



PCB 24-03:
Comprehensive Plan Update

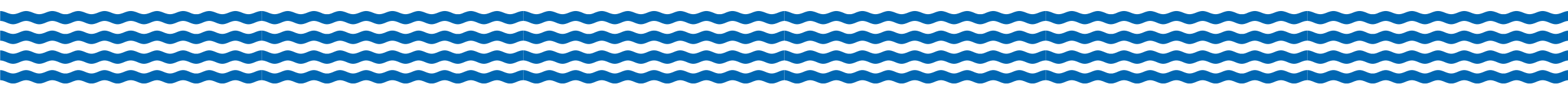
Land Use Element and the Climate Action Plan

Mercer Island Planning Commission
February 28, 2024
Alison Van Gorp, Deputy Director
Community Planning and Development



Overview

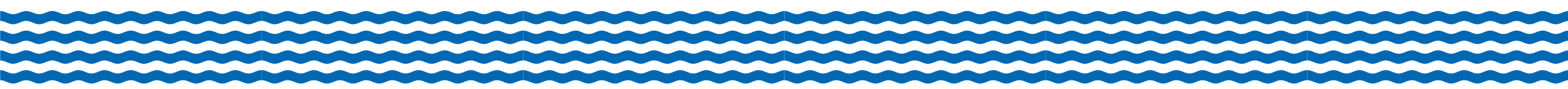
- Review existing Land Use Element Goals/Policies related to Climate and corresponding CAP Goals, strategies, actions
- Initial input from Commission on how to incorporate/align Comp Plan with CAP
- This item will come back as an updated Land Use Element draft at a later meeting



Green Building



GOAL 21: Promote the use of green building methods, design standards, and materials, for residential development, to reduce impacts on the built and natural environment and to improve the quality of life. Green building should result in demonstrable benefits, through the use of programs such as, but not limited to, Built Green, LEED, the Living Building Challenge, Passive House, Salmon Safe, or similar regional and recognized green building programs.

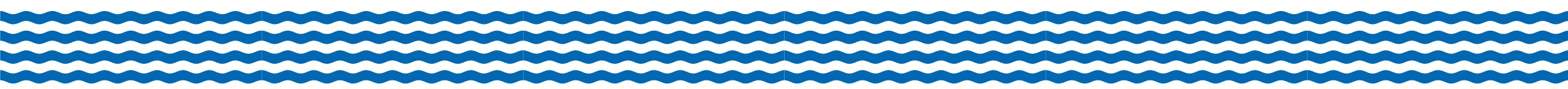
- 21.1 Eliminate regulatory and administrative barriers, where feasible, to residential green building.
- 21.2 Develop a green building program that creates incentives for residential development and construction to incorporate green building techniques.
- 21.3 Evaluate requiring the use of green building techniques for new construction and development of subdivisions as a component of a green building program.
- 21.4 Educate and provide technical resources to the citizens and building community on Mercer Island regarding green building as a component of sustainable development.
- 21.5 Conduct annual tracking of new, or significantly-remodeled, structures verified under various green building programs on Mercer Island and incorporate statistics into the City's sustainability tracking system and performance measures.



CAP: Buildings and Energy

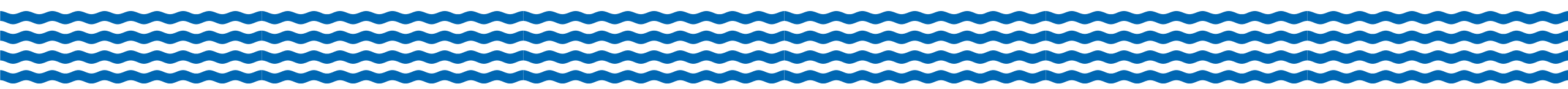
Strategy #2: Reduce energy use in new and existing buildings.

