

People for Climate Action – Seattle is concerned about the funding levels for climate-related activities in the adjustments to Seattle's 2020 budget. We understand the unprecedented needs that the novel coronavirus has exposed and the budget shortfalls that the city is currently experiencing. However, climate change represents an even larger and growing danger to all of us. Therefore, we urge you to take these two actions:

- 1. Ensure that planning and other activities necessary for the implementation of greenhouse gas emission (GHG) strategies in 2021 be restored and fully funded in 2020; and**
- 2. Identify and establish progressive revenues in 2020 to fully fund GHG reduction initiatives in 2021 and beyond.**

We believe you share our view that unabated climate change is a threat to life on earth as we know it and that the City of Seattle must do everything it can to address that threat. With your leadership and the leadership of the Council, we can adopt effective strategies and focused early actions that would make Seattle a model nationwide for how cities should address greenhouse gas emission reduction.

We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented damage to the health and economic well-being of our most vulnerable residents and to the city's revenues and budget. Implementation of some GHG reduction actions may have to be delayed.

We know that some important planning activities have occurred; however, **it is essential that additional planning and pre-implementation activities occur now in 2020 if Seattle is to avoid the loss of a year in meeting its current climate goals, just as it has failed to meet these goals in the past.**

We believe that current and projected revenues are clearly insufficient to fund aggressive strategies to meet Seattle's GHG emission goals, to respond effectively to COVID-19, and to address Seattle's low-income housing/homeless reduction needs. **Please work with the Council to identify a combination of new revenues that would enable the city to meet all three of these needs.**

Thank you for carefully considering these proposals.