

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
RESOLUTION NO. 1648**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON,
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR KING COUNTY’S SOLID WASTE DIVISION’S
RE+ PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island adopted a Climate Action Plan in April 2023 that establishes specific waste diversion targets to be reached by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the King County Solid Waste Division’s Re+ program is dedicated to reducing the impact of climate change by preventing and reducing solid waste; and

WHEREAS, the Re+ Program outlines a pathway to achieve the goal of minimizing solid waste, and King County is seeking to partner with cities on local implementation of key plan elements; and

WHEREAS, key actions for the Re+ Program include identifying new ways of processing organics and recycling, developing recycling markets for organics, paper and plastic, and a community panel to engage historically underrepresented and adversely impacted community members to help guide future outcomes along with developing new markets that will create local jobs in the private sector, help build the green economy, and ensure a just and equitable impact on the members of our community; and

WHEREAS, supporting the Re+ Program effort will help focus local governments on a joint effort and responsibility to make progress toward reducing local GHG emissions by increasing waste prevention and recycling, laying the foundation for developing a circular economy; and

WHEREAS, the Re+ Pledge aligns with the City’s commitments and efforts to address climate change including:

- King County Joint Commitments to climate change action and targets through the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration
- King County’s Strategic Climate Action Plan
- The Mercer Island Climate Action Plan

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to express its support for the shared vision that the Re+ Program represents.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Mercer Island City Council expresses its support for King County’s Re+ Program to minimize solid waste and authorizes the City Manager to execute the Re+ Pledge as set forth in Exhibit A to this Resolution.

Section 2. The Mercer Island City Council further expresses the City’s desire to work collaboratively with King County to identify ways to enhance the City’s efforts to achieve the vision of the Re+ program in a fair, equitable, and inclusive manner with implementation support from the County including competitive grants, model language for countywide program and policy implementation, and technical

support.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AT
ITS MEETING ON THE 19TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023.

Salim Nice, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Larson, City Clerk



Re+ Pledge

Climate Change is an urgent challenge, with far-reaching current and future impacts to our environment, public health, and economy. King County's Re+ program aims to divert recoverable material from the landfill which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to a circular economy. Based on the 2019 Waste Characterization study up to 70% of what ends up in our landfill could be composted, reused and recycled. Reclaiming these items and repurposing them through recycling or composting will help us reach King County's zero waste goals.

Implementing Re+ will ensure that we are keeping true to our commitments to reduce climate impacts, conserve resources, and create a healthier environment for our communities by keeping valuable materials out of the landfill and in use as long as possible.

Re+ is a roadmap for making that change.

Our approach aims to reinvent the current waste management system to be more resilient, equitable, and cost-effective through strategies necessary to meet our 2030 goal of zero food waste and zero waste of reusable resources.

Key actions include identifying new ways of processing organics and recycling, developing recycling markets for organics, paper and plastic, and a community panel to engage historically underrepresented and adversely impacted community members to help guide future outcomes. These new markets will create local jobs in the private sector, help build the green economy and ensure a just and equitable impact on the members of our community.

Re+ builds on the important work that many of our partners, including cities, the Port of Seattle, businesses, non-profits, community members, and the County are already doing to reduce contributions to climate change.

WHEREAS, climate change is an urgent challenge, with far-reaching current and future impacts to our environment, public health, and economy; and

WHEREAS, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated globally from the production, transport, use, and disposal of goods, foods, and services consumed in King County are a major part of our communities' climate footprint and are more than locally generated GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, King County and K4C partners are measuring, reporting, and developing new strategies to reduce consumption-related GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, supporting the Re+ effort will help focus our joint effort and responsibility to make progress toward reducing local GHG emissions by increasing waste prevention and recycling, laying the foundation for developing a circular economy; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the success of Re+ will require collaboration between King County, local jurisdictions, tribes, businesses, community-based organizations, and others; and

WHEREAS, the Re+ Program is consistent with, consolidates, and accelerates progress towards achieving the approved goals and strategies of the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, the 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, and the Joint Climate Action Commitment of the King County Cities Climate Collaborative (K4C) in relation to the County's zero-waste goals; and

WHEREAS, we will work with the County to identify ways to enhance our efforts to achieve the vision of Re+ with implementation support from the County including competitive grants, model language for countywide program and policy implementation, and technical support; and

WHEREAS, as a core component of this important work we must engage in ways that are fair, equitable and inclusive for those who are historically under-represented and have been disproportionately impacted by the status quo in our communities.

Now, therefore, we pledge our support for the shared vision that Re+ represents and look forward to collaborating to see this vision become reality.

Signed this _____ day of _____, _____ by

Name, Title

on behalf of

Jurisdiction

Mission
Reducing single use items
Reusing everything that can be
Recycling what's left
Renewing communities
Rethinking what's possible

Vision
Healthy, safe, and thriving communities
in a waste-free King County



Alternate Formats Available
206-477-4466 • TTY Relay 711