It's Raining, It's Pouring….Harder

Developing Strategic Approaches to Stormwater Management in a Changing Climate

Lara Whitely Binder

King County Climate Preparedness Specialist

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King County
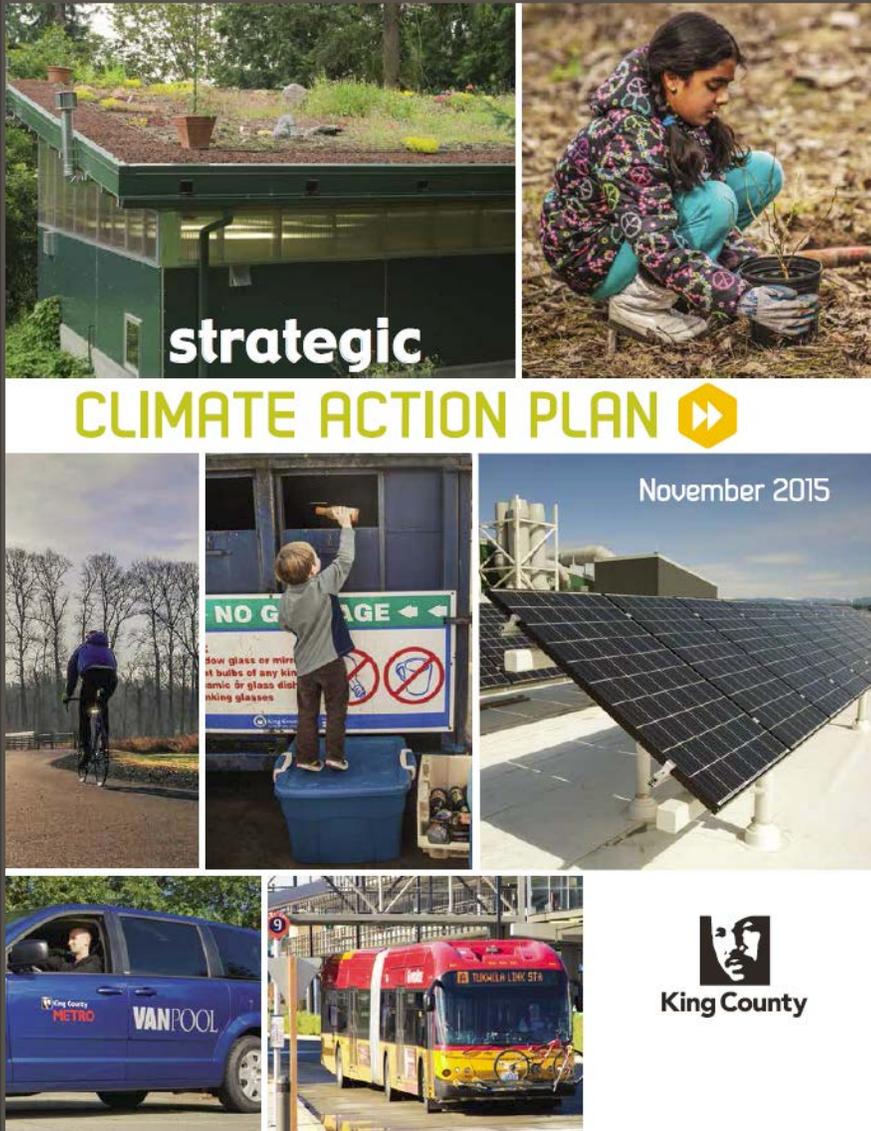**CLIMATE ACTION**
Clean Future. Strong Communities.

Why Prepare Now?

- Significant changes in climate are projected. Changes in the next few decades are virtually unavoidable.

- Decisions with long-term impacts are being made every day. Today's choices will shape tomorrow's vulnerabilities.

- Significant time is required to motivate and develop adaptive capacity, and to implement changes.

- Proactive planning is often more effective and less costly than reactive planning, and can provide benefits today.

Adopted by Council Nov 2015

5-year strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for the impacts of climate change

70+ priority actions

Accountability framework: Performance measures and targets, biennial reporting requirement to Council

2020 SCAP due to Council June 2020

Key Themes from the Deep Dives (partial list...)

1. We need to **incorporate climate change** into policies, plans, processes, and practices that influence day-to-day decision making and outcomes at King County.

2. We need to develop a **funding toolbox** for financing climate preparedness needs.

3. We need to develop and maintain **a common set of climate change resources** to inform how we plan for and communicate climate change as an organization.

4. We need to **reduce the impacts of climate change on communities most impacted by climate change**.

5. We need to **work with other jurisdictions and partner organizations** to address climate change impacts.

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Preliminary Draft Goals and Actions

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... Expand the current analysis of climate change impacts on stormwater facility design to include additional climate change scenarios and locations.

....Update the Stormwater Pollution Prevention and Surface Water Design Manuals in accordance with best available science regarding climate change impacts on stormwater.

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Develop more climate-resilient stormwater infrastructure and stormwater management practices.

… Develop a climate resiliency methodology and standard for stormwater facilities.

DISCUSSION – Station Rotations (2 rotations)

1. How do we maximize existing asset performance given the uncertainties around resizing for climate change?

2. How do we build more capacity and support for addressing climate change impacts on stormwater management?

3. What are the technical assessment and science needs that we should be prioritizing?

4. How much do you plan for now – versus later – given the tradeoffs between costs and uncertainty (and what actions would you pursue?)?