

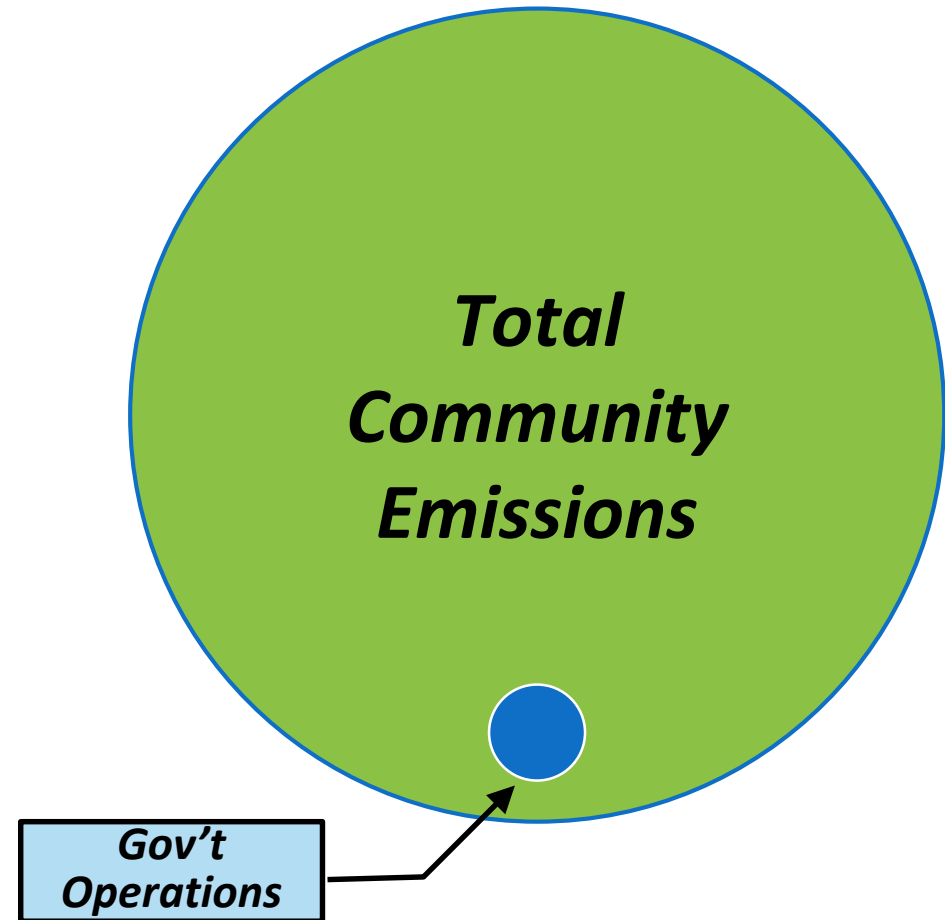
# Sustainability Update – K4C Climate Commitments

AB 5623 | November 19, 2019



# Why Work Regionally?

- Government operations generate only 1-2% of total community-wide emissions
  - ➔ Need to address the other 98%
- Best done through regional programs and joint initiatives, organized centrally
- Each partner pursues only the GHG actions that make sense for them
- K4C membership is governed by an ILA

