residential buildings accounted for another 17% of our energy use, while commercial buildings add about 22%. Electricity, at 23% ranks second behind petroleum as an energy source, but contributes only 13% of our GHG emissions due to our abundance of hydroelectric power. Additional information on Community and City

Government energy use and GHG Emissions can be found in the *City of Lynnwood Initial Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2001-2006 and 2020 Reference Forecast*

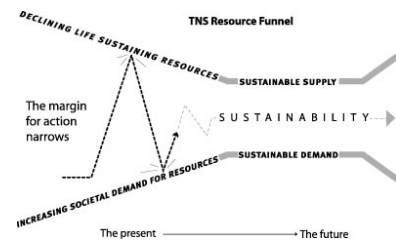
## GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### Overview

As stated in the Introduction, the Energy & Sustainability Element is different in both structure and intent than other element of the Comprehensive Plan. Rather than a statement of detailed city policies, the Goals, Objective, and Policies section provides an initial high-level blueprint to guide the city's actions over the next three years. Most objectives and policies will be developed over this time period and incorporated into the major update of the Comprehensive Plan required in 2011. Those specific objectives and policies that are presented are in areas where either a substantive need has already been demonstrated or where the performance of certain activities – such as completion of the emissions inventory or developing the local climate action plan – are necessary steps to support overall goals.

### GOAL 1: Sustainability

**Fully embrace Sustainability as a key strategic principle providing direction and focus for current and future critical city decisions.**



#### Subgoal E&S-1.1: Sustainability Framework

The city establishes the following framework for guiding actions and moving toward creating a Sustainable Lynnwood. In order to be sustainable the City must make choices that:

- Reduce our dependence upon fossil fuels, extracted underground metals, and minerals
- Reduce our dependence on chemicals and other manufactured substances that can accumulate in nature
- Reduce our dependencies on activities that harm life-sustaining ecosystems -- water, air, land, and biological resources.
- Meet the hierarchy of present and future human needs fairly and efficiently

#### Subgoal E&S-1.2: Sustainability as a Strategic Principle

The city will seek to establish sustainable practices in the conduct of all city programs, services, operations, and capital projects.

**Policy E&S-1.2.1** Sustainability, as a key strategic principle, is the responsibility of all elected officials, appointed officials, employees of the City, citizens, and business

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**Subgoal E&S-1.3: Incorporate Sustainability principles into city comprehensive and operational plans.**

**Policy E&S-1.3.1** Future amendments to the city comprehensive plan and operational plans will include consideration of sustainability principles. This policy will be phased in coordination with existing schedules and planned updates and be fully implemented by 2011. Operational plans include, but are not limited to, functional plans (“comprehensive plans”) and business plans for the following city functions:

- Stormwater management
- Water and wastewater utility infrastructure
- Transportation infrastructure and traffic management
- Parks and recreation facilities
- Other capital facilities

**GOAL 2: Climate Change**

**Develop a Lynnwood local action plan response to the challenge of climate change that reflects the unique situation of our community and the need to develop and monitor plans with time horizons of forty (40) years or longer.**



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**Subgoal E&S-2.1: Develop a Lynnwood response to the challenge of climate change through the use of the ICLEI Five Milestone process.****Milestone-1: Conducting an Emissions Analysis**

**Policy E&S-2.1.1** The City, under the leadership of the Community Development department and with the full cooperation and action of all other city departments, will complete the baseline inventory in 2009. Updates to the City Government portion of the inventory shall be completed annually. Updates to the Community portion of the inventory shall be completed at a minimum every five years, with supplemental updates to coincide with required updates to the Comprehensive Plan .

**Policy E&S-2.1.2** The initial baseline inventory will describe energy use and emissions separately for City Government operations and the Community as a whole with a primary 2001 base year and an initial intermediate year of 2006.

**Policy E&S-2.1.3** The baseline inventory will include estimates of City Government and Community energy use and emissions for a secondary 1990 base year to assure compatibility with emissions targets of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) Climate Protection Agreement (derived from the Kyoto protocol) and to assure recognition of energy efficiency measures adopted by the city prior to 2006.

**Policy E&S-2.1.4** The baseline inventory will include forecasts of energy use and emissions for the future target years of 2020, 2035, and 2050 consistent with state targets. Updates to the inventory will include updated forecasts as required to reflect changes in current practice and likely available technologies for GHG emissions reductions.

## **Milestone-2: Setting the Target**

**Policy E&S-2.2.1** The City, under the leadership of the Community Development department and with the full support cooperation of all other city departments, has established the following target greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets:

- 2012 – 7% below 1990 levels (USCM Climate Protection Agreement)
- 2020 – YY% below 2005 levels
- 2035 – ZZ% below 2005 levels
- 2050 – AA% below 2005 levels

**Policy E&S-2.2.2** Emissions targets may be amended as required to reflect Lynnwood's fair-share proportion of statewide emission reduction targets established under E2SHB 2815 and codified in RCW 70.235.020(1)(a) and be consistent with any regional targets established by the Puget Sound Regional Council

## **Milestone-3: Developing the Climate Action Plan**

**Policy E&S-2.3.1** The City will develop a focused Climate Action Plan (CAP) for city government operations no later than October 1, 2009. The effort to develop the CAP shall be led by the Community Development department with the full cooperation of all city departments.

