

People for Climate Action-Seattle
c/o Deejah Sherman-Peterson
10818 27th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA. 98125

April 11, 2022

Mayor Bruce Harrell
P.O Box 94749
Seattle, WA. 98124-4749

Dear Mayor Harrell,

RE: Climate Pledge and next bold moves

Thank you for signing the Climate Pledge during your campaign for Mayor. Many City Council members also signed the pledge, providing common ground for moving forward in reducing Seattle's greenhouse gas emissions. People for Climate Action-Seattle appreciates your early commitment even as you tackle many other tough challenges. For indeed, as described in the most recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the climate challenge is urgent and requires immediate attention and action.

We also thank you for appointing Jessyn Farrell as director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment. We are hopeful that her appointment will bring a renewed focus on Seattle's climate goals. Climate warming is a time-sensitive crisis, and we need actions that produce deep carbon reductions as soon as possible in order to reach a 50% reduction in greenhouse gasses by 2030. The clean energy transition needed to forestall climate change will also reduce pollution and thus improve health outcomes, an important aspect of justice for frontline communities, who are suffering first and worst from climate breakdown. We need to act now, for the sake of both climate and equity. Justice for under-represented and disadvantaged populations who experience disproportionately bad health outcomes requires immediate progress in reducing pollution.

To re-invigorate Seattle's Climate Plan, we ask that you provide your support. Specifically, PCA-Seattle urges you to do the following:

1. Ensure OSE has the staff and monetary resources they need to work on the many actions across numerous City departments that require reductions in GHG emissions.
2. Ensure that there are adequate staff resources and budget to create the strategic focus, including analyses and metrics, needed to provide an inclusive and transparent

Climate Implementation Plan that city departments, industry and the public can rally around.

3. Use your position to create bridges between OSE, other City departments, industry, non-elected opinion leaders, and the Council.

4. Together with the City Council, take concrete actions that will put Seattle on a path to a 50 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, focusing on transportation and buildings.

5. Honor your Climate Pledge: speak directly and often to the citizens of Seattle about the actions Seattle's Climate Plan requires and why we need to act now. We need your leadership to emphasize the urgency of the climate crisis. We appreciate the work you have already done in committing to the Climate Pledge and setting strong leadership at the helm of OSE. It will take a strong and widely supported Climate Action Plan as well as a coalition representative of the broad community to enable Seattle to quickly reduce GHG emissions.

Please be the leader who creates a framework around which all of Seattle is motivated to reduce today's greenhouse gas emissions to prevent a worsening crisis and to create a more just and healthy environment for us all.

Sincerely,

Deejah Sherman-Peterson

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On behalf of People for Climate Action– Seattle

<https://peopleforclimateaction.org/>

cc: Jessyn Farrell, Director
Office of Sustainability and Environment