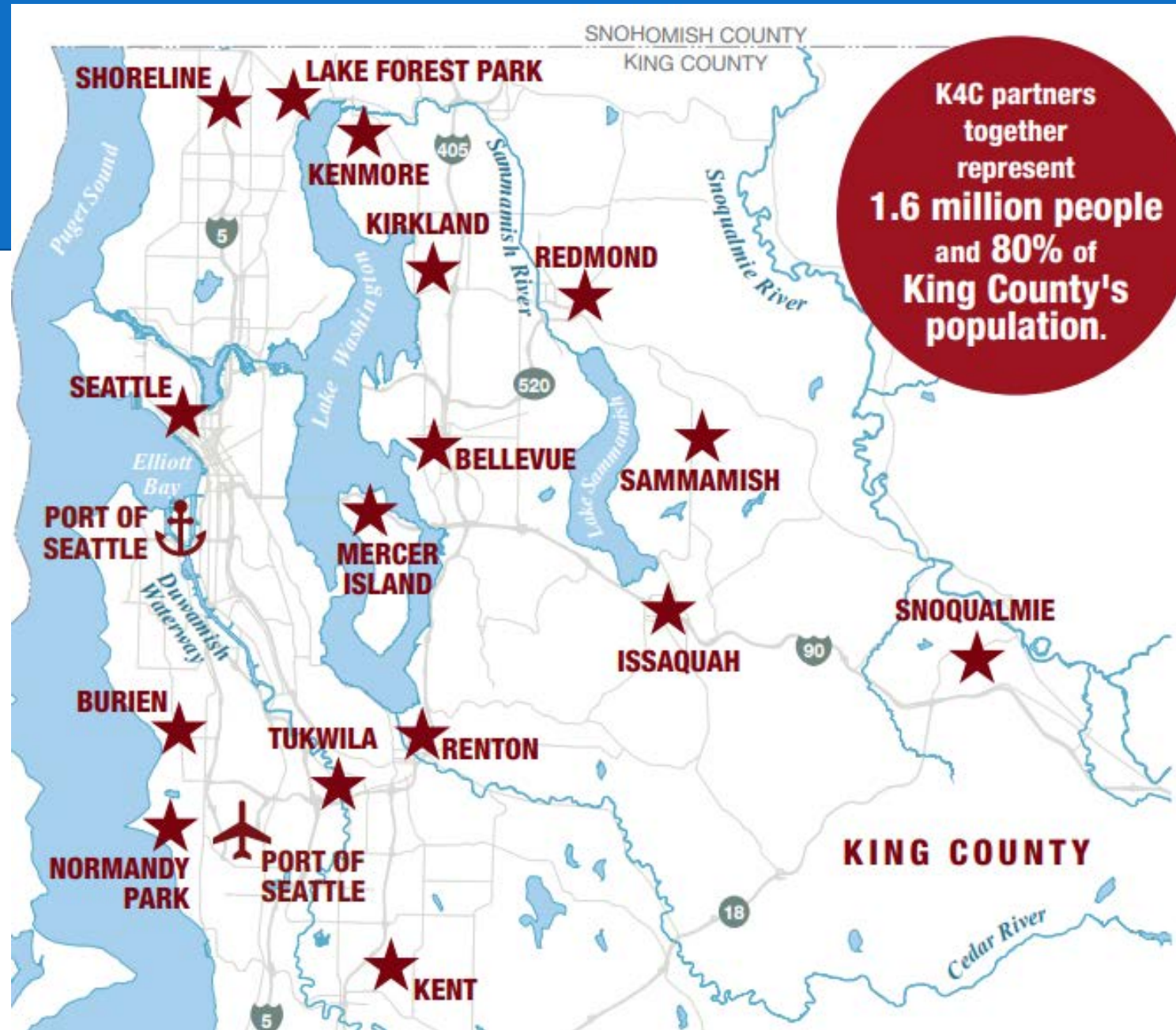


# Members

The City of Mercer Island was one of the original founding members of K4C (2011)

## Members:

- ✓ King County
- ✓ Port of Seattle
- ✓ 16 Cities



# Recent K4C Group Achievements

- **ADVOCACY:** Advancement of WA legislation to support clean electricity, appliance & building efficiency, clean fuels & vehicle electrification, and phasing out of hydrofluorocarbons
- **INITIATIVES:** The opportunity to participate in a new 130-Megawatt windfarm in central western WA via PSE's new *Green Direct* program; operational early 2020
- **POLICY:** Extensive support of enhanced commercial & residential energy codes (2018 cycle) to reduce heating & cooling costs for homeowners, and reduce energy use