Action ID	Short name	Action description	Icons
BE2.1	Energy efficiency incentives and programs	Partner with PSE and other local jurisdictions and organizations to provide and promote energy efficiency incentives and rebate programs for residents and businesses. Partner to offer free home energy audits and upgrade programs for income-eligible residents.	
BE2.2	Green building campaigns	Develop a program to promote green building for residential and commercial properties, including educational outreach.	
BE2.3	Washington Clean Buildings Act promotion	Build awareness of the Washington Clean Buildings Act that requires all new and existing commercial buildings over 50,000 s.f. to reduce their Energy Use Intensity 15% compared to the 2009-2018 average. ²¹ Connect commercial building owners with state resources to learn more about the requirements of the Act.	
BE2.4	Point-of-sale green building requirements	Consider local or regional policies related to point-of-sale green building disclosures. Policy considerations may include disclosure of energy use, energy retrofits, or other considerations at point of sale.	






Disaster Planning and Recovery

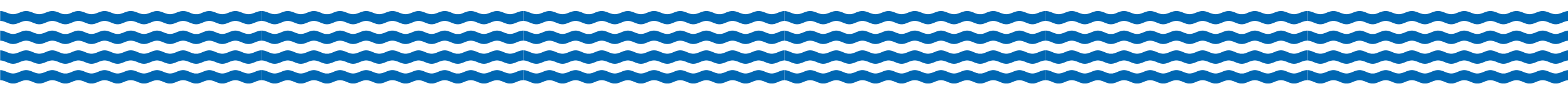
GOAL 22: Maintain and enhance current community emergency preparedness and planning efforts, and provide for long-term recovery and renewal.

- 22.1 Periodically review and update the City's emergency management plans.
 - 22.2 Identify, and implement, necessary enhancements to the City's emergency planning and preparedness program.
 - 22.3 Coordinate with, incorporate, and support, the emergency management preparedness and planning efforts of local, regional, state, and national agencies and organizations, with attention to impacts on vulnerable populations.
 - 22.4 Maintain current local community emergency preparedness programs, including volunteer coordination, City staff drills, and community outreach and education programs, with attention to impacts on vulnerable populations.
 - 22.5 Adopt regulations and programs to mitigate and control hazards that are created by a natural event. For example, the creation of a new landslide hazard area resulting from a naturally occurring slope failure.
 - 22.6 Continue to develop an action plan to expedite development review following an emergency event.
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CAP: Community Resilience

Strategy #2: Prepare infrastructure & emergency services for climate change.

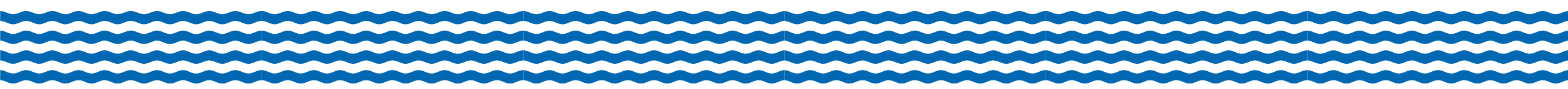
Action ID	Short name	Action description	Icons
CR2.1	Hazard Mitigation Plan update	Partner with King County on the next update to the Countywide Hazard Mitigation Plan (timeline estimated in 2025) to ensure climate impacts are included in plan update.	
CR2.2	Emergency management planning and response	Review and update City's emergency management plans to ensure readiness to respond to climate emergencies, such as providing community cooling centers and air shelters in case of extreme heat and wildfires. Ensure communication materials are developed and ready for quick deployment during climate emergencies.	
CR2.3	Electric grid resiliency	Encourage the State to implement requirements to improve the resiliency of the electric network, including the undergrounding of power lines.	



Climate Change


GOAL 27: Develop and implement a Climate Action Plan.

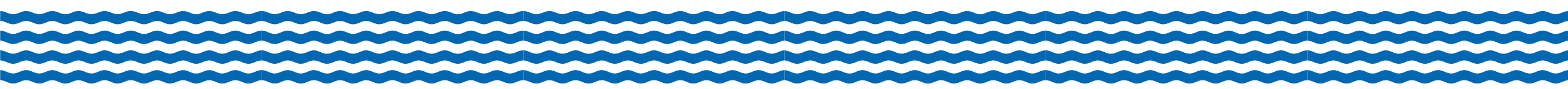
- 27.1 The Climate Action Plan is hereby adopted by reference.



Climate Change


GOAL 26: Reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions.

