



## BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6216  
January 17, 2023  
Regular Business

### AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 6216: Draft Climate Action Plan Handoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Discuss update on Climate Action Plan (CAP) process and receive full copy of Draft Climate Action Plan document.	

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Public Works		
<b>STAFF:</b>	Jessi Bon, City Manager Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations Ross Freeman, Sustainability Program Analyst		
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Craig Reynolds	Jake Jacobson	Ted Weinberg
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Draft Climate Action Plan		
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	4. Focus efforts and actions to be an environmentally and fiscally sustainable, connected, and diverse community.		

<b>AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE</b>	\$ n/a
<b>AMOUNT BUDGETED</b>	\$ n/a
<b>APPROPRIATION REQUIRED</b>	\$ n/a

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to handoff the draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) to the City Council, which is included as Exhibit 1 and also provided in hard copy.

- The staff presentation will include an overview of the plan and suggested areas of focus for review and feedback.
- The public comment period on the draft plan is open through February 7, 2023, at which time the City Council will hold a public hearing on the draft plan.
- Public comments on the draft CAP are being gathered through an online commenting platform hosted by the City's consultant, or via email for those who prefer it (see the [Let's Talk engagement page](#) for details).
- The City Council will review the public comments received and provide direction to inform the development of the final CAP at the March 7, 2023 City Council meeting.
- Plan adoption is anticipated at the end of March or early April 2023.

## BACKGROUND

In alignment with neighboring communities, the King County Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC), and the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C), the City of Mercer Island has established a goal to reduce community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 95% by 2050, with interim targets of 50% reduction by 2030 and 75% reduction by 2040 (see [Resolution No. 1620](#), March 2022), compared to a 2007 baseline.

This Climate Action Plan (CAP) outlines a roadmap for meeting this GHG emissions reduction commitment as well as achieving other important resiliency goals for the community, including preparing for unavoidable climate impacts, protecting valuable natural resources, and preserving quality of life on Mercer Island.

The CAP is a long-term planning document that organizes GHG reduction actions and resiliency measures in a strategic manner. The CAP takes into account near-term and long-term resource needs and other considerations that will affect the City's ability to meet the emissions reductions targets. Staff expect to deliver an annual progress report to the City Council, provide online performance data updates to the public each year, and update the CAP approximately every 10 years.

### CAP Public Engagement to Date

The CAP process launched in December 2021 and the City has used a range of measures to gather public input, including two online workshops, various outreach events and activities, ongoing public comment, surveys, factsheets, the Let's Talk engagement platform, and the current public comment period.

The City also conducted an citywide random sample survey (see [AB 6180](#)), sent by mail to 2,500 households, from late September through early November 2022. The survey had 264 responses (176 submitted via mail and 88 online). This 10% response allowed the City to achieve its desired 95% level of confidence, with a +/- 6% margin of error. A parallel, general public, opt-in survey received another 123 responses online.

## ISSUE/DISCUSSION

### CAP Structure

This CAP is the product of months of data collection and analysis, and lengthy engagement with community members, the City Council, and City staff that ultimately culminated in the development of strategies and actions for greenhouse gas reduction organized into six focus areas:

- Cross-Cutting & Municipal
- Buildings & Energy
- Transportation
- Consumption & Disposal
- Natural Systems
- Community Resilience

The CAP document contains four main sections and four appendices, as follows:

- Plan Summary – a high level overview of the process and plan contents.
- Introduction – an overview of climate impacts and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Strategies & Actions – the heart of the plan, detailing proposed measures to reduce emissions
- Implementation Plan – an overview of what it will take to implement the plan and how progress will be measured and publicized.

- Appendix A (*Implementation Matrix*) – details on the anticipated timeframe, estimated cost, lead department, potential partners, and other considerations that may affect implementation.
- Appendix B (*Multi-Criteria Analysis - MCA*) – details on how each measure was assigned a priority score based on the four criteria of cost, impact, feasibility, and community support.
- Appendix C (*Crosswalk table*) – crosswalk table summarizing MCA score and implementation factors.
- Appendix D (*Survey Summary*) – overview of the mailed random sample survey from October 2022.

### **CAP Comment Period**

The draft Climate Action Plan is available on the [Let's Talk engagement platform](#) and the public comment period is open through February 7, 2023. Background and supporting materials on the planning process are also available on the Let's Talk page. City staff will promote the public comment period across multiple communication channels over the next several weeks.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The current four-week public comment period will conclude on the evening of February 7, 2023 with a Public Hearing at the City Council meeting.

The project team will review public comments, including City Council questions and comments and summarize the information using a matrix format. The information and feedback obtained through the public comment period will be presented to the City Council on March 7, 2023 for discussion and further consideration. Outcomes of the March 7 City Council meeting will be used to inform development of the final CAP.

Following that meeting, the project team will make final changes and edits to the draft CAP to produce a document for adoption. At this time, adoption of the final CAP is anticipated at the end of March or early April 2023.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Receive draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) and review the process for submitting comments and feedback.