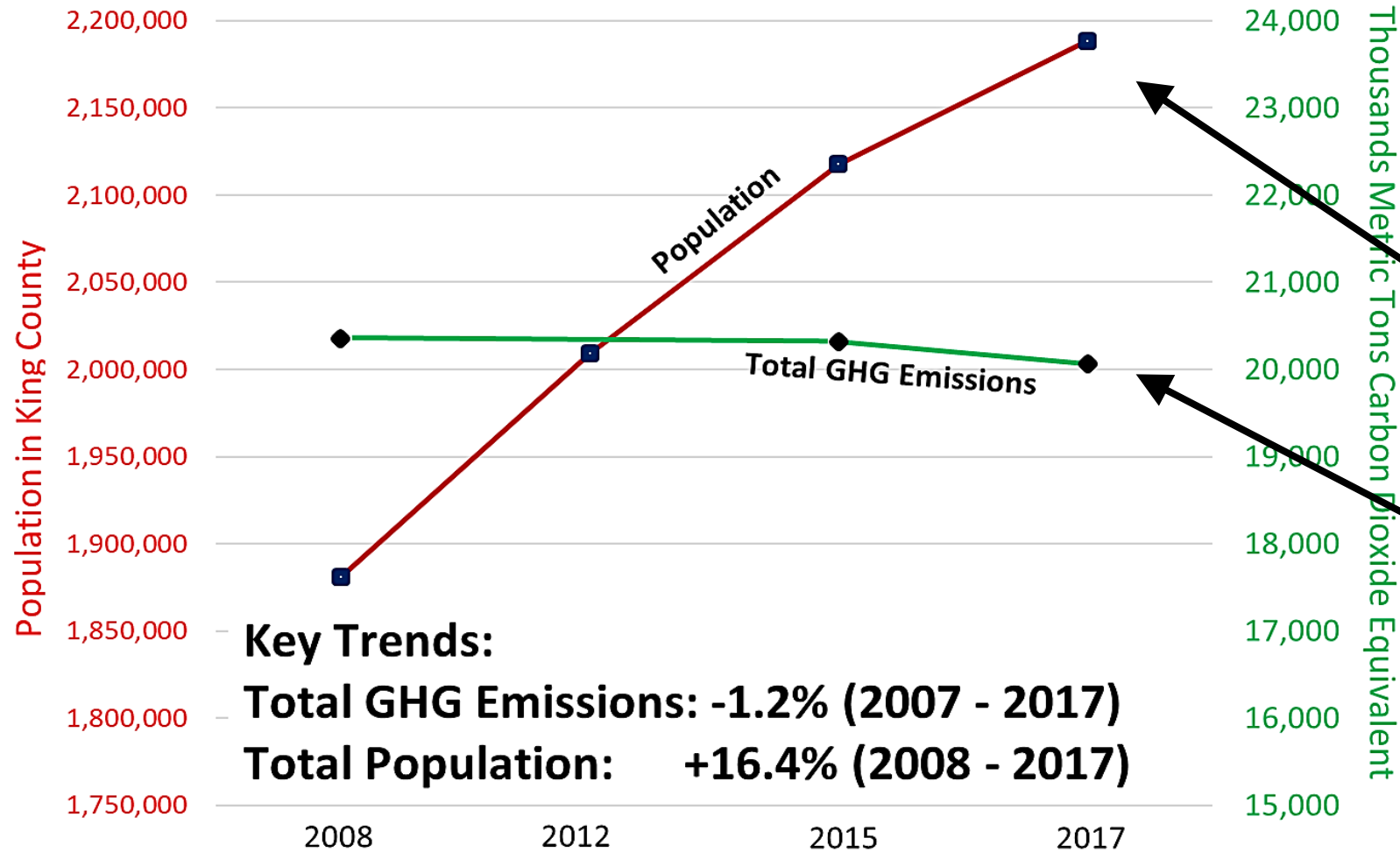


KING COUNTY-Cities  
CLIMATE COLLABORATION