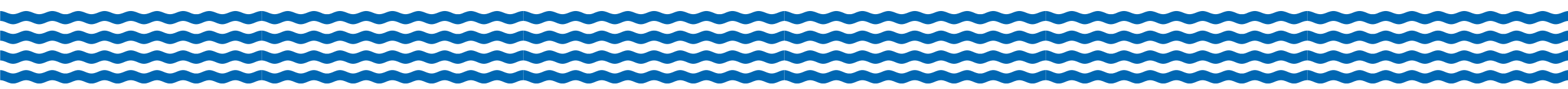
- 26.1 Establish and support annual data gathering, and reporting on, Collect data and report on Mercer Island GHG emissions annually. Document progress toward emission reduction targets and progress consistent with King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C).
- 26.2 Partner with the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) and the community to mitigate climate change.
- 26.3 Provide public information and support to individual and community efforts to mitigate climate change.
- 26.4 Evaluate and prioritize actions to reduce GHG emissions.
- 26.5 Encourage the reduction of emissions from passenger vehicles through the development of zero- or low-greenhouse gas emitting transportation options and by reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips. [See TR 1 & 2](#)
- 26.6 Promote an energy-efficient built environment by:
 - 26.6.1 Focusing development where utility and transportation investments have been made;  [See BE 1](#)
 - 26.6.2 Promoting the use of renewable and zero- and low-GHG emitting energy sources; [See CD 2.4](#)
 - 26.6.3 Encouraging the use of carbon-efficient building materials and building design; and [See NS 1](#)
 - 26.6.4 Mitigating urban heat island effects by expanding tree canopy and vegetation cover. [See BE 1](#)
- 26.7 Promote renewable power generation in the community.



CAP: Cross Cutting and Municipal



Strategy #3: Institutionalize climate considerations into City planning & decision-making.

Action ID	Short name	Action description	Icons
CC3.1	GHG tracking & reporting	Continue to maintain a publicly available online dashboard that tracks and reports on CAP and GHG reduction progress on an annual basis. Report to City Council and the community on progress annually.	
CC3.2	Climate-informed City decision-making	Apply a climate lens to City decision-making around major activities, capital projects, and initiatives.	



CAP: Cross Cutting and Municipal

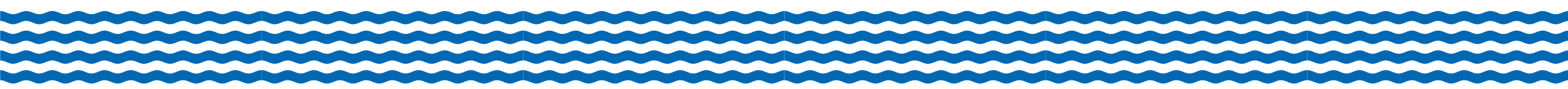
Strategy #1: Engage and support community climate action.

Action ID	Short name	Action description	Icons
CC1.1	Low carbon schools	Support local schools in integrating climate and sustainability education into curriculum and adopting low carbon solutions in their building operations. This may include working with the schools on energy efficiency and electrification, waste reduction and recycling, and sustainable purchasing, and behavior change (such as encouraging carpools to school).	
CC1.2	Climate advocacy and partnerships	Advocate for legislation that supports local climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. Continue to partner with neighboring cities and other regional groups to advance regional initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase adaptive capacity.	
CC1.3	Climate outreach/education	<p>Develop a climate outreach and education campaign or program to support ongoing community engagement in climate actions. Initiatives may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate challenges, competitions, and climate pledges aimed at inspiring friendly competition among residents and businesses.• Educational campaigns focused on addressing common misinformation related to home energy use and other everyday activities (e.g., the benefits of using cold v. hot water for laundry).• Resource sharing campaigns, such as "renewable energy" or "energy efficiency" home tours in which neighbors learn	

Climate Change

GOAL 28: Adapt to and mitigate local climate change impacts.

- 28.1 Prioritize the prevention of climate change.
- 28.2 Develop an adaptive response to expected climate change impacts on the community. See NS & CR
- 28.3 Increase carbon sequestration through expanding tree canopy and vegetation cover. See NS.1



Questions?

