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September 16, 2020

Re: 2021 Budget & Climate priorities

Dear [name]

I am writing to you on behalf of People for Climate Action—Seattle. PCA's mission is to help King County and its cities, including Seattle, develop and implement comprehensive climate action plans to reach the greenhouse gas reduction targets set by the K4C.

Unabated climate change is a threat to the earth and its inhabitants. The City of Seattle must do everything it can to address that threat. Many of the actions to abate climate change can also produce local jobs, help Seattle out of the present economic crisis and improve social justice for underserved segments of Seattle's population.

Climate priorities must be reflected strongly in the City's 2021 budget. Important planning activities have occurred; however, follow-up, pre-implementation activities and actual implementations must occur in 2021 if Seattle is to avoid the loss of another year in meeting its climate goals and see economic and social justice benefits.

The Council's 2019 Green New Deal Resolution and the Mayor's 1/20 Executive order set an excellent foundation, with specific dates for major benchmarks from June to October. However, none of those benchmarks appear to have been met. Have new deadlines been established?

It is imperative that the 2021 budget gets Seattle back on track. This must include the following:

- 1) unambiguous 2030 goals and annual % reduction targets for the City to meet those goals;
- 2) a schedule of City actions to reduce GHG emissions; and
- 3) continuous monitoring of GHG emissions and scheduled actions.

The 2021 budget must allocate funds to meet established reduction targets and scheduled actions in order to realize environmental, economic and social justice progress.

Please fully address these concerns as part of the 2021 budget proposal. We cannot put the climate threat off. Every day counts.

Sincerely,

Louise Kulzer  
On behalf of People for Climate Action—Seattle