# Where Do We Stand?

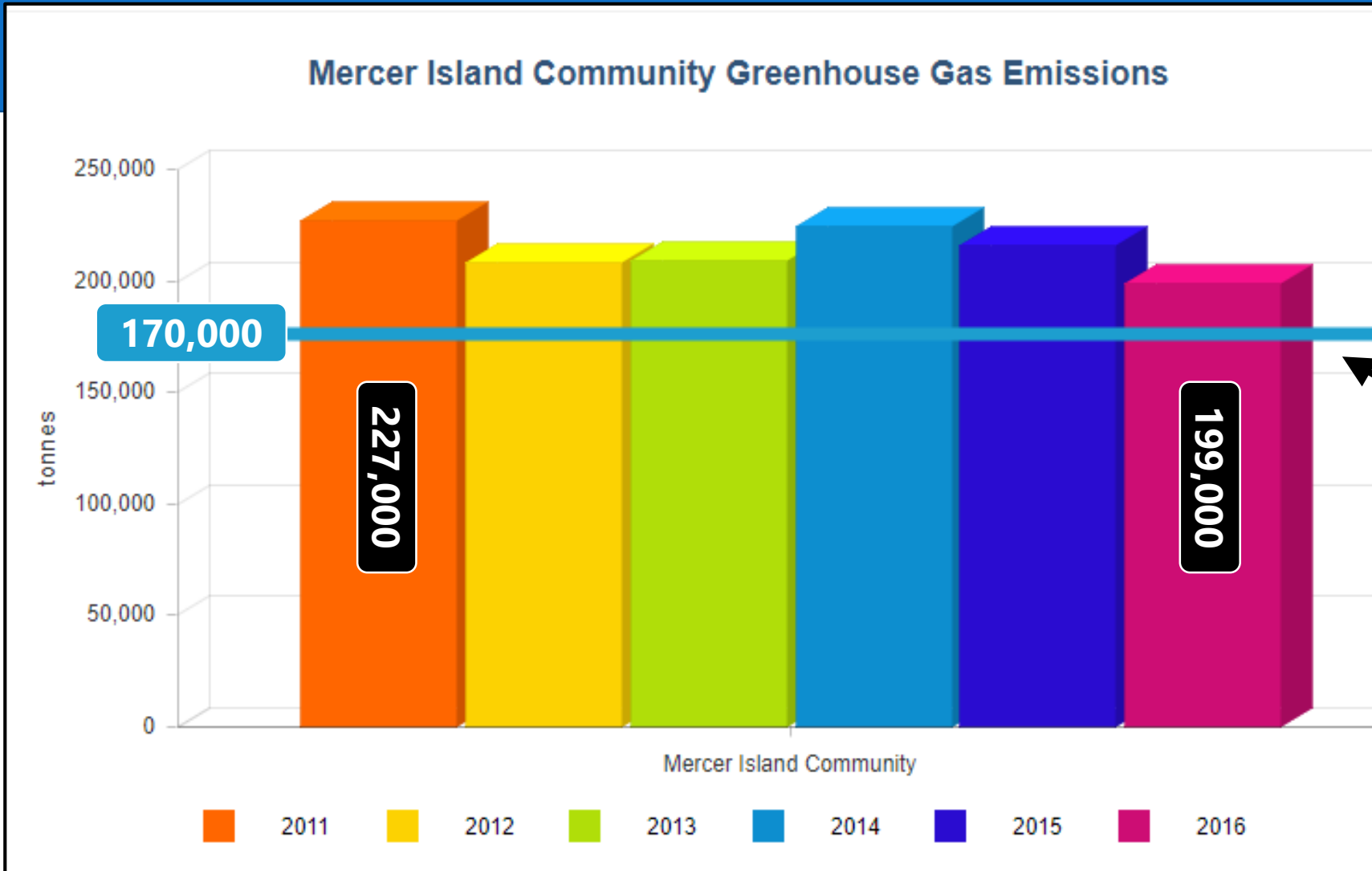
## King County GHG Emissions and Population Trends



At the County level, we are seeing a decoupling of economic and population growth from carbon emissions



# Where Do We Stand?



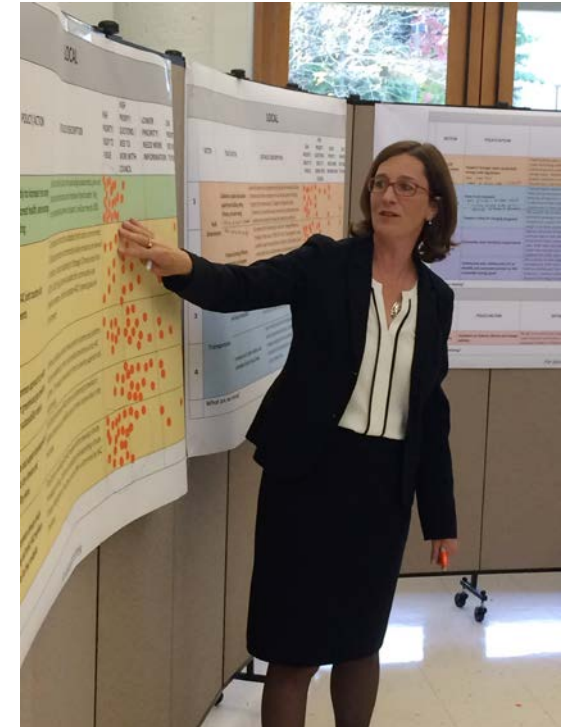
At City MI level, we are beginning to approach our 2020 target (blue line), representing a 25% reduction





# Why Update the Joint Commitments?

- Major climate legislation in Olympia
- Ongoing weakening of federal emissions programs
- New technical developments (e.g. EV growth)
- And... Builds on other City or Council GHG work (e.g. Resolution #1389 in 2007; GMPC's 2014 vote on GHG reductions)
  - ➔ The Joint Commitments serve as a blueprint for shared actions, offering a menu of GHG options
  - ➔ By signing on again, the City of MI pledges to continue working diligently on these issues



# What's Changed: 2014 vs 2019?

- Emphasizes that not every partner will, or can, pursue every action
- Spells out specific GHG targets (e.g. 50% by 2030 & 80% by 2050)
- Adds new pathway options to reach countywide GHG target
- Stronger language around equity, climate justice, worker transition
- Adds actions relating to reducing use of fossil fuel in buildings
- Adds language about tools that can support implementation of shared commitments
- Adds new sections on: (a) new technology (e.g. electric vehicles); (b) efficient city operations; and (c) the need for climate change preparedness.





# Questions

## Joint Letter of Commitment: Climate Change Actions in King County

Climate change is a paramount challenge of this generation and has far-reaching and fundamental consequences for our economy, environment, public health, and safety.

Across King County and its cities, we are already experiencing the impacts of climate change: warming temperatures, acidifying marine waters, rising seas, decreasing mountain snowpack, and less water in streams during the summer.



These changes have the potential for significant impacts to public and private property, resource based economies like agriculture and forestry, and to residents' health and quality of life.

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND  
RESOLUTION NO. 1570**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND ADOPTING AN  
UPDATED VERSION OF THE KING COUNTY-CITIES CLIMATE  
COLLABORATION (K4C) JOINT CLIMATE COMMITMENTS**

WHEREAS, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C), of which the City of Mercer Island is a founding and ongoing member, has developed an updated set of climate commitments addressing shared actions by which to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;

May 2007 (by Resolution No. 1389) formally committed  
**low current levels by 2050**, for both the community as a

