



City of Seattle

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

Office of the Mayor
City of Seattle
Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Executive Order 2018-01: Climate Impact Assessment

An Executive Order directing City departments to assess the greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilience of major city policies, capital projects, and purchasing decisions.

WHEREAS, greenhouse gas emissions are changing the climate with profound social, economic, and environmental consequences across the world; and

WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Region is experiencing increasing sea levels and temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, a long-term decline in snow and ice, and ocean acidification; and

WHEREAS, these changes pose increased risks to public health, infrastructure, safety, and the environment, as climate change exacerbates air pollution, increases flood risk, and increases the frequency, intensity, and duration of extreme heat events; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change fall disproportionately on people of color, immigrants and refugees, people with limited English language proficiency, Native peoples, and low-income residents due to our history of institutional and systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle committed to become carbon neutral by 2050 and to prepare for the impacts of climate change (Resolution 31447); and

WHEREAS, City government operations, purchasing decisions, and policies have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase climate resilience; and

WHEREAS, City departments have been assessing the emissions impacts and resilience of select City policies, capital projects, and purchasing decisions, providing a strong basis on which to build a citywide approach; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor of Seattle, hereby affirm the City's commitment to become a carbon neutral city and prepare for the impacts of climate change and order the following actions be taken to consider the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resilience through City policies, capital investments, and purchasing decisions:

Section 1. The Office of Sustainability and Environment will lead an interdepartmental process including the Department of Finance and Administrative Services, the City Budget Office, and the Capital Subcabinet to develop a policy and implementation guidance for assessing the greenhouse gas

emissions and climate resilience of major capital projects and purchasing decisions by December 31, 2018.

Section 2. The policy will identify the types of policies, capital projects, and purchasing decisions subject to the policy, based on the potential magnitude of greenhouse gas emissions and/or climate vulnerability. The policy will also include a method for estimating the direct and indirect benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 3. Implementation guidance will provide a consistent framework and reporting protocol for analysis of greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilience and will incorporate consideration of racial equity and social justice consistent with the City's Race and Social Justice Initiative.

Dated this 13th day of April, 2018.

Jenny A. Durkan
Mayor, City of Seattle