**Policy E&S-2.3.2** The Mayor will establish a "Green Team" consisting of at least one representative of each department. Members of the Green Team, working with their departments, are responsible for the development and review of measures for incorporation into the CAP.

**Policy E&S-2.3.3** The Mayor will appoint a Green Ribbon Task Force to guide development of a comprehensive, community wide Climate Action Plan (CAP). This effort will be jointly coordinated by the Community Development and Economic Development departments. The City will make its best efforts to complete the initial draft of the plan by February 1, 2010.

## **Milestone-4: Implementing the Climate Action Plan**

**Policy E&S-2.4.1** The citywide "Green Team" shall submit recommendations for implementation priorities as a part of the initial CAP. Recommended measures shall be identified and presented to departments. If a recommended measure has budgetary impact, the departments will review the potential costs and benefits of these measures and develop decision packages for the next biennial budget or budget amendment.

**Policy E&S-2.4.2** Departments shall continuously review their own operations to identify and implement measures that provide immediate energy savings or GHG emissions reductions without significant budget impact.

## **Milestone-5: Monitoring Progress and Reporting Results**

**Policy E&S-2.5.1** The city will establish a public and transparent process for monitoring the results of both city government and community measures.

**Policy E&S-2.5.2** All recommendations proposed under Milestone 3 should be, to the greatest extent possible, linked to measurable objectives that can be clearly reported to employees and our citizens.

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### **Subgoal E&S-2.2: Incorporating Climate Change into the Environmental Review Process**

**Policy E&S-2.2.1** The Community Development department, in cooperation with the Public Works department, shall establish a process for incorporating evaluation and mitigation of GHG emissions into the city's environmental review process under SEPA no later than July 1, 2010. These procedures shall include an emissions schedule and applicant-friendly estimating methodology and apply only to such developments that are over a reasonable threshold as determined by the SEPA responsible official. The Council may establish by ordinance conditions under which a project action or a non-project action would be deemed not to have significant environmental impact.

**Policy E&S-2.2.2** Upon completion of new SEPA guidance from the Washington State Department of Ecology, and after review by the Mayor's Green Ribbon Task Force, the City shall modify procedures developed under Policy E&S-2.2.1 as required by law.

### **Subgoal E&S-2.3: Incorporate Climate Change considerations into city comprehensive and operational plans.**

**Policy E&S-2.3.1** Future amendments to the city comprehensive plan and operational plans will incorporate climate change considerations. This policy will be phased in coordination with existing schedules and planned updates and be fully implemented by 2011. Operational plans include, but are not limited to, functional plans ("comprehensive plans") and business plans for the following city functions:

- Stormwater management
- Water and wastewater utility infrastructure
- Transportation infrastructure and traffic management
- Parks and recreation facilities
- Other capital facilities

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## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The implementation requirements for the Energy & Sustainability Element are contained within the element itself, and are not reflected in the Implementation Element at this time. As the activities required under this Element are completed, additional specific implementation requirements will be added.



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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.hubbartpeak.com/summary.htm>,  
[http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/others/pdf/Oil\\_Peaking\\_NETL.pdf](http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/others/pdf/Oil_Peaking_NETL.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Our Common Future, Oxford University Press, 1987, page 43.

<sup>3</sup> “Sustainability encompasses a wide array of issues including: conservation, globalization, socially responsible investing, corporate reform, ecoliteracy, climate change, human rights, population growth, health, biodiversity, labor rights, women’s rights, public policy, trade and organic farming.” *The Sustainability Revolution: Portrait of a Paradigm Shift*, by Andres R. Edwards, New Society Publishers, 2005, at 8.

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4\\_syr\\_spm.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf) p. 2

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4\\_syr\\_spm.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf) p. 5

<sup>6</sup> There remains a minority of the scientific community that does not concur with the IPCC assessment. Many of their counter-arguments may be found in *Nature, Not Human Activity, Rules the Climate*, S. Fred Singer, Ph.D, The Heartland Institute, 2008. <http://www.globalwarmingheartland.org/article.cfm?artId=22835> An independent summary of the counter-points to these arguments may be found at Skeptical Science, <http://www.skepticalscience.com/argument.php>.

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/economic\\_impacts.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/economic_impacts.htm)

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.cses.washington.edu/db/pdf/cighb1303interim580.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/interimreport.htm>

<sup>11</sup> <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2007-08/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Law%202008/2815-S2.SL.pdf> page 16, line 27

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.martenlaw.com/news/?20071128-climate-change-analysis>

<sup>13</sup> DOE Manning letter April 30, 2008

<sup>14</sup> “The SEPA IWG will provide recommendations on changes to SEPA rules, guidance and/or environmental review documents...” see [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/2008CAT\\_iwg\\_sepa.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/2008CAT_iwg_sepa.htm)

<sup>15</sup> As of August, 2008, the list of Washington State ICLEI members includes Bainbridge Island, Bellevue, Bellingham, Bothell, Burien, Clallam County, Edmonds, Everett, Ferndale, Issaquah, Jefferson County, King County, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park, Langley, Lynnwood, Mercer Island, Oak Harbor, Olympia, Pierce County, Port Townsend, SeaTac, Seattle, Shoreline, Snohomish County, Spokane, Tacoma, Tukwila, Tumwater, Vancouver, Washougal, Whatcom County

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.e3washington.org/about-e3-washington>