

October 21, 2022

Dear Seattle City Council members,

We know you're working hard on the city budget and appreciate your commitment and dedication.

The [Green New Deal Oversight Board recommended](#) \$1 million for “a creative educational campaign around the goals of the Green New Deal, climate resilience, sharing approachable climate indicators, healthy household practices, and other sustainability issues in Seattle. This campaign should contract with local artists, researchers, thought leaders, educators, and communicators to ensure engagement is in language and culturally responsive to a wide variety of Communities.” This item was not included in the draft budget submitted from Mayor Harrell. This is disappointing and short sighted. **We would like you to fund this item in the 2023 Budget, as recommended.**

Unless Seattle citizens understand the seriousness of global warming induced consequences (unhealthy air for weeks in October, as just one example), they may not support the changes city government is making to housing, transportation, land use, etc. that are required to meet the city's GHG emissions reduction goals in order to responsibly address the climate crisis.

A public education campaign can help connect the dots between how we live, work, play, move about the city, eat and travel, with a warming climate. Until and unless we understand these connections it may be a bridge too far to expect people to support the changes necessary, or to be willing to make changes in their own and their family's lives. We believe public education can underscore the importance of environmental justice as a central tenet in good climate policy, and that with more of us on board, the journey will be easier and more efficient.

Please restore the \$1 million for a climate public education campaign to the city budget.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Iris Antman,
on behalf of People for Climate Action